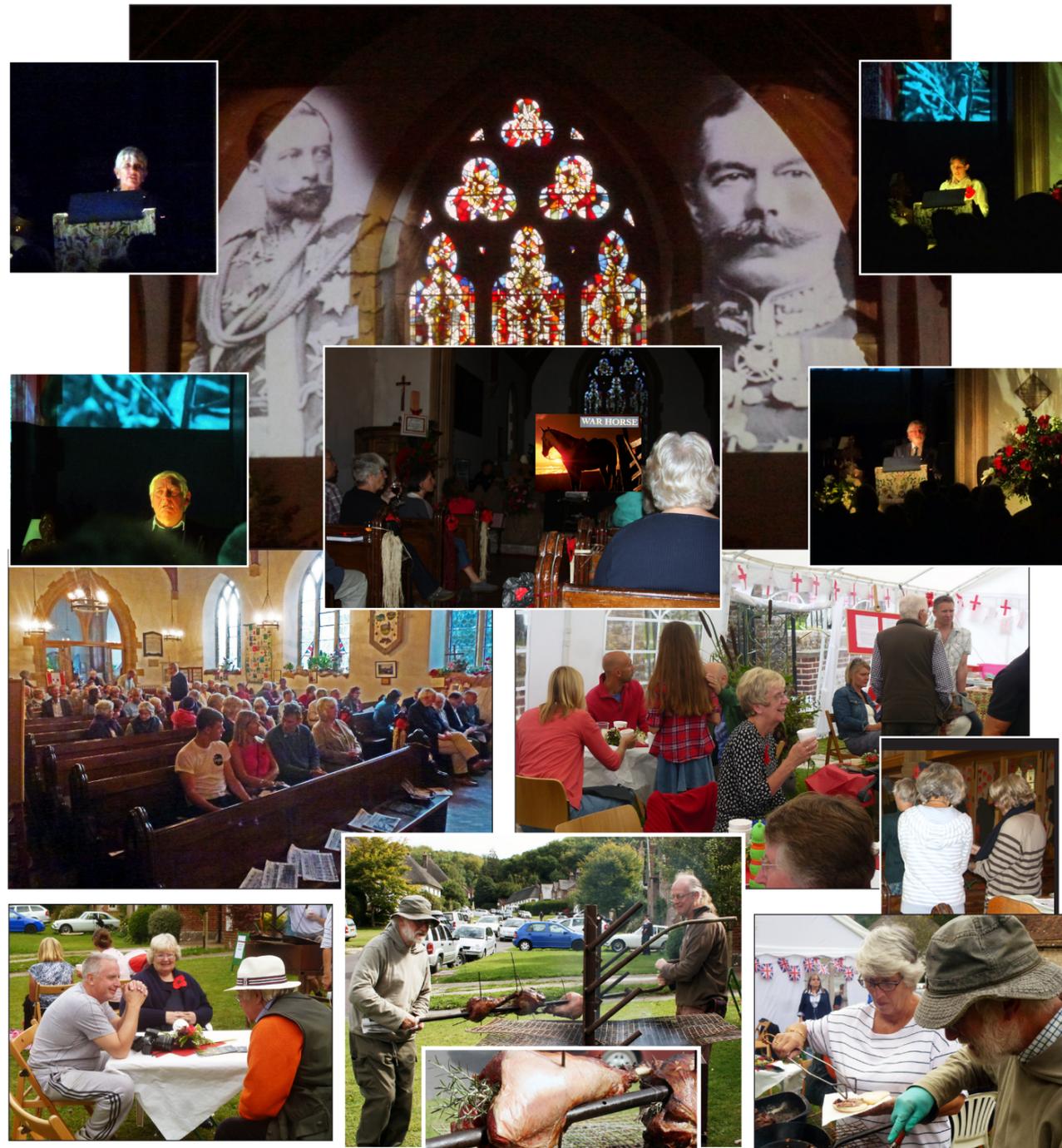


Milton Abbas Remembers



A small committee led by Unityjoy Dale, with Ellie Payne, and Paula Kelsall together with the help of other keen volunteers, truly achieved some amazing results. So too, did the Milton Abbas History Group. A spokesman from the British Legion remarked: *“It was likened to the Imperial War Museum display, one visitor commenting “it was better”*. And another: *‘A village with as much enthusiasm as Milton Abbas, should be encouraged.’* Well done, everyone!

photos by Antony Shearn, Peter Chafer & Unityjoy Dale



The past is totally dependent on the present to safeguard its future. Stating the obvious perhaps, but this sad fact was not lost on, nor ignored by, the parishioners of Milton Abbas. Earlier this year a small group of villagers decided that a commemoration to mark the hundredth anniversary – ‘The Great War 1914 -1918’- should take place in Milton Abbas to honour and remember those who took part in that most hideous and bloody of wars. This was not a formal village response. The Parish Council did not officially respond to the occasion, but individual councillors at a personal level most certainly did, like so many others right across the community. All the events held during August were in aid of 3 charities caring for ex-servicemen. The Royal British Legion, BLESMA and SSAFA - all of which support seriously injured and disabled servicemen and women.



