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COMMEMORATIVE EDITION

THE CUBLINGTON CRIER

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'CUBLINGTON REMEMBERS'

A display of memories and mementos with linked a Flower Festival Display.

St Nicholas' Church, Friday, 9th - Sunday, 11th November 2018

They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old
Age shall not weary them not the years condemn
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.



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The 11th November marked the 100th anniversary of the end of WW1.

To mark this occasion the residents of Cublington curated an incredible exhibition of social history, focusing on family members of Cublington residents who served, and some who made the ultimate sacrifice.

This short article tells just some of these stories with a focus on current residents and their connection to both wars and other conflicts.

Please forgive any omissions or inaccuracies.

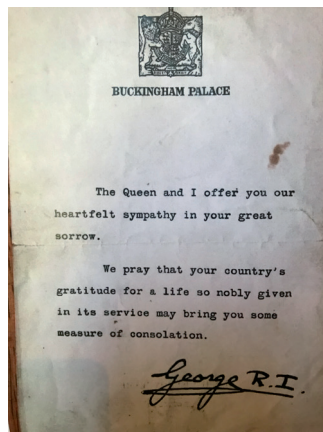
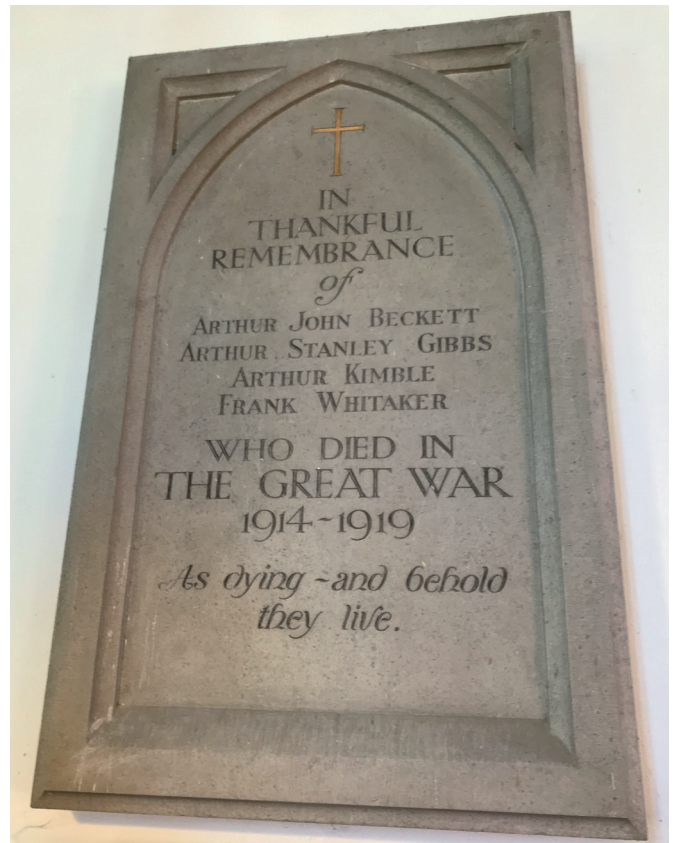
Many thanks to all who gave their time to curate such a moving archive.

Peter Clunie's grand uncle, Corporal G Clunie, Royal Scots Greys was awarded the French Medaille Militaire in 1915. Sadly he died in action in 1917 – this medal ranks with the Victoria Cross in status. Peter's grandfather served in the same regiment and survived the war. Peter himself saw active service in the Gulf war.

Penny Allen's great great uncle, Alfred William Thursby (a Private in the King's Royal Rifle Corps) served with the Expeditionary Force in France and Flanders. He was killed in action near to Ypres in November 1914 aged 22 and was buried by French soldiers who having found him marked his grave and from his personal documents took the trouble to write to his mother saying his last moments were surely those of a hero.

