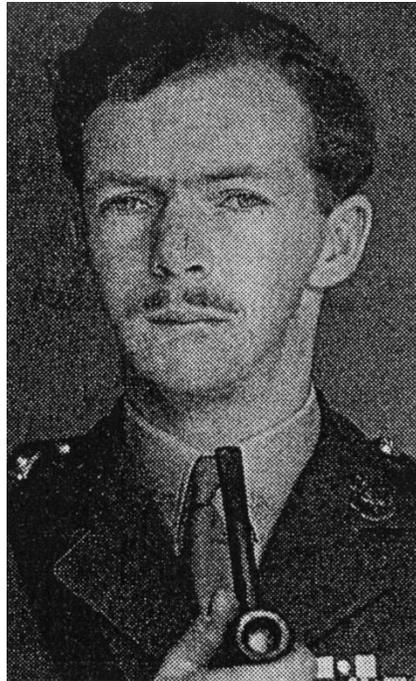


Captain Benjamin "Peter" Clegg

In his later life, Peter Clegg was best known for running the company T & J Hutton at the Phoenix Works. However, he also had an illustrious career in the Army during World War II, when he was twice awarded the Military Cross (MC). Extracts from his citations are shown below.

*Immediate Military Cross at Alamein
(1942)*

On the night of Oct 5 he led an assault force which completely cleared the enemy outpost, killing or severely wounding at least 28 Germans. Clegg himself led one section against the main sangar and killed the occupants with grenades and pistol fire. Although wounded in the hand by a bullet which had shattered his pistol he managed to throw two grenades into the sangar, killing most of the occupants. Two who attempted to escape he shot with an Italian pistol he was carrying in his unwounded hand. When his force had cleared the position with grenades and bayonets he led them back to safety. The citation emphasised that' his "leadership, bravery and devotion to duty were the main reasons for the success of the operation".



Bar to Military Cross (MC) at Arnhem (1944)

In the late morning of Sept 20, Capt Clegg led his company in a most spirited bayonet attack, in the final stages of which he personally attacked and destroyed a German machinegun post. In the late afternoon the battalion, by now sorely depleted in strength, was ordered to attack and capture a crossroads, which involved first clearing eight houses and a garden. Capt Clegg personally led the assault and cleared three of the houses against bitter opposition from the enemy. In the third house he was very seriously wounded in the jaw by machinegun fire, but insisted on carrying on until all the enemy were exterminated. During this time he, was losing a great deal of blood and was in great pain. He finally consented to have his wounds dressed and had just handed over his Company to the senior sergeant when he collapsed. The leadership of this gallant officer was outstanding, and his own personal courage and complete disregard of danger were an inspiration and example to his men.