

# Farnhill World War 1 Volunteers Project

1 January 2017 to 31 December 2018



## End of Project Report

*(HLF Ref FW-15-06351. 1 Jan 2019)*



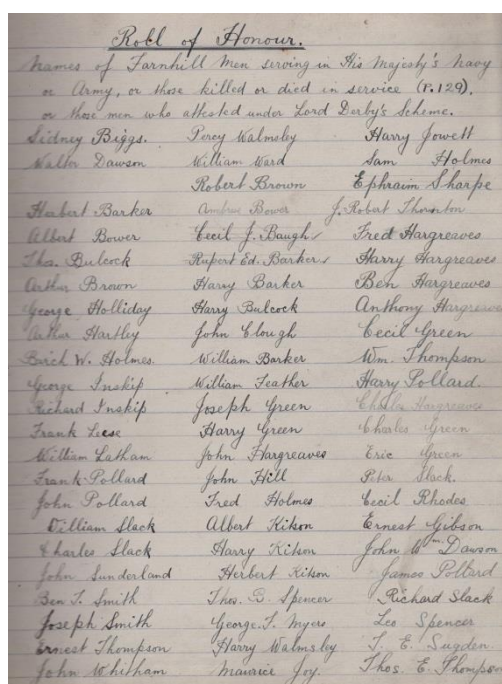
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## 1. Background

In November 2016, Kildwick and Farnhill Institute was awarded a grant of up to £8,400 from the Heritage Lottery Fund through its First World War - then and now programme for a two year project, commencing 1 January 2017 which would :

- research the lives of 68 men who were named on a roll of honour created by Farnhill Parish Council in 1916 listing those men who had volunteered to serve their country in World War 1
- explore what village life was like 100 years ago and the social context in which the men lived
- encourage participation in the project and make the material / information as widely available as possible through a booklet, project launch event, publicity, talks, displays and creation of a website and archive

The idea for the project came about following the discovery, by a member of Farnhill and Kildwick Local History Group, of the roll of honour in an old minute book of Farnhill Parish Council dating back to the time of the First World War.



This report provides a record of the two year project and considers how successful the project has been in delivering agreed activities and achieving its objectives.

## **2. Overview of Progress and Achievements**

The project has been delivered on a completely voluntary basis from start to finish with people becoming engaged as a result of events and publicity. During the two year project 27 people have played a part in delivering the project ranging from occasional help such as setting out chairs at events to in-depth research on a regular basis.

The enthusiasm and hard work of these project members in particular a project team involving 10 different people during the two year period has enabled the project to do more than originally planned and achieve results which have far exceeded expectations.

This has all been achieved within budget with the project providing cash and non-cash contributions which include £260 towards conservation of the Methodist Roll of Honour and a total of 687 days of volunteer time.

### **Outcomes for People**

- The project has provided opportunities for people to engage in a community project, experience or learn something new, take part in activities they enjoy and meet new people.
- 27 people have played a part in delivering the project undertaking a range of different activities from putting up posters to undertaking military research. The total amount of time dedicated to the project over its two year duration is 5,496 hours which equates to 687 days and far exceeds the expected total of 480 days of time the project anticipated would be volunteered when it started.
- Project members ranged from experienced genealogists to those who had never done anything like this before including a number of people with either no connection to the village or prior involvement in the local history group.
- Six people attended an Ancestry training course and one person has undertaken an on-line Strathclyde University Future Learn “researching my family tree” course of their own accord.
- Public events have been well attended and feedback gathered shows that people found them enjoyable, interesting and informative. Over 70 people attended a Magic Lantern Show at the start of the project and for the majority of attendees this was a new experience. Over 200 people attended the end of project exhibition, From Farnhill to the Front which focused on the lives of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers and village life during the war. Feedback was very positive and showed that people had enjoyed and benefitted from the exhibition finding it interesting and informative. For some it was a very moving experience. The amount of research and work behind the exhibition was also acknowledged.
- An unexpected but much appreciated outcome has been the gratitude of relatives of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers to the project for researching and recording the lives of their relatives and the part they played in the Great War. The opportunity to meet families was enjoyable and their willingness to share photographs and information was much appreciated. For some relatives the project has enabled them to learn things they didn't previously know about their ancestor.

- Another unexpected outcome is that the end of project exhibition brought together former villagers and relatives who had lost touch or not seen each other for many years enabling them to reminiscence and reconnect.
- Whereas the majority of people attending talks and events or involved in delivering the project have been middle aged or older the project was able to reach a younger audience through its involvement with Kildwick Primary School. A talk was given to two different Year 6 classes and the project was involved in a WW1 study day involving the whole school which circa 125 pupils attended. For many, particularly the younger pupils, this may have been the first time they encountered local or wartime history.

### **Outcomes for Heritage**

- The depth and breadth of research carried out has been far greater than anticipated at the start of the project. This is due to the enthusiasm, willingness and expertise of project members who collectively spent in excess of 2,000 hours undertaking research and over 1,000 hours collating and writing up what they had discovered so it could be recorded and shared. Research involved the use of on line databases, visits to archive offices, libraries and museums, use of local records e.g. school log books, parish council minutes and meetings/correspondence with relatives of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers and people who knew them. A full list of sources can be found in Appendix C.
- As a result, information from disparate sources, including information not previously in the public domain and which may otherwise have been lost has been brought together in one place and made publically available through the project's website and the creation of an archive that has been shared with local libraries and other bodies.
- Interpreting the information and producing articles and biographies of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteer's lives has enabled a collective picture of the impact of war on the community to be better understood and ensures that the contribution made by the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers is not forgotten.
- The project had not planned to undertake any physical conservation works but the discovery of a Methodist Roll of Honour and its subsequent conservation has meant that an important record and commemorative item from the First World War has been saved for posterity and is now publically accessible.
- Another unexpected outcome is that the project was loaned a number of personal items belonging to Farnhill WW1 Volunteers and other local servicemen such as medals, diaries and post cards. These items have been photographed for the archive and / or displayed at events with some being deposited with the Duke of Wellington's Regimental Museum at the end of the project for safe keeping.

### **Outcomes for Communities**

- The project has brought together people who have enjoyed and wish to continue their involvement in local activities. Seven people who had no prior involvement with local history group activities have expressed an interest in attending meetings of the group or participating in local history group projects.
- A good link has been established with Kildwick School and a member of the project from the local history group has agreed to provide future history talks at the school.

- Two project members who joined the Kildwick and Farnhill Institute Committee as a result of the project will continue to serve as committee members.
- The project launch event and final exhibition attracted a number of people who had not previously been to an event at the institute and it is hoped this may encourage attendance at future events.

### **Determinants of Success**

The success of the project has been underpinned by the enthusiasm and hard work of project members led by a dedicated project co-ordinator. This enabled the project to deliver everything and more than it set out to especially with regard to the depth and breadth of research and material produced for the website, archive and end of project exhibition. The production of family trees was an added bonus thanks to the dedication of an experienced genealogist.

Through press releases and ongoing publicity the project has received good coverage in local media which has helped to promote events and talks, highlight project progress and assist with appeals for information and involvement. Heritage Lottery support has been acknowledged in all our publicity.

Developing good relationships and working in partnership has been important to the success of the project. Encouragement and support has been received from a wide range of local groups, organisations and individuals. They have helped promote the project, supported events and provided information and access to records. The many organisations and individuals the project wishes to thank are included in the Acknowledgements at Appendix D.

Without Heritage Lottery Funding, only a small amount of research would have been possible and most of the activities including the Farnhill to the Front Exhibition, development of a website and creation of a comprehensive archive would not have happened.

Some disappointments and challenges have been encountered along the way but these did not impact on the project achieving its overall objectives and outcomes:

- Despite extensive research there was a small number of Farnhill WW1 Volunteers for whom little information was available and it was also not possible to discover what happened to the Roll of Honour that was unveiled in Kildwick School in 1920.
- Some activities took up more time than expected leaving some project members with less time to spend on other activities than they would have wished. Others would have liked to have undertaken additional activities which fell outside the remit of the project or were not possible within the available time or budget.
- A small number of people who joined the project were unable to maintain their involvement and dropped out during the first year.
- Fewer people undertook the formal Ancestry training than expected at the start of the project but this was due to many already having prior research experience.
- Much as having a dedicated project co-ordinator was central to the smooth running and success of the project there was a risk of over reliance on this individual. Had this person scaled back their involvement during the project the project would not have been able to achieve what it did.

Further details of project events, activities and achievements can be found in the main body of the report with further information in the Appendix.

