

Addendum to the May News Letter

Since preparing the newsletter we have been asked for help by a local group. Glenys, Beth, Ingrid, Lynne, and I were invited to attend a group meeting held at the Bosworth Battlefield Centre last Friday. The group is a formed of adults, with learning difficulties together with their leaders and supporters.

They have come up with a brilliant idea to gain a better understanding of World War 1. They have created a fictional place called Bosworth Street. They have made models of houses, halls, pubs, and churches. They have then started to write stories based upon the people who lived in the houses in Bosworth Street. Each one of the group has a story to tell.

They were an extremely enthusiastic group, buzzing with ideas and very excited that we have agreed to help. The project is planned to be shown from next February in a room next to the shop and will be well worth a visit.

Now, this is where we come in. Whilst the street and the people are fictional they do want to learn about real people who may have lived in Bosworth at the time of the war. They have given to me a list of questions, which I repeat here:

Questions from the Bosworth Tommie's about Market Bosworth in WW1

1. How many people from Market Bosworth went to the war? How many survived? What divisions were they in? Where were there any fighter pilots?
2. How many people are listed on the local war memorial? Are any of them of particular note?
3. Do we know of any young men from Market Bosworth who lied about their age in order to sign up?
4. What was the population of Market Bosworth? How did people leaving for war affect the town?
5. Are there any records of people from Market Bosworth going to war as Nurses/Medics?
6. Are there any records of miners in Market Bosworth? If so where did they go to mine?
7. Did anyone from Market Bosworth receive a medal? If so which one?
8. Was Market Bosworth Subject to the requisitioning of horses?
9. Who was the vicar during the war period? Did he have a family?
10. Were there any conscientious objectors?
11. Do we know anything about the police presence in Market Bosworth over the war? E.g. was there an official police officer or were they away at war with a special constable in the town and more specifically do we have any information about the life of this person?
12. Who lived at Bosworth Hall? What was it originally built for? What was it used for during the war?

13. How many farms are recorded for the Market Bosworth area during WW1? Are there records of what they were producing and if this was linked to the war effort?
14. Was there a pub in Market Bosworth? What was it called? Do we know anything about the proprietor?
15. Are there any diary's/documents left that can tell us more about the people who lived in Market Bosworth at the time...either those who fought or those who stayed at home?
16. Do we know of any relatives still living in Market Bosworth of people whose stories might link up to ours?

I am certain that a lot of this information can be found in the archive, but I would love to hear from members who can answer any of the questions. For example, I know that Maurice Harris has done a great deal of research about those named on the Memorial in the square, amongst other research he has done. I am certain that within our membership there will be people who will be able to answer some of these questions from their own family records, research, and knowledge.

Please do contact any of us:

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I feel that this is another example of a great community project that we can support. All the Tommie's have worked so hard and are deserving of a bit of help from us. Please share any information you might have, you never know you might just have that missing piece that finishes this jigsaw. I know that everyone in the group will be immensely thankful for our, your help.

Thank you in anticipation.

Nigel

