



Malpas VE80 - The Homecoming

🌹 1945 LEST WE FORGET 2025 🌹

Malpas Remembers

Keeping memories alive to honour
the sacrifices made during
World War Two

Souvenir Programme

8th -11th May 2025

Normandy

Here I sit - all on my own,
With no one to talk to,
Only the drone of warlike craft,
To keep my mind upon these dreary days of war.

Was it yesterday, or the day before,
We talked and made our plans,
Of what we'd do, of where we'd go,
When these mad days were gone.

Just twenty off years, give or take a few days,
Our ages were the same,
Full of hope - and love, and fear,
All lads alike, except in name.

Was it yesterday or the day before,
we shared each others sorrow,
Found courage to face the unknown task,
The filth - the stench - the horror.

On sentry go at dead of night,
We would often be together;
I expect 'twill be the same tonight,
Tho' may have gone forever.

We were with them at the end,
Their untimely shattering deaths,
We did our best to comfort them,
Will remember them - till our last breath.

These men we were proud to have as friends,
Their deeds of valour cherish;
Why so many stay alive?
Why do so many perish?

This war has taught me many things,
The rewards that come from strife,
What a true comrade really is,
How precious is a life.

R. A. Clarke

(written on 1 July, 1944, after fighting in Normandy)



The poppy is

- A symbol of Remembrance and hope, not of death nor support for war.
- Red because of the natural colour of field poppies, not to reflect the colour of blood.

Introduction

The Malpas VE80 Project is the work of local residents and volunteers.

When VE Day dawns on 8 May 2025 it will be 80 years since the guns fell silent at the end of World War Two in Europe.

Years of carnage and destruction had come to an end and millions of people took to the streets to celebrate peace, mourn their loved ones and hope for a brighter future, whilst not forgetting those still in conflict until VJ Day on 15 August 1945.

The 80th anniversary will provide our community, our friends and relations around the world, and our nation, with an opportunity to reflect on the enormous sacrifice, courage and determination of people from all walks of life who saw us through that dark and terrifying period.

To commemorate and celebrate this important time, Malpas Community Links is organising Malpas VE80 “The Homecoming” - four days of events from May 8 to 11 May 2025.

The programme is the inspiration of the core committee that was responsible for the successful Malpas “100 Years On” event in November 2018.

There is a saying that nations which cannot remember their past are condemned to repeat it and with the precarious situation on the edge of eastern Europe today, we who live in peace have a duty to help ensure that future generations never forget what happened in our own lifetime or those of our parents and grandparents.

They joyously celebrated the arrival of peace in Europe on 8 May 1945 and these events in 2025 will give us the opportunity to join them in spirit as we express our profound gratitude for everything they did for our benefit.

As our village continues to expand, working together as a welcoming community is vitally important, and it is hoped that the project will help our new arrivals to understand and appreciate some of our local history.

I hope residents and visitors whatever your age, too, will appreciate and enjoy the various events and that you will, with me, wish to express your gratitude to the many individuals and organisations that have contributed in their different ways to making them happen.

Chris Whitehurst
Malpas Community Links

Malpas in 1939

A picture of life in Malpas before the outbreak of World War Two is revealed by the 1939 edition of Kelly's Directory of Cheshire. It was possible to buy from within the village itself, whatever could be bought, or benefit from whatever service was needed, without going elsewhere.

Trades	No.	Trade	No.
Baker	1	Hairdresser	2
Banks	3	Haulage Contractors	3
Breeches Maker	1	Horse Slaughterer	1
Builder Trades	3	House Decorators	2
Butcher	3	Ironmonger	1
Cattle Dealers	3	Journalist	1
Chimney Sweep	1	Motor Engineers/ Cycle Agents	2
Coal Merchants	3	Newsagent	1
Confectioners/Tobacconists	3	Physicians/ Surgeons/ Doctors	4
Corn, Hay & Straw Merchants	2	Poultry dealer/farmer	4
Cow keeper	1	Printers	2
Dentist	2	Saddler	1
Drapers/Dress Makers/Tailors/Outfitters	6	Shoemaker/Boot Repairs	2
Drug Stores	2	Shopkeeper	3
Farmers/Smallholders	19	Solicitor	1
Fishmonger	1	Stone Mason	1
Fried Fish Dealer	1	Veterinary Surgeon	1
Gardener	1	Watch & Clock maker	1
Greengrocers	3	Wireless Engineer	1

The table highlights how many working farms existed. Given the lack of tractors and mechanised farm machinery, this would have been the main source of employment for local people.

