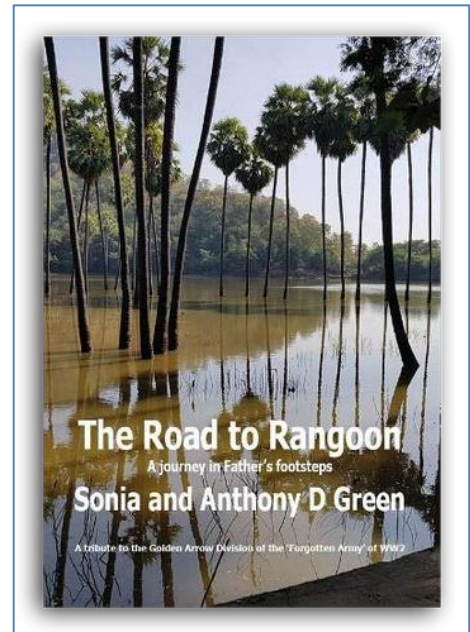


Redlynch & District Local History Society

Woodfalls to Rangoon....The Story of Gunner David Green A Talk by Sonia Aarons-Green

Like many veterans, the Speaker`s father-in-law did not talk very much about the years he spent fighting in the Far East. He had never even collected the medals he had earned.

The Speaker and her husband Anthony decided to find out more. Research led them to the war diaries of David Green`s regiment, the 139th Field Regiment of the Royal Artillery, and other accounts of the Burma Campaign. This then led them to making a journey retracing David`s postings. This took them from what was then Bombay, across much of India and then on to the sites of the relentless and brutal close quarter fighting in often appalling conditions, that David was present at. They travelled from Kohima down through Burma and on to Rangoon. David was not to return to his family until 1946, arriving home with very little fanfare and weighing 6½ stone.



The talk was well illustrated with pictures and anecdotes of David Green`s life in 1930s Woodfalls, which was of much interest to a local audience. There followed a mix of older army photographs and those from the Speakers travels, to accompany the descriptions of both the wartime hardships fighting the Japanese and the complete contrast with life in rural Wiltshire.

Unfortunately, technical difficulties curtailed some of the wartime pictures, but this did not detract from an entertaining and informative evening.

Our pre-Christmas talk is on 7th December at 7:30pm at Woodfalls & Morgans Vale Hale entitled "Myths and Legends of Stonehenge" by Matt Pike English Heritage 1st writer in residence at Stonehenge.

Bob Inns, Secretary

November 13th 2021