BRINGING THE PAST TO LIFE

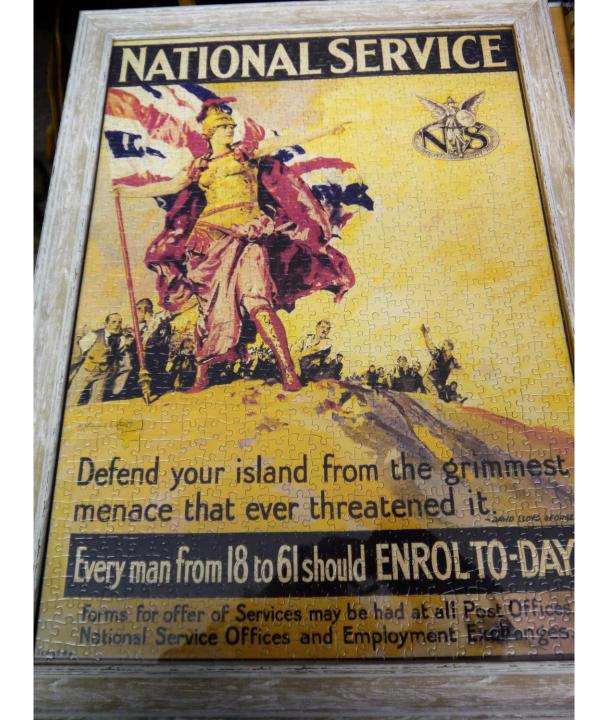
MILITARY ARTEFACTS

High Street Church 10th and 11th November 2018

MALPAS 100 YEARS ON 1918 COMMEMORATION 2018









Early hints of the struggle ahead

Almost 50 men from Malpas were serving in His Majesty's Forces by November 1914.

Many returned four years later but three of them were among the earliest fatalities of the conflict.

George Allman of Cross o'th Hill was killed in action, aged 28, at the first Battle of Mons in Belgium in August, only 20 days after the British declaration of war.

He had enlisted originally in 1904 and in 1914 was recalled from the reserves.

Malpas-born **Sydney Barlow** (29) was killed in action in France, in the first Battle of Ypres, in October 1914. He had joined-up in 1907 and

served in India for five years.

And his death was followed days later, in November, by that of Boer War veteran **Hugh Sandbach**, aged 36 from Cuddington.

He died while in command of a volunteer force of British settlers formed to repel the German invasion of Tanzania.

Reward for their service thwarted

Another three men who were involved in the early stages of the conflict did not survive to its end.

Douglas Wolley Dod of Edge Hall was already serving by October 1914 but was killed in action, aged 18, in France in September 1915.

James Crump, who was born in Hampton, arrived on the Western Front in November 1914 and was there until October 1918, when he was killed in action.

And **Patrick Gavin** of Church Street (or Patrick Gavien in some records) disembarked on the continent with the British Expeditionary Force in June 1914. He died, at a still unknown location, shortly before the Armistice was signed.







BROTHERS IN ARMS

John Evans died of his wounds in France in April 1916 - only 11 months after his 29 year old younger brother had suffered the same fate.

The 32 year old from Higher Wych volunteered in 1915 but James Evans had enlisted in 1905 and was sent to the Western Front at the outbreak of war. He died in May 1915.

Another five pairs of brothers are named on the Malpas War Memorial.

Joseph Stevenson (21) was killed in action in France in October 1915 while Edward Stevenson (33) died in Egypt in October 1917 from malaria. Both were born in Oldcastle.

Thomas Boycott (22) was killed in action in France in the first month of the Battle of the Somme in July 1916.

George Boycott (20), drowned in September 1919 while bathing in the Pembroke docks. They were born when William and Elizabeth Boycott lived in Old Hall Street.

Jack Glover served two years in France before he died, aged 26, in the final days of the Battle of the Somme in October 1916. And 24 year old George Glover, who had gone to the Western Front in 1914, was killed in action in Belgium in May 1918. Their parents lived in Cuddington Heath.

Another mother who outlived two of her sons was Mary Williamson of High Street. Richard Williamson (26), having survived the Gallipoli campaign, was killed in action in Iraq days before Christmas 1916. His younger brother, 22 year old George Williamson, was killed in action in Greece in September 1918.

