



Shepton Mallet

Monday 4th August 2014

“Never Forget”

*Commemoration of the Outbreak of World War 1
at 11.00 p.m. on 4th August 1914*



OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

Outline of Events on 4th August 2014

(Entry Free for all Events)

11.00 a.m. - 7.00 p.m.

Silent Vigil at the Cenotaph, organised by Shepton Mallet RAF Air Cadets. Members of the public are welcome to stand in silence at the Cenotaph for a few minutes during this time, to remember the men of Shepton Mallet and the surrounding villages who lost their lives in the First World War.

2.30 - 4.30 p.m.

Fish & chip meal and a soft drink at Whitstone's Traditional Fish & Chip Restaurant for £6 (all proceeds - including meal and staff costs - will be generously donated to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal). Tickets available in advance at the Tourist Information Centre or the restaurant.

7.00 - 7.15 p.m.

Procession to Collett Park, via the Cenotaph, led by HMS Heron Royal Naval Volunteer Band. Members of the public are invited to assemble in the Market Square at 6.45 p.m., wearing 1914-style uniform or civilian clothing if you wish. Town Crier Andy Neal will start the Procession.

7.30 - 9.30 p.m.

Commemoration in Collett Park of the 140 citizens of Shepton Mallet and the local area who went off to war during 1914-1918 and never returned:

Official opening at 7.30 p.m. by the Lord-Lieutenant of Somerset, Lady Gass DCVO Band concert by the HMS Heron Royal Naval Volunteer Band and the Yeovil Town Band.

Display of World War 1 memorabilia and a 'Living History' audio-visual presentation about local people and events during the period compiled by Ed Davis. Copies of "The Men of Shepton Mallet Who Gave Their Lives in The Great War 1914 - 1918" will be on sale.

Refreshments, including a hog roast and beverages, and/or bring your own picnic.

9.30 - 9.50 p.m.

Move to the Parish Church of St. Peter & St. Paul, led by RAF Air Cadet Drummers.

10.00 - 11.00 p.m.

Candle-lit Service of Commemoration in the Parish Church, including an introduction by the renowned historian Allan Mallinson, author of "1914; Fight the Good Fight – Britain, the Army and the Coming of the First World War" and "The Making of the British Army".

The Service will end with a bugler sounding 'The Last Post' and candles being extinguished, to the chimes of Big Ben striking at 11.00 p.m., exactly one hundred years after War was declared.

Commemoration Organised by

Shepton Mallet Town Council
Shepton Mallet Branch, The Royal British Legion
Shepton Mallet RAF Air Cadets
Christians Together in Shepton Mallet

Midsomerset **Acknowledgements** Series of Newspapers

The organisers are most grateful to:

Whitstone's Traditional Fish & Chip Restaurant for generously donating all proceeds (including costs) to The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal
HMS Heron RN Band for donating their time and musical talents free of charge
The Landscape Group for preparation and management of Collett Park
Somerset Heritage Centre for loan of military and other WW1 memorabilia
Willmott Dixon for lighting and band parking
ETS SW Electrical Contractors for lighting
Avon & Somerset Police and PCSOs for traffic control
British Red Cross for first aid cover
Shepton Mallet Fire Station for fire cover
Shepton Mallet Carnival Committee and Shepton Mallet Rotary Club for stewards
Shepton Mallet Hockey Club for beverages
Shepton Mallet Girl Guides for teas and coffees
Knit and Chat Group for knitted poppies sold in aid of the RBL Poppy Appeal
The Bell Ringers of St. Peter and St. Paul Parish Church
Community Chimes for hand bells in the Parish Church
Church Flower Guild of St. Peter & St. Paul and Tesco for flower arrangements
G W Publishing for printing
Ace Acoustics for PA and audio-visual equipment
John Shepherd for use of Control Centre van
Shepton Mallet Tourist Information Centre
All the many citizens of Shepton Mallet who have given their time and services free

All proceeds to The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Free parking all day (at owners' risk) from 10 a.m. at: MDC Commercial Road Car Park, Shepton Mallet Showground

and Whitstone School Car Park. All Mendip District Car Parks free after 6 p.m.

