



62 Battalion West Riding Home Guard (Rotherham) D Company Harthill



Harthill Home Guard 1939 - 45

Back row left to right: W. Hollis, W. Richards, F. Cole, E. Rose, G. Holden, L. Wakefield, L. Meeks, R. Willerton, T. Drabble, F. Thompson, S. Chambers, J. Scott, J. Rose.

Middle row: F. Smith, H. Higgins, G. Widdison, F. Whitlam, J. Wainscoat, H. Rose, W. Bennett, J. Clark, W. Clarke, R. Hutchinson, J. Allsop, G. Kemp, G. Fields, W. Hutchinson, J. Unwin, J. Rose, A. Barlow.

Front row: W. Hydes, J. Hicklin, R. Richards, J. King, S. Wakefield, J. Allsop, C. Smith, C.P. Wright, J. Harrison, H. Weston, T. Wakefield, A. Laking, D. Widdison, E. Walker, E. Laking.

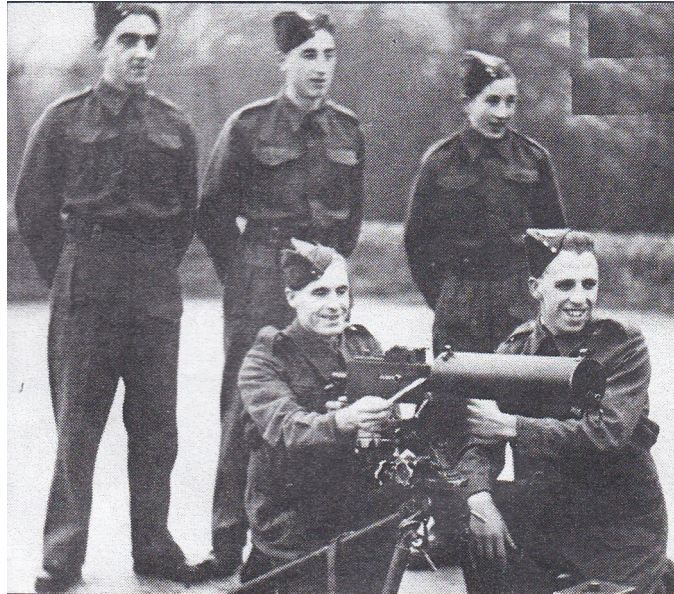
The 62nd (Rotherham) Battalion, of the West Riding Home Guard had their headquarters in Sheffield and was affiliated to the York and Lancaster Regiment.

Formed in 1939 and originally called the Local Defence Volunteers who grew out of a scheme of defence conference which was called to prepare a scheme of defence. Arrangements had to be made to obtain and distribute rifles, take over Drill Halls, co-operate with local regular troops, including A.A. and Balloon Barrage, establish liaison between L.D.V. units, to obtain transport, set up communications, impose security measures, and post sentries on the most likely points for parachute landings. A number of shot guns were received by the police from patriotic citizens and handed to the L.D.V. However, most of the patrols, however, were armed with nothing more deadly than a thick stick and a superb confidence in their ability to take on the cream of the German Army.

As a form of uniform they were given a drab linen armband with the letters L.D.V. emblazoned thereon.

On July 24th, 1940, the L.D.V. became the Home Guard, in Sheffield the Hallamshire Zone was formed, including a Sheffield Group of five battalions, a Rotherham Borough Group of three battalions, and a Rotherham County Group of four battalions.

**Harthill D Company 62 Battalion Home Guard
Machine Gun Practice**



Standing: W. Wragg, S. Chambers, and J. King.
Kneeling: J. Clark and R. Widdison

