Ronald Mallabar

Ronald Mallabar was born in July 1924 in Chester le Street, County Durham, where his father, who had served in the First World War, worked for the local Co-operative Society. When Ronald was aged 10, his family moved to Newcastle and, when he left school, Ronald too found work with the Co-op.

In 1940 Ronald Mallabar joined the Home Guard in Newcastle and then in December 1942 he was conscripted into the Army. After basic training at Richmond in North Yorkshire, 14375580 Private Mallabar joined the East Yorkshire Regiment as a signaller.

Ronald Malabar landed in Normandy in June 1944 with his battalion and after the fighting at Hottot, he was transferred in July to the 9th Battalion DLI. Private Mallabar served throughout the campaign in Normandy and France and into Belgium. In the fighting across the Albert Canal at Gheel he was wounded in the shoulder and was evacuated to hospital in England.

After he had recovered from his wound, Ronald Mallabar returned in November 1944 to 9 DLI north of Nijmegen in Holland. He was again wounded in fighting at Deteren but rejoined his battalion for the advance into Germany. After the fighting had ended, Ronald Mallabar served with his battalion in Berlin as part of the Army of Occupation.

Ronald Mallabar was demobilised from the Army in 1946 and later joined the Newcastle Police Force.

Ronald Mallabar was interviewed for the Imperial War Museum in 1988 at his home in Gateshead.