



# Book of the month

**RATION BOOKS AND RABBIT PIE**

*Edited by Linda Crust*

*Society for Lincolnshire History & Archaeology, Jews' Court, Steep Hill, Lincoln LN1 2LS*

ISBN 978903582115 £8.50

## LINCOLNSHIRE'S TOP 10 BESTSELLERS

A change this month, the top ten has been taken over with the store's bestsellers:

1. *Parky* – Michael Parkinson – 9780340961667
2. *Jamie's Ministry of Food* – Jamie Oliver – 9780718148621
3. *At My Mother's Knee* – Paul O'Grady - 9780593059258
4. *Guinness World Records 2009* – 9781904994367
5. *Dear Fatty* – Dawn French – 9781846053443
6. *Frugal Food* – Delia Smith – 9780340918562
7. *The White Tiger* – Aravind Adiga – 9781843547204
8. *Look Who It Is!* – Alan Carr – 9780007278220
9. *Cross Country* – James Patterson – 9781846052569
10. *Brute Force* – Andy McNab - 9780593055618

Compiled by Waterstone's Lincoln

If 'memories are made of this', then this is made of memories.

Organised by the Society's Local History Team recordings and transcripts were made of twenty-two people's recollections of events and feelings 'you forgot you knew' – a sample of how Lincolnshire folk remember the war years from 1939 to 1945.

Gas masks, men returning from Dunkirk, evacuees from Hull and Grimsby, then building airfields (including a dummy aerodrome) and the prisoners of war who worked on farms as reminders that the war was on our doorstep. The Home Guard and ARP Wardens (still familiar through 'Dad's Army'), the Women's Land Army (so many farm workers had been called up), and fire watching at times of bombing raids were all tasks taken up by civilians on the home front.

There are also personal memories of family, weddings, and babies, and some happier times come to the surface, particularly the companionship, camaraderie and helping each other when backs were against the wall. There's a splendid range of illustrations including posters – Beware of the Butterfly Bomb and Wings for Victory, and even a photograph of an indoor Morrison table shelter (I did my homework seated at one).

If there is a common thread, it's about food – growing vegetables in gardens and on allotments, pigs and poultry – and rabbits. Despite ration books and shortage of exotic bananas and oranges, or perhaps because of, we were pretty well nourished in rural Lincolnshire. Noses turn up today about eating rabbit pie, but then there was little to beat a good rabbit pie. Try the recipe of page 64.

## LINCOLNSHIRE BOOKS IN BRIEF

- *Bricks, Tiles and Bicycles in Barton before 1900*

Barton WEA Branch, 8 Queen Street,  
Barton on Humber DN18 5QP  
ISBN 9780900959223 £7.50

Making red bricks and tiles from alluvial clay on the Humber bank was Barton's major industry, starting with local demand and later exporting large quantities. How they were made, descriptions of brick and tile yards with plans and other illustrations, and people who worked in them. Plus the story of Fred Hopper's North Lincolnshire Cycle Works told in some detail for the first time.

- *A Yellowbelly Childhood By Frank Forster*

Available from author at 6 Ridley Avenue, Skegness, Skegness  
PE25 3LD £5.99 plus postage

About growing up in Billingbrough 1927-1939 based on a remarkable memory and notebook jottings from the age of five or six, and set in their context. Easy and compelling reading. School, church, the sweet shop next door and freedom to roam of the 1930s. Wartime experiences, Home Guard, evacuees (varasees), PoWs and the Yanks are here. His first trumpet which opened up a lifetime passion for music, classical and jazz, and adventures as an apprentice joiner, including shoeing cart wheels. Family photographs and delightful drawings.