

Forgotten heroes honoured at last

TWO amateur village historians have discovered 25 forgotten local soldiers whose names were left off the parish war memorial.

Now, with the proceeds of their book, *A Parish At War*, they have bought a plaque which lists the local heroes from as far back as the Boer campaign.

A service to dedicate the new memorial at the weekend united long-lost families and was streamed live to relatives as far away as Canada and Australia.

Co-author Robert Forsyth, 73, a

By **Rick Senley**

retired submarine commander, believes the names were simply missed off the original memorial to 58 servicemen and women in Deddington, Oxfordshire.

He said: "It didn't go up until four or five years after the First World War. By that time some families had moved and it was probably a case of 'out of sight, out of mind'. There was nothing suspicious about it, it was just life."

The missing names included

two men killed in the Boer War, 21 in the First World War and another two killed between 1939 and 1945.

The project began four years ago when he and Michael Albrook, 69, started researching the lives of 700 soldiers from their parish and discovered another 25 had been accidentally overlooked.

Mr Forsyth said: "I had no idea how big it was going to be.

"It has brought the village together and people are enormously grateful, particularly the younger generation."