Both sons of John and Elizabeth Fleet of Church Street are listed among the Malpas dead. **Edgar Fleet** (23) was killed in April 1917 and, 25 year old **Wilfred Fleet**, died in May 1920. He is buried in Malpas Cemetery.









THE GREAT WAR. AUGUST 44 1914.

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS. NORTH MIDLAND DIVISION. T. F.

Asst: Director & Medical Services. Colonel Astley ViClarke M.D. AMSI.

Deputy A. D. of M. S. Liait Colonel W. C. Beevor CMG. MB. Ret Ray

Divisional Sanitary Officer Major G. Reid M.D.

1st N. M. Field Ambulance.

Major S.A. Mirasilk.
Capta Th. Barrow.
A. B. Kauley.
A. B. Kauley.
Lieut J. C. Greene M.B.
Q. Mast In M. Morelan T.D., how Major

2 n. M. Field Ambulance.

Major A. V. Riddett.
Capt. R. M. West M.D.
Lieuta. C. M. Coupper.
A.C. E. Turnor
Transp. Off: TReed. how Lieut.
Q. Mast. T. Spilory. how Lieut.

3rd N.M. Field Ambulance.

Capts. AE Hodder M.B.

C.A. Stidston. M.D.

EM. Strange M.D.

J. M. Liler.

Lieuts. J.C. Harris.

C.S. Lee.

W. BOYA M.D.

Thansp. Off. W. H. Hunde, has Lieut.

Q. Mast. J. King. ham Lieut.

NMD Casualty Cleaning Station.

Royal Field Artillery

1. N.M. Brigade
2 Capt T.H. Richmond, M.B.
3 "
4 " Capt F.L.A. Greanes, FRES

Army Service Corps.

NMO Transport and Supply GL:
Capt W. F. McAllister Hewlings, M.B.

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Staffordshire Infantry Brig.

5th Staffs. Capt E.H. Brunt. BEN Staffs. Capt E.C. Stack. St. Staffs. Capt FW. Syd antham M.D. Leat 16 Cooke M.B. 6th Staffs. Capt THIM Hawitt

Nolls and Derby Infantry Brigade.

5.4N+D. Capt G.B.G.ill M.B. 64N+D. Capt a W Shea. Capt W. Duncan M.B. YAN+D. Leet J. W.Scott. 84N+D. Capt. H. Stallard

Capt. F. W. Johnson MB

Lincoln and Leiceston Infantry Brig.

4d Lincoln, Major H.P.Borry M.B. T.D. 5d Lincoln, Major LM, Ounton, M.B. 4d Leicesters, 5d Leicesters Lieut CRL Harmes.

Hon: Colonel - R.H. Luce. MB: FRCS: VD: T. F. Res.

Units Medically Administered by the ADMS till

Notts: and Derby Mounted Brigade

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S. Notts: Husson - Capt W.T. Rowe.
Derbyst: Yeomanny - Capt R. M. Wilson, MD.
Notts: R.H. - Capt C. & Hillon MD.
Field Ambulance.

Field Ambulance.

Major AETweedie FRES
Capte W.H.Fisher M.O.

A.T.M.Uhall. FRES.I.

F.R.M.Heggs.

North Midland Mounted Brigade

Staffs Yeomanny - Capt A.H.Palmen Leie: Yeomanny - May Jes Burkitt M.D. Lines: Yeomanny Capt. R.B. Purves M.B. Leie: R.H.A. - Capt T.M. Thomas

Field ambulance

Capt AC Goodwin MB: FRCS.

Lieut TS Buchanan MB:

FRANSPORT OFFICER EHBIShop HoniMaj

N.M. DIV. School of INSTRUCTION RAMC.T.

4th Northern General Hospital

Lieut Col: W.H. B. Brook M.D. FREG. (LINCOLN)
Maj F.S. Lambert
Q. Mast J. Educkinson has lieut
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if treat Colorate
8 Najors
10 Captains. Miss J.A. Sheppard.
Matrons Miss M.B. Laddon.

