

ARP Wardens' Post No 4 Minute Book

Courtesy Eric Callaway

Box's Air Raid Wardens' Organisation

Chippenham District, Box Hill Post Number 4

Group Warden: Capt Legard (phone Box 46)

Senior: Mr FG Abrahams, Brookwells, Box Hill

Second: Mr EE Callaway, Dorma, Box Hill

Wardens on Post: Mr CL Shell, Mr AE May, Mr WS Tucker

Position of Post: Outbuildings of Mr Callaway's house, Dorma on Main Road (phone Box 66)

Extent of No 4 Post: N to S Box Brook to top of Quarry Hill

E to W Rudloe to E of Crossways

Adjoining Post: Mr Dyer's, Townsend (phone Box 35)

Important Telephones: Report Central Control Centre Decontamination and General (phone Chippenham 2514)

Doctor: Dr Thomas (Box 68), Dr Strode (Box 60)

Hospital: Chippenham (2231), Weston (Bath 7206)

Police: Box (27), Corsham (2237), Chippenham (2222)

Fire Brigades: Chippenham, Corsham, Bath (2222)

Military ??? Vaughan (Box 169), Chandler (71)

Gas: Bath Gas Co (Bath 3244)

Electricity: Wessex Electricity Co (Corsham 3256), Melksham (181)

Water: Chippenham ???? (Chippenham 2262)

Other telephones on Box Hill for absolute emergency at:

Mr Hinton's Garage; Mr F Neate, Hillcrest; Mr Tucker, Drewetts Mill; Mr Baillick or Mr Florey, Rudloe; and Mr Owen Bishop, Bradford Road.

Permission would have to be asked to use the above phones

Siren Warnings, June - July 1940

Thursday June 20 Air Raid Warning No 4 Post

Abrahams and Callaway on duty at 1.55 am. All clear 3.40 am

Tuesday June 25 Air Raid Warning 12.17 am

On duty Abrahams, Callaway, Tucker, Shell. All clear 2.40am

Wednesday June 26 Air Raid Warning 12.03 am

On duty Abrahams, Callaway, Tucker, May, Shell. All clear 12.40am

Air Raid Warning 1.30 am All clear 3.30 am

11.45 pm called out on yellow until 2.07 am Thursday 27 June

On duty Abrahams and Callaway 3.10 am to 4 am

July 1 Air Raid Warnings

0.50 am until 2.07 am siren warning

2.50 am until 3.25 am Wardens on duty Abrahams, Callaway, Tucker, May, Shell

17.20 pm until 17.55 pm yellow warning to stand by Abrahams and Callaway

July 1 to July 2 23.10 pm until 1.12 am yellow then siren

Wardens Abrahams, Callaway, Tucker, Shell.

6 am to 6.50 am yellow. Wardens on duty Callaway and Abrahams

8.25 am to 8.37 am yellow Callaway

17 hours pm to 17.25 p siren Callaway

23.10 pm to 1.55 am July 3 yellow Abrahams, Callaway

July 3 12.20 pm to 12.50 pm siren Wardens on duty Callaway, Tucker

17.10 pm to 17.55pm siren Wardens Abrahams, Callaway, Tucker, Shell, May on duty

July 4 8 am to 9.35 am siren Wardens on duty Abrahams, Callaway, Tucker, May

23.30 pm until 0.45 am July 5 siren Wardens on duty Abrahams, Callaway, Tucker, Shell, May

Messrs Shell and Callaway reported light seen at or near Box Station to PC Gale at Mr Dyer's house

July 5 Air Raid Warning 17.05 pm until 17.25 pm siren Callaway

July 6 8.15 am until 8.40 am siren Warden Callaway

July 7 9.55 am until 10.30 am siren warning Wardens Abraham, Callaway, Tucker

July 8 23.35 pm until 3.15 am July 9 yellow Callaway

July 9 warnings

9.55 am until 10.47 am yellow Callaway

12.55 am until 13.30 pm yellow Callaway

15.20 pm until 15.35 pm yellow Callaway

20.10 pm until 20.50 pm yellow Callaway

July 10 warnings

5.30 am until 6.50 am yellow Callaway

10.40 am until 11.13 am yellow Callaway

11.40 am until 12.50 pm yellow Callaway

15.45 pm until 16.45 pm yellow Callaway

July 11 warnings 9.55 am until 11.35 am yellow Callaway

12.30 pm until 12.55 pm yellow Callaway

July 12 Air Raid Warning 1.05 am until 2.05 am siren warning

2.40 am until 4.30 am siren warning

Wardens on duty Abrahams, Callaway, Tucker, May, Shell

16.15 pm until 17 pm siren warning

Wardens on duty Callaway and Shell

July 13 0.05 am until 0.59 am siren warning

Wardens on duty Abrahams, Callaway, Tucker, May, Shell

9.25 am until 10.50 am siren Callaway, Tucker

13.50 pm until 14.20 pm siren Callaway, Tucker

July 14 1.05 am until 1.30 am siren warning
Wardens on duty Abrahams, Callaway, Tucker, Shell
8.18 am siren 8.34 raiders passed 8.40 white
Wardens Abrahams, Callaway and Shell
22.50 siren 23.17 raiders passed 23.25 white
Wardens Abrahams, Callaway, Tucker, May, Shell on duty
23.58 siren 0.37 raiders passed 0.50 am white July 15
Wardens Abrahams, Callaway, Tucker, May, Shell