And almost nobody owned a car which meant strong competition to serve not only Malpas but also the surrounding parishes and hamlets.

The publication lists only 36 private residents – and no fewer than 95 businesses – in Malpas at that time.

A full extract from Kelly's Directory can be found in David Hayns book "Malpas and the Home Front." Follow the link to download a copy.

www.malpascheshire.org/historic-archive/history-of-malpas/malpas-and-home-front.html



Malpas High Street c.1930s

Malpas was a busy community in 1930 and there was a need for more Postmen to handle the delivery of the increase in mail and associated postal services. The picture below shows the 24 Malpas Postal workers.

The postman on the extreme right of the front row is Harold Edge who later ran the fish and chips shop in High Street which is currently a launderette.



Malpas Post Office Staff circa 1930

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Don't "keep" Hens! Make them "KEEP" You.

LET THIS BE YOUR MOTTO FOR 1919.

The one essential to make a real live fact of what might
result in merely a New Year's Resolution,
IS THIS
That you must Purchase your Hatching Eggs
➡ from "The GILMOR Strain," of ⬅

White Leghorns.

BECAUSE—(a) The original Stock was Purchased
from a farm that has made good.
(b) The birds are Fed, and Housed
scientifically.
(c) They are bred to Lay, and Pay, on
scientific lines.
(d) The Eggs are remarkably Cheap at
10/6 per Doz. (Unfertiles not replaced.)

Gilbert Morgan, Malpas, Ches.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

MILITARY WRIST AND POCKET WATCHES,

Best Quality Levers, Jewelled, Strong Cases,
LUMINOUS DIALS & HANDS,

Each Watch carefully tested and guaranteed reliable. Let us know the kind of Watch
you require and we will pack and send per Registered Post to any Address.

REPAIRS.—We give immediate attention to all Watches bought from us.

A. D. CALLCOTT, Jeweller, MALPAS.

<p>J. W. WYCHERLEY, SADDLER, MALPAS. Insurances effected at special reduced quotations.</p> <p>Life Insurance, Accidental Insurance, Fire and Lightning Insurance, Special terms for Motor Car Insurance, Chauffeurs Insured, Burglary Insurance, Fidelity Guarantee Insurance, Horse Insurance, Cattle Insurance, Infant Mares' Insurance, Boiler Insurance, Workmen's Compensation Insurance, Third Party Insurance.</p>	<p>PLUMBING, HEATING, VENTILATION, PAINTING & DECORATING, PAPERING IN ALL ITS BRANCHES.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Robt. Wilson Rgst. Plumber, THE CROSS, MALPAS ESTIMATES FREE.</p> <p>ELECTRIC BELLS FIXED AND REPAIRED. ALL CLASSES OF REPAIRS.</p>
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Life during the War

There was considerable debate before the outbreak of war as to the need to provide air raid shelters for the protection of the public. In January 1939 John Done of Manor House, Hampton, who was a member of the Cheshire Education Committee, told the councillors that he thought they 'were going a little too far by contemplating air raid shelters at all their schools. Most of the area was country, and in his opinion, they would not be attacked from the air.'

However, his opinion did not prevail and in September the Cheshire Education Committee approved a budget of £187,316 for giving 50% grants towards the erection of shelters including the Alport Boys' and Girls' schools.

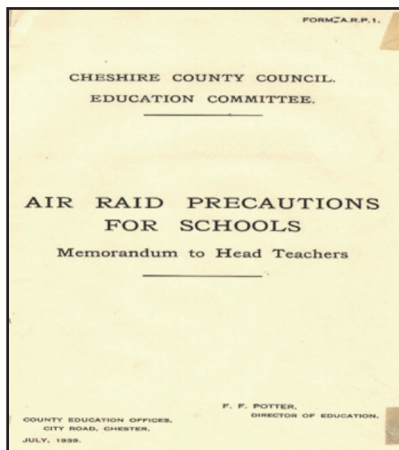
By March 1940 the Malpas schools had been provided with Anderson-type corrugated iron shelters both in front of and behind the buildings.

After a practice evacuation in May it was recorded in the school logbook that the Alport children, including girls and infants, took two minutes to reach the shelters while the evacuees from the school in the Jubilee Hall took four.