### 3. What the Project Did

The project has delivered all key activities for which grant funding was provided by the Heritage Lottery Fund including additional activity agreed during the project. Funding was specifically provided for the project to:

#### a) Produce and distribute a short booklet to promote awareness of the project and hold a start-up event

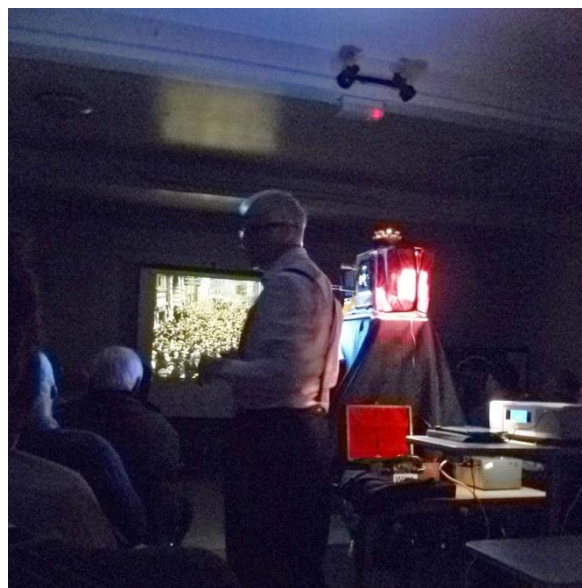
A booklet providing brief details about the 68 Farnhill WW1 Volunteers and appealing for people to come forward with information and to get involved in the project was prepared and circulated at the project launch event on 31 March 2017.



Copies were also made available locally through Kildwick and Farnhill Institute, St Andrew's Church Kildwick, and Cross Hills Library. Copies were also handed out at events such as the Kildwick and Farnhill Summer Fair and Farnhill Methodist coffee mornings.

The booklet helped publicise the project and resulted in people coming forward with information including relatives of Farnhill WW1 Volunteers with some living a considerable distance from Farnhill such as in Lockerbie, Scotland and Leicestershire. They have willingly shared photographs, documents, diaries and other personal items belonging to the men with the project.

The project launch event was a Magic Lantern Show held on 31 March 2017 at Kildwick and Farnhill Institute. It sought to recreate the type of entertainment that was popular in the village at the time and would have been experienced by the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers and their families. Over 70 people attended the event which is nearing capacity for the Institute hall.



Feedback was collected from attendees on the evening through an evaluation form with all respondents saying they had enjoyed the event a lot (as opposed to a little or not at all). The majority of respondents (70%) had never been to a lantern show before. Besides being entertaining the show had also been informative and thought provoking as can be seen from a representative selection of comments:

*“The clarity of the images of the life at the front was amazing. Enjoyed seeing the slides of stories to accompany popular songs”*

*“Very informative and the high quality images give a great insight into the war.”*

*“Highlighted a lot of questions or facts that I’d never even considered before this evening – and I’m reasonably well-read.”*

*“The images of soldiers smiling for the camera or acting up and messing around shows that people don’t really change – just the technology”*

*“My sense of respect has been enormously increased – both my grandfathers served during WW1.”*

*“The event was well organised and a very friendly evening”*

The majority of people who attended were all adults with the exception of one child who was related to one of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers and had a particular interest in local and family history. It is estimated that the vast majority of attendees were aged 40 and over with a large proportion aged 60 and over.

**b) Provide regular project updates on a project website and in local newspapers**

Development of a website was undertaken during the early stages of the project and launched at an event in Kildwick and Farnhill Institute on 21 October 2017. Further details of the event can be found in Section 3c.

The website can be accessed at: [www.farnhill.co.uk/volunteers](http://www.farnhill.co.uk/volunteers)



*Project members reviewing information on the website prior to its launch*



The purpose of the website was to enable the project to encourage public participation and share material uncovered through the research in an easily accessible format. The website initially contained information about the project including who the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers were and how people could get in touch if they wished to get involved or had information about the men.

Besides having a contact page on the website, the project has also had contact with people using Ancestry to research their families with whom we have been able to exchange information and material.

During the project the website was updated on a regular basis with photographs, articles and project updates including details of events and activities. Biographies and family trees of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers were published on the website towards the end of 2018 following completion of the research into their lives.

By the end of December 2018, over 4,000 people had visited the site a total of 32,000 times. There have been visits from all parts of the world but mostly from within the UK and the other English-speaking countries involved in WW1 (Canada, Australia, USA, etc.). All parts of the site are being visited, with the WW1 postcard album of Private Percy Walmsley and the gravestones section currently trending.

Project updates were also emailed on a monthly basis to contacts of the project, the local history group and the Kildwick and Farnhill Institute. Prior to the project having its own website, events and activities were publicised on Kildwick and Farnhill Institute's website.

A project logo and brand image was designed for the website and for use in publicity. This included Farnhill Pinnacle, an iconic local landmark which helped give the project a distinct yet locally meaningful identity and has been used alongside National Lottery logos in all publicity and display material.



Through its publicity the project received regular coverage in local media including:

- Craven Herald and Pioneer – newspaper and website (serving Skipton & Craven)
- Keighley News – newspaper and website
- Bradford Telegraph and Argus – newspaper and website
- Craven and the First World War Newsletter (produced by Craven Museum with Heritage Lottery Funding)
- Aspire – monthly lifestyle magazine
- The Bridge magazine of St Andrew's Church, Kildwick now incorporated in the new Pinnacle Magazine of Kildwick Parish
- Burnley Express

Publicity covered details about events and activities, how people could get involved, stories and photographs of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers and the village during wartime as well as appeals for information and donations as follows:

- Award of Grant, Nov 2016
- Magic Lantern Show Launch Event, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2017 (pre and post event publicity)
- Introducing the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers Project Talk, 24 March 2017 (pre and post event publicity)
- Appeal for Information about Kildwick School Memorial, August 2017
- WW1 history display and website launch, 21 October 2017 (pre and post event)
- Appeal for information about Farnhill WW1 Volunteer, Frank Leese, February 2018
- Methodist Roll of Honour appeal, April 2018
- Writers, Warriors and War Talk, 11 May 2018
- A year in the life of a Tommy Talk, 6 July 2018
- From Farnhill to the Front Exhibition, 10 November 2018 (pre and post event)
- End of project and achievements, December 2018

Project events have also been publicised through posters, Facebook and regular updates sent by email to project, local history group and institute members and other contacts.

The above publicity has stimulated attendance at events and participation in the project from a wide range of people including relatives of Farnhill WW1 Volunteers, people interested in local or WW1 history, experienced researchers and those who have not previously done any research but would like to be involved and experience or learn something new.

Examples of publicity can be found in Appendix A.

### **c) Create display boards and give talks using the material gathered**

Besides the initial Magic Lantern Show launch event on 3 March 2017 the project also put on the following talks and displays – all in Kildwick and Farnhill Institute unless otherwise stated:

#### **Introducing the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers Project, 24 March 2017**

This was an introductory talk explaining what the project was going to do, some of the things it had already found out and how people could get involved.

25 people attended the event. Three of them expressed an interest in taking part with two becoming involved in research on a regular basis and one joining in on an ad hoc basis. Some of the other attendees had already become involved with the project.

Of the 9 people who completed feedback forms, all stated they had enjoyed the talk a lot (as opposed to a little or not at all) and all had found it very interesting (as opposed to a little or not at all). Comments included

*“All information very interesting”*

*“It was very positive to hear how much can be discovered about the lives of these men and their families in the village”*

*“I would be interested to find out more”*

#### **WW1 Talk, Kildwick School 17 February 2017 and 20 November 2017**

A talk was given at Kildwick School to circa 25 Year 6 pupils (aged 10 and 11) on 17 February 2017 and repeated to a similar number of Year 6 pupils on 20 November 2017. The talk covered:

- What Farnhill & Kildwick looked like in 1914
- How the school responded to the war: special lessons, events, fund-raising (using the school log of the period)
- Stories of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers (many were former pupils of the school)

Feedback from the school was positive with the talk being requested again after the first time and then the project being asked to participate in a WW1 study day in February 2018 (details below).

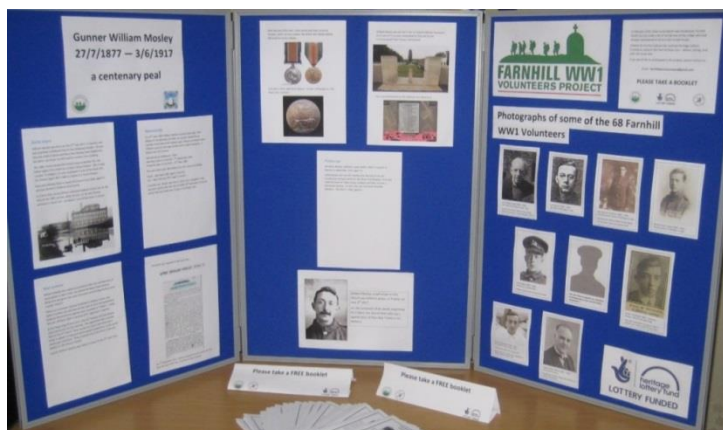
#### **Display at Farnhill Methodist Coffee Morning 11 March 2017**



The purpose of the display was to promote the project, appeal for information and invite participation in research and other project activities and events. Graham, the project co-ordinator, was on hand to answer any queries.

## Display in St Andrew's Church, Kildwick, May & June 2017

This featured information about Gunner William Mosley, a former bell ringer of the church alongside photographs of some of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers.



The display was initially shown to coincide with the ringing of a quarter peal at the Church on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2017 to commemorate William Mosley's death 100 years earlier when on active service in Belgium. The display was repeated at the Kildwick and Farnhill Summer Fair held on 20 June 2017.

## Participants' Event, 30<sup>th</sup> August 2017

This, the first of three such events, comprised a display of key findings and an update by the project co-ordinator and was aimed at bringing people involved in delivering the project together. Further details can be found in section 4 below.

