



FULBOURN VILLAGE HISTORY SOCIETY

"To save Fulbourn's past for the future"

NEWSLETTER NO. 49 Spring 2019

FULBOURN REMEMBERS JUNE 2018 - NOVEMBER 2018



FULBOURN FEAST SUNDAY, 23rd JUNE 2018. Fulbourn History Society released two new publications: *Fulbourn War Memorial: the Men who gave their lives in the Great War* and *The Story of Fulbourn's Red Cross V.A.D. Hospital 1914-1918*



SCONES AND STRAWBERRIES AT THE MANOR SUNDAY 22nd JULY 2018. Organised and overseen by The Fulbourn Ladies, Village Stitches, W.I, R.B.L and Scouts this was a 'vintage' tea party where over 250 people were entertained by members of Cottenham Brass Band. £899.84 was raised on the day which has been donated to Fulbourn Primary School for their new playground equipment.



FULBOURN GARDEN SOCIETY SHOW SATURDAY 18th AUGUST 2018. Exhibits included "an item depicting WW1" and "six hand made poppies".



FULBOURN LIBRARY COFFEE MORNING AND EXHIBITION, 3rd NOVEMBER 2018. A Display of WW1 books and memorabilia.



FULBOURN LADIES MEETING ON TUESDAY, 6th NOVEMBER 2018 where guest speaker Gerald Norton gave a Presentation about the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.



FOOTBALL MATCH BETWEEN FULBOURN CRICKET TEAM AND FULBOURN FOOTBALL TEAM ON SATURDAY, 10th NOVEMBER 2018. The shirts were especially printed and feature a poppy. All who took part were presented with a medal (engraved Fulbourn Centenary WW1 1918 - 2018 on a red, white and blue ribbon) by Norman Osborne (President of RBL).

During the Summer/Autumn of 2018 Fulbourn residents, friends, Societies and the Churches held local events in commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of WW1 and of the villagers who served in many ways during the Great War. These are just a few of the photographs taken during this period.



A PROFUSION OF POPPIES, WEEK UP TO 11th NOVEMBER 2018. Village Stitches and helpers hand made 1,918 poppies which were displayed outside the Churches and along Manor Walk.



FULBOURN PRIMARY SCHOOL VISITS THE WAR MEMORIAL WEDNESDAY 7th NOVEMBER 2018. They also participated in the Official dedication of the Oak Tree planted in memory of the villagers who served in many ways through the 1914 - 1918 War.



INTERIOR DECORATIONS IN ST VIGOR'S CHURCH FOR ARMISTICE DAY



INTERIOR DECORATIONS IN THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH FOR PEACE SERVICE ON SUNDAY 25th NOVEMBER 2018.



ARMISTICE DAY SUNDAY 11th NOVEMBER 2018.

HIDDEN HISTORIES OF ARTEFACTS HELD IN OUR STORE: HERE COMES A CANDLE TO LIGHT YOU TO BED.....



CANDLE STICK OR CHAMBERSTICK? There is a difference and we have examples of both in our Collection

Before the proliferation of gas and electricity services, the main source of artificial light in homes were wax candles and later, oil lamps.

For safety and practical reasons, special stands or receptacles were made to hold the candles upright. The name 'CANDLESTICK' derives from the purpose of the device to secure or 'stick' a single candle in place.

Some effort might be made to make these ornamental as well as being of practical use. They can be made of various materials, including ceramics, pewter and precious metals e.g. silver and gold - the two latter often elaborately moulded.

Our Candlesticks (we have a matching pair) are made from polished wood and thus were much less expensive. They probably adorned the mantelpiece of a house in the Victorian or Edwardian era.

CHAMBERSTICKS by contrast, were shorter and the holder was set into a saucer with a handle attached. Primarily they were designed to be portable, especially as a means of illuminating dark passages and staircases en route to the bed chamber, as the saucer caught any spilt wax. The two enamelware examples we have were mass produced c. early twentieth century.

Glynis Arber



F.V.H.S. DECEMBER MEETING: A TUDOR CHRISTMAS.