Disabled Parking – St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church, Park Road





HMS HERON ROYAL NAVAL VOLUNTEER BAND



HMS Heron is the base of Royal Naval Air Station Yeovilton. The Royal Naval Volunteer Band includes serving military and civilian personnel from Somerset and neighbouring counties. The members of the Band are kindly **PROGRAMME** donating their services **OF** free **MUSIC** to this commemorative event.

Procession to Collett Park at 7.00 p.m.

The Voice of the Guns; The Standard of St. George;
Army of the Nile; On the Quarter Deck

In the Bandstand from 7.30 – 8.30 p.m.

<i>Fanfare</i>	Salute to a Hero	<i>Sparke</i>
<i>Overture</i>	Light Cavalry	<i>von Suppé</i>
<i>March Medley</i>	Colonel Bogey; 1914 March; The Gladiator March	<i>various</i>
<i>Solo</i>	me away From Home	<i>Coulter, Arr. Hancock</i>
<i>Suites: First Suite in E Flat (Gustav Holst); English Folksong Suite (Ralph Vaughan Williams)</i>		
<i>Big Band</i>	Big Band Bash	<i>Arr. Bob Lowden</i>
<i>Musical</i>	My Fair Lady	<i>Loewe</i>
<i>Nautical</i>	Fantasy on British Sea Songs	<i>Gordon Langford</i>
<i>Descriptive piece</i>	Doyen	<i>Goff Richards</i>
<i>Traditional/Reflective</i>	High on a Hill	<i>Moorhouse</i>
<i>Film Music</i>	Band of Brothers	<i>Michael Kamen</i>

Volunteer Band Instructor – Band Colour Sergeant Dave Edwards RM

Drum Major – Kerry Edwards



YEOVIL TOWN BAND



Yeovil Town Band is a traditional brass band, based in Yeovil, on the Somerset / Dorset Border.

The Band will perform on the Bandstand between 8.30 and 9.30 p.m. and will play a selection of First World War and other appropriate music.

The Band sprang out of the Yeovil Rifle Corps, formed in April 1860 with 60 members. In May 1860 Mr J Hoaring formed a drum and fife band attached to the Corps, which was renamed the 16th Somerset Volunteer Rifles. Mr Hoaring handed over to Sergeant Pandy until 1870 when Alfred Beare took over. He wrote 11 of the 13 pieces which the band played during its first recorded public performance at Montacute House in September 1870. He retired in 1896 but the band continued very much in a military vein until around 1936, when it regrouped as the Pettres Works Military Band, which continued until the Yeovil Corporation Band was formed before the Second World War.

In 1949 a splinter group broke away to form the Yeovil Working Men's Band, and the two bands amalgamated into the present Yeovil Town Band in 1967. The Band has made seven appearances in the National Brass Band Championships, five of them under Ray Hunt as Musical Director. Steve Sykes took over in 1996, leading the Band to the 2nd Section Finals title in the 1997 West of England Regional Championships.

In 1999 he was succeeded by Philip Bailey and the Band moved into the Championship Section. In early 2003 Mr Dave Hayward was appointed as Resident Conductor, along with Mr Ian McElligott as Associate Conductor. Under this combination the Band achieved 3rd place at the Area contest, just one point short of a placing at The National Brass Band Championships (Championship Section).

Musical Director and Conductor: Kevin Robbins

Band Secretary: Julie Locke



Map of Europe in August 1914



THE MEN OF SHEPTON MALLET WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN 1914, THE FIRST YEAR OF THE GREAT WAR

(Extracts from the book compiled by the Late
Commander R J Davies MBE Royal Navy,

with additions & editing by Lieutenant Colonel J W Lyde,
Shepton Mallet Branch, The Royal British Legion)



“At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them.”