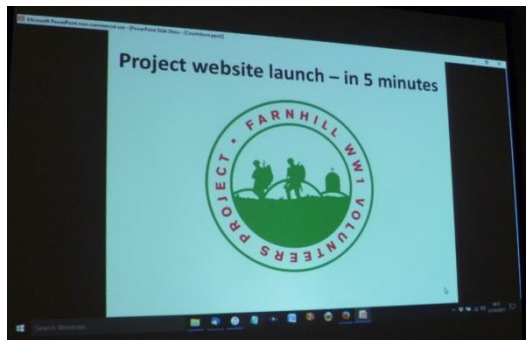


## Display and Website launch, 21 October 2017

Besides the public launch of the project's website the event featured displays of information and personal items belonging to some of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers, slideshows of Farnhill and Kildwick in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century and photographs of Farnhill WW1 Volunteers. A total of 31 people attended the event including a previously unknown relative of one of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers who brought along some of their relative's personal possessions to show the project.



Although there is no Wifi coverage in the institute building a mobile internet dongle was provided thereby enabling attendees with mobile phones or tablets to connect to the website during the event.

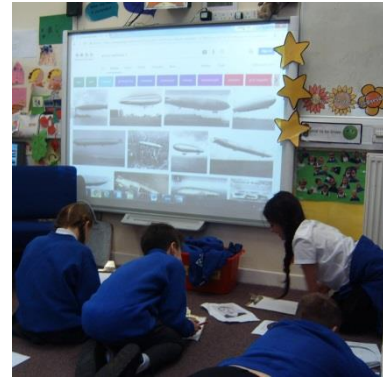


### **Kildwick School WW1 Study Day, 23 February 2018**

The project was invited to give a talk and participate in activities organised by the school during a WW1 study day. Two members of the project attended including the project co-ordinator, Graham, who gave a presentation during assembly explaining what it was like in the village and at school during the war and what happened to some of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers. The project members then joined the children and staff when they broke into mixed-age groups to undertake related activities which included:

- drawing portraits of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers and pictures of airships like those that had passed down the Aire Valley during the war.
- knitting and weaving, reminiscent of the war effort and war time occupations for those back home
- studying and drawing maps to illustrate how the village had changed with the younger pupils colouring in pictures of terraced housing like that built in Farnhill over 100 years ago
- thinking of food shortages and how most food was home-made the children tried their hand at traditional bread and biscuit making. Just as the pupils had sold Yorkshire Parkin (a traditional cake made with treacle and ginger) to raise funds during WW1, so the children sold their baking at the end of the day to raise funds for their book club.





The whole school took part in the study day with around 125 children attending.

### Demographic profile of the School

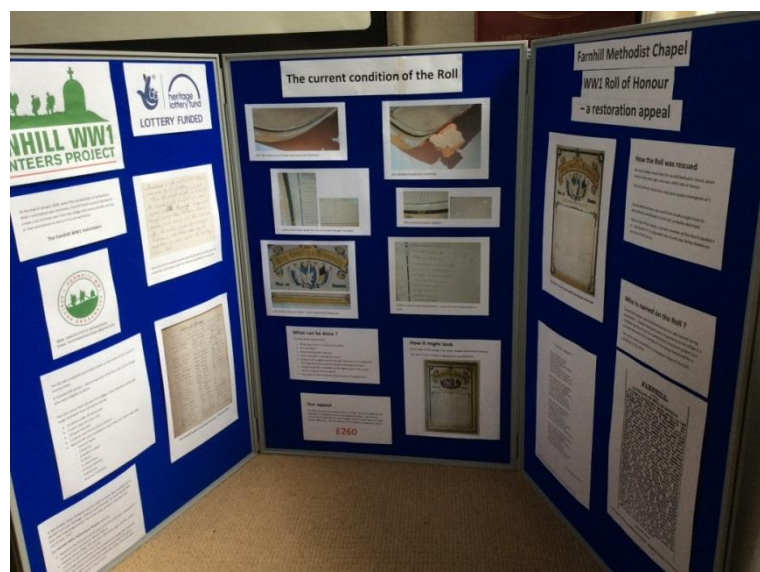
Age 5 or under	12%	Male 52% Female 48%
Age 6 to 10	80%	
Age 11 to 16	8%	
3% of non-British ethnic origin		0.8% with a disability

Further photographs taken at the Study Day can be found on the project's website.

An account written by one of the project members describing their experience of the day is included in Appendix B.

### Conservation Appeal for Methodist Roll of Honour, 8 April 2018

An appeal to raise funds towards conservation of a Methodist Roll of Honour dating from 1916 was launched with a display and announcement at the monthly coffee morning held by Farnhill Methodists in the Institute. A number of Farnhill WW1 Volunteers are listed on the roll whose whereabouts were unknown until it was handed over to the project by a local resident. The display included historic details of the roll that had been researched by the project along with photographs highlighting its poor condition and a description of the proposed conservation works.



## **Writers, Warriors and War Talk, 11 May 2018**

Given by Isobel Stirk, a local literary expert and a project member, this talk described how writers during that time were writing from their own experiences and trying to change people's attitude to war. Excerpts from poetry and writing of the time were used to illustrate what the WW1 Volunteers from Farnhill would have experienced at the front particularly those involved in the same battles as the writers.

Over 20 people attended the talk and the following are representative comments made by those who completed a feedback form on the evening:

*"I really enjoyed the talk. Very informative."*

*"Excellent bringing together of local history and military contributions via use of highly descriptive literature and poetry. Thank you."*

## **Display at Kildwick and Farnhill Summer Fair, 23 June 2018**

Details of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers from 100 years ago including where the men were serving, who was home on leave and those injured or killed in active service were displayed in St Andrew's Church, Kildwick alongside other stalls and exhibits at the summer fair. An example of information provided for one of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers can be seen below

**Harry Hargreaves'** diary for 1918 has been loaned to the project and so we can say exactly where he was on 23rd June 1918. He was with 5th battalion Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment at a rest camp near Thievres in the Somme Valley. The weather was very hot and some men had to be treated for heat-stroke.



The poppy waterfall, which was made by the local Knitwick and Yarnhill community craft and knitting group and displayed for the first time at the summer fair (pictured above) was later displayed in Kildwick and Farnhill Institute at the project's From Farnhill to the Front Exhibition on 10 November 2018.

## **A Year in the Life of a WW1 Tommy Talk, 6 July 2018**

Given by a guest speaker, Kath Dowthwaite of Earby the talk used the 1918 diary of an 18 year old soldier, Private William Leeming Marsden of the 12th Kings Liverpool Regiment, to illustrate what life was like in the trenches. Although he wasn't from this area, the local men who served would have had very similar experiences.

A total of 19 people attended the talk and the following are representative comments made by those who completed a feedback form on the evening:

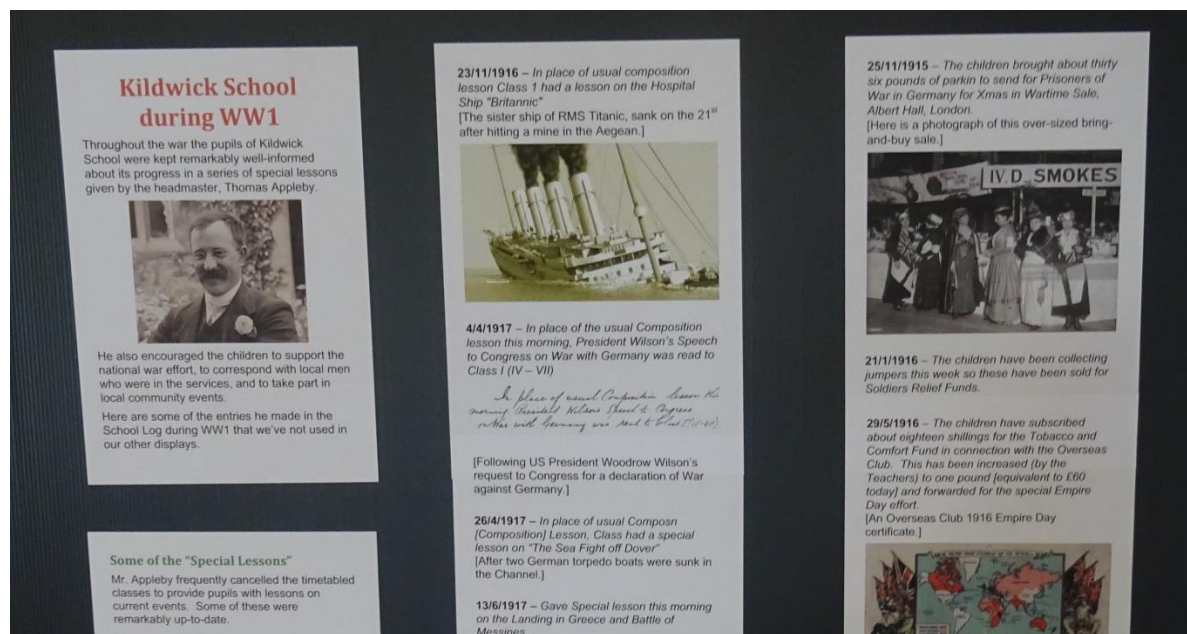
*"Very interesting. Gave a good view of what life in the trenches was REALLY like!"*

*"Thoroughly enjoyed hearing about one normal soldier's experiences. Also found out where the name of Tommy came from."*

*"Very well researched, interesting and moving talk."*

## Display at Kildwick Church Christmas Fair, 1 December 2018

Some of the display boards produced for the Farnhill to the Front Exhibition were re-used including information about Farnhill and Kildwick prior to and during the First World War



### d) Publish the biographies of Farnhill WW1 Volunteers and articles inspired by the research

During the project a wide range of articles has been written and published at regular intervals on the website along with photographs and other information about the project and the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers. Examples of articles include: Where the Volunteers Lived, Volunteers who died, Airships over Airedale and The Return of Football (after the war).