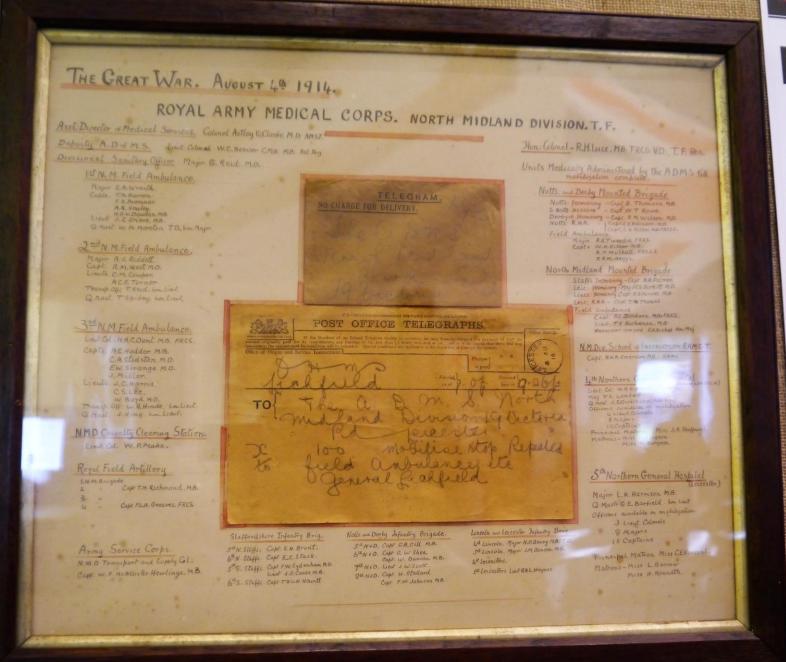
5th Northern General Hospilal

Major L.K. Harrison MB. Q. Mastr G. E. Barfield him lieut Officers available on mobilization

8 Majors

Principal Matron Miss C.E. Vincent.

Matrons - Miss L. Barrow Miss H. Hannath



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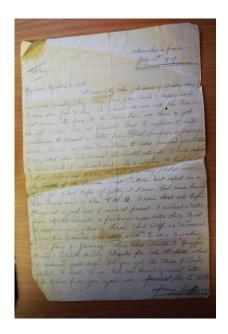
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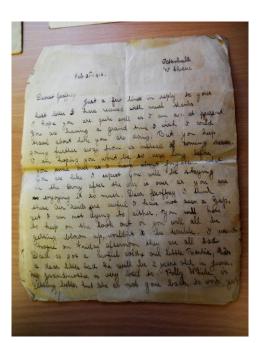
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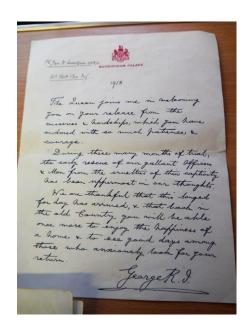
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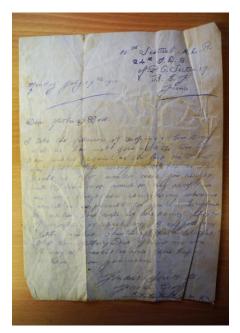
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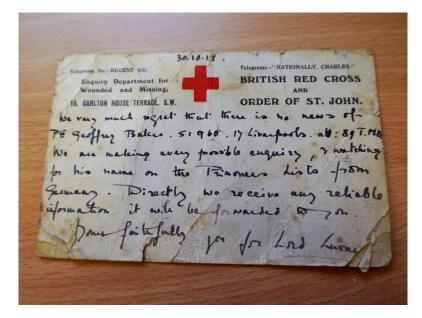


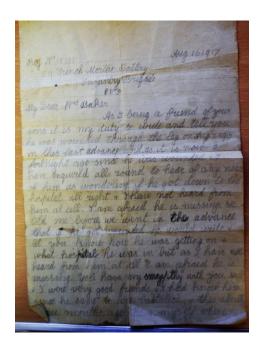




















Major Sir Arthur Harold Bibby DSO, 277th Brigade, 'A' Battery, Royal Field Artillery.



Sir Arthur Bibby started the War in Lancashire Batteries, and though embodied in August 1914, did not go to France until October 1915, when they were attached to the 2nd Canadian Division. They were involved in various actions including the Battle of the Somme and the Battle of Ypres (Passchendaele). END OF THE CHEST WAR.

Messages and Signals - 277th Brigade, cease hostilities.

To: All unsunders in Company Battery

of lowing rec. d. From Commanding Officer (C.O.) Division 09 30hrs

Reverend Frank Jackson Okell, Territorial Chaplain, 4th Class (equivalent Rank Army Major), attending Royal Field Artillery.