Despite the fact that the evacuees were able to make use of the shelters, Liverpool Corporation flatly refused to make a contribution towards their cost when asked to do so by Cheshire County Council.

Whereas in urban areas many households had erected Anderson shelters in their back gardens, this does not appear to have been common in Malpas.

Nevertheless, domestic precautions were taken against air raids, including using cellars such as those at the Bolling as bomb shelters, and sheltering under the dining room table, as did Joan Bickley (Mrs Joan Allen) and her sister when the bombers came over.





Malpas Cross prior to the removal of the iron railings to support the war effort.

In January 1940, to reassure the local residents, the Malpas emergency services combined to give a public display of their efficiency. Taking part were the Fire Brigade, the Auxiliary Fire Service, personnel from the First Aid post, ambulance crews and the ARP wardens.

The exercise, which took place in the High Street and was filmed by the Malpas headteacher, Mr Herbert Yates, was described in the Whitchurch Herald: "At a given notice, incendiary and other bombs were exploded in the vicinity after which the Fire Brigade and the Auxiliary Fire Service turned out very smartly to deal with them."

Malpas Children's Spitfire Effort.

**LETTER OF THANKS FROM
CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER.**

Children of Sunnyside, none of them more than 11 years old, organised an open-air concert in aid of the Spitfire Fund, the admission fee being one penny. No adult was allowed to participate, and the children take all the credit to themselves. The following is a copy of the letter from the Chancellor of the Exchequer:—

"Treasury Chambers, Whitehall, S.W.
'Deary Joyce Pridding,—The Chancellor of the Exchequer was very pleased to receive the letter with which you and Doreen Cartwright enclosed 12/6 as a gift towards the cost of a Spitfire. Sir Kingsley Wood sends his warm thanks to all who took part in the concert, and he asks me to tell you how much he appreciates your help in the War effort"

**Malpas & District
"Wings for Victory" Week**

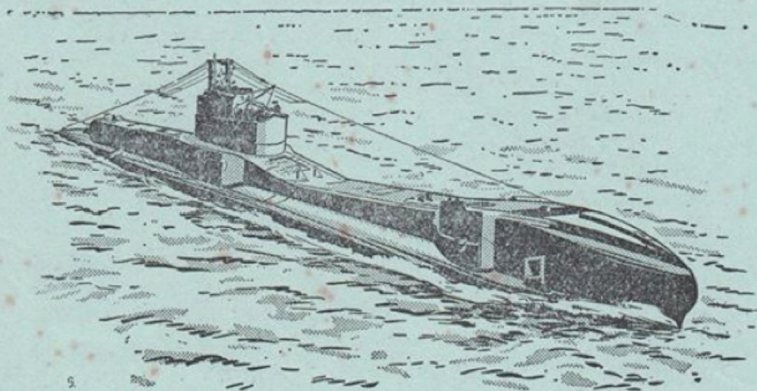
Saturday, April 24th - Saturday, May 1st, 1943



OUR AIM—to raise £50,000
the cost of TEN SPITFIRES

**Programme & Time Table
:: of the Week's Events ::**

MALPAS & DISTRICT WARSHIP WEEK



Grand Variety Concert

Wednesday, February 25th, 1942.

SOUVENIR PROGRAMME

PRICE 3d.

Keep this programme. Your lucky number (on the back)
may win you a National Savings Certificate at the interval.

Evacuees

Acting on instructions from Cheshire County Council, Mr Herbert Yates the headmaster closed the school for the week beginning 4 September 1939, re-opening the following week on a 'box and cox' system so that the Alport boys could attend from 9.00 am to 12.30 pm, while the Sefton Park boys used the school premises from 1.00 pm to 5.00 pm.

The arrangements were obviously not very conducive to the proper education of pupils in either school so that by the first week of November Sefton Park had moved out and been re-established in the Jubilee Hall and in a wooden hut on what is now the Jubilee Hall car park.



