

**Worksheet 2 – Who cut the badges on the hill in Fovant ?**

We need a closer look at these badges.



Clockwise from top left.

1. London Rifle Brigade.
2. Post Office Rifles.
3. 6th City of London Rifles
4. The Devonshire Regiment
5. Australian Military Forces



Only five of the badges, those shown above, were cut during World War 1. Of those shown below the two Wiltshire badges were cut in the 1950s, and that of the Royal Corps of Signals in 1970 to mark the 50th anniversary of their formation.

From left to right.

1. Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry
2. The Wiltshire Regiment.
3. The Royal Corps of Signals.



Cut by the Home Guard Old Comrades Association

We have a little primary evidence concerning how the World War badges were made. Apparently it was largely down to men with picks and shovels. They first skimmed off the turf then, after digging 'ditches' into the white chalk, topped up the ditches with more chalk.

According to one account sixty volunteers started work as early as 4 a.m. in order to avoid firing practice at the Rifle Butts. The remains of these Butts can still be seen just below the hill on which the badge was cut.

This particular badge, that of the 6CLR, took three months to complete.



The YMCA badge, seen here to the left of that of the 6CLR, is no longer visible on the hill.

Note the Rifle Butts just below the lost badge.