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Royal 177 to Brighte
Royal Trend Gottlery The Brought horning of him
Territorial Force & brought Department of the

Leven at his last at the format when him type blowned the Fourth buy of February 1918 in the Eighth Year of our Ruge By The Sovereigns Command



The items displayed that belonged to Reverend Okell are:

Citations for Mentioned in Despatches dated 7th April 1918. Trench aerial photographs.

Major Sir Arthur Harold Bibby DSO, has one of his MID's dated the same day as Reverend Okell's, who was attached to the RFA.

It's unsure if both men were awarded them in the same action, but may be likely. One interesting point, Sir Arthur Bibby's son Sir Derek Bibby married Rev Frank Okell's daughter Christing in Japuary 1960



More than just a name...

Some of the possessions of **Wilfred Birchall** are still kept in his family after a century.

His work at Old Hall Farm meant he was in a 'Reserved Occupation' but a sense of duty prompted him to volunteer.

He joined the Gloucestershire Regiment which went to



Sidney Allen

was killed in Flanders - as a stretcher-bearer carrying wounded comrades.

It happened in February 1916 to the 20 year old from Cross o'th' Hill. He was a farm worker at Low Cross Hill when he joinedup in September 1914. France in March 1916 and his death occurred two years later when it suffered heavy losses in the final German offensive of the war.

He was shot in the stomach and died from the wounds, leaving his wife Alice, their 12 year old son John and daughter Lucretia, aged 10.



MALPAS. PTR. JOHN MERCER-DIED AT 1

In his teen announced by the Wax Offithat Pee, John Moroce has died as was, 13 Pebruary, with on a vegabo to India. To details were only given in the official resonpositional last weak. He was attached by the form of the period of the period of the conpositional last weak. He was attached by the most peer, and wes seen out with a draw? India on Mith, Jamuny last. He was populwith the Majano people, and has death, much rangest we all. Prior to leaving her he spent several years as a shapest in the sevice of Max. Luthans, Malyan. We shape the the event of Max. Luthans, Malyan. We shape the transport of Max and the state of the event of Max Luthans, Malyan. We shape the shape of Max and the shape of the Period Max Luthans, Malyan. We shape when the worm general astems just as he and where he worm general astems just as he and where he worm general astems just as he and where he worm general astems just as he and when the many period in the continuence of the links and gentlement in the distinct, as which were benefit or the continuence of the lang parametal between was his active to that carried of incary person. He book quileling links and gentlement, and we find accomposing in the book show, and not always applied to make it. We want the fortunal and the first of Max and the College of Max and the composing in the book shows, and not always are the Max and Max II. Mercen of thisleys. This is how the news of the death of **John Mercer** was reported.

His wife, the former Lillian Lathom whose family had a draper's business at The Cross, was widowed after only 15 months.

The couple had married at St Oswald's in November 1915 and moved to Sandbach for him to begin a new job.





They died in vain

The notorious Battle of the Somme in 1916 took the lives of no fewer than eight Malpas men - and tragically contributed little to ending the war. The five month offensive began with huge losses on July 1. Among them was **Arthur Phillips**, aged 35, from Edge who had joined the King's

Liverpool Regiment.

The others to be lost included **James Gaughan** who died, aged 32, of his wounds on July 15.

Both he and 18 year old **John Powell** of Hampton, who was killed in action on August 24, were serving with the King's Shropshire Light Infantry.

Four days later Malpasborn **John Richardson** (23), of the York and Lancaster Regiment, was killed in action.

And 25 year old **Alfred Walley**, a baker in
Malpas, was killed in
action with the Rifle
Brigade on November 14,
in the last week of the
battle.

Among the bravest of the brave

Joseph Groom joined the Army before the declaration of war and survived the Western Front, and service in German East Africa and West Africa.

But he died on holiday in Wales in April 1919 within hours of developing a virulent form of malaria contracted in Africa.

His bravery in August 1915 earned him the Distinguished Conduct Medal for conspicuous gallantry despite being wounded himself.

He had spent his childhood in Wigland and was only 23 when he died.



They came from afar...

... and fell in foreign fields

The majority of men on the Malpas War Memorial failed to return from France.

But four died in Belgium and another eight elsewhere overseas.

Among them was **Frank Leek** of Cuddington who
was killed in action, aged
23, in Palestine a week
before Christmas 1917.

And 38 year old **Samuel Marsh** of Church Street
died in Greece in March
1918 from malaria.