All who attended were regaled by warm home-made mince pies (many thanks to members who baked and donated these) and mulled wine. They were also able to sample recipes from the 16C prepared by Katy Salmon, our entertaining and knowledgeable speaker.



Aided by herbs and spices, these proved extremely tasty - even if the colour appeared off putting! Everyone had a wonderful time. - and there was very little left over.

FINAL REPORTS ABOUT WORLD WAR I EXTRACTED FROM THE FULBOURN CHRONICLES

FULBOURN CHURCH BELLS: THE BEGINNING AND END OF THE GREAT WAR

Britain declared war on 4 August 1914 and a few weeks later, as a report in the local newspaper [28.08.1914] notes, Fulbourn acknowledged the uncertain times ahead. *The Church Bell is tolled every day at 12 noon that all women and men at home or in the fields on hearing it may pause for a few moments to send up a silent prayer to God for those who are mourning their dead and for the cessation of strife. The prayer is posted on the church door as follows:-*

“That it may please Thee to defend and provide for the widows and fatherless children and all that are desolate and oppressed. We beseech Thee to hear us good Lord, O God of Love and King of Peace, and make war in all the world to cease”.

It was not until 11 November 1918, that an Armistice was signed between the Allies and German Officials.

Thanksgiving services were held at the Congregational Church and St Vigors' and it was reported [22.11.1918] that *'Merry peals of bells have been rung during the last week'*.

THE RETURN OF PRISONERS OF WAR TO FULBOURN

The following months saw the return of those combatants who had survived, and also those who had been held as Prisoners of War. Corporal Herbert J. Butler, second son of Mr & Mrs John Butler, Home End,

'has returned home after being a prisoner of war in Germany for nine months'.

Pte. Sidney M. Taylor

'also returned after 18 months a prisoner in Germany. Both speak in glowing terms of their debt to the Red Cross Society'. [08.01.1919]

They were followed [22.01.1919] by Pte. Joseph Page, Pte. Francis Watson, Sergt. W. Burrell, Pte. S. Manning, Pte S.F. Osborne, Pte. Sidney Taylor, Gunner H.W. Taylor, Corpl. Herbert Butler, Pte. R. Southorn. Also Pte. Alfred Foreman, who had earlier been reported as missing [24.07.1918].

PEACE CELEBRATIONS IN FULBOURN

Almost a year after the War had ended a reception was held for the demobilised sailors and soldiers of Fulbourn in the grounds of "The Harrow" by Dr F.L. Nicholls and Mrs Nicholls.

The local newspaper gave a detailed account [04.06.1919] of this event

Reception for Ex-Servicemen

A reception to the demobilised sailors and soldiers of Fulbourn was given in the grounds of "The Harrow" by Dr. F.L. Nicholls and Mrs Nicholls on Saturday afternoon, and proved a great success.

The guests included the wives and mothers of the single ones, and also the members of the Abington and Fulbourn Cricket Clubs, who were playing a match in the vicinity; and at least 180 persons sat down to a sumptuous tea, splendidly served by a number of willing helpers.

During the tea a selection of music was played by the Old Cherryhinton Band. The Rev. T.E. Corrin acted as M.C., and much credit is due to him for the smooth working of the arrangements.

An acknowledgement of the debt owed to those that fought was made.

In the course of a short speech of welcome to the guests, Dr Nicholls referred to the grand work the navy and army had done in the war, and he thanked them for doing their duty so nobly.

Concerns for the future were also expressed

Dr Nicholls said there was much grumbling about the "housing" question in England

However, he wondered if

those present realised the destruction of property on the continent. Ypres, for instance, with a population of 16,000 or 17,000, without a roof to their heads, not a brick of their houses remaining upon another.

Nonetheless, Dr Nicholls recognised that

Our sailors and soldiers had protected us from that kind of thing and we are proud of them, so are wives of husbands and mothers of sons.

