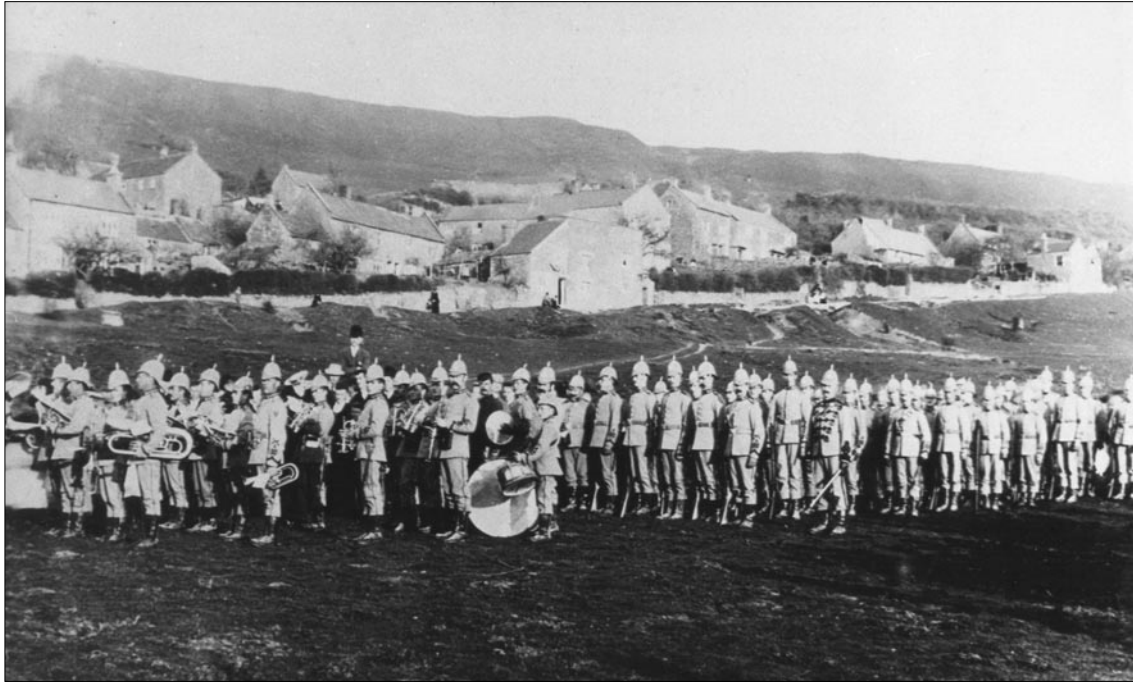


## *War Time*



The West Somerset Yeomanry, with their own band, assembled in Shelves c1890-94. The Yeomanry were made up of volunteers, from Stoke and surrounding villages, to support the regular army if necessary. Note the old salt house in the middle of the picture also the number of cottages on Ham Hill (several were demolished between 1898 and 1926).



WW1 Stoke Volunteers 1914.

*Row left to right:* 1. Reggie Morgan 2. Cyril Chaffey 3. Ralph Trotman (later lost his leg at the Somme) 4. Ernest Trotman (killed) 5. .... 6. Hubert Grinter (killed) 7. Bert Lawrence 8. Evan (Duffy) Phelps 9. Harry Turner (killed).



WW1 Stoke Volunteers 1914.

*Rows left to right. Top row:* 4. Horace Brooks (killed) *2nd row:* 1. Vernon Richards 3. Harold Brailey *3rd row:* 2. Tom Dodge 5. Billy Chant.



ARP (Air Raid Patrol) early 1940s outside Stanchester School.

*Rows left to right. Top row:* 1. Walter Biggs 2. George Kelloway 3. Reggie Baker 4. Reverend D. Ballard 5. Seymour Palmer 6. Fred Abbott 7. Ernest Turner 8. Percy Dyke 9. Les Murless *2nd row:* 1. James Bradley 2. Bill Margetts 3. Harold Brailey 4. Jim Young 5. Tertius Fane 6. Gerald Knight.



1942 - 148th Squadron Royal Engineers, pictured in the present Recreation Field. Many were billeted in Stoke homes and elsewhere in the village. Some married local girls and settled in Stoke after the war.



Air Training Corp WW2 1945, at the back of Vernon Richards blacksmith shop, The Cross, Stoke.  
**Rows left to right. Top row:** 1. Hensleigh Trotman 2. Fred Critchell 3. Wilf Combes 4. George Clarke 5. David Grinter 6. John Strickland 7. Godfrey Grinter 8. Patrick Grinter **2nd row:** 1. Dave Taylor 2. Cyril Mapletoft 3. Ron Parsons 4. Pat Regan 5. Stan Whitlock 6. Escourt Miln 7. Don Chant 8. .... 9. .... 10. Les Slade 11. Dick Kelloway 12. Lyndall Stagg 13. Bern Matthews **3rd row:** 1. Jack Everet 2. Howard Penny 3. Bert Gillett 4. Cecil Webb 5. Tommy Whitlock 6. John Gillman.



Stoke Women's Land Army WWII, were housed in two converted chicken houses at the present Walscombe Close, North Street. **2nd row - 3rd left:** Pat O'Connor later Pittard.



V.E. Day 1945 outside the Half Moon Inn.

