



Wiltshire at War

Codford

World War 2 Recollections:

ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR

As well as the American soldiers stationed at Codford, we also had Italian prisoners of war. They worked locally on the farm and were very friendly. They were dressed in a maroon coloured uniform with yellow circles stitched on the back of their jacket and on the knee of their trousers. In their spare time they collected withies from the withy beds in season and made baskets. They also made rings from the old imperial multi flat sided three penny pieces and mugs from small empty bake bean tins. One of the prisoners showed me how to make a whistle from a willow stick and it is something that I have never forgotten. I am still able to make a whistle from any green twig when the sap is rising in the spring.

Story contributed by salisburyouthwilts - July, 2005 - WW2 People's War is an online archive of wartime memories contributed by members of the public and gathered by the BBC. The archive can be found at bbc.co.uk/ww2peopleswar