Jack Peberdy on the Oxheyes with evacuee boys from Sefton Park School

When it was found that still not enough offers of billets were forthcoming, Mr Hesketh, Chairman of the Parish Council, composed a letter to be used where necessary: 'Dear Sir or Madam, Under the Defence Regulations 1939, the Malpas Reception Area is required to billet or re-billet about 30 children immediately. As you have, as yet, not had children billeted on you for any length of time, we feel that you will recognise that it is now your duty to receive such children. We are confident that if the Billeting Officer calls on you to comply with the above regulations you will accept this public duty and not force him to exercise compulsory powers'

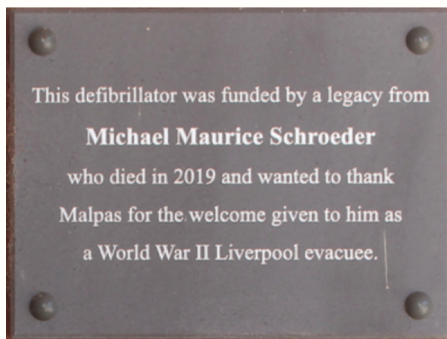
Many local residents remember the evacuees who were billeted with their families. It could not have been easy for them to stretch their resources to cope with the unexpected guests. An allowance of 10/6 (52½ pence) per week was paid for the first evacuee child in each household, plus 8/6 (42½ pence) for each extra child. These payments were later increased.

For those children whom it proved impossible to billet in private houses, a hostel was set up in early 1941 at the Beeches (now private residential flats) in Tilston Road.

By January 1940 around two thirds of all the children evacuated from Liverpool had returned home although it was reported in July 1940 that a greater proportion of children had remained in Malpas than in any other area in Cheshire, or elsewhere.



The Beeches in Tilston Road which was used as a hostel for evacuees. (Now private residential flats)



A plaque on the Jubilee Hall reflecting the happy memories of time spent in Malpas as an evacuee.

The reasons were many. They included claims that children were not properly looked after by the host families; unsuitable accommodation; mothers at home in Liverpool who could not manage without the help of their children in the house; medical problems, particularly those with emotional causes such as bed-wetting; badly behaved evacuees; and children being just plain homesick for Liverpool - sometimes evacuees would be discovered walking along the railway line from Hampton towards Chester, in the hope that it would eventually lead them back to their native city.

After Germany occupied the Channel Islands about one third of the population, some 29,000 in all, were brought off in June 1940, including a group of evacuees, but there are no records of how many came to the Malpas area.

Six days after D-Day (6th June 1944) the Germans retaliated against the Allies by sending over the first of the dreaded V1 rocket powered bombs known as 'doodlebugs' or 'buzz bombs'. These were aimed mainly at London although they were also targeted on other cities, including Manchester.

Faced by these new menaces, the Government ordered a further evacuation of schoolchildren, mothers and pre-school children from out of the metropolis. Between August 1944 and July 1945, 68 London evacuee children, aged between 7 and 14, were admitted to the Alport schools, together with one further child from Liverpool.

The last of the evacuee children left the Alport schools in December 1945 and the Beeches hostel was officially closed the following month.

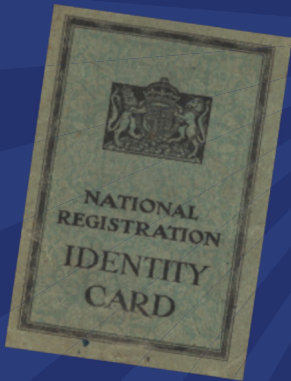
Sadly, not all of the children returned home. At least two died of illness in Malpas during the war, one of them a London girl at the Beeches, who suffered from rheumatic fever.

- Further information on the evacuees that came to Malpas can be found in a copy of David Hayns book "Malpas and the Home Front" Follow the link to download a copy.

www.malpascheshire.org/historic-archive/history-of-malpas/malpas-and-home-front.html

WARTIME ROADSHOW

Malpas Community Church
Thursday 8th May to Sunday 11th May 10:00am – 3:00pm



Images, artefacts and insights from a lost generation - and Malpas 80 years ago

See a range of items from the Home Front and the Armed Forces which are intended to give some idea of what was needed to win the war over six long years.

Wartime Roadshow lead organiser Adrian Waddelove

CELEBRATION PLAY

In the Victoria Jubilee Hall

Thursday 8th May at 7:00pm | Friday 9th May at 7:00pm
Saturday 10th May at 7:00pm | Sunday 11th May at 2:00pm



Drama, music, poetry, and song paint a picture of Malpas at the end of the war in Europe. There are four opportunities to see this community production, written and directed by Mags Fraser, and involving all ages of people from the local community. Not to be missed!