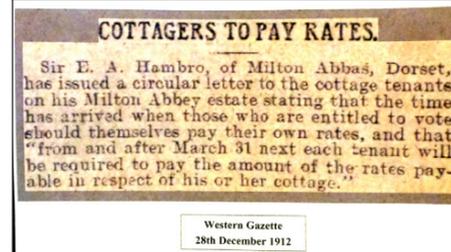
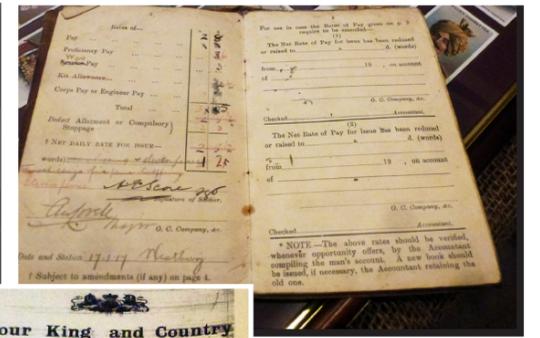
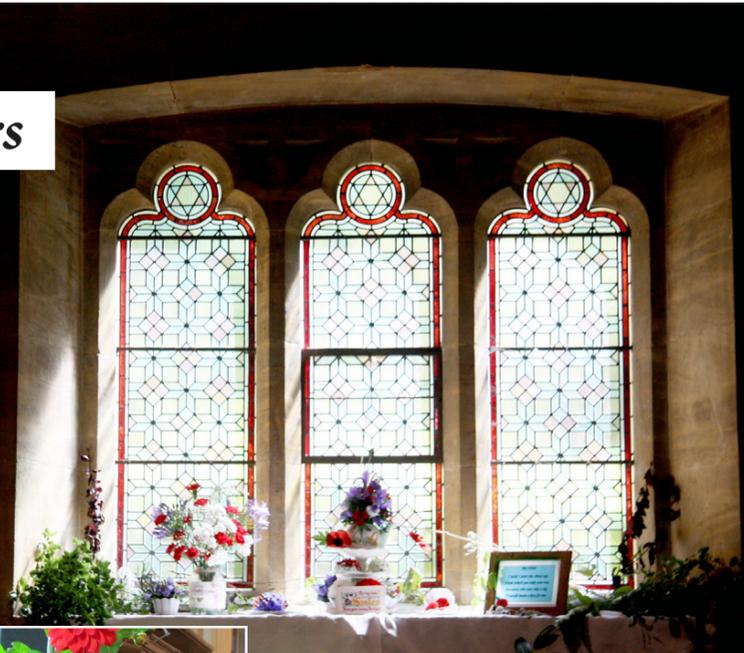
The commemoration began with a Silent Vigil that took place in St. James’ Church, 4th August, marking the declaration of war 100 years ago. Other events were scheduled for the August Bank Holiday Weekend. These included a Flower Festival ‘Flanders’ Flowers’ and the History Group elected to mount an extensive commemorative exhibition in the Reading Room. Refreshments were available for visitors in the Marquee.

The Bulletin is delighted to report that the total raised from visitor donations, plus profits from refreshments, was £2,950. Cheques are now on their way to the 3 charities.



Flanders'

Flowers

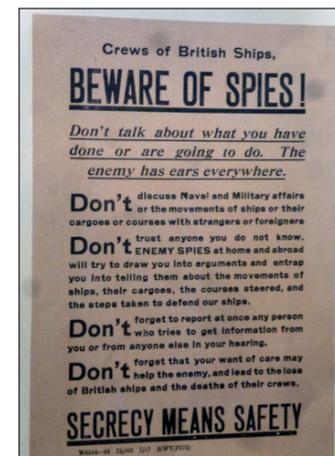


Royal Naval Air Service

The Royal Naval Air Service (RNAS) was the air arm of the Royal Navy, under the direction of the Admiralty's Air Department, and existed formally from 1 July 1914¹ to 1 April 1918, when it was merged with the British Army's Royal Flying Corps to form a new service, the Royal Air Force, the first of its kind in the world. During its first year it continued to be the Naval Wing of the joint Royal Flying Corps (which had been set up in 1912), but was administrated by the Admiralty's new Air Department, but on 1 August 1915 the RFC became the flying branch of the British Army while the RNAS became "an integral part of the Royal Navy".



The Mark VIII International Tank



The History Group team, led by Pamela and Bryan Phillips, and after much thought, hardwork and dedication, mounted a truly comprehensive exhibition. They sought and found rare documents as well as local artifacts for display. Filling the space in the Reading Room it drew large numbers of admiring visitors.



Milton Abbas Football Team
1912
Winners of the Dorset Village League Cup

Unityjoy Dale writes: A W.W.I Flower Festival was planned.....the scene was set – poppies were made – soldiers were born – poems were read – flowers were chosen – family histories were researched – memorabilia were discovered – tea ladies were brewed – the marquee was erected and so the show began....