

CLIPSTON 1914 EXHIBITION

‘LEST WE FORGET’



8th - 11th November 2014

All Saints Church Clipston

£2.50

Welcome to this Commemorative Exhibition

Thank you for purchasing this programme, which we hope you will find useful as a guide and record of the event.

All Saints Church, Clipston is an important monument in the village and is involved every Remembrance Sunday, in recalling and giving thanks for those who gave their lives in active service, particularly in the First and Second World Wars.

We felt it important to mark the centenary of the First World War and we really hope you will enjoy and be moved by our presentation of local history, war memorabilia, poetic and floral interpretation and slide show.

None of this would have been possible without the support of many people in the village who have contributed items for display or given their time and expertise in creating the many exhibits you will see here today. Thank you all for your creativity, commitment and help.

The Church itself provides a relevant and beautiful backcloth for the exhibits and we hope you will appreciate its history and architecture. This exhibition is part of a series of events planned by the Church both as a way of contributing to village life and raising funds for important restoration and repair work that is becoming increasingly urgent. Funds from the sale of the programme will help in this regard.

Thank you for your support and we hope you enjoy your visit.
Clipston Parochial Church Council (PCC)

1914 - When war was declared, the village horses of any value, including hunters, were commandeered.

1914 - Three refugees from Belgium arrived in the village.

1916 - The War Office decided to make a landing ground for aircraft between Clipston and Clipston station in case of emergency. Canadian soldiers felled trees and levelled hedges and ditches on the landing ground. It is believed the ground was used only around 5 times.

1916 - Zeppelin raids were heard at Clipston as they passed overhead.

(Extracts from 'Clipston' by Ethel Lucie Fisher 1926)



Memorial Tablet - All Saints Church

List of exhibits and credits

In addition to the artefacts and local history exhibition to the rear of the church you can also enjoy the following displays:

‘Recruitment’ – porch and church entrance – by Carolyn Rutland

‘The Home Front’ – side window display – by Rose Anderson

‘Nurse Edith Cavell’ – west side aisle – by Linda Lake

‘Conflict’ – east side aisle – by Linda Warren

‘Peace’ – sanctuary area – by Linda Warren and Carolyn Rutland

‘The Forces’ – memorial area – by Heather Weston and Theresa Parratt

Other areas including pillars by Jane Austin and members of Clipston Flower Club

‘Lest We Forget’ slideshow – Jim Tyson

Names and faces

Every year at the annual armistice service, the names of those from Clipston who lost their lives in the Great War are read out. We are now able to put faces to most of those names thanks to the research of Dora Tebbutt who, in the late 1970's and early 1980's, painstakingly contacted the families of the deceased and borrowed the pictures reproduced here and also recorded the histories and family links shown at the exhibition.



Herbert Austin



Frank Bowley



Herbert Burnham



Frederick Croft



**William Davis
Wife and Family**



Joseph Pope



George Pope



Hubert Jackman



W. Fuller



Hebert Thacker



Ivor Vials



Arthur Vials



C.R.A. Wartnaby

War is declared

War was declared on August 4th 1914. The reasons behind this are complex and arguments still take place over this aspect of history.

In Clipston the impact of the War was not felt immediately. The local paper of the time mentions only a music festival in the village and the activities of the parish council. Initially there is a feeling that it is a small scale event that will be over 'before Christmas'. Local cricket matches took up more paper space than war coverage. Battles when they are reported only mention allies success and it is not until casualties start to be reported that the paper upgrades its reporting of the War to the point where, by the end of 1914, virtually all of its pages are taken up with the War.

By the end of the year, the paper was printing weekly reports of names from each of the local villages who had enlisted and it is interesting to see that the proportion of those brave souls from Clipston, as a percentage of the village population is very high when compared with most of the other villages.

Nearly 8% of the population of 497 were serving in the armed forces by the end of 1914. This compares with an average over the villages in the Harborough area of 4.8%.

Early in the War, Clipston was reported as having received a family of three Belgian refugees, with their welfare being provided for by the parishioners through fortnightly collections from the Clipston residents.

Thirteen names are listed on the War Memorial for those who made the supreme sacrifice for their country in The Great War 1914-1918.

REMEMBRANCE

*A monument stands on The Green,
And names, that once were known,
Are listed where they may be seen,
All coldly cut in stone.*

*Where do you lie, you honoured ones?
Swept like a tide away.
Where do you lie, you village sons?
Where do you lie today?*

*You did not seek a hero's grave,
You had the right to live
As much as we, and yet you gave,
Gave all there was to give.*

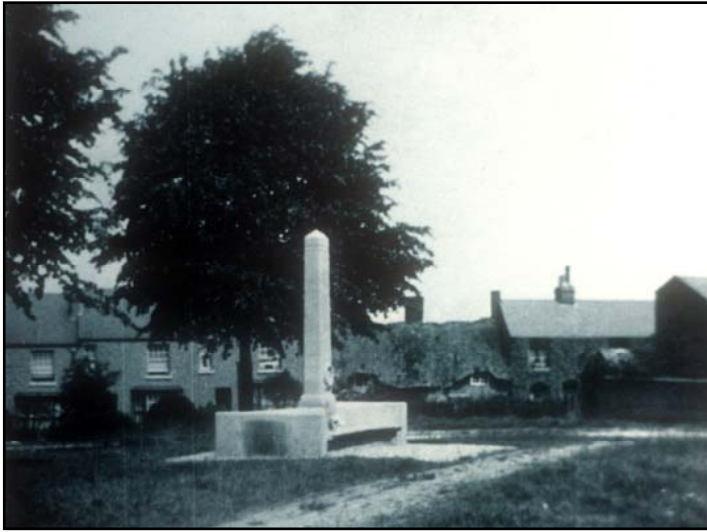
*You had, like us, your dreams, your plans,
But Life's expected span
Was sadly severed short by Man's
Inhuman acts to Man.*

*Shame on us then, should we forget,
Should proud remembrance die,
Should sacrifice leave no regret,
Should honour, silent lie.*

*The years have changed the Home you knew,
And Time has borne away
Familiar things, and left but few
Fond links with yesterday.*

*Yet there are those that would recall
Hearts that were brave and true
And, while the leaves of Autumn fall,
We will remember you.*

Dora Jebbutt



Clipston War Memorial 1921

Thanks to:

Clipston PCC would like to thank everyone who has contributed to putting on this exhibition including all those who created displays or who have loaned photographs, newspaper clippings and memorabilia.

Enormous thanks also go to: -

- Dorothy Judd who so kindly loaned us the slides and findings from her late mother's research.
- Linda Warren and all members of Clipston Flower Club
- Wendy and Simon Doughty for their artistic inputs and calligraphy.
- Val Carpenter and all members of the Church Fund raising committee for co-ordinating the event.
- Janet Alderson-Smith for her 'poppy painting' and to Alastair Woodgate for his design work.
- Rose Anderson and members of the Women's Institute for the vintage teas on Sunday.
- Tim Thornton for the glass display cabinet.
- Steve Carpenter, Mick Higgins and Peter Wilford for their help with the exhibition.

And to anyone we have omitted to mention specifically

And to EVERYONE who spent so many hours making poppies!!!