Tickets - £5 adults, children under 16 free
Celebration Play Writer, Producer and Director Mags Fraser

SPOT THE ITEM IN THE WINDOW

Malpas Village
5th May – 11th May

A competition to find an item in the shop windows on High Street and Church Street that does not have a direct connection to what service is being provided, or goods being sold. Entry is free and forms can be obtained from Nisa.

Spot the item organised by Michelle Craddock

BEACON PARADE, LIGHTING AND TRIBUTE

**Fire Station Car Park
Thursday 8th May 8:30pm**

Join the Beacon Lighting Ceremony

The proceedings will be led by senior Deputy Lieutenant, Mrs Sarah Callendar Beckett on behalf of the Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire, and you are invited to gather at the Fire station Car Park from where, at 8:35pm, a parade will follow Piper, Reg Flower to the Malpas War Memorial, for the laying of a wreath, and a flypast by a World War Two Avro Anson aircraft.



Picture taken during the D-Day + 80 commemoration event last year



Close up of a Avro Anson aircraft

We will then proceed to lighting of the Signal Beacon in the Nationwide chain at 9:30pm.

BEACON LIGHTING

9:30pm

The beacon lighting will be accompanied by the raising of the Union Jack, and a reading of the VE Day 80 Tribute.

Those attending the ceremony will be invited to join in the singing of I vow to thee my country.

Beacon Lighting courtesy of: Malpas and District Community Land Trust, Malpas Social Institute and Bowling Club, and St Oswald's Church.

VILLAGE CELEBRATION PARADE

Malpas High Street
Saturday 10th May - 12:30pm to 1:30pm



Flashback to the 2018 when Malpas commemorated the 100th anniversary of the end of World War One

The parade will start from Well Meadow at 12:30 pm and proceed via Springfield Road, Old Hall Street, and High Street to finish at Malpas Recreation Ground.

The parade will be reviewed by The Lord Mayor of Chester, Councillor Razia Daniels.

Organisations represented Include:

Churchill Warriors
Malpas Alport School
Malpas Flower Club
Malpas Young Farmers
RAF Air Cadets
Wynstay Hunt Pony Club

Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service
Malpas Community Links
Malpas Scouts
One Achord Ladies Choir
The Advent Singers

Celebration Parade lead organisers Rachael Reeves and Claire Daresbury

A DAY OF ENTERTAINMENT

Malpas Recreation Ground
Saturday 10th May - 1:30pm – 5:00pm

Something to interest everyone!

Vintage Vehicles
Dog Agility Demonstration
Ferret Roadshow
Falconry
Children's Play Area
Crafts and Stalls

BIG BAND NIGHT

Malpas Recreation Ground
Saturday 10th May - 7:00pm



Tickets: £5 adults, £1 for accompanied children (12 & under)
Fireworks Finale - 9:30pm

CLOSING EVENTS

St. Oswald's Church
Sunday 11th May

St Oswald's Service of Remembrance – 10:45am

(St Oswald's Church is open 10:00am – 4:00pm Thursday 8th of May to Sunday 11th May)

Malpas Recreation Ground
Sunday 11th May

5KM FUN RUN
10:00AM



VILLAGE WALKING TREASURE HUNT
1:00PM



AFTERNOON TEA WITH THE RONNIES - 3:00PM



Tickets - £15

GRAND RAFFLE DRAW - 4:00PM

MALPASIANS ON ACTIVE SERVICE

Many men and women from Malpas, as from every other town and village across the country, enlisted for war service either in this country or abroad. For those families involved it must have been a very difficult and anxious time.

At various times men and women who had been on active service would return to the town and tell of their exploits.

