



Boxing...in a shed..in Bluntisham...!

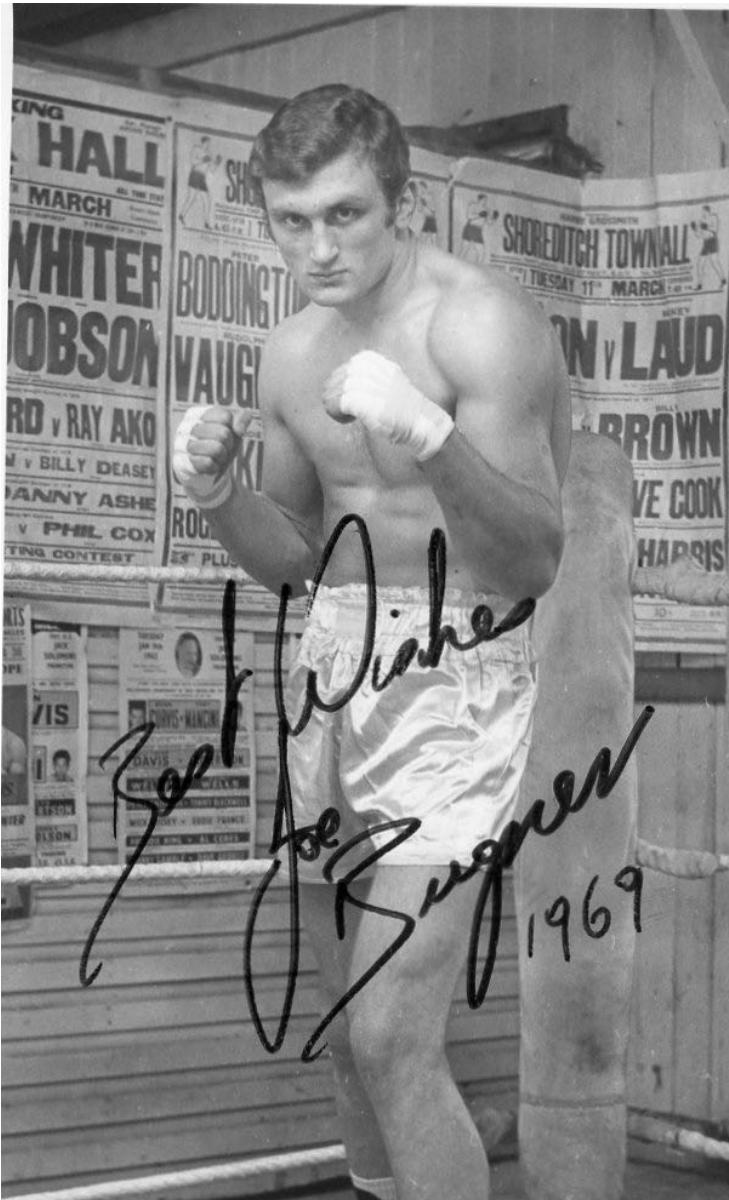
Farmers in Bluntisham, Tim Rose - Heath Farm

In the 1960's Andy Smith and his group of amateur boxers came to train in one of the farm sheds. Andy worked for Hanson Gravel but trained young boxers in his spare time. As they did not have suitable training premises my father, Cecil Rose, agreed to let them train at Heath Farm, The Heath, Bluntisham.

We had a large ex forces building which had been purchased after WW2 and had been intended for use as a chicken shed. The photo above is the building taken in 2020.

It was very large and was soon converted into a gym, with changing rooms including a shower! I remember Andy Smith (helped by Fred White) training some of the Laud brothers from Bluntisham and Joe Bugner from St Ives.

Some of the Laud brothers live in Bluntisham. Joe Bugner lived near St Ives until he moved to Australia. Whenever we met in St Ives he always came and shook hands with me. We still use the shed as an agricultural store. Some of the gym equipment remains and the changing room/shower.



All became successful boxers and the Laud brothers fought in Gt Britain and abroad. Joe Bugner turned professional and became the British, British Commonwealth and European Champion. He ranked among the world's top ten heavyweight boxers and fought the likes of Muhammad Ali, Frank Bruno and Joe Frazier.

Thanks to Mr & Mrs Rose for the photos and content.