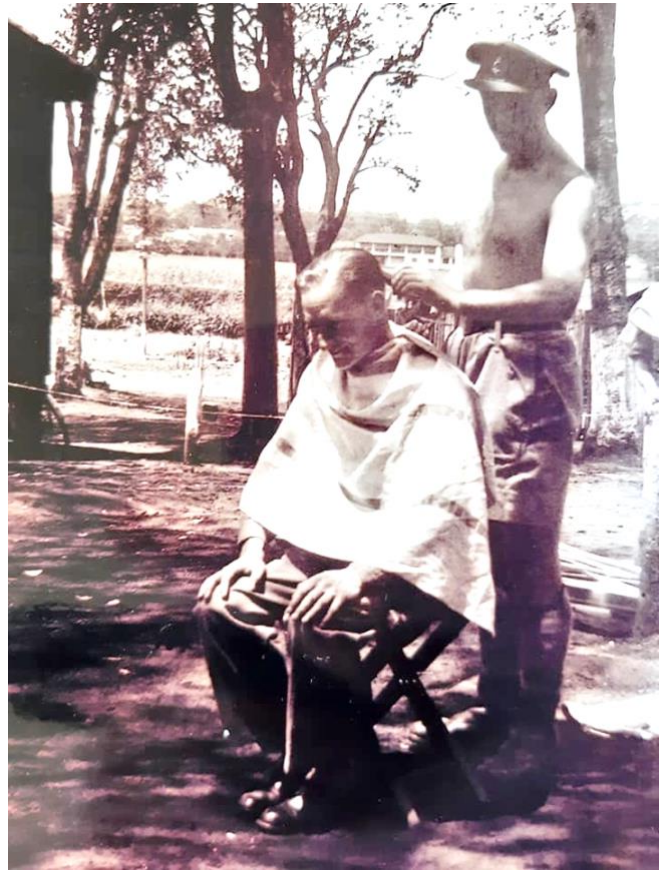


Pendry Davies - by Kathryn Markey

My grandfather - Pendry Davies. He was posted to East Africa and Madagascar during World War 2. He left the UK 6 months before my mum (Diane Markey) was born and didn't return home until she was nearly 4. He may have been away from his usual occupation as a barber in Beaufort, but he still found time to give fellow soldiers haircuts!





Beaufort rise 1912



The top photo shows the lower half of Beaufort Rise in 1912 and on the right, with its sunblind down is a branch of the Blaina Industrial and Provident Co-operative Society and a little further up was one belonging to a competitor, the Ebbw Vale Society. For a period lasting well into the nineteenth century, the housewife's shopping options were few, and under the control of the ironmasters and their 'company shops' with hugely inflated prices.

Beaufort, however, was luckier than most in the area, being under the ownership of the Kendall family, it was acknowledged to be the only one with a genuine reputation for offering food and clothing at the fairest prices in appreciation of its workforce.

The bottom photo shows the Co-op building, it may also be remembered as Pendry Davies the gents' hairdresser, it since having been demolished to make way for a car park. On the opposite side of the road was Roberts the bakers and grocers.