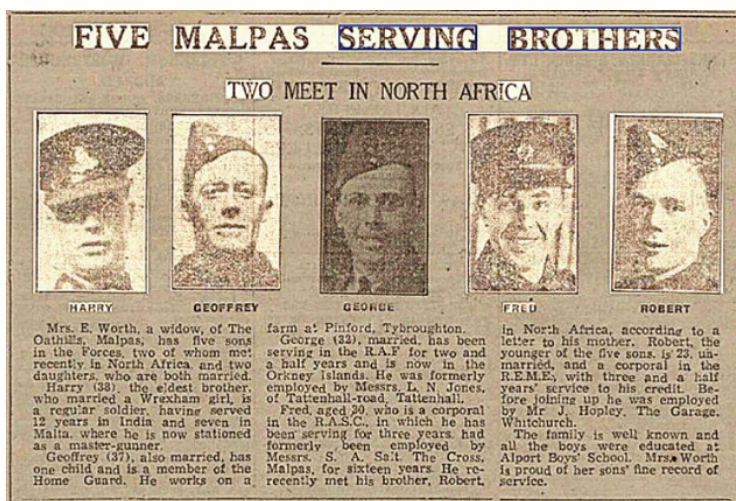
In April 1940 Chief Petty Officer Edwards of the HMS Exeter, a former Alport School pupil, returned after three years at sea to tell of his exploits at the Battle of the River Plate (Argentina's Rio de la Plata) the previous December, where his ship had been seriously damaged by the superior armaments of the German pocket battleship Graf Spee.

News was received in a different way by Mr & Mrs Leonard who lived at The Cross when their son James, serving in the RAF, broadcast a message to them on BBC radio.

Bill Coffin, whose father was in the Army, remembers going to meet him at Malpas station and being warned not to touch the enormous service rifle that was kept under the settee.

Others had been involved in various military exploits which were reported in the columns of the Whitchurch Herald. Pilot Officer Ernest Williams of Oldcastle, who had joined the RAF in 1941 at the age of 16, was awarded the Distinguished Flying Medal in 1944 after he had been on 45 operational flights over France and Germany; and Trooper William Corbett of the Westminster Dragoons had a narrow escape on New Year's Eve 1944 when his tank was knocked out by an 88mm shell during the Battle of Maastricht. After he had dodged machine gun fire to fetch medical assistance for two wounded companions, he was told that he had run across a snow-covered minefield!

In May 1943 the photographs of 'Five Malpas Serving Brothers' were published in the Chester Chronicle. They were the sons of Mrs Worth of The Oathills: Harry (aged 38), Geoffrey (37), George (32), Fred (30) and Robert (23), all former pupils of the Alport Boys' School.



Some who had been wounded in action returned to this country to recover. Mary Pridding's brother Private George Wynne of Sunnyside came home in October 1942;

Private James Davies of Cross o' the Hill, aged 21, was admitted to a military hospital with shrapnel wounds – the second time he had been wounded.

Trooper William Corbett and Private William Reeves were both wounded during the D-Day landings at Normandy in June 1944.

Driver James Bagshaw (Royal Army Service Corps) of Cross o' the Hill was reported seriously wounded in August 1944. The following month Trooper Dennis Griffiths, son of the Malpas postmaster, was reported to be in a hospital in South Wales after being wounded in Holland.

In November, Company Sergeant Major John Harrison of Church Street, who was later awarded the Military Medal for destroying a German Panzer tank in Normandy, was reported wounded. The Malpas Deanery Magazine for December 1944 reported that Leading Aircraftman Fred Humphreys had also been wounded.

Captain Richard Dale of Cherry Hill, Chorlton, who had been awarded the Military Cross for service in Greece, was invalided home in February 1945.

Sadly, many men were taken prisoner. Reports about them appeared occasionally in the local paper. Lance Corporal John Fowles, brother of Mrs Darlington of Sunnyside, was captured at Dunkirk in May 1940.

James Watson of The Oathills, a reservist who had rejoined the Welsh Guards at the outbreak of the war, was reported missing then notified as a Prisoner of War (POW) in Germany.

In July 1942 news was received at Fields Farm that Driver Arthur Probin of the Royal Army Service Corps had been taken prisoner.

Privates Arthur Shadbolt and Wilfred Lawrence of the RASC both went into Italian POW camps, having been captured by Rommel's troops at Tobruk in June 1942.

Radio Operator Clifford Johnson from Beech House, who went abroad with the RAF Voluntary Reserve in August 1941, was taken prisoner by the Japanese at the end of 1943.

Flight Sergeant (Navigator) David Saunders-Davies, son of the new Rector, was shot down over Greece and taken prisoner during September 1944.

Others had lucky escapes. Bill McCaffrey arrived home safely in November 1942 after his Merchant Navy ship was torpedoed. The following June the local paper reported his wedding to Eunice Griffiths of Llanfair DC, at Saint Werburgh's RC Church in Chester.

The Malpas Fallen

Volunteers at Whitchurch Heritage Centre have found the following information about the World War Two men who gave their lives to keep us safe.