Biographies for the 68 Farnhill WW1 Volunteers were written up and published towards the end of the project following completion of the research. These contain information about each man and his family before, during and after the war, illustrated with photographs, newspaper cuttings, and other items. Image licenses have been obtained from the National Archive Office to enable publication as appropriate of birth, marriage and death certificates and war records.

An archive of the biographies and material gathered during the research has been compiled with digital copies for Skipton and Keighley libraries, Kildwick School, Keighley Digital Archive, Craven Museum, Skipton and Queen's University, Belfast which is collating information from WW1 projects funded by the National Lottery. A hard copy of the archive has also been deposited with the local studies section at Keighley library. A digital copy and a hard copy of the archive are available at Kildwick and Farnhill Institute and can be accessed by contacting the Farnhill and Kildwick local history group by emailing [history@farnhill.co.uk](mailto:history@farnhill.co.uk) or writing to the group care of Kildwick and Farnhill Institute.

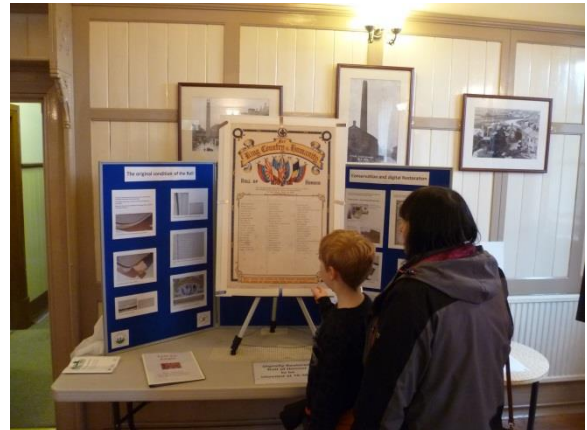
The publishing of material and biographies on the website and creation of the archive would not have been possible without the extensive amount of research and writing up of findings that went beforehand. A dedicated team of researchers has on a voluntary basis undertaken more than 2,000 hours of research and over 1,000 hours of writing and preparing material for publishing in order to achieve this.



**e) Provide an end of project event to coincide with Armistice Day 2018**

The project staged a commemorative exhibition entitled From Farnhill to the Front on 10 November 2018 in Kildwick and Farnhill Institute which over 200 people attended. Display material included:

- The background to the project including the discovery of the list of Farnhill WW1 Volunteers compiled by Farnhill Parish Council in 1916 which sparked the idea for the project
- Summary biographies for all 68 of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers
- A timeline showing what was happening locally and further afield during the war
- Information about the project and its activities
- Slideshows of the village in the early 20th century, photographs of the Farnhill Volunteers and images of WW1 postcards collected by Percy Walmsley, one of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers
- Poetry Corner featuring poetry relating to the experiences of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers
- Artwork done by children at Kildwick School's WW1 study day
- A 16m long poppy waterfall created by the Knitwick and Yarnhill craft and knitting group
- A digitally restored copy of the Roll of Honour created by Farnhill Primitive Methodist Church in 1916



Further photographs of the event can be seen at [www.farnhill.co.uk/volunteers](http://www.farnhill.co.uk/volunteers)

Due to the amount of information uncovered by the project and other material/items for display it was necessary to use the upper floor of the institute building which is not fully accessible. Printed copies of the information displayed upstairs were provided in booklet form on the ground floor so that anyone unable to use the stairs could still see what was on display.

The exhibition appears to have attracted a wider spread of age groups (including families with children) than previous public events put on by the project where the audience has had a predominantly older profile. This may be as a result of wider publicity and interest in the centenary of the Armistice as well as good publicity locally by the project.

From observation, including photographs taken on the day, it is estimated that the split between different age groups was as follows:

Under 11	4%	26-39	12%
11-18	4%	40-59	21%
19-25	4%	60 and over	55%

Attendees included relatives of some of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers from Scotland, Leicestershire and Cumbria with some travelling to Farnhill specifically for the event.

Attendees were asked to provide feedback and all of the 44 written comments received on the day were very complimentary of the exhibition and the work behind it. A number of emails expressing gratitude were also received afterwards. The representative sample of comments below shows that people appreciated the event and found it informative, moving, and of a high standard:

*“This is a fantastic exhibition and a real reminder of what war means to a community. It demonstrates an amazing amount of hard work to pull all the information together”*

*“A very well researched and well-presented display, well above average for similar projects I have been involved with recently.”*

*(S Flaving, Senior Regimental Archivist, Duke of Wellington’s Regiment museum & archive)*

*“Very interesting and informative exhibition of the local area and their lives. Moving and thought provoking. Thank you.*

*“Arrived from Leicestershire to see this fantastic exhibition after 2 years of tremendous research by all concerned, the results are stunning. We have been privileged to supply the artifacts and history of John Spencer Whitham”*



*Relatives of John Spencer Whitham*

*A wonderful trip down memory lane. A magnificent achievement. Liked it all, especially the biographies.”*

*“It is a marvellous tribute to all the volunteers from Farnhill who went to war 1914-18 and will be a lasting record for future generations”*

*“Because of all the research for this exhibition I have learnt more about my grandfather William Feather and my father Jack than I knew during their lifetime. Thank you to all concerned.”*

Some additional comments from the event can be found in Appendix B.

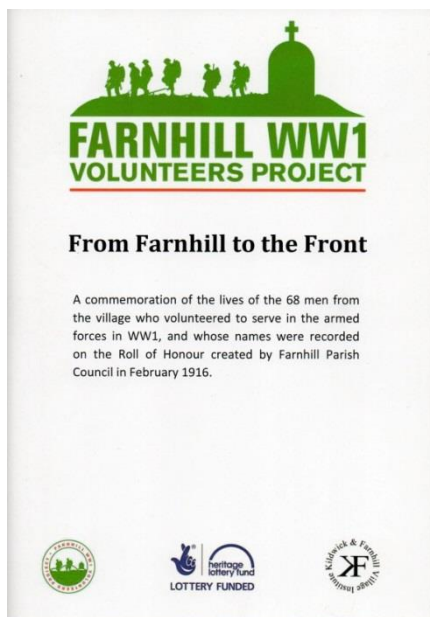
The level of gratitude expressed by relatives of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers was unexpected but very much appreciated. Another unexpected outcome of the event was that it brought together former villagers and relatives who had lost touch or not seen each other for many years, often not since school and in some cases not for over 45 years. The event provided the opportunity for them to reminisce and reconnect.

The success of the event can be attributed to a number of factors:

- the depth and breadth of research undertaken and range of material on display with project members on hand during the day to answer queries
- publicity for the event including local media, social media and posters
- wider national publicity and interest in the centenary of the end of WW1
- help from relatives of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers and other people who knew them
- support from other organisations the project has been involved with

**f) Commemorate the lives of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers through a Commemorative Booklet and Acts of Remembrance**

Towards the end of the project, the Heritage Lottery Fund agreed that grant funding could be used to produce a commemorative booklet and to purchase a wreath and poppy crosses to honour the lives of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers.



A booklet summarising key details about each of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers including their wartime service and portrait photographs where available was produced for distribution at the end of project “From Farnhill to the Front” exhibition on 10 November 2018.

Copies were distributed afterwards at local venues including Kildwick and Farnhill Institute and the local library at Cross Hills. In addition, copies were posted to relatives of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers and other supporters of the project who do not live locally and were unable to attend the event.

The project participated in the local wreath laying ceremony and Service of Remembrance on 11 November 2018 at Kildwick War Memorial. Poppy crosses were also placed on the known graves of Farnhill WW1 Volunteers at St Andrew's Church, Kildwick and neighbouring churches in Silsden, Steeton, Sutton in Craven and Cowling to honour both those who died in active service and those who survive the war.



**g) Conserve the Farnhill Methodist Roll of Honour**

During the project, a Roll of Honour created by Farnhill Primitive Methodist Church in July 1916, which was believed to be lost following the recent closure of the church building was handed to the project by a local resident. The roll of honour, which included a significant number of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers amongst the men named, was showing signs of age and in desperate need of conservation being badly warped, faded and damaged by insects.



The Heritage Lottery Fund agreed that grant funding could be used towards some of the costs of conserving and displaying the roll of honour with the project covering up to £260 of the cost. This was generated through a local fundraising appeal and the target quickly reached with the generous support of Methodists and supporters of the project both near and far.