ALBERT WILLIAM, or possibly HUBERT CHARLES, BISHOP

Lance Corporal Bishop (Albert William or Herbert Charles) Army Number 7687 1st

Battalion, Somerset Light Infantry, who was killed on Wednesday 26th August 1914

Insufficient information has been found to identify this man with certainty. He is shown as A W BISHOP on the Shepton Mallet Cenotaph and as Albert William BISHOP in the Golden Book of Remembrance in Wells Cathedral.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) has records of six A W Bishops but none with the Christian names of Albert William. Somerset Light Infantry records show Private Arthur William BISHOP who was born in Northleach, Gloucestershire and no apparent connection with Shepton Mallet.

The CWGC also shows a Harry Walter BISHOP but again no connection with Shepton has been found. "Soldiers died in the Great War" show a Hubert BISHOP who was born and lived in Shepton Mallet. The 1901 Census shows this man aged 12 living in Victoria Grove. Not all soldiers gave their names correctly when enlisting and it is possible that a HUBERT could register as BERT which in turn could be thought to be a diminutive of Albert. However the CWGC record a second name of Charles. Additionally if it was this man, he would have been the first from Shepton Mallet to be killed in the war. There is no mention of this in the relevant Shepton Mallet Journal neither is any one named BISHOP recorded in the Journal of 6th August 1915 of "Shepton's Serving Sons". However, it is likely that the family had moved away from Shepton before the war as the CWGC shows his parents as next of kin living in Bristol.

Hubert Bishop was the son of Albert and Helen Bishop of 31 or 32 Victoria Grove, Shepton Mallet with six brothers and sisters. His father was a carpenter and joiner. He was married to Beatrice Mary, who later moved to Wells. The 1st Battalion, Somerset Light Infantry was engaged in the Retreat from Mons on 26th August 1914.

NIEDERZWEHREN CEMETRY A W Bishop, Grave VIII. E. 3.



This cemetery is located 10 km south of Kassel. The cemetery was begun by the Germans in 1915 for the burial of prisoners of war who died at the local camp. In 1922 the graves of Commonwealth servicemen who had died all over Germany were brought together into four permanent cemeteries, one of which was Niederzwehren, from 190 burial grounds in Baden, Bavaria, Hanover, Hesse and Saxony.

JOSEPH VASCO HODGES

Lance Corporal Hodges (Joseph Vasco) Army Number D/6256 6th Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers)

who died on Wednesday, 2nd September 1914, aged 23

He was the eldest son of Joseph and Charlotte Hodges of Rifle Cottage, 26 Cowl Street, Shepton Mallet. The family was made up of five boys and three girls.

He worked briefly in the offices of the Shepton Mallet Journal and then with his father as a paper hanger.

He played in the Shepton Mallet Drum and Fife Band and is commemorated by a plaque on the north side of the porch in the Parish Church to "the Ringers of this Tower". He is also listed on the Shepton Mallet Grammar School Roll of Honour in The Wine Vaults. He enlisted at Bristol.

He died of wounds received during the Retreat from Mons. He may thus have been the first man from Shepton Mallet to be killed in the First World War (see opposite).

CITY OF PARIS CEMETERY Pantin, Seine-St- Denis, France. J V Hodges, Grave 6. 21. 32.



This cemetery is north east of Paris on the road to Le Bourget from Porte de Pantin.



Bell Ringers Memorial Plaque, in Shepton Mallet Parish Church.

HENRY (HARRY) DAVIS

Private Davis (Henry) Army Number 7283 1st Battalion, Somerset Light Infantry

who was killed in action on Monday, 14th September 1914 aged 28

He was the second son of Emily Davis of 22 Kilver Street, Shepton Mallet but moved later to 7 Kilver Street Hill. Further family details are shown for Frederick Davis.

He was killed during the Battle of the Aisne.

VAUXBUIN FRENCH NATIONAL CEMETERY Aisne, France. H Davis Grave II. C. 11.



Vauxbuin is a village 4 km south west of Soissons. This large French National Cemetery contains a small British plot. It is just off the Soissons to Paris Road.



