

Milton-under-Wychwood Home Guard



Two of the most important photographs in the History Society's archives are separate, large format, professional portraits of the Home Guard of Shipton and Milton taken seventy years ago and complete with names. We looked at the Shipton photograph in our February issue and now examine the Milton photograph with help from Ray Timms (whose father is on the photograph) and Lorna Souch (whose father is also on the photograph). As usual, if we have got anything wrong or you can add more information, please let us know.

Back row from the left

Pte F A Parsloe – Known as Adolf, a self employed painter decorator who lived near Milton Post Office. He was organist at Milton Church and, later, at St Mary's Shipton. Did not drive, but often seen biking through the villages to his organ duties.

Pte H H Duester – No relation to Charles Duester, member of the Shipton Platoon. Lived in Lyneham and later in Chadlington.

Cpl E G (Earnest) Hartley – Father of Terry Hartley. Brother of John Hartley, and uncle of John Hartley former Chairman of Shipton Parish Council. Farmed at Lower Farm in Upper Milton.

The photograph was taken circa 1944



Pte E (Ted) Greenaway – Came from Bruern where he worked for Mr Crompton Woods, the owner of Bruern Abbey, as did his father, and later as a carpenter at Groves. Later lived and died in Ascott. Not related to the other Greenaways on the photograph.

L/Cpl E T (Terry) Hartley – Son of Earnest Hartley. A stalwart supporter of the cricket club

Pte P (Pat) Flynn – Worked for Farmer Wells and Farmer Ridley. Later went to work at Smiths in Witney. Lived in the Sands.

Pte C A Clemson – Son of “Clemmie” Clemson who provided a local transportation service with his lorry working for GWR around Shipton station and especially for the tillyards and Mathews Mill. Lived in Milton, in the Sands, in one of the original cottages.

Pte F E Hunter – *Nothing known*

Pte F R Window – *Nothing known*

Pte A (Alfie) H Fowler – Worked at Ryne Hill Farm Churchill and for Groves in the sawmill.

Middle Row

L/Cpl P V (Jack) Greenaway – Brother of Fred Greenaway in the front row. Worked in the sawmill at Groves and was one of many who lost fingers there.

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Pte T (Tom) W Robins – Worked for Earnest Hartley. Lived in Calais Cottage.

Pte W (Bill) J Markham – A cobbler whose premises were in the old surgery in the High Street. Lived with Sgt Smith and his wife. Very keen supporter of the local football team and supplied the oranges at half time. Married relatively late in life.

Pte W (Bill) Timms – Father of Roger Timms. Lived in Meadow Lane, Shipton. Worked as a foreman for the Oxfordshire County Council Roads Department.

Pte C (Charlie) H Slatter – One of the Shipton Slatters who lived next to the Red Horse. Later lived in Chippy, where he had a garage.

Pte F J Preece – Brother of F T Preece who was a member of the Shipton Platoon. With his brother, owned a general hardware store in Milton near the present Library (Gorton's stores, later Basil Pratley's). Lived above the shop.

Pte F (Dickie) Trinder – Lived in a cottage next to Adolf Parsloe. Later worked for Oxfordshire Highways. Believed to be related to Tommy Trinder.

Pte E (Eric) McShea – Lived at Bruern where his father was a gamekeeper. Married one of the Shipton Morrisons. Later had a garage in Leafield.

Pte D (Danny) Sheehan – Irish. Father worked for Charles Batemann. There were three Sheehan brothers, Danny, Jack and Batty.

Cpl K (Ken) P Richards – Farmed at Lyneham Heath opposite the present Golf Course. Father of Mark Richards, author of local booklets.

Front Row

L/Cpl T F Greenaway – Brother of Jack. Lived in Frog Lane. Father of Lorna Souch and Father in law of Terry Souch, former Chairman of Shipton Parish Council. Worked in the sawmill at Groves.

Cpl I (Ivor) C Timms – Father of Ray and Valerie Timms (now Davis). Carpenter/Joiner with Groves. Later worked for the Council. Had a house from new in Pear Tree Close. Family originally came from Swinbrook, via Chadlington.

Sgt E W Jenkins – *Nothing known*

Sgt R (Bob) J Smith – Owned the shoe repair business where Bill Markham worked but managed a company in Oxford.

Lieut H G Fairbairn – Worked for Silcott Animal Feeds from a depot at Shipton Station. Lived at the Shipton end of Green Lane. Put on shows at the British Legion Hut (site of present village hall).

Sgt H Miles – Not related to the Shipton Miles. Plumber working for Groves. Finished his working career on the maintenance staff of Kingham School. Lived in Pear Tree Close. Father of Charles Miles.

Sgt W S (Jack) Henman – Farmed Lyneham Farm, now the Wychwood Golf Course. Great Uncle of Tim Henman.

Cpl F (Frank) A Waters – Worked for Groves and lived in Breakspere House.

Cpl E Benwell – Kept a small general shop in Lyneham.

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