*Project members leaving the Roll of Honour with accredited Conservator Richard Hawkes.*

The professionally conserved roll of honour has been deposited on long term loan with the North Yorkshire Archive Service at Northallerton with a digitally restored version on permanent display in Kildwick and Farnhill Institute.

## 4. Volunteer Participation

From the outset the project actively encouraged volunteer participation through its events and publicity. As a result, a total of 27 different people have played a part in delivering the project in a volunteer capacity ranging from occasional help such as setting out chairs at events to in-depth research on a regular basis.

A core group, comprising ten of these volunteers or project members as they are known, has undertaken the bulk of project delivery including:

- extensive research using a wide range of sources and including contact with relatives of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers (a full list of sources can be found in Appendix A)
- the preparation of material for displays and talks
- development of a website and the writing of a biography for each Farnhill WW1 Volunteer and other articles for publishing on the website
- creation of an archive in hard copy and digital formats
- conservation of the Farnhill Methodist Roll of Honour
- organising events and promoting the project
- project management and co-ordination
- project finances, monitoring and evaluation

Four of these ten served on a project committee which met monthly to review progress and plan project activity. This committee reported monthly to Kildwick and Farnhill Institute's Committee providing a verbal report and a financial statement each month.

The remaining 17 people have supported the project either on an occasional or one off basis such as helping out at events, putting up posters, searching for gravestones in the local church yard or visiting libraries to undertake an ad hoc information search.

The value of these contributions may be comparatively small in hours but the importance to the project, as well as the opportunity for the individual to be involved cannot be overlooked. For example one person in a neighbouring county who contacted the project in response to an appeal for information about a Farnhill WW1 Volunteer we knew little about then went to his local library to look up information for the project which we would not otherwise have obtained.



### Feedback from Project Members

During the project, feedback has been gathered from project members to help inform delivery and support evaluation of the project. This feedback has been obtained through a combination of group discussions, conversations and surveys including information gathered at three events specifically for people involved in delivering the project.

- Participants' Event, 30th August 2017 - This comprised a display of key findings and an update by the project co-ordinator followed by an open discussion about how the project was going. A total of 12 people attended.

The event was aimed at bringing project members together to review progress, celebrate the project's achievements to date and to discuss next steps particularly in relation to completing the research. Attendees completed a questionnaire providing details about their involvement (copy in appendix).



- Participants' Event, 31 August 2018 - This provided opportunities for project members to review project progress and included a discussion on what people had done/enjoyed/learned and what had been the challenges / successes for the project. Plans for the forthcoming "From Farnhill to the Front" exhibition were also discussed. A total of 9 people attended.
- Participants' Event, 5 December 2018 - An end of project get together was held to celebrate the success of the project. It provided an opportunity to reflect on the project and how people might continue their involvement with village history in the future. A total of 10 people attended.

### **Who Volunteered ?**

When the project commenced, it was anticipated that interest in the project would primarily be from existing members of the local history group, or people with village connections. Although many of the project members fell into these categories, a number of others, with either no connection to the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers or to the village got in touch as a result of project publicity. This included two experienced genealogists from outside the immediate area who independently contacted the project co-ordinator, prior to the project commencing, in response to the initial publicity about the award of the Heritage Lottery grant.

All members of the Kildwick and Farnhill Institute committee played some role in the project from ad hoc help at events to writing cheques for project expenditure. Two committee members with no previous involvement in local history group activities / research became very involved with the project throughout its duration.

The majority of project members who were involved on a regular basis were retired or semi-retired and all aged over 50 with men out-numbering women by 6 to 4. The profile of people who helped the project on a one off or ad hoc basis included more people of working age and was more evenly split between males and females.

## Why did people Volunteer ?

It is clear that people were attracted to and enjoyed taking part in the project for a number of different reasons including liking the aims of the project, the nature and type of activities on offer (in particular research) as well as being able to learn more about village history and relatives who were Farnhill WW1 Volunteers. The social aspect and meeting new people were also important to some of the project members.

Examples of responses provided when asked “what have you enjoyed the most so far and why ?” include:

*“Researching and learning !”*

*“Being part of a group and joining up all the research to achieve a broader picture”*

*“Meeting new people”*



*Above: Project Members at a “Sticky Evening” preparing display material*

## Training & Learning

Formal (non-accredited) training into researching military records on-line using Ancestry was arranged by the project. This was delivered by Skipton library and a total of 6 people attended. At the outset of the project it was envisaged that up to 15 people would receive this training but a number of people involved in research already had prior experience and did not require the training. For those who did attend, all reported that they had enjoyed the training a lot, that it was very informative and they were better equipped to do online research as a result of the training.



*Ancestry Training at Skipton Library*

Those not attending the training also had opportunities to try or learn new things with one person stating they had never looked at military records or war diaries before joining the project. A genealogist experienced in tracing ancestors pre 1911 found researching descendants post 1911 a different and interesting experience.

During the project one person undertook an on-line Strathclyde University Future Learn “researching my family tree” course of their own accord. At the end of the project, one person with no previous experience of undertaking family history research on line or at libraries reported that the skills he had learned have enabled him to successfully undertake his own family / military history research outside of the project.

Project members also had the opportunity for a guided visit to Bankfield Museum Halifax, the home of the Duke of Wellington’s Regimental Museum where they spent the morning in the company of one of the curators (pictured bottom right below). Many of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers served in this regiment.



All attendees found this a positive experience as illustrated by a selection of representative comments from feedback collected through a short survey and email correspondence after the event:

*“It was interesting to discover more about the history of the Regiment from how it got its name to the conflicts it was involved in.”*

*“Displays were interesting and informative being well laid out and well-lit so easy to see.”*

*“What a great curator. So knowledgeable and obviously passionate about history”*

*“I have visited this museum several times in the past, although until my involvement with our project I didn't really appreciate the local connection. The whole visit was very informative.”*

### **Maintaining Involvement**

Throughout the project, care was taken so people could be as involved as often or as little as they wished by offering a range of activities appropriate to their level of commitment and ability, providing support and instruction as required and taking account of their wishes including any special requirements so that people remained engaged. For example, reading a micro-fiche can be challenging for anyone with poor eyesight so tasks that involved looking through paper records were provided as an alternative.



Project members were encouraged to provide feedback on what they liked and what they wished to do. Besides providing the opportunity to say what else they would like to get involved in, the August 2017 survey also asked for views on how things could be done differently or improved but there were no specific suggestions or recommendations. The overall view was that volunteers were enjoying what they were doing, experiencing or learning something new and looking forward to further involvement.

### **Achievements**

As the project drew to a close there was unanimous agreement amongst project members that the breadth and depth of the material uncovered by them including information provided by relatives of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers as well as artifacts loaned to the project had far exceeded expectations. This enabled more detailed biographies of the men to be produced and more information to be made publically available through the project's website and archives than had been envisaged.

The opportunity to meet families of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers had been very enjoyable and their willingness to share photographs and information was very much appreciated. The depth of their gratitude to the project, for researching and recording the lives of their relatives and the part they played in the Great War, was an unexpected but very rewarding outcome.

The discovery and subsequent conservation of the Farnhill Methodist Roll of Honour, including the generous response to the appeal to help fund its restoration, was of great importance for both the project and the local community and was likewise unexpected.



*Project members celebrate achievements at the end of the project in front of a digitally restored copy of the Methodist Roll of Honour*

It was clear from feedback following public events, in particular the end of project exhibition "From Farnhill to the Front" that they had been well received with people finding them interesting and informative, appreciating the effort involved and recognising the importance of ensuring the lives of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers are not forgotten.

Likewise those involved in delivering the project had found it interesting, informative and enjoyable with people wanting to continue their involvement with the institute and / or local history group:

- All 10 people attending the final Participants' Event expressed an interest in attending future meetings of the local history group and / or participating in future local history group projects. This included seven people who had no prior involvement with the local history group.
- Suggestions were made for doing something linked to the 80th anniversary of the Second World War.
- There was also a commitment to continue researching the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers including use of the 1921 census when it becomes available to fill in missing gaps in information.
- A good link has been established with Kildwick School and the local history group will continue to give talks to the school on request
- Two of the project volunteers who joined the Institute Committee as a result of the project will continue to serve as committee members.

### **Challenges / Disappointments**

In spite of the project's best efforts, there was a small number of Farnhill WW1 Volunteers for whom it was not possible to discover much about them in particular their wartime service. This was usually because their military records could not be found and relatives could not be located or were unaware of details (A significant number of records were destroyed during the Blitz in the Second World War.) It had also not been possible to discover what happened to the Roll of Honour that was unveiled in Kildwick School in 1920 or find any photographs of it.

Some of those involved in project co-ordination and other non-research tasks felt these activities sometimes took up much more time than originally envisaged which limited the opportunity to participate in research and other activities as much as would have been liked.

Although project members were under no obligation to commit to regular volunteering, being free to do as much or as little whenever they wished, some of the working-age adults who joined the project during the first year were unable to sustain their involvement. Factors beyond the project's control such as work or family commitments were usually the reason. Although disappointing it was understandable given the circumstances involved.

Some of the project members would have liked to do more with all the information uncovered than either time or money allowed such as publish a book or have the final exhibition run for longer than it did. The project also came under pressure to research men who had served in the war but were not named on the list of Farnhill WW1 Volunteers. This included men from neighbouring Kildwick and men from Farnhill who appeared eligible to be classed as a volunteer but had been omitted.