In his closing speech Dr Nicholls said

'there was one shadow over their festivities, and that was the empty chairs, but they in Fulbourn hoped to have a memorial, with the heroes' names inscribed thereon and thus immortalising them. A man in a high position had said we must make a nation of heroes, and this was only to be done if we worked and pulled together.

Next day a Tea Party for the Widows and Bereaved was also held.

Dr Nicholls entertained all the widows and those who had lost loved ones in the war, and the Almshouses inhabitants to a splendid tea in the Harrow grounds on Sunday afternoon. A most enjoyable time was spent. The Rev. Corrin spoke a few words to the guests and all are grateful to Dr., Mrs and Miss Nicholls for their generosity. [04.06.1919] In May 1919 a meeting was held in Fulbourn school to discuss 'a suitable War Memorial for the village'. The next meeting was in July, when it

was agreed that a granite cross, inscribed with the names of the fallen, be erected 'opposite Mr W. A. Gedneys, where the old tree stands' (this is roughly where the present village sign stands). Unfortunately the proposed site proved impossible, because the Parish Council would not sanction the removal of the tree. So early in October a third meeting was held. Charles Hector Ellis, brother of one of the fallen, proposed an amendment that it be placed on Pound Hill.

The committee continued to organise the erection of the Memorial, commissioning Mr T. C. Stanbridge, a monumental mason of Newmarket Road, Cambridge, to undertake the work. It was in the form of a Celtic cross, made of Aberdeen granite, inscribed with the thirty-seven names of the fallen.

Fundraising was continued within the village, causing further comment. In May 1920 the War Memorial was officially unveiled on Pound Hill. The Lord Lieutenant (Mr C.R.W. Adeane CBE) performed the ceremony, accompanied by the Rev C.F. Townley, the Rector the Rev T. Hennessy, and the Rev H. F. Ballard of the Congregational church, Victoria Road. The Lord Lieutenant's speech paid tribute to the men who had served and to their sacrifice on behalf of those who remained.

'This Monument will be a witness that Fulbourn did its best in the Great War'.

A large crowd attended the ceremony, ending with 'Fight the Good Fight' being sung, the Last Post sounded, the National Anthem sung, and finally a muffled peal rung on the church bells.

Later, the lych-gate at the entrance to the church was erected, and dedicated as a memorial to those who fell in the War by the Bishop of Ely in August 1923.

A Roll of Honour, with names of all from the parish who served in the armed forces during the war, was compiled and drawn up on parchment. It still hangs on the north wall inside the Church.

A further memorial was made in the village in 1921, when two new bells were presented to St Vigor's Church. The donor was the Church Warden, Mr Reuben Moore, and they brought the number of bells in the tower up to a full eight. They were dedicated at a service on a Saturday afternoon in March, reported in the Fulbourn Chronicle March 18, 1921 as follows:

New Fulbourn Bells

Dedication of Veteran Church Warden's Gift

There was a notable gathering of practitioners in the art of change ringing at the church, and after the service many "touches" were run on the complete octave. Mr Moore's gift is recorded on a marble tablet which has been placed in the belfry, the inscription being as follows:

To the glory of God and in memory of those who laid down their lives in the Great War, A.D. 1914 - 1918, two treble bells are placed in the tower of this church by Mr Reuben Moore church warden from 1887. Cantemus Domino Glorioso Enim Magnificatus Est.

After the bell ringing the local band, having run a short touch, a tea was provided for the ringers, who numbered 50, and also the choir, by the Rev. T Hennessy....



Above: Photograph of marble tablet in Belfry of St. Vigor's

Acknowledgement with thanks:

The section about memorials in Fulbourn relating to WWI has been abridged from the booklet 'Fulbourn War Memorial: the men who gave their lives in the Great War, 1914-1918'.

A few copies are still available at £2.50 and can be purchased from Fulbourn Village History Society Archive Store in The Fulbourn Centre during our opening hours on Monday and Wednesday from 10.00 until noon.



Above: Photograph of Reception for ex-servicemen at The Harrow, Fulbourn

FULBOURN WINDMILL (Part IV).