David Frederick Allcroft

Died at sea on 2 October 1942, aged 32, one of the 338 men drowned when the light cruiser HMS Curacao sank after being sliced by ocean liner RMS Queen Mary whilst on convoy escort duty.
The son of William David and Mary Ann (Daisy) Allcroft.
His parents were farming at The Cedars

William Sydney Alman

Killed in action in Sicily 14 July 1943, aged 24, four days after the Allied Landings.
William's father and grandfather both came from Malpas.

William John Lawrence Armitstead

Died in India from a snake bite on 20 March 1944, aged 34.
Born in 1909 in Malpas, the son of the Rev Lawrence and Mrs Mary Elizabeth Armitstead.
His father was Rector of Malpas (1904 - 1935)

James Bickley

Killed in action in Normandy on 2 August 1944, aged 25.
Born in 1918 in Malpas, the son of Charles & Ellen Bickley.
The family were living in Wrexham Road in 1939.

Geoffrey Brereton

Died on active service 9 March 1942, aged 27.
Buried in Malpas Cemetery.
It is most likely that he was piloting Hurricane fighter P3739 which dived into the ground in Norfolk having returned from a mission over France.
The son of Harold & Jane Brereton. The family were living in Hampton Green in 1939.

Michael Percy Done

Killed in action in Normandy on D-Day on his 20th birthday (6 June 1944) when 156,000 Allied troops landed in France.
Born in Malpas in 1924, the son of Percy Edward & Dorothy Mary Done. The family were living at Higher House, Edge Lane in 1939.

Thomas Henry Finchett

Died of pneumonia in Burma on 12 April 1945, aged 29.
The son of Charles & Sarah Finchett. Husband of Dorothy R and father to Dorothy E.
Thomas was living in Sunnyside at the time of his death.

Alexander Henry Hall

Died off Denmark's coast on 24 April 1944, aged 27.

He was the pilot of Halifax bomber HAL HX151 which crashed into the sea, whilst on a minelaying operation.

The son of James & Harriett Mary Hall. Husband of Ursula Eileen. The family were living in Post Office Lane, Hampton in 1939.

Harry Hewitt

Died in the UK on 14 September 1944, aged 36. Buried in St. Winifrede Churchyard, Bickley.

Born in 1908 in Bickley, the son of Henry & Margaret Hewitt. Husband of Rhoda and father of Barbara. The family were living in Sunnyside in 1939 and Croxton Green, Cholmondeley at the time of his death.

John Hughes *

Died at sea 29 October 1942, aged 25.

His ship, SS Bullmouth was torpedoed by German submarine U-659 and sunk off the coast of Madeira.

The son of John & Elizabeth Hughes. He was living at 14 Sunnyside at the time of his death.

Jack Huxley

Died at Military Hospital, Shaftesbury, Dorset on 20 April 1944, aged 34, from wounds sustained in North Africa.

Buried in Malpas Cemetery.

Born in 1909 in Malpas, the son of John & Jane Huxley. Husband of Ena May.

The family lived at The Post Office, Hampton in 1939.

John Kilby Jones

Killed in action off Norway's coast on 21 February 1945, aged 22.

He was a member of the crew of Halifax II bomber JP173 which crashed into the sea whilst attacking German shipping.

The son of Richard Kilby & Annie C Jones. The family lived in Edge in 1945.

Thomas Hartley Kemp

Killed in action in Normandy 22 July 1944, aged 33.

The son of Thomas Hartley & Catherine Beatrice Kemp. Husband of Nesta Eleanor and father to Andrea. The family lived at Oathills.

Samuel Thomas Mullock

Died in an accident in Italy 20 November 1944, aged 32.

The son of John & Margaret Ann Mullock. Husband of Florence. He lived in Malpas.

Albert George Nevitt

Killed in action in Normandy 11 June 1944, aged 32.

Born in 1912 in Malpas, the son of Frederick & Martha Nevitt. Husband of Bessie and father to John. The family lived in Ebnal Bank, Hampton in 1939.

Roger Carrington Okell

Died of wounds in Israel 18 October 1942, aged 21.

The son of The Venerable Frank Jackson Okell & Gertrude Emily Carrington Okell. His father was Rector of Malpas (1936-1944) and the family lived in the Lower Rectory, Church Street.