There is an American by birth among the 58 names. But the parents of **Thomas Jones** moved to Shrewsbury when he was young and he joined the Royal Navy in 1908.

He was involved in the successful Battle of the Falklands in December 1914 and, in February 1915, the ill-fated Gallipoli campaign. He served until April 1919 when he died in Scotland, aged 28, from pneumonia.

He had married Keziah Ince of Church Street in 1915 and is buried in Malpas Cemetery.

Frederic Wolley Dod from Edge emigrated to Canada in 1893 and became known for his expertise on butterflies and moths.

Despite his age he returned in 1917 with the intention of enlisting and was sent to Turkey. He died from typhoid in July 1919, aged 47, on his way home.

Archibald McIntrye lived in Malpas until he emigrated to Australia in 1910 but enlisted with the Australian Imperial Force.

Arriving on the Western Front in November 1917, the 30 year old was killed in action in France in July 1918.















Men with local connections are not named on the Malpas War Memorial - and have not been found on any UK civic listing.

It is not known why this happened.

They include **Lawrence Lewis**, yet another victim of the Battle of the Somme in July 1916, who was killed by shrapnel. There is a plaque to his father, Joseph, inside the Jubilee Hall entrance.

Tushingham-born **John Roberts** was a policeman before enlisting. He died, aged 32, at Ypres in Belgium in November 1914.

The father and stepmother of **Philip Arthur** Fox (27) lived in Malpas. The farm labourer died in Belgium in June 1917.

Malpas-born **Alfred Ridgway** died, aged 27, on the first day of the
Battle of Passchendaele in
Belgium in October 1917.

Percy Chapman came to The Bolling in March 1915

MYSTERY OF 11 NAMES

after being injured at Ypres. Then in July 1917, at St Oswald's, he married Maud Mould of Kidnal House. He died in France in March 1918.

The family of **Ernest Oswald Jones** moved from Oldcastle to
Warrington after his birth. He died, aged 27, in England in June 1918.

Annie Dutton lived at Kidnal when she married **George Mackay**. Almost a year before, in October 1914, he had enlisted in the Royal Flying Corps. The 29 year old was serving in Iraq in August 1918 when he died of his wounds.

Ernest Holland was born in Malpas before his family moved to New Ferry. He died, aged 38, in France in August 1918.

And **Charles Vickers** (28), of the South Lancashire Regiment died in October 1918, shortly after his wife and their two young children. The family lived in Bickerton.

Two of the 11 men were buried in Malpas Cemetery.

Robert Stewart died at The Bolling, aged 36, in May 1915 after being wounded at Ypres in Belgium. He was a Scotsman who had emigrated to Australia where he married, but returned to England to enlist.

Wilfred Simon Hopley (24) of Cross o'th' Hill died in October 1918. He had enlisted with the Reserve Cavalry Regiment in March 1916 but was discharged as medically unfit, without seeing active service overseas.

1918 COMMEMORATION 2011

Wilfred Fleet

Born in Malpas, Cheshire in 1894 (baptised 19th August 1894), the third son of John and Elizabeth Fleet of Church Street, Malpas, Cheshire. Husband of Mary Fleet (nee Roberts) (married in 1919).



The 1911 Census shows Wilfred as an apprentice joiner; he joined the trade union in 1914 with seven years at trade. Wilfred died from heart trouble arising from rheumatism suffered in the army.

Wilfred's older brother Edgar also lost his life in the Great War.

Military Details

Regiment: 1st Army Workshop Company No. 8 Royal Engineers, formerly King's

Shropshire Light Infantry (19755)

Rank: 2nd Corporal Service Number: 251785

Died of illness; United Kingdom 10 May 1920 Aged 25

Alfred Walley

Born in Shrewsbury, Shropshire in 1891, the second son of James and Mary Ann Walley of 42 New Park Road, Castlefields, Shrewsbury, Shropshire.

Husband to Alice Louie Walley (nee Bowdler) (married 4th July 1915) of 28 West Road, Congleton, Cheshire.

The 1911 Census shows him as a baker. The Malpas Deanery Magazine for January 1917, reporting his death, mentions that he worked for Mrs Williams of Church Street, Malpas. Mrs Williams was probably the grocer in Market House and the Williams family also had a bakery there.

Military History

Regiment: 13th Battalion Rifle Brigade

Rank: Sergeant

Service Number: S/11198

Killed in action; France 14 November 1916 Aged 25

















