



**Frederick George Dibbon  
World War II  
59<sup>th</sup> Heavy Royal Artillery  
Service No. 971628**

**Frederick George Dibbon** was born on January 22, 1920 to parents Richard and Elizabeth Jane Dibbon of Port au Bras. His father died when he was a young boy and he and his three sisters were raised by their mother.

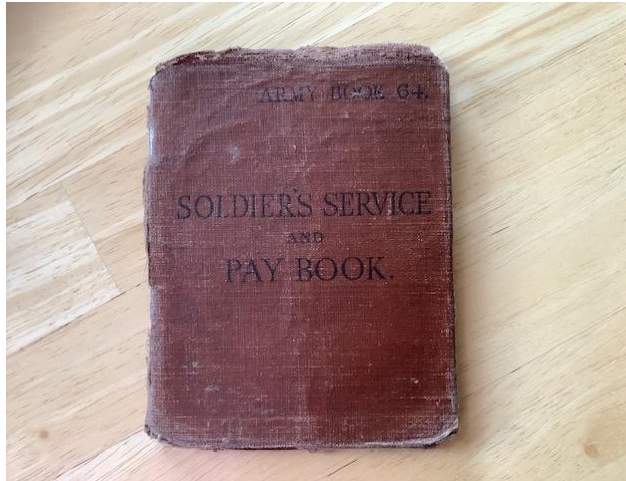
Dad said that times were hard then, like it was for so many. Dad was just 9 years old when the Tidal Wave of 1929 destroyed most of the little town of port au Bras and many other small communities all along the “boot”. It took the lives of an aunt and two of his young cousins. Dad and his family escaped by running up on the hills behind the community. When he was old enough to work, he went fishing with his uncle Henry Dibbon.

In his soldiers Service and Pay book, he had his “trade on enlistment” as fisherman. He enlisted in the Regular Army on September 9, 1942. He was tasked to be Duty Gunner, Heavy Equipment. A newspaper clipping

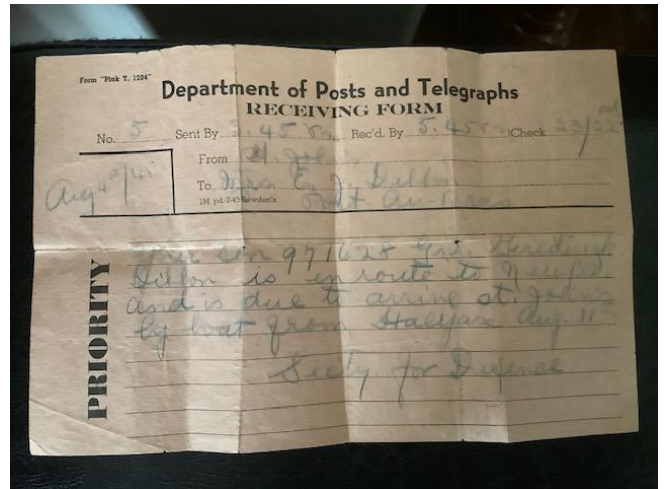
found in his Army Book reads, “Fred Dibbon joined the Newfoundland Regiment from Port au Bras, Burin. When reinforcements were being raised for the Royal Artillery, he volunteered for the gunners and went overseas. GNR. Dibbon was attached to the 59<sup>th</sup> (Newfoundland) Heavy Regiment, R.A., and was with that unit at the landing in Normandy and with which he served through the campaign that followed. When hostilities ceased he returned home and in due course received honourable discharge. The reaction to active service, however, made itself felt recently, and on Monday morning last Gunner Dibbon underwent an operation at the Merchant Navy Hospital. He is doing well.” Another newspaper clipping stated that dad served two and a half years with the Newfoundland Militia before enlisting.

Upon returning home Dad sought work again on the water. In 1949 he received his certificate as 3<sup>rd</sup> Engineer. So began his career on the coastal boats that services the coastal communities of Newfoundland and Labrador. On December 1, 1953 he married Pearl Mercer of Coley’s Point. They made their home in St. John’s and started their life and family there. In 1961 they, with their two young daughters, made the move around the bay to take up residence in the beautiful and quiet community of Coley’s Point.

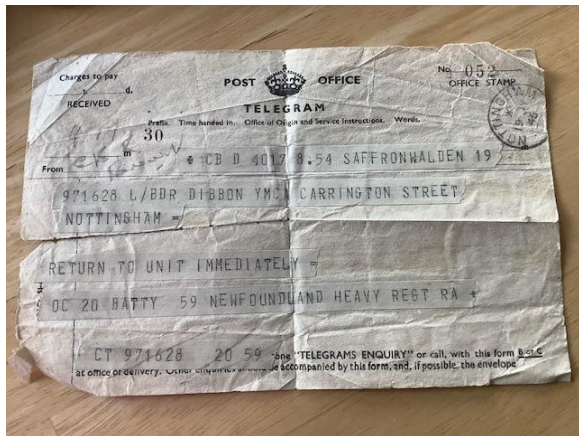
*By: Daughters Debbie (Dibbon) Yetman & Marie (Dibbon) Dawe*



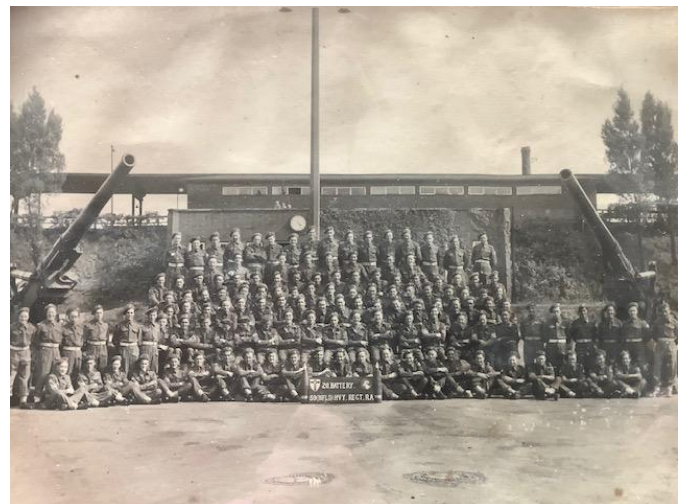
**Dad's Pay Book**



**Telegram to his Mom August 4<sup>th</sup> 1945**



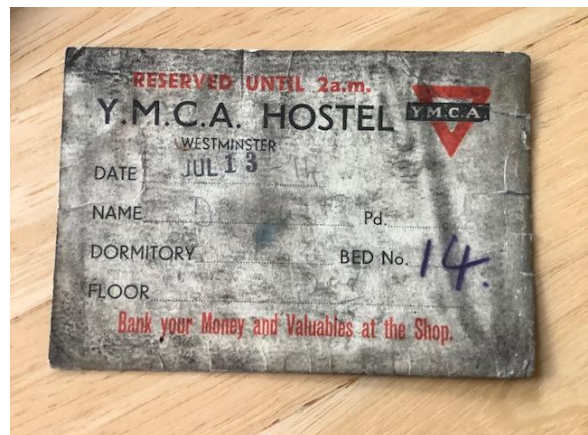
**Return to Unit order 1945**



**20 Batt 59 Nfld Heavy Regiment RA  
(Royal Artillery)**



**Sewing kit issued to all soldiers**



**YMCA Hostel card Westminster, London**





**Display Case at Branch 32 holding some of Comrade Fred's Uniform Items**



**Comrade Fred Dibbon's Medals**