The Antosiewicz family - Jan's Polish father Stanislaw was deported to Russia in 1941 but following an amnesty between Russia and the UK made his way from Russia to Iraq. Joined the 3rd Carpathian Rifles Division serving in Africa and Italy and was awarded the War Star, African and Italian Star medals. Colin Antosiewicz's grand uncle, Horace Bowyer saw service with the Royal Scots at Gallipoli in 1915. He was killed in action on April 28th aged 38.

Sally Missen's father, Charles W G Knowlton, served in WW1 and survived, her great uncle William Ramsey was killed in action in 1917. Sarah George's great uncle John Morgan, Flight Lieutenant, Royal Flying Corps killed in action 30th March, 1917.



Chris Gibby's great uncle, Charles Frazer Smith, an inventor for the military in WW2 was the inspiration behind Q in the Bond movies.

Catherine Shute's uncle, Peter Hilton, a maths undergraduate at Oxford in 1942 was enlisted by military intelligence and located at Bletchley Park, where he was a key player in breaking the enigma code and her grandfather, Kenneth Macleod survived WW1 with the Australian Imperial Forces (6th Field Ambulance) and entertained the troops as a talented Cellist.

Jenny Mackay's grandfathers both served during WWI - Leonard Rooke and Percy Butcher. Hugh Butcher (Jenny's father) and Patricia Rooke, their children, served in WW2 as dispatch riders and radio and morse code operator respectively. Jenny's father lost an eye during active



service. Jenny's late husband was Niall Mackay - his father was a Dutch submarine commander and survived the war.

Trooper Thomas W Derbyshire (great uncle of Cublington's vicar *Philip Derbyshire*) served in WW1 in the Royal Horse Artillery.

Jane Alexander's grandmother, Lily Traies was an artist during WW1, and her sister married Harry Oldaker of the Canadian Scottish regiment. Jane's great uncle Arthur Traies served in the Royal Flying Corps in WW1.

Michael Alexander's granduncle, Alexander Johnston, served in the Royal Medical Corp in Mesopotamia (now Iraq), and was awarded the Military Cross for bravery under heavy fire whilst attending 200 wounded service personnel. Michael's grandfather Lawrence Wilde served in the Royal Medical Corp also.

Tom Gadsby's grandfather, Walter Gadsby (2nd Bedfords) and grand uncle both served during WW1 – his uncle was Robert Cook from Winslow and he served with the 9th Norfolks. Sadly, he died of his wounds, incurred the previous month, on Armistice Day, the 11th November, 1918 aged 19. Walter Gadsby fought at the Battle of the Somme in 1916 and Loos in 1917 and was wounded on multiple occasions. He was awarded the Military Medal as a private and was shortly thereafter commissioned as an officer.



Helen Gadsby's grandfather, then Captain Paul Pettit, served during WW2 in the 73rd Medium Regiment RA and was awarded the Military Cross for valour.

Hugh Vale's grandfather served in the 9th Hants regiment in India during WW1.

Linda Justice's step father Lieutenant Alan Millington was

part of the British Expeditionary Force and spent the war as a POW in Stalag 8 where he spent much time in solitary confinement and famously constructed a radio using a cocoa tin, wire and crystal smuggled in a bar of soap. Linda's uncle William Kendall served in WW1 and his two sons both served in WW2 (Roy and Raymond). Linda's grandfather, Reginald Joseph Barrable was awarded the Military Medal.

John Law's great grandfather, George Edmonds (from Wendover) was killed in action at Passchendaele on the 9th October, 1917.

Gina Reilly's father, Bob Roger served in WW2 from 1939 to 1946. Originally with the Royal Artillery, he served in Africa, Italy and Yugoslavia, training partisans as part of Special Services (which



Cublington residents who served during World War 1

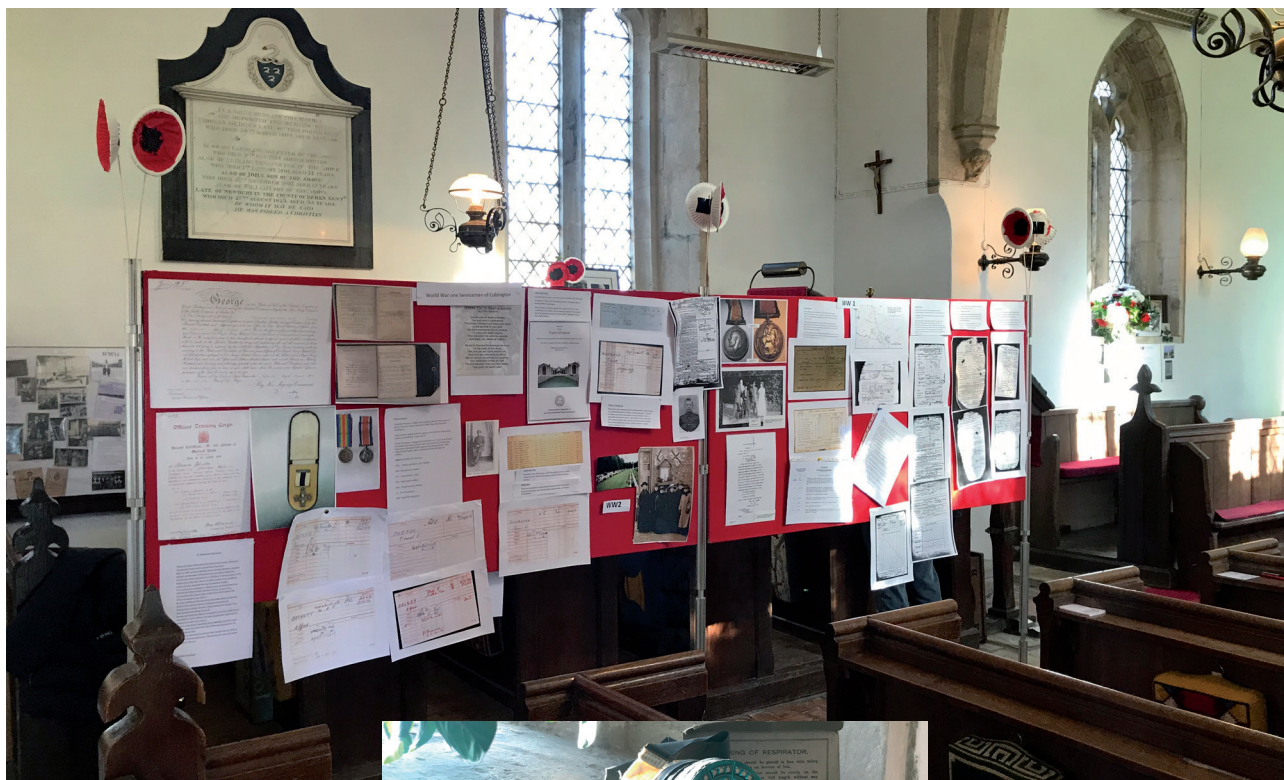
OUR ROLL OF HONOUR			
William John Diggs	R.D.H.	Robert Carter	A.S.C.
Mark Cheney	R.F.A.	Herbert Harding	O.B.L.I.
Alfred Halsey	Deeds Act	Frank Whitaker	O.B.L.I.
Thomas Dickens	O.B.L.I.	Francis E. Beckett	O.B.L.I.
Alfred S. Beckett	O.B.L.I.	Leonard Robins	A.S.C.
Joseph Brazier	O.B.L.I.	Thomas W. Sturman	R.E.
Francis J. Carter	R.F.A.	Joseph J. Sturman	R.G.A.
Arthur J. Beckett	R.W. Surg.	Arthur S. Gibbs	R.R.R.
William Kimble	Nat. Res.	Thomas Humphreys	
Arthur Kimble	E. Surrey	Ernest Kimble	O.B.L.I.
Harry Cheney	R.D.H.	John Carter	A.S.C.
Horace A. Whitaker	A.S.C.	William Cheney	R. Parks L.B.
William Halsey	E. Surrey	George Cutler	
Albert T. Read	R.D.H.	Horace Parker	O.B.L.I.
Harry Jackson	O.B.L.I.	William Parker	O.B.L.I.
Joseph Cheney	A.S.C.	Harry Parker	E. Surrey
Ernest Cheney	A.S.C.	Fredrick J. Halsey	prisoner
William Brazier	Deeds Act	Harry Halsey	
William Bryant	R.F.A.	Arthur Brazier	R.F.A.

preceded the SAS). He made 48 parachute drops, and his compass on display is still intact and precise. He was awarded six medals, including all the medals awarded to Stanislaw Antosiewicz – so they may well have crossed each other's path?

