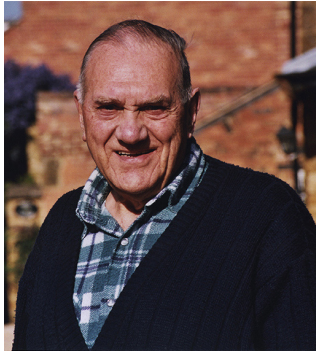


KEN SMITH (1916–2009)



Ken was born in Deddington in 1916, the youngest in a family of 12 children. He attended Deddington School and sang in the Church choir. He worked at Grove Farm as a young man and so will almost certainly have ploughed the field, now the Hempton Road cemetery, in which he rests.

Having enlisted in 1937, Ken went with the BEF to France and was evacuated from Dunkirk under air attack. He was subsequently at El Alamein and Monte Cassino. He was proud of his service with the Royal Tank Regiment and the Royal Armoured Corps; his membership of the Dunkirk Veterans' Association and its activities meant much to him.

After the War Ken worked as a driver for Bibby's and then for many years at the Morris works in Cowley as packer and eventually packing examiner. He enjoyed fishing, shooting, training gun dogs and gardening and in later life took up painting. Twice married, he lived for most of his adult life elsewhere in Oxfordshire, but his affection for Deddington never waned. His regular visits for Sunday worship at the Congregational Church kept him happily in touch with the village.

HW