
UNION JACK

My Family in World War 2

By Jessica and Imogen Lester

My Great Grandfather was a Major in the South Staffs Regiment mostly in Northern Ireland. My Grandmother's Uncle was in the Merchant Navy and another Uncle was captain of a ship. Everybody had to get a job and my Great Grandmother joined the Police Force in Walsall and was a personal driver to the Chief Constable.

Jessica Lester



My Great Grandfather Lester was a driver in the Royal Army Service Corp and was posted to Greece. He was taken prisoner on 12th July 1941 and then marched to Austria. In 1943, he and other prisoners drew a picture on the wall of Winston Churchill and a Christmas tree. The baubles drawn on the tree showed the different regiments of the prisoners held there. My Great Grandfather was released when the war finally ended.

Jessica Lester



We are very proud of our Great Grandparents and the roles they all played during the Second World War. We wish that we could have met them to find out more.



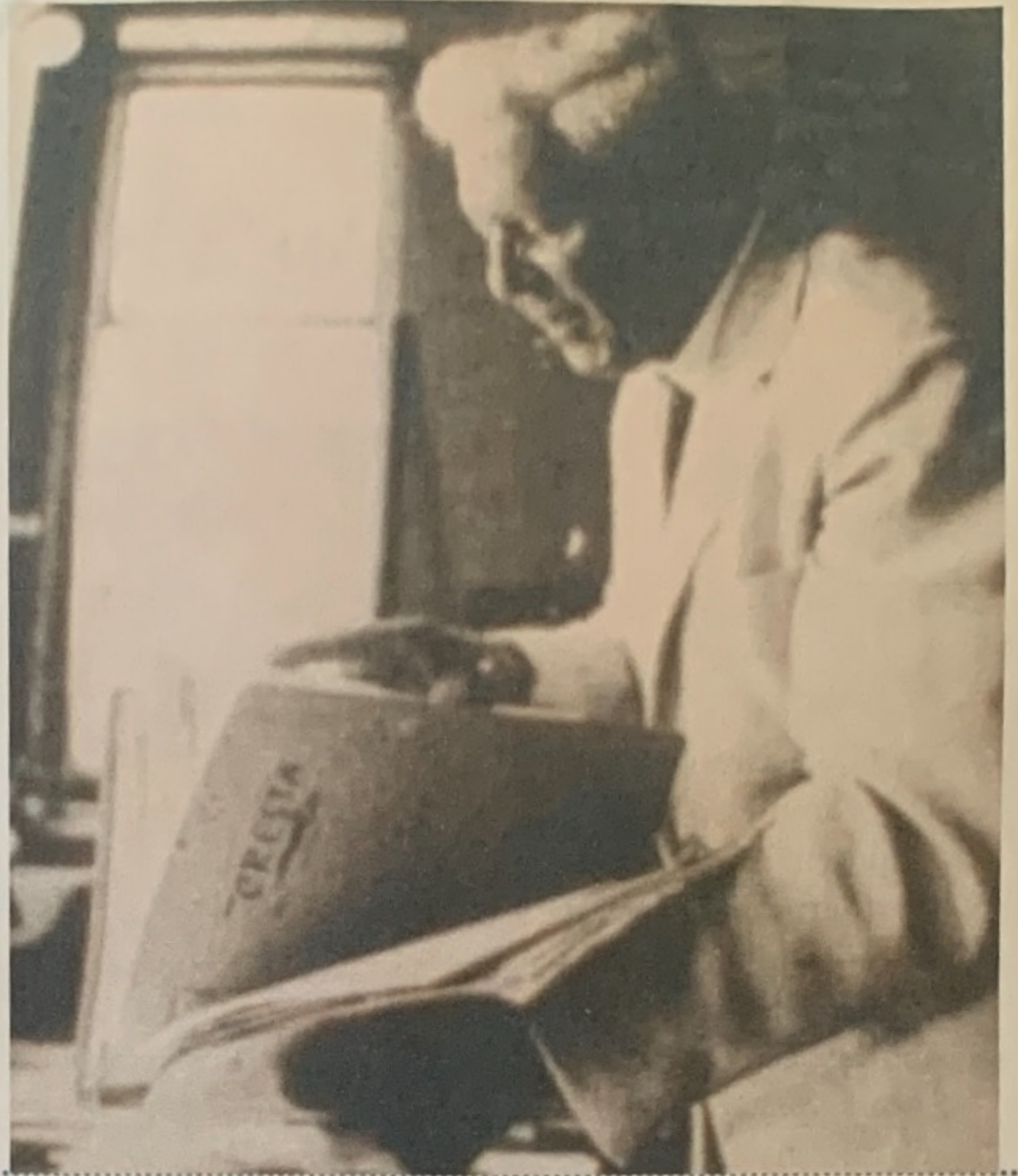
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Sir Barnes Wallis

Sir Barnes Wallis was an English scientist, engineer and inventor. He invented the bouncing bomb. My family knew his daughter, Mary Stopes Roe who remembers her father bouncing balls in a tank of water in their garden. She and her sibling had to be quiet when they were playing because her father was concentrating very hard.

The bouncing bomb was practiced on Ladybower Lake in Derbyshire. In May 1943 a plane dropped the bouncing bomb onto the water dams in Germany. It flooded the factories so no more machinery could be made.

Jessica Lester



Tanworth in Arden School in World War 2



In the war, some children lived in the big cities. They had to be evacuated to the countryside and they had to leave their parents. Some children came to Tanworth in Arden to work on the farms and to help with the animals.

There is a book called *A Brush with Life*, written by Frank Sidney Smith. It is a story of a boy who was evacuated to Tanworth in Arden and there are some pictures of Tanworth in Arden School.

Jessica Lester

Air Raid Shelter



There were air raid shelters at the bottom of the garden, they were very small and that is where you hid with your family when you heard the siren.

Imogen Lester

