

Charles Farrow 1918-2001

In WWII 'Charlie' served with the 1st Battalion of the Royal Scots. He was made a Lance Corporal and promoted to Sergeant in 1943.

From information supplied by his daughter he was called up for service in the Territorial Army on 16 October 1939 and was stationed at Glencorse Barracks*, Penicuik, south of Edinburgh. In 1942 he sailed, via Cape Town, to India where he fought at Kohima** (Part of the Burma Campaign). He received a gunshot wound on 18 April 1944. On the 18 April 1946 he was transferred to the Army Reserve. The Infantry Record Office, Perth notes his rank as W/Sergeant Army No. 3058895.

'Charlie' lived at Rose Cottage before he was married and then at Cedar Lodge in Douthwaite Dale with his wife Blanche, (nee Ford). They married in Hutton le Hole 19 July 1950. He was employed as a gardener by Admiral Fuller who resided at Douthwaite Hall. Charlie later worked on the Ravenswick Estate and he and his wife moved to Moorlands Cottage in the village in 1952.



Glencorse Barracks*

The site of the barracks has been in use since 1803 when it housed prisoners from the Napoleonic Wars. Over the years it has seen many changes and is presently home for the Royal Highland Fusiliers, 2nd Battalion.

Battle of Kohima**

The battle took place between 4 April and 22 June 1944.



William Sutherland D.O.B 1886

During WWII William, father of Robert and Ronald below, was a Training Sergeant at Town Moor, Newcastle.

His military service, however, began on the 19 February 1906 when he enlisted in the Yorkshire Regiment, Royal Engineers. At the outbreak of WWI he was transferred to the 5th Signal Company Royal Engineers.

Much of his service was spent laying and relaying telephone lines that entailed night time treks into No Man's Land. Sometimes, for William and others, it was not possible to return to their unit immediately and they would have to seek refuge in a shell crater which could last for hours or even days.

Later he became a dispatch rider and on 21 September 1918 he was commended for his part in the Battle of Cambrai.

He was demobbed on 23 February 1919 at Chatham having the rank of Lance Corporal and declared Medically as A1 – a remarkable feat considering the casualty figures for the conflict.

Robert Henry Sutherland

Son of William and brother to Ronald, Bob as he was known, joined the RAF in 1939 prior to WWII as an apprentice engine airframe fitter. His studies, however, were interrupted in 1940, due to various developments in the war, and he began working on such aircraft as the Boulton Paul Defiant, Spitfire and Beau Fighter.

In 1941 he was posted to Iceland as a flight engineer on Sunderland Flying Boats.



Later in 1941 he was posted to Moosejaw, Canada as part of The Empire Air Training Scheme. There he worked on the North American T5, Airspeed Oxford and Avro Anson aircraft.

On the morning of Pearl Harbour he was on leave in the USA and being in uniform the Americans made him very welcome and he hardly spent any money over the next few days. Whilst in the USA he attended the Pratt & Whitney Aero Engines training school although he never worked on their engines again.

In the spring of 1943 he returned home from Canada on leave. He spent two weeks planting potatoes, in what was then, the oval raised garden opposite Westmoreland House. (Only the retaining wall and gate posts remain today)



During 1943 to late 1944 he was attached to various de Havilland Mosquito night fighter squadrons in East Anglia that included Castle Camps which was a maintenance site for a short while after D-Day. After a month at the site and no aircraft to maintain it appeared they had been forgotten.

He then spent several months in Belgium with a Hawker Typhoon Squadron. On VE night he was stationed outside Cambridge with a de Havilland Mosquito Squadron and was posted along with the squadron to Luneberg, Germany.

He attended the Nuremberg War Trials as the squadron's observer for the proceedings.

He was demobbed in 1948, having reached the rank of Sergeant, and then worked for Russells Agricultural Engineers in Kirkbymoorside, retiring at 67 years of age.

Ronald Sutherland

Son of William, and brother to Robert, Ronald joined the RAF in 1943/44 as a ground fitter working on Hawker Typhoon, de Havilland Mosquito and Martin Marauder aircraft. He was based mainly in Norfolk but was posted to airfields in Northern Germany. He was demobbed in 1948 having reached the rank of Sergeant. He then studied metallurgy and worked for Bristol Aero Engines and later Rolls Royce engines until retirement.

Thomas Frank

After WWII 'Tom' moved to Tyneside and joined the police force.

Bernard Lonsborough

Served in the army. Son of George Walter Lonsborough who is mentioned in this book under Those Who Served WWI.