Red Alerts and Enemy Aircraft Overhead, July - August 1940

July 15 1.20 am siren 1.37 raiders passed 2.07 am white
Wardens Abrahams, Callaway, Tucker, Shell
10.25 am phone message per Mr Hiscocks stating red
11.25 am phone message per Mr Hiscocks stating white
no siren heard at all at No 4 Post Box Hill Callaway on duty through Mr Hiscock's
messages
14.17 Phone message red 14.37 raiders passed 15.30 white Wardens Abrahams,
Callaway
16.45 RED 17.30 raiders passed 17.40 white
Wardens on duty Abrahams, Callaway, Tucker

July 16 6 am RED 6.20 raiders passed 7.05 am white
Wardens on duty Abrahams, Callaway

July 18 0.55 am RED 2.35 raiders passed 7.05 am white
Wardens on duty Abrahams, Callaway
8 am RED 8.20 raiders passed 8.35 am white
Wardens on duty Callaway, Tucker
11.35 am RED 12.15 pm raiders passed Warden on duty Tucker
16.15 pm RED 16.53 raiders passed 17.10 pm white Warden on duty Callaway
17.30 pm RED 18 hours pm raiders passed 18.05 pm white
Wardens on duty Callaway, Tucker

July 19 15.30 pm RED 17.10 pm raiders passed 17.25 white
Warden on duty Callaway

July 20 0.32 am RED 3.10 am raiders passed 3.22 am white
Wardens on duty Abrahams, Callaway, Tucker
15 hours pm RED 15.40 pm raiders passed 16 hours white
Warden on duty Callaway

July 21 2.26 am red until 3 am and raiders passed
7.40 am red until 8 am and raiders passed
9 am red until 9.45 am and raiders passed
14.35 pm red until 14.53 pm and raiders passed

Wardens on duty Abrahams, Callaway

July 22 22.45 pm red until 2.45 am July 23 raiders passed

Wardens on duty Abrahams, Callaway

July 23 12.17 pm red until 12.35 pm raiders passed Warden Callaway

July 24 15.10 red until 15.50 raiders passed Warden Callaway

July 25 13.45 red warning until 14.30 raiders passed

23.55 red until 1.25 am July 26

Wardens Abrahams, Callaway

July 26 22.45 red until 1.45 am raiders passed Wardens on duty Abrahams, Callaway

July 26 22.45 red until 1.45 am July 27 raiders passed Wardens on duty Abrahams,
Callaway

July 28 0.05 am red until 3.05 am raiders passed

Warden on duty Callaway

red 12 midnight until 3.30 am July 29 raiders passed

Wardens on duty Abrahams, Callaway

July 29 23.15 red until 2.20 am raiders passed

Wardens on duty Abrahams, Callaway

August 1 siren very poor wing to north west wind

0.45 red until 1.45 am raiders passed

23.05 red until 1.05 am August 2 raiders passed

Wardens on duty Abrahams, Callaway

August 3 Warden Abrahams

0.05 red until 2 am raiders passed

8.20 am red until 8.40 raiders passed

22.05 red until 22.30 raiders passed

Wardens on duty Callaway, Abrahams

August 4 1.05 am red until 1.50 am raiders passed Warden Callaway

August 6 22.30 red until 22.50 raiders passed Wardens Abrahams, Callaway

Bombs Dropped on Box, August 1940 - May 1941

August 7 22.30 red until 1.50 am August 8

Two flares were dropped from very high up, appeared to be midway between Box Hill and Colerne, the first about 7 minutes to 12 o'clock and the other at 25 minutes to 1 am. No other incident occurred. Wardens on duty Abrahams, Callaway

August 11 22.20 red warning until 0.40 August 12

August 13 16.30 Corsham RE siren heard raiders passed at 16.55

August 14 Siren heard at 16.50 bombs dropped at Farleigh and at Colerne.
All clear at 18.45

August 24 No siren warning Bomb dropped on Box Hill about 23.17
After making enquiries, position reported at 0.10 am. Made a further search until
3.30 am then reported no damage and no casualties. Wardens on duty Abrahams,
Callaway, May and Tucker

[26 September 1940 Wiltshire Constabulary General Emergency Branch, Divisional
Headquarters, Chippenham: Equipment Examined and Found in Order Cyril F
Smythe, Sergt]

November 18 1940

Explosions heard at 21.35 in the direction of Rudloe. Reported to Box 35 at 21.40.
Reply received telling us to make enquiries which was done and then reported back
to Box 35 at 23.15 saying we had been informed by the sentry at Rudloe the bombs
had fallen midway between Rudloe and Widdenham in open ground doing no
damage. Wardens on duty Abrahams, Callaway, Tucker. Mr Mays reported to the
post.

May 12 1941

Bombs dropped midway between Box Hill and Colerne at 2.17 am. On making a
search 11 craters were found some of them being 38 feet x 38 feet x 14 feet deep.
All dropped on open fields.

[16 May 1941 Wiltshire Constabulary General Emergency Branch, Divisional
Headquarters, Chippenham: Equipment Examined and Found in Order Cyril F
Smythe]

July 15 Mr H Maslen came to the Post to report a bright light in the centre of a field
at the bottom of Tutton Hill at Colerne. The time was 23.25. After watching it for
some time we decided to phone Colerne Police which was done from the call box
about 23.35. The reply given to us was that they would see about it. Finally the light
went out about 23.50. Several other houses had lights about the same time.
EE Callaway phone cost 2d.

November 20 1941

A warning given to a Mrs Harrington of Lower Rudloe for leaving her front door wide
open. Also the curtains at the side of the window were not effective at her cottage.
This was about 7.45 pm. Wardens Abrahams, Callaway

1942

Aug 12 Meeting all members attended

Aug 19 Meeting all members attended

September 2 Meeting all members attended
September 16 Meeting all members attended
September 30 Meeting all members attended
October 14 Meeting all members attended
October 28 Meeting all members attended