Leonard James Passey

Accidentally drowned off Galle, Sri Lanka on 15 December 1946, aged 20.

Born in 1926 in Threapwood, the son of Leonard J & Elsie M Passey. The family lived at the Chorlton Lane Shop, Chorlton.

Frank Lewis Rowlands

Killed in action at sea 2 March 1944, aged 24.

Frank was on board HMS LST (Landing Ship Tank) 362 when it was torpedoed by German submarine U-744 southwest coast of Ireland.

Born in 1919 in Malpas, the son of Walter & Ellen Rowlands of Oldcastle.

Frank was living at Chorlton Lane Shop, Chorlton in 1939.

George Edward Turtle

Died in India on 23 November 1942, aged 31.

Born in 1911 in Malpas, the son of Joseph & May Turtle.

The family lived at The Villa, High Street in 1939.

Bernard Young

He was involved in a road accident whilst on leave in the UK in January 1940, but died on 7 May 1941, aged 23, in the Liverpool Blitz, during the heaviest week of bombing.

The son of John & Annie Young who lived in Higher Wych.

***Note**

These are the 19 men named on the Malpas War Memorial together with John Hughes, whom the recent research has established needs to be added.

Acknowledgements

These firms and organisations have made generous contributions to enable this interesting and informative programme of events to be staged for the whole community.

Advent Singers	Malpas Community Players
Barlows UK Limited	Malpas Community Links
Bellis Brothers	Malpas Dental Care
Blacka Group Sound	Malpas Farmers Club
Blue Loos	Malpas Flower Club
Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service	Malpas Parish Council
Cheshire Record Office	Malpas Recreation Ground Trust
Co-op	Malpas Surgery
Cottons Electrical Limited	Malpas Young Farmers
Corbetts Hay & Straw	My Local Solicitor
Coverall Marquees	Miles Macadam
Grafton Hall Farm	One Achord Ladies Choir
Hampton Smithy Limited	Prism Lighting
HJ Lea Oakes Limited	Prospect House
Huxley Johnson Accountants	Rejuvo Enable
Jubilee Hall Management Committee	St. Oswald's Church
Malpas and District Community Land Trust	Strands Hairdressing
Malpas Bowling Club	Tyres n Tubes
Malpas Eye & Hearing Care	Whitchurch Heritage Centre
Malpas Community Church	

Key Roles

Janet Blake	Commemoration Float
Ian Burgess	Arena Display Co-ordinator/Treasure Hunt
Jackie Clegg	Afternoon Tea/Treasure Hunt
Sarah Collard	Children's Games
Michelle Craddock	Spot the Item
Clare Daresbury	Village Parade
Mags Fraser	Writer, Producer & Director - Celebration Play
Terry Fry	Historical Research
Sue Griffith	Raffle
David Hayns	Village Historian
Jenny Humes	Sponsorship and Raffle
Rachael Reeves	Project Co-Ordinator/Village Parade
Melanie Hughes	Malpas Alport School co-ordinator
Anthony Mullock	Arena Events Co-ordinator
Cathy Reynolds	Fun Run/Treasurer
Liane Smith	Publicity
Adrian Waddelove	Wartime Roadshow/Research Co-ordinator
Chris Whitehurst	Group Chair/Secretary
Rachael Williams	Stalls Co-ordinator

Special thanks are due to local people for the loan of their memorabilia and artefacts.

The difficulty with making acknowledgments is that there might be omissions. If so, the committee extends sincere thanks to everyone who has contributed to Malpas VE80 Celebration Project in any way.

The Forgotten Few



Research for both the Malpas VE80 and “Malpas 100 Years On” projects has identified a number of Malpas men whose deaths appear not to have been recorded on any UK War Memorial. It is the Committee’s intention to use any proceeds resulting from the 2018 and 2025 events to honour them because their sacrifice should never be forgotten.

Lest We Forget



It is intended to publish the information contained in this souvenir programme on the Malpas Community Website at:

<https://www.malpascheshire.org/historic-archive.html>

For more information on the fallen soldiers follow this link:

www.whitchurch-heritage.co.uk/projects/malpas-world-war-2-the-fallen/

Information correct at the time of publication. However, If you have any additional details about the men who died, or those who survived, and their families, please add the detail to our archives by e-mailing editor@malpascheshire.org or telephoning Chris on 01948 860333.