

NORTON IN WARTIME

**An account of life during wartime
in a village on the southern
boundary of Sheffield**

Norton History Group

1995

Acknowledgements

The groups is greatly indebted to the many people listed below who have shared their memories and allowed us to use their photographs. The people who are quoted directly or indirectly in the book, whether they contributed one sentence or several paragraphs, have helped to add colour to the history of Norton in wartime.

Mrs. P Archer, Mr P. Arnold, Mr J. Baker, Mr & Mrs R. Barnes, Mr & Mrs W. Barnes, Mr D. Beckett, Mrs E. & Mr K. Billingham, Mrs M. Bloy, Mrs Boothroyd, Mrs P. Bower, Mr J. Brackenbury, Mrs S. Brown, Mrs E. Burns,, Mr G.M. Butterley, Mrs J. Crann, Mr Chapman, Mrs S. Constantine, Miss I. Coward, Mrs D. Coyle, Mrs H. Davies, Mrs K. Evans, Mrs K. Fidler, Mrs E. Flint, Mrs K. Fowler, Mr J. Foy, Mr F.N. Gibbs, Mr R. Gillott, Mr F. Green, Mr P Haddock, Mrs O. Hall, Mr H Hartley, Mr D. Havenhand, Mrs H. Havenhand, Mrs M. Hedgecock, Mrs V. Hoare, Mr A. Holloway, Mrs M. Hughes. Mrs D. Ingall, Mr R. Johnson, Mr F. Jones, Mrs E. Latimer, Mr C. Lawrence, Mrs J. McAllen, Mrs D McCreery, Mrs P. Marshall, Mr C. Marshall, Mr J. May, Mr L. Mills, Mr W. Morton-Hall, Mrs E. Mulford, Mrs M. Nelson, Mrs E. Newbould, Mr K. Plant, Mr G. Platts, Mrs E. Purnell, Mr G. Sanderson, Mrs M. Saul, Mr P. Selwood, Miss L. Shepherd, Mrs J. Singleton, Mr F. Smithson, Mrs B. Steel, Mr K. Thornton, Mr J. Truelove, Mr E. Turley, Mrs M. Turley, Mrs M. Vardy, Mrs E. Walch, Mrs H. Ward, Mr E. Webb, Mr P. Weisser, Mrs W. Wild, Mrs W. Wildgoose, Miss P. William, Mrs B. Winmill, Mrs Wragg.

We thank the staff of Sheffield City Libraries and *We also thank:*

Information Services for their unfailing patience and helpfulness and for the use of the following:- The Controller of HMSO for permission to reproduce Ordnance Survey mapping,

Sheffield Archives

Sale Plan of Messrs Bush & Co March 1922 BUSH S586

Local Studies Library

Street Directory of Sheffield and surrounding villages

Sheffield Year Books

Photograph and map collections

Microfilm of Sheffield Daily Telegraph and Sheffield Independent

Parks Dept. Annual Reports, E. O. Sadler

The RAF Museum, Hendon, Reprographic Section for permission to reproduce photographs, reference number are given in the text.

The York and Lancaster Regimental Museum for information and photographs

The Provost of Southwell Minster for permission to quote from a guide book.

St James's Church, Norton for the use of the Roll of Honour, parish magazines, the booklet In Memoriam Rev. J. Stanton Pegge and the Parochial Church Council Minutes.

Norton Free School for information from the Log Books

Copyright restrictions apply to this revised version of Norton In Wartime. Please do not take copies of this, but you may reference it from other web sites.

Bibliography

- Allonby, P., *A History of Coal Aston Airfield*. Manuscript 1977
- Armitage, H., (1981 reprint). *Chantreyland*. Sheffield City Libraries
- Beauman, K.B., (1971). *Partners in Blue*. Hutchinson
- Escott, B.E., (1989). *Women in Air Force Blue*. Stephens Ltd
- Farnsworth, K., (1993). *Images of Sheffield*. Sheffield Newspapers Ltd., Breedon Books
- Liddle, P.H., (1987). *The Airman's War 1914-18*. Blandford
- Podmore, Major A.J., (1991). *The Hallamshire Rifle Volunteers*. 4th Bn Yorkshire Volunteers
- Ramsey W., (1987). *The Blitz, Then and Now*. Vol.1. Battle of Britain Prints
- Rapier, B.J., (1972). *White Rose Base*. Aero Litho Co.(Lincoln) Ltd.
- Ross, J., (1990). *Royal Flying Corps Boy Service*. Regency Press
- Sheffield Telegraph & Star Ltd., (1948, 1987). *Sheffield at War*. Sheffield City Libraries
- Tatton, H., *Notebooks* unpublished, in Local Studies Library, Sheffield
- Thorold, H., (1992). *Guide to Southwell Minster*. English Life Publications, Derby
- Walton M. and Lamb J.P., (1980). *Raiders over Sheffield*. Sheffield City Libraries
- Ward, K., (1990). *Postal History of Dronfield District*. Yorkshire Postal History Society Publication No.22
- Aeromilitaria* No.3 1976
- Industrial Railway Record*, Nos. 5 & 6, December 1964 Ed. K.P.Plant, publ. The Birmingham Locomotive Club
- Journal Sheffield Chamber of Trade*, December 1919
- General Return of the Strength of the British Army 1939*

Introduction

This book has been compiled partly as a contribution to the countrywide commemoration of the ending of World War Two and partly as an attempt to record the effect of two world wars on the old parish of Norton, then one of the largest parishes in the country.

Of the Serving Forces, the RFC and RAF made the greatest impact on the village. We have tried to unravel the story of "Coal Aston Aerodrome" and "RAF Norton" and to make clear exactly which areas of land they occupied. There is a long tradition of army service in the district and the men, women and children left at home made their contribution in many ways; in the manufacture of armaments in Sheffield; in raising funds; in the civil defence services and by careful housekeeping day by day.

The brief references to olden times and the account of Norton in World War One depend mainly on written history. The second part of the book also has been based on historical fact but has been enlivened by the experiences recalled by "old Nortonians".

All members of Norton History Group have made a contribution to this book. They have gathered oral material and searched in libraries and archives, contributed their own memories and offered practical help with the typing and editing of the text and drawing the maps. }

Other memories have been offered which have given an insight into life in the old villages of Norton and Greenhill. The History Group would be happy to talk to anyone who can add to this story or to arrange for copies to be made of old photographs. To contact the Group for this purpose or to point out any errors or omissions made in this book, please write or telephone to Mrs W.N.Gilmour, 264 Norton Lane, S8 8HD

Notes to this edition

Since the original publication of the booklet in 1995, there have been many updates and corrections. We are indebted to Sheila Gilmour who has meticulously kept records for the last 20 years and has painstakingly updated the text for this updated version.