

WASC 2047

WAI 529

Letter from Min.
of Supply to
Ernest Parish
- 46 years service

Ian MacFarlane

SALISBURY

From: Info [info@royalgunpowdermills.com]
Sent: 23 October 2008 09:15
To: Ian MacFarlane; Les Tucker
Subject: Fw: history

PARISH

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Red

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----- Original Message -----

From: Catrine Salisbury <mailto:CatrineS@bigpond.net.au>
To: info@royalgunpowdermills.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 22, 2008 10:30 AM
Subject: history

I was wondering if you have records of some of the people employed at the gunpowder mills. My grandfather Earnest Parish was employed there during the WW2 and I was interested in some of the work that he may have been involved in or some of the building where he would have worked.

I would be most grateful if you have any information or could direct me to any sites that might be relevant

Thanking you, Catrine Salisbury (nee Parish)

Les Tucker

From: Catrine Salisbury [CatrineS@bigpond.net.au]
Sent: 09 November 2008 06:20
To: 'Les Tucker'
Subject: RE: History

Dear Les,

I found this letter in my grandfather's papers. I daresay that it was a stock-standard letter but thought that I'd send you a copy just in case it may give an idea of the dates, judging the signature on the bottom. Hope that I'm not bothering you too much, but appreciate your assistance,
Catrine Salisbury.

From: Les Tucker [mailto:les10tucker@btinternet.com]
Sent: Sunday, 2 November 2008 7:22 AM
To: CatrineS@bigpond.net.au
Cc: imacfarlane@royalgunpowdermills.com
Subject: History

Dear Catrine

Thank you for your enquiry.

From the mid 19th century the personnel records at the Waltham Abbey Mills comprised formalised returns to the War Office. Unfortunately in spite of our best efforts we have been unable to trace any of these and we have therefore to turn to the Census's for Waltham Abbey which included details of the person's employment if employed at the Mills. This would of course be confined to those living within the Waltham Abbey census area, but most employees did live within this area.

On a more general historical note if you could let me have your address I will arrange for an historical summary of the Establishment to be sent to you. This will give you a general idea. Basically up until 1944 the factory produced a range of chemical explosives and until 1941 some gunpowder was still produced. Would any member of your family have any more specific information on which part of the plant your grandfather worked in. If so we could then give you further detail.

Regards

Les Tucker
Archivist Royal Gunpowder Mills

21/02/2009



18th January, 1943.

Dear Sir,

On the occasion of your retirement I desire on behalf of the Minister of Supply to express his appreciation of the long and faithful service which you have rendered under the War Department and the Ministry of Supply during a period of more than 46 years.

Yours very truly,

W. L. Douglas

Secretary
Ministry of Supply

Mr. Ernest Parish.