**Rows left to right:** 1. Brian Bussell (cap) 2. Janet Margetts (black hair) 3. Daphne Edmunds (little girl) 4. .... 5. .... (cossack) 6. Martin Jones (chinaman) 7. Hazel Howells (Red Riding Hood) 8. Mary Murley (nurse) 9. Mary Pittard (in black) 10. Brian Helyar (trumpet) 11. Wally Jeans (bowler hat) 12. Derek Helyar (banjo) 13. Dick Comer 14. Norman Patch 15. Sheppy Welsh in front and many others at the back, with no room to name!



VE Day 1945 at the Half Moon Inn.

**Left to right:** 1. Jack Lawrence 2. Frank Thorne 3. Ern Stagg 4. Philip Broom 5. Bob Beer 6. John Clarke 7. Frank Hansford 8. .... 9. Harry Gold (behind hat) 10. Percy Margetts 11. Bert Rendall (postman) 12. Tom Boon 13. .... 14. Charlie Nelms 15. Emily Slade 16. Jim Slade (Landlord) 17. Doreen Gold 18. Tom Appleby 19. .... 20. Leo Jones **Front row:** 1. Peter Sparks 2. Millie Jackson 3. Arthur Jackson.

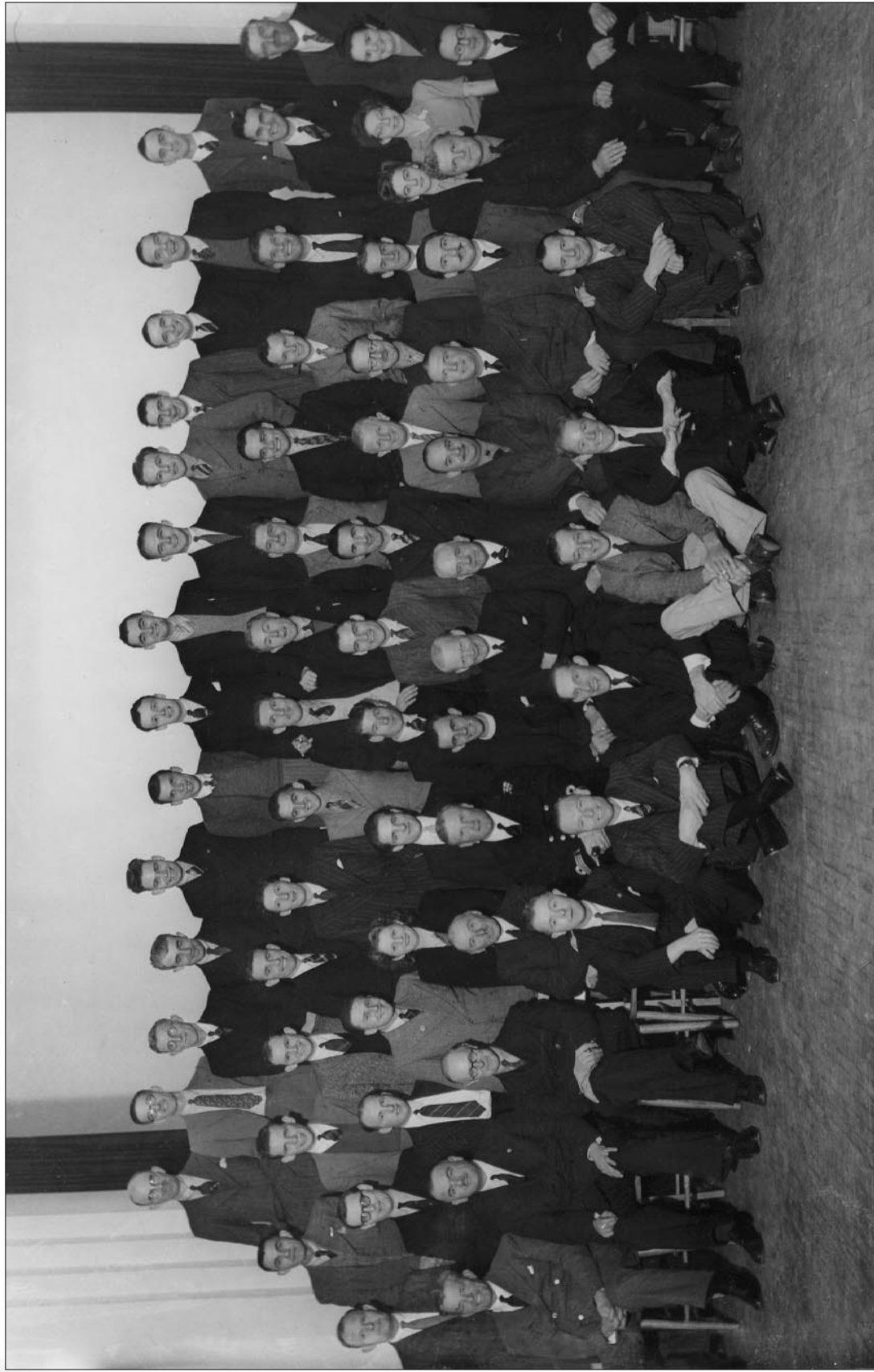




“Welcome Home” - first demob held at Stanchester School 1946.



“Welcome Home” - first demob held at Stanchester School 1946.



'Welcome Home' - second demob held at Stanchester School 1947, also present village dignitaries.