Gina's grandfather, George Comerford served in WW1, was gassed and invalided out of the army. He went on to be Head of Police in Aylesbury during WW2. Gina's mother Daphne grew up in Berton and served as a mechanic and driver in the ATS. She was a Sergeant.

Lieutenant Thomas Michael Kettle of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers (*Michael Reilly's* great grand uncle) was killed in action at Gincy on September 9th, 1916. He was an MP for East Tyrone for the Irish Party and his name can be found on the Thiepval Monument in France as well as on Panel 1 of the Parliamentary War Memorial at Westminster, being one of 26 MPs or former MPs who died in WW1. There is a memorial statue in St Stephens Green, Dublin.

Avril Bradley Davies's grand uncle, Private W V Bradley, was killed in Action on 27th August, 1918. He served with the Royal West Kent Regiment.

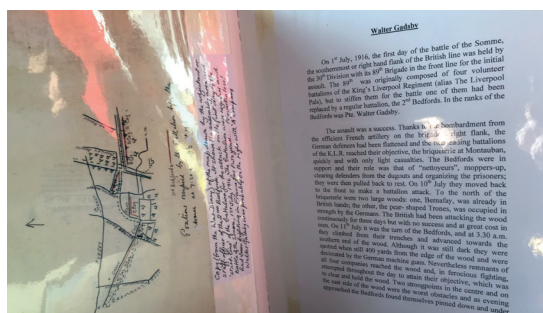


Arthur Read's father, Albert served in Egypt and Palestine with the Royal Bucks Hussars during WW1 taking part in the last large scale cavalry charge against Turkish position at El Mughar on 13th November, 1917. He was awarded the Military Medal for bravery in the field. *William Biggs*, brother of Arthur Biggs who bequeathed Orchard Ground to Cublington, served in the same regiment as Albert Read.



served in the Royal Army Medical Corps and was a medical orderly on the Somme. He survived the war.

Diane Grace's great grandfather Issac Phillips was killed in action during WW1. Her uncle, Edwin Phillips saw combat in Italy and other theatres during WW2.



Gerry Griffiths was a Military Policeman between 1954 and 1984 and he saw active service, as did fellow Cublington residents *Peter Clunie* and *Tom Gadsby*.

Gill Brazier's grandfather, J P Thomas was Head of London Transport Passenger Executive in the 1930s. He was asked to come out of retirement by Winston Churchill to develop the air raid shelter provision in the underground stations. At the end of the war he declined a knighthood.

Andy Peck's grandfather, John Peck saw active service in WW1 having enlisted in 1914. He survived this war and enlisted again in 1939 seeing active service once more. He survived both conflicts.

Lucy Peck's grandfather Archibald Corble served in North Africa during WW1 and her father Stephen Corble was stationed in India during WW2. Both survived the wars.

Kathy Parish's maternal grandfather, Robert B Elliot

Finally, thanks to Colin Antosiewicz for the superb research of the WW1 Roll of Honour in St Nicholas's Church. We see familiar village names – William Cheney, Royal Berkshire and Joseph Cheney (Cublington's baker, he probably lived in Yew Cottage on the crossroads).

It is hoped that all the research done on the names from the Cublington War Memorial (which is inside the Church) and the Roll of Honour will be collated and available to view in due course.

Thanks also to all for organising the weekend events and those who contributed their family archive material.

Michael Reilly
On behalf of Cublington Parish Council