

for victory and Southend's beetroot and beans instead

happily allowed sheep to graze on its land, as one of our photos shows.

The Dig for Victory campaign was hailed as a huge success. Before the war Britain imported 75 per cent of its food. By 1945, 75 per cent of food was produced in Britain and allotment numbers rose from 815,000 to 1.4 million.

The Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) is concerned that the Dig for Victory campaign is in danger of being forgotten. As such they are asking for people to send in their old wartime photos of people hard at work for the war effort. The photos will make up a special Dig for Victory exhibition to go on display at RHS gardens across the region- including Hyde Hall in Rettendon - this October.

Visit www.rhs.org.uk for more details.



■ Grazing - sheep graze on Rochford Golf Course



■ Digging in - Preparing beds on the Cliffs for the planting of beetroot and carrot plants



■ Bumper crop- Vegetables being cultivated at the Southend Corporation Propagation Centre. Leeks, swede and beetroot were grown here in abundance during the war



■ Hard graft - a lad gets to work preparing an allotment on waste ground in Woodgrange Drive



■ Horse and cart- loading cabbages at Wick Farm in Southchurch



■ Glasshouse - tomatoes being grown in a glasshouse within Priory Park