WILLIAM HENRY LEWIS

Private Lewis (William Henry) Army Number 6589 1st Battalion, Dorsetshire Regiment

who was killed in action on Tuesday 15th September 1914

He was the eldest son of Henry and Nora Lewis of East Cranmore (probably Waterlip). There were four boys and three girls in the family. His father was a cowman and he was an agricultural labourer.

He enlisted at Taunton and was killed during the Battle of the Aisne.

LA FERTE-SOUS-JOUARRE MEMORIAL Seine-et-Marne, France. W H Lewis.



This small town is situated 66 km east of Paris. The memorial commemorates the 4,000 officers and men of the British Expeditionary Force who were killed in August, September and the early part of October 1914 and who have no known grave.



ERNEST GILBERT HAM

Private Ham (Ernest Gilbert) Army Number 7864 1st Battalion, Somerset Light Infantry

who died on Tuesday, 29th September 1914, aged 26

He was the third son of seven born to Edward and Mary Ham of Board Cross, Shepton Mallet. His father was a plasterer and Ernest worked as a drayman on the Somerset and Dorset Railway. He was engaged to Miss Hiscox, waitress at the Hare and Hounds Hotel (this hotel was on the site of the present Co-op on the northwest corner of the cross roads of the High Street and Commercial Road.)

He enlisted at Taunton. He died of wounds sustained in the Battle of the Aisne.

VAUXBUIN FRENCH NATIONAL CEMETERY Aisne, France. E G Ham, Grave IV. E. 5.



Vauxbuin is a village 4 km south west of Soissons. This large French National Cemetery contains a small British plot. It is just off the Soissons to Paris Road.



HAROLD WILLIAM WARMENT

Driver Warment (Harold William) Army Number 66096
135th Battery, 32nd Brigade, Royal Field Artillery who
died on Thursday, 1st October 1914, aged 20

He served under the name of EVANS. His surname is spelt on the Shepton Cenotaph as WARMINT.

He was the only son of William and Annie Warment of Beard Hill, Shepton Mallet and later Cannards Grave, Shepton Mallet. His father was a carman on the railway.

He died of wounds sustained during the Battle of Armentieres just after the Battle of the Aisne.

STE. MARIE CEMETERY Le Havre, Seine-Maritime, France.

H W Warment, Grave Div. 14. C. 2.



This is one of the town cemeteries, but actually situated in the commune of Graville-St Honorine overlooking the town from the north.

He is also remembered on the Cannards Grave Memorial now in the south west corner of Shepton Mallet Parish Church.



ALBERT GEORGE MOON

Private Moon (Albert George) Army Number 5937 3rd Battalion, Coldstream Guards

who was killed in action on Thursday, 12th November 1914

The Coldstream Guards records of this man have been mislaid. He is shown in the Golden Book of Remembrance in Wells Cathedral with the other Shepton Mallet men who died.

Although by no means definite, it is thought that he was the third son of Samuel and Lydia Moon and a brother of Leonard George Moon who was killed in action on the 23rd July 1917, aged 24.

He enlisted at Shepton Mallet and he was killed in trench warfare in the Ypres Salient.

YPRES (MENIN GATE) MEMORIAL Ieper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. A G Moon, Panel 11.



This memorial is situated at the eastern side of the town on the road to Menin and Courtrai. It bears the names of men who were lost without trace in defence of the Ypres Salient in the First World War.



WILLIAM H BODMAN

Private Bodman (William H) Army Number GS/9358 5th Dragoon Guards (Princess Charlotte of Wales's) who died on Monday 21st December 1914

He was the son of H and Mary Ann Bodman, of Upper Charlton, Shepton Mallet. His father was a quarryman.

He died of pneumonia.

ALDERSHOT MILITARY CEMETERY, HAMPSHIRE. W H Bodman.



Aldershot Military Cemetery is a permanent military cemetery. There are 690 First World War graves in the cemetery. Many of these graves are in plot AF.



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