

Victory in Europe (VE Day) – 75th Anniversary Friday 8th May 2020

For the 75th VE Day Anniversary, the Fringford History Group had intended to update the history display in the Village Hall, with a focus on WW2 information. This will still be done, when the virus threat has gone.

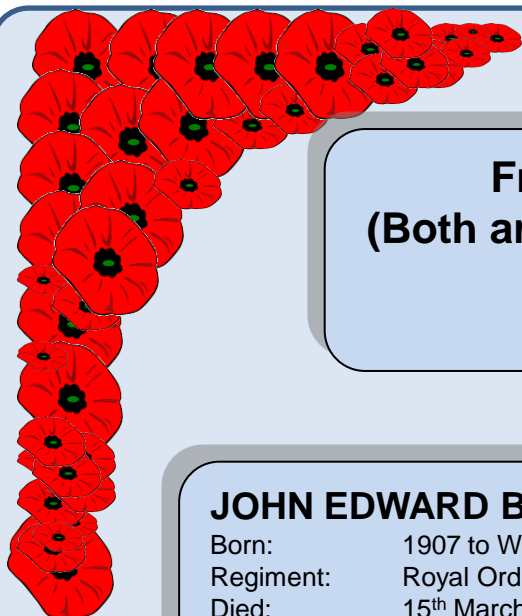
In the meantime, please do take a look at this document, and the links, to understand a little more about wartime Fringford.

If you have children, share this with them - bring it alive by visiting the relevant parts of the village, when taking your daily exercise.

Contents of this document:

- Details of the people from WW2 listed on the Fringford War Memorial in the Churchyard.
- Links to websites containing local WW2 history, including details of refugees
- Summary of Fringford Parish Council minutes during WW2

When we update the history display, we would be very pleased to include Villagers' family stories and photos from the WW2 period. Please share these with us by emailing:
HistoryGroup@fringford.info



Fringford People Who Died in Service During WW2 (Both are remembered on the War Memorial in the Churchyard)

1 Sep 1939 – 2 Sep 1945

Researched by Kevin Tobin

JOHN EDWARD BLAKE (JACK)

Born: 1907 to Walter and Anne Blake
 Regiment: Royal Ordnance Corps, Private 10592529
 Died: 15th March 1944 in Holland when ammunition truck exploded (age 37)
 Buried: Schoonselhof Cemetery, Antwerp



GORDON JACK HANCOCK

Born: 1920 in Fringford, father was Hubert Gerald Hancock and mother was Constance
 Home: Green Farm, Fringford
 Regiment: 18th Supply Group Royal Army Service Corps (Driver, service number T/5383004)
 Died: 25th July 1943 (age 23)
 Buried: Kanchanaburi Cemetery, Thailand (129km NW of Bangkok)

Information: Taken prisoner by Japanese and put to work on the Thailand-Burma Railway
 Gordon's father Hubert was the village baker and his mother Constance was the Head of Cottisford School.



Links to interesting local information, relating to World War 2

Evacuation to Bicester and Local Villages 1939-45

Author: Martin Greenwood

Short article describing evacuations into Bicester and the Villages, including Fringford.

(The most famous was actor Kenneth Williams, who was billeted with Mr Chisholm, the Vet, in Sheep Street)

https://www.blhs.org.uk/index.php/BLHS_Talks/84/16/Evacuation-to-Bicester-and-Local-Villages-1939-45

BBC History – An Evacuees' Story

Reflections of a 7 year old girl who was evacuated to Fringford, with a convent group from Upper Norwood, London. The younger children were housed in Fringford Manor, the older ones went to Stoke Lyne. This article includes interesting descriptions of her life in the Manor.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ww2peopleswar/stories/77/a8820777.shtml>

Bicester and Surrounding Area During World War II

Bicester Local History Society website. This is a good article, giving good descriptions, with lots of pictures.

https://www.blhs.org.uk/index.php/head_military/world-war-ii

Extracts from Fringford Parish Council Meeting Minutes, during World War 2

21st March 1940

A leaflet had been received from the National Council of Social Service urging Parish Councils to organise schemes to collect waste paper. Proposed that a notice be posted in the Post Office window asking all Parishioners to take waste paper to Mr Chinnery's stable.

27th June 1940

In accordance with a request from the Ministry of Supply it was agreed to arrange a dump by the roadside between Mr Plumb's house and Mr Buckingham's house to be used for the dumping of scrap iron, tins etc. To be collected and disposed of by the RDC. Proposed that the normal means of collecting refuse be suspended and that Mr Singly of Stratton Audley, as representative for the Parish on the RDC [Rural District Council], be asked to mention this at the next meeting of the RDC. Mr Singly had printed 100 circulars for distribution in the Parish asking for householders to assist in the collection of metals.

21st March 1941

Report that, among the material dumped for collection by the Ministry of Supply was a quantity of glass jars, of no salvage value. Proposed that a notice be posted at the dump requesting persons not to continue this practice.

14th November 1941

Mr O Smith had been called for Military Service so Mr W Hitchcock had carried on with clearing paths, mowing nettles etc.

22nd March 1942

It had been ascertained that an evacuee living in the Village was abusing the rules of the Evacuation Scheme. Agreed to approach Mr O K Trueman, the Evacuation Officer, concerning it.

30th July 1943

Communication received from Ploughley RDC concerning Post War housing programmes. Proposed that the RDC be asked to build 4 new houses.

7th November 1944

Mr Smyly produced a letter received from the Clerk of the RDC asking for suggestions as to sites for houses to be built in the Parish under the Post War Housing Programme. Decided to ask for 8 houses and the site suggested was in the field on the south of the road from the Green to the Butchers arms. An alternative site suggested was the field on the North West side of Crow Lane. [This eventually became Wise Crescent]

26th March 1945

Welcome Home Fund: Meeting to be called to discuss.

16th April 1946

Victory Celebrations: Parish meeting on 1st May to discuss. To be held on June 8th.