Sail and Fantail Restoration Project 2013 - 2016

7 Kerb

At the top of the main mill structure is a rim which provides a level, circular platform, or kerb, on which the cap sits. Attached to the underside of the cap are a number of truck wheels which enable the cap to rotate around the kerb. As the fantail turns, this drives the cap around the kerb, enabling the sails always to point to wind. A key goal of the project had been to refurbish the kerb to ensure it was again level and a true circle, therefore allowing the free movement of the cap.

It was known that settlement of the mill during the second half of the 20th century had caused the kerb to become distorted. Much work had been done to address this during the initial restoration programme, but it was anticipated that some further modification would be required. However, after several attempts to wind the cap manually with the newly refurbished winding gear, and making some efforts to address the problem, including the fitting of a steel collar around the outside of the kerb, it became apparent that the distortion was more serious than originally anticipated and that the misalignment of the kerb was actually a symptom of a more serious structural weakness in the main body of the mill. Whilst the weakness could be addressed, the substantial cost and work required meant that this would need to be tackled at a later date. As a consequence, whilst it would still be possible to install the sails so that they would turn provided the wind was in the right direction, it was not going to be possible at this time for the cap freely to turn to wind.

8 Reassembly

By Spring 2016, sails III and IV and the new fantail were complete, and the refurbishment of the fantail staging and the ironwork was largely finished. All that was required was a still, dry day when the crane could be brought on site for a final time, and reassembly of the various parts could begin.

Finally, in May a suitable window in the weather arrived, allowing sails III and IV to be fitted into place and fantail shaft and hub lifted into position ready to take the new fantail (figs 23 i - iv).



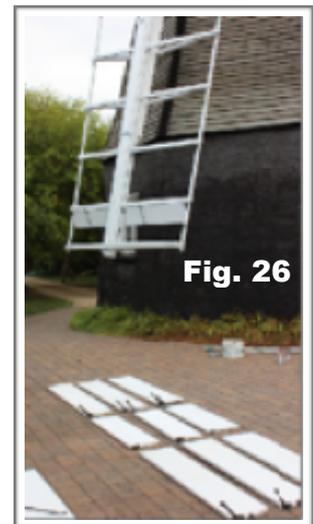


From this point on work became a bit like completing a complex jigsaw! Fantail staging components and the heavy pieces of ironwork were slowly, carefully – and manually! – lifted back into position (fig 24), the fantail was reassembled, requiring some rather precarious-looking stances by our stalwart millwright (fig 25)



and the striking gear was reinstalled and connected to refurbished shutters newly fitted to the sails (fig 26). Finally, on 8th September 2016, with the wind in the right direction, the brake was taken off and the sails turned freely and unaided, possibly for the first time since 1937. A truly majestic sight! <http://www.fulbournwindmill.org.uk/2016/09/sails-turned-by-the-wind/>

To complete this stage of the project all that was now required was some minor finishing and fine tuning of the sails, and the installation of a new and effective lightning conductor – after all, with all the hard work that had taken place, no repeat was wanted of the events of 1933!



9 Next Steps

So what is next? In the short term, work is progressing on refurbishing the gallery which runs around the outside of the cap. But then major decisions will need to be taken on whether to proceed with fixing the structural weaknesses in the main body of the mill. This would be a major project requiring the sails to be removed, the cap lifted from the mill and the external weatherboarding removed to provide access to the main structure of the mill. None of this will be cheap – initial estimates put the cost at around £170,000, although if further problems are encountered this could well increase. But its completion would ensure the long-term viability of the mill, ensuring that the cap will be able freely to turn to wind, and would also open the possibility of eventually being able to grind flour again. But the costs will require financial support from some external funding bodies, and additional volunteer support will be needed to help keep down the labour costs. So watch this space.....!

Dr Ian Harrison

Further information:

For further information about Fulbourn Mill, please visit the website www.fulbournwindmill.org.uk or find us on Facebook. The Mill is usually open to visitors on the first Saturday of every month, except December to February, although viewings outside these times can be made by prior arrangement with the owners at harrisons@oneservice.co.uk