It is clear that having a dedicated co-ordinator was a critical factor in the success of the project, especially in terms of organising the research, which was a major part of the project, as well as leading on other key aspects of delivery. At the same time, the over-reliance on this individual with the potential risk of the project being less successfully, or only partially completed should their involvement have ceased or been scaled back cannot be overlooked.

## 5. Volunteer Time

Throughout the project, details have been collated of the amount of time project volunteers have spent on different activities involved in delivering the project. At the start of the project it was envisaged that an average of 160 hours each month in total would be volunteered but the final figure was an average of 229 hours per month which far exceeded the project's expectations and reflects the enthusiasm and commitment of the people involved.

Over the two year project this amounts to a total of 5,496 hours which is 687 days based on an 8 hour day. It is more than 40% higher than the figure of 480 days the project had expected. Using daily rates for different skills provided by the Heritage Lottery Fund at the start of the project this equates to a value of £97,862 had the project paid for this time.

With the exception of fee-based, professional website development and heritage conservation work the project has been fully delivered on a volunteer basis with no paid employees. The dedication and hard work of everyone involved has enabled the project to deliver and achieve far more than it ever expected.

### Volunteer Time from 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2018

	Management & Co-ordination	Publicity & Promotion	Organising Events	Talks & Displays	Research	Writing for Website	Archiving	Evaluation	Project Support & Monitoring	Heritage Conservation	TOTAL
<b>Total Hours</b>	720	232	612	144	2,139	1,089	149	56	267	35	5,496
<b>Total Days</b>	90	28.9	76.5	18	274.2	136.1	18.6	7	33.4	4.4	687
<b>Total Value</b>	£13,500	£4,341	£11,476	£2,705	£41,127	£20,409	£930	£1,051	£1,668	£656	£97,862

### Volunteer Time forecast at the start of the project

<b>Total Days</b>	90	24	6.75	18	204	78	24	3	32.25	0	480
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Hours have been self-reported by project members with the exception of attendance at meetings and support at events for which records have been kept separately by the project.

The value attributed to time is in accordance with Heritage Lottery Fund guidance with a rate of £150 per day for all activities except project support and monitoring which is £50 per day.

## 6. Project Expenditure

The project has cost a total of £7,888.15 to deliver which includes match funding of £260 provided by the project towards the cost of conserving the Methodist Roll of Honour.

Conservation of the Methodist Roll of Honour, along with the purchase of a projector cradle, creation of a commemorative booklet and the laying of a wreath at the Armistice Ceremony and placing of poppy crosses on graves were additional items of expenditure above those originally budgeted for at the start of the project. They were agreed during the project with the Heritage Lottery Fund prior to expenditure being incurred when it became clear that the project would not require all of the grant set aside for existing activity, and new needs relevant to the project had emerged.

### Expenditure Summary for 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2018

Type of Expenditure	Description	Amount £
Digital Outputs	Building a website and purchasing image licences from the National Record Office	1,434.00
Equipment & Materials	Display boards and cases, digital projector, screen, and cradle, computer hard disk for storage	924.47
Travel and Training for Volunteers	Ancestry training and cost of visiting libraries, archives, relatives of Farnhill WW1 Volunteers etc	507.43
Learning materials	Creating an archive and copies in digital and hard print formats	782.87
Learning Materials	Displays and Exhibition	81.24
Research	Ancestry subscriptions & other on line data sources, BMD certificates, photocopying/scanning/printing documents	1,159.28
Miscellany	Postage, printing, stationery, consumables e.g. CDs	463.28
Publicity and Promotion	Launch Event (Magic Lantern Show) and introductory booklet (300 copies)	300.80
Publicity and Promotion	Posters and leaflets for events	42.78
Heritage Conservation	Conservation and archiving of Methodist Roll of Honour and digital copy for display in Kildwick and Farnhill Institute	1,840.00
Other	Commemorative Booklet (300 copies), wreath and poppy crosses	352.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>7,888.15</b>

Further details including an itemised breakdown of expenditure have been provided to the Heritage Lottery Fund as part of the end of project reporting requirements.

## 7. Cash and Non cash Contributions

<b>Cash Contribution from project</b>	<b>Value</b>
Donations towards conservation of Methodist Roll of Honour	£260

<b>Non-cash contributions</b>	<b>Gifted By</b>	<b>Value</b>
Filing cabinet	G Taylor	£40
Publication : Craven's Part in the Great War	M Moran	£13
Logo Development - waiving of professional Fees	M Wooley	£75
687 Days of Volunteer Time	27 Project Volunteers	£97,862
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£97,990</b>

## Appendix A

### Examples of Publicity


#### Craven and the First World War Newsletter Winter 16/17

**Farnhill WW1 Volunteers Project given National Lottery Funding**

Kildwick and Farnhill Village Institute has been awarded £8400 by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), to fund a project to research the lives of the 68 men from Farnhill who volunteered to serve their country in WW1.

The Farnhill WW1 Volunteers Project group are already planning a website, displays, talks and an exhibition to coincide with the 2018 centenary of Armistice Day.

Anyone who would like to get involved should email [farnhillww1volunteers@gmail.com](mailto:farnhillww1volunteers@gmail.com). The group would really like to hear from people whose relatives came from Farnhill and fought in WW1 or lived in the village at that time.



Craven Herald 9 March 2017

THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2017 cravenherald.co.uk 25

# Make sure you are registered for ballot

CRAVEN people are being urged to ensure they are eligible to vote.

The plea has been issued by North Yorkshire County Council ahead of elections being held this spring.

Voters will go to the polls on May 4 to elect councillors in all 72 seats across the county. Anyone not on the electoral roll has until April 13 to register.

"We urge all eligible residents to ensure they are registered to vote and to use their vote in the elections," said county council chief executive, Richard Flinton.

"The authority is responsible for many everyday services including social services for adults and children, roads and public health.

"Your vote gives you a say in the shape of the authority at a time of continuing change."

People registered but who are unable to attend a polling station on the day have until 5pm on April 18 to apply for a postal vote or April 25 for a proxy vote.

Potential candidates must submit nominations by 4pm on April 4.

For more details, visit [northyorks.gov.uk/elections](http://northyorks.gov.uk/elections).

# Magic Lantern show launches First World War heritage project

By Herald Reporter  
[newsdesk@cravenherald.co.uk](mailto:newsdesk@cravenherald.co.uk)

HISTORIC entertainment launched a First World War heritage project in Farnhill.

A packed audience enjoyed a Magic Lantern Show last Friday to launch the project to research the lives of village men who volunteered to serve in the war.

Expert lanternist Andrew Gill came out of retirement for the evening, and showed slides dating back to Victorian times and the First World War.

The Farnhill World War 1 Volunteers Project is funded through a £8,400 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, through its First World War: Then And Now programme.

The Farnhill project is researching the lives of the 68 men from the village who had already volunteered to serve in the forces before conscription was introduced in 1916, and will also explore the social context in which they lived.

The Magic Lantern show was held at Kildwick and Farnhill Institute.

Institute spokesman Chris Brigham said: "We know many of the volunteers at

the stories that have already been uncovered about the First World War volunteers and the village will be revealed.

On the day that First World War conscription was introduced, early in 1916, Farnhill Parish Council created a Roll of Honour naming men from the village who were already serving with the armed forces.

The project will research the lives of these 68 men: before, during, and after the war and also explore what life in Farnhill was like 100 years ago, and the social context in which the First World War volunteers lived.

This information will be made widely available through talks, events, and a website featuring short biographies of the men.

Project organisers want to hear from anyone who is related to, or remembers, any of the volunteers and their families, or has photographs or other information about them.

Anyone wishing to get involved or provide information should visit [farnhill.co.uk](http://farnhill.co.uk) or email [farnhillww1volunteers@gmail.com](mailto:farnhillww1volunteers@gmail.com).



Lanternist Andrew Gill and the audience of a magic lantern show at Kildwick and Farnhill Institute to launch the Farnhill World War 1 Volunteers Project

tended shows like this in the Institute when they were on leave and it was also one of the ways people at home heard about news from the front."

Martin Moran, from the lo-


History Group, said: "Being in the same place and watching the same type of show as the volunteers and their families did 100 years ago really made it seem like we had stepped back in time."

There will be an introductory talk about the Volunteers Project on March 24 at 7pm in Kildwick and Farnhill Institute, for anyone interested in taking part. Entry is free, and some of



## Poster March 2017

**Introducing the  
Farnhill WW1 Volunteers Project**

Come and find out about the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers Project – what we're going to do, and how you can get involved. See what Farnhill was like during WW1 and hear some of the things about the Volunteers that we've already found out.



7pm Friday March 24<sup>th</sup> 2017  
Kildwick & Farnhill Institute

 **Free Admission** 

LOTTERY FUNDED

## Poster November 2018



**FARNHILL WW1  
VOLUNTEERS PROJECT**

**From Farnhill to the Front  
Exhibition**

- Find out about the 68 local men who were volunteers in World War 1
- See what life was like in Farnhill and Kildwick during the war

*Knitwick & Yarnhill Poppy Waterfall  
Slideshows – Displays – Photographs – Artefacts – Poetry –  
Children's artwork. Refreshments available*

**SATURDAY 10 NOVEMBER, 10am - 4pm  
KILDWICK & FARNHILL INSTITUTE  
Admission FREE**

*Main exhibition in downstairs hall.  
Poppy Waterfall and some display material on first floor - only accessible by stairs.*

[www.farnhill.co.uk/volunteers](http://www.farnhill.co.uk/volunteers)

## The Bridge (Magazine of St Andrew's Church, Kildwick) June 2017 Edition

On 3rd June, a band will gather to attempt a "Quarter Peal" to commemorate the death, exactly 100 years ago, of Gunner William Mosley. He lived in Starkey Lane and died in Belgium, aged 40. There is a display board about William in church that was prepared by the Farnhill WW1 group and it makes fascinating reading.

# Volunteer project searches for school memorial to pupils who fell in conflict

**DAMART**  
Famous  
**BRADLEY MILL CLEARANCE**

**MASSIVE BANK HOLIDAY MADNESS**

Saturday, Sunday & Bank Holiday Monday  
26th, 27th and 28th August  
9.00 - 4.00pm Saturday  
10.00 - 4.00pm Sun. & BH Monday

**Buy 1 Get 1 Free**  
Trousers / Shirts / Dresses and Tops

**ALL Footwear** (individually) £10  
**2 for £10**

**SAVE THE DATE**  
NEXT SALES  
12th & 13th SEPTEMBER  
18th & 19th OCTOBER  
25th & 26th NOVEMBER

BRADLEY MILL WAREHOUSE,  
BRADLEY STREET,  
OFF PARK ROAD BD97 7AD  
BINGLEY

By Herald Reporter

A COMMUNITY initiative which is focusing on villagers who fought in the First World War is appealing for information about a memorial once displayed in the local school.

The wooden plaque, listing former pupils killed in the Great War, was unveiled at Kildwick School in 1920.

But its present-day whereabouts are unknown and a bid has been launched to track it down.

Behind the move is the lottery-funded Farnhill WW1 Volunteers Project, which is researching the lives of those from the community who volunteered to serve in the Great War prior to the introduction of conscription.

The project is examining what the 68 men did before, during and - in the case of those who survived - after the conflict.

Short biographies of each will be prepared and the information will be made widely available.

What life in the village was like a century ago and the social context in which



the volunteers lived is also being examined.

Project co-ordinator Graham Taylor is asking anyone who can shed light on the 'lost' memorial to come forward.

"We know there was a World War One memorial made for the school as the headmaster of the time - Thomas Appleby - wrote about it in the school log," he said.

"He described it in some detail and its design was also reported in the local newspapers of the time.

"It was made of carved oak, with brass panels listing the names of the 15 former pupils who were killed in the war - including some of the Farnhill Volunteers. In the centre was a coloured image of St George kneeling.

"The memorial was un-

veiled in the school at the end of January 1920, the ceremony being attended by many former pupils and local dignitaries.

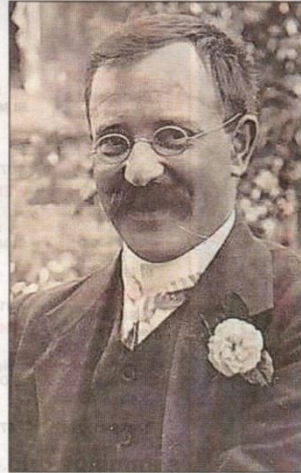
"What we don't know is where in the school the memorial was displayed or when it was removed, and we are appealing for anyone who went to Kildwick School and can remember seeing it - or knows what happened to it - to get in touch.

"School staff recently searched the premises, but without success, and conversations with local people who attended the school have so far failed to find anyone who remembers it.

"We'd also like to hear from anybody with old photographs of the interior of the school, showing where the memorial was displayed."

The project can be contacted by emailing farnhillww1volunteers@gmail.com or by writing to Farnhill WW1 Volunteers Project, c/o Kildwick & Farnhill Institute, Main Street, Farnhill, Keighley BD20 9B.

For further details about the project, visit farnhill.co.uk.



Kildwick headmaster Thomas Appleby, who entered details of the memorial in the school log

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2017

# Display to showcase stories of soldiers

By Herald Reporter

news@cravenherald.co.uk

THE STORIES of men from Farnhill who fought during the First World War will be showcased in an exhibition this weekend.

The Farnhill WW1 Volunteers project will on Saturday host a public display in the village featuring information about local men who served.

The project will also launch its new website during the event at Kildwick and Farnhill Institute.

Also on view will be items belonging to some of the men, and there will be slideshows including scenes of Kildwick and Farnhill from the early part of the 20th century.

Project organiser Graham Taylor said the amount of information gathered so far about the lives of the men who served and village life at the time had been incredible.

He said: "Our research has discovered some interesting stories and we've gathered a variety of photographs, documents and items belonging to the men too.

"We'll be displaying some of these at the event and thanks to Heritage Lottery funding our



Members of the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers Project putting the finishing touches to their display and new website

new website will help us to make even more information publicly available in the future."

The display will be open between 2pm and 4pm and the website will be launched at 2.30pm. Admission is free and refreshments will be available.

Kildwick and Farnhill Village Institute received a grant of £8,400 from the Heritage Lottery Fund, through its First World War: Then and Now programme, to research the lives of the 68 men from Farnhill who volunteered to serve their country.

On the day conscription was introduced early in 1916, Farnhill Parish Council created a Roll of Honour naming the men from the village who were already serving with the armed

forces.

The project is researching the lives of these 68 men, before, during, and after the war, and also exploring what life in Farnhill was like 100 years ago, and the social context in which the World War One volunteers volunteered lived.

Project volunteers are making the information as widely available and accessible as possible, through talks, events and the website. Organisers would like to hear from anyone who would like to get involved or is related to, or remembers, any of the volunteers and their families. Photographs are particularly welcome. Visit [www.farnhill.co.uk](http://www.farnhill.co.uk) or email: [farnhillww1volunteers@gmail.com](mailto:farnhillww1volunteers@gmail.com) for further information.





## World War 1 History Project launches website

Thanks to Lottery funding, the Farnhill WW1 Volunteers Project now has a website.

Committee member, Helen Moran, said "Since early January a group of us have been researching the lives of men from Farnhill who volunteered to serve in WW1. We've gathered lots of information about them including some incredible stories of survival and bravery".

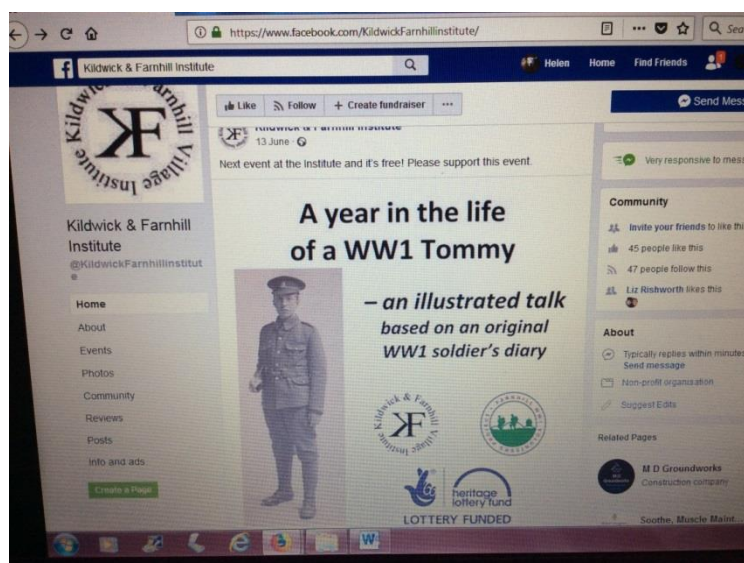
The website, designed by Peter Ford of FaxSol, lists all 68 volunteers who were named on a roll of honour created by Farnhill Parish Council in 1916 before conscription was introduced. It also contains news items, articles and photo galleries which will be updated on a regular basis throughout the project. Biographies of the 68 men will be published later next year once the research into the men's lives has been completed.

Discover more at [www.farnhill.co.uk/volunteers](http://www.farnhill.co.uk/volunteers)

## Kildwick School Facebook Page February 2018



## Kildwick & Farnhill Institute Facebook Page, June 2018



## Kildwick Church Website, November 2018

## Keighley News Website, December 2018 showing search results for project publicity

# Big WWI village project brought to a conclusion



Members of the Farnhill WWI Project; below, members examine the restored copy of the Methodist roll of honour

By Herald Reporter

news@cravenherald.co.uk

VILLAGERS have celebrated the completion of a hugely-successful research project into the lives of men from the community who served in the First World War.

Members of the Farnhill WWI Volunteers Project spent two years studying details of the 68 men from the village who volunteered to serve their country in the conflict.

The initiative, which was supported with a £8,400 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, was sparked when a member of the local history group discovered a roll of honour in an old parish council minutes book.

The document – dating from February, 1916, just before the introduction of conscription – listed those villagers already serving with the forces or who had volunteered to join-up.

Project organisers then set about discovering what they could about the men's lives before, during and after the war and how the village was



affected by the conflict.

Graham Taylor, the project co-ordinator, said the scheme was a massive success and he stressed the importance of the lottery funding.

"It gave us the money we needed to carry out the research and bring the information together in one place," he added. "Thanks to the generosity of National Lottery players, our dedicated team has been able to produce a full set of detailed biographies and a range of

articles about the village during the war and publish these on a dedicated website along with photographs, slide shows and family trees."

The research included speaking to those volunteers' family members who could be traced.

"It was immensely gratifying to find people who were willing to tell us about their family members and share information we could not have found elsewhere," said Mr Taylor.

"Although some families live locally, our search extended across the full length of the country and abroad. We were fortunate enough to be able to exchange e-mails with the daughter of one of the WWI volunteers who lives in Canada."

One unexpected item that came to light during the venture was a First World War roll of honour which had been created by Farnhill Primitive Methodist Church.

The roll, long-feared lost or destroyed, was unearthed and given to the project as the chapel – which closed in 2015 – was about to be redeveloped. Mr Taylor added: "The roll was in need of professional attention and we arranged for its conservation and digital restoration."

"The conserved original is now on permanent loan to the North Yorkshire county archive, in Northallerton, and a restored copy – showing how the roll would have looked at the end of the war – is on display at Kildwick and Farnhill Village Institute.

Findings of the project can be viewed at farnhill.co.uk.

You can comment on this story on our website at [cravenherald.co.uk](http://cravenherald.co.uk)

Appendix B  
Examples of Feedback from Events

Farnhill to the Front Exhibition 10 November 2018  
A selection from the 40+ comments received



**From Farnhill to the Front  
Exhibition**



**Please tell us what you think about the exhibition.  
What did you like best? Was there anything you didn't like?**

**COMMENTS PLEASE**

Tremendous work. It's great to see the community coming together to produce such an informative exhibition. It's also good to know that the military, naval and other contributions of local people <sup>are</sup> remembered.

So much information we never knew about our family. The hard work is really amazing and the history of the war. Thank you you have answered a lot of questions we never knew.

Excellent exhibit. Comprehensive accounts a lot of hard work has gone in to putting it together.

Incredibly interesting and very detailed in every respect. The exhibition is simply excellent! So much to read and look at --- and think about. Thank you, and well done!

A very professional exhibition of which the village should be very proud. I am so glad that much of it will be recorded for posterity.



**Thank you for your comments**





## From Farnhill to the Front Exhibition



Please tell us what you think about the exhibition.  
What did you like best? Was there anything you didn't like?

### COMMENTS PLEASE

<p>What a fantastic display. The hours of work required to provide all the information must have amounted to a great many.</p>
<p>The details of the 68 made for great reading.</p>
<p>Well done all those involved.</p>
<p>An excellent display. Congratulations to the dedicated team who have obviously "put in the hours" to research and present in such a clear and interesting way.</p>
<p>A very excellent display - it must have taken many hours of work but well appreciated.</p>
<p>An exceptionally well researched and well presented display, well above average for similar projects I have seen wolved with recently.</p> <p>S Flavin, Senior Regimental Archivist, Duke of Wellington's Regiment MUSEUM &amp; ARCHIVE</p>



Thank you for your comments



## Farnhill World War 1 Volunteers Project – Magic Lantern Show

### PLEASE TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

We would welcome your views on today's event. This will help with the planning of future events and enable us to tell the Heritage Lottery Fund what people thought about it.

PLEASE TICK THE APPROPRIATE BOX

Have you been to a Magic Lantern Show before ? Yes  No

Did you enjoy the event ? Yes - a lot  Yes - a little  No - not really

Has the event given you a better understanding of what life was like 100 years ago ?  
Yes - a lot  Yes - a little  No - not really

What did you like most or dislike about the event ?

VERY INFORMATIVE AND THE HIGH QUALITY IMAGES  
GIVE A GREAT INSIGHT INTO THE WAR

How did it make you think or feel about life 100 years ago during the First World War ?

MADE YOU REALISE HOW HORRIBLE THE CONDITIONS  
WERE FOR THE SOLDIERS

Have you been to an event at Kildwick and Farnhill Institute before ?

Yes - in the past 2 years  Yes - more than 2 years ago  No

Thank you for completing the survey. All data will be kept anonymous.

## Farnhill World War 1 Volunteers Project – Magic Lantern Show

### PLEASE TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

We would welcome your views on today's event. This will help with the planning of future events and enable us to tell the Heritage Lottery Fund what people thought about it.

PLEASE TICK THE APPROPRIATE BOX

Have you been to a Magic Lantern Show before ? Yes  No

Did you enjoy the event ? Yes - a lot  Yes - a little  No - not really

Has the event given you a better understanding of what life was like 100 years ago ?  
Yes - a lot  Yes - a little  No - not really

What did you like most or dislike about the event ?

The seeing the remarkable images from the war slides  
- I've never seen such pin-sharp images from WW1

How did it make you think or feel about life 100 years ago during the First World War ?

Desperate Shocking Tragic

Have you been to an event at Kildwick and Farnhill Institute before ?

Yes - in the past 2 years  Yes - more than 2 years ago  No

Thank you for completing the survey. All data will be kept anonymous.



Farnhill World War 1 Volunteers Project

# Writers, Warriors and War

A talk by Isobel Stirk 11 May 2018

## COMMENTS PLEASE

An Excellent Talk - It took you from Farnhill to Flanders.

Excellent bringing together of local history of military contributions via use of highly descriptive literature + poetry. Thank you!

I really enjoyed the talk. Very informative.

An informative talk peppered with snippets from poems and writings which served to illustrate the talk.

Another great talk by Isobel.  
GT



Farnhill World War 1 Volunteers Project

# A Year in the Life of a Tommy

Talk by Kath Dowthwaite - 6 July 2018

## COMMENTS PLEASE

Very well-researched, interesting and moving talk.

Very interested talk.

Interesting presentation - lots of research must have been involved.

V. informative - V. good speaker. Well researched. Excellent.



**Farnhill WW1 Volunteers Project**  
**Ancestry Training – Skipton Library 4 July 2017**

Thank you for attending. We would welcome your feedback.



Have you ever used Ancestry before ? Yes – a lot  Yes - a little  Never

Did you enjoy the training ? Yes - a lot  Yes - a little  No - not really

Was it informative ? Yes – very  Yes - slightly  No - not really

Do you feel better able to do online research now you have done the training ?  
 Yes – very  Yes slightly  No - not really

What did you like the best ?  
*Very hands on working through several examples*

Any other comments ?



**Farnhill WW1 Volunteers Project**  
**Participants Get Together - 31 August 2017**

Thank you for attending

We would welcome your feedback about your involvement in the project to date



Which of the following activities have you been involved in ? *Please tick all that apply*

- Online research
- Research at libraries
- Transcribing / checking documents
- Contacting / meeting relatives
- Helping out at events
- Attending meetings or events
- Posters and publicity
- Preparing articles / material for website
- Other *Please state* .....

What was your main reason for wanting to get involved with the project ?  
*Enjoy research*

What have you enjoyed the most so far and why ?  
*Being part of a group and joining up all the research to achieve a broader picture*

Is there anything you haven't enjoyed or has been more challenging or different to what you expected ? *Please describe*  
*Enjoyed all of it*



## **Kildwick WW1 Study Day 23 February 2018**

*As a member of the project team I was involved in a range of activities but for me, helping to organise the events and seeing the impact they have on young and old alike has been the highlight of the project.*



*Attending the WW1 History Day at the local primary school was especially memorable. After a talk by Graham, about what the village and school was like during the war, we joined in various activities including baking and knitting just like the children had done 100 years ago for the war effort. This gave us chance to talk about how things were different then. "No pizza, takeaways or microwaves" were just some of the things the children mentioned. From their comments and questions it was clear they were thinking about and understanding how times had changed.*

*Helping to bring history to life and share it with others that day gave me a real sense of satisfaction. I have fond memories of attending this school when I was young and this gave me the chance to give something back.*

*Helen Moran*

## **Appendix C**

### **Research Sources Used**

Birth, Marriage and Death certificates

Publications:

Local Newspapers

Craven's Part in the Great War

Local Almanacs & Directories

St. Andrew's Church Magazine

Monumental Inscriptions

Craven Indexes

Aire-Worth Ancestors

Registers / records of:

Kildwick Church

Farnhill Methodist Church

Farnhill Parish Council

Kildwick Parish Meeting

Kildwick School Log Book

Rolls of Honour:

Farnhill Parish Council

Kildwick School

Cononley School

Bairstow's Mill

Farnhill Methodist Church

Keighley's Gallant Sons

War Memorial Inscriptions:

Kildwick & Cononley

Keighley & District Digital Archive

Local History Group Village Archive

Keighley Local Studies Resources

## Material from Relatives:

- Photographs
- Letters and other documents
- Diaries, Bibles
- Medals and other personal items
- Recollections/anecdotes

## Online Resources

- Craven's Part in the Great War website
- Commonwealth War Graves website
- UK .GOV Probate Search

### National Archives:

- Regimental War diaries
- Soldiers' wills

FreeBMD: birth/marriage/death records

### Find-my-Past:

- 1939 register
- RAF service records

### Ancestry:

- Census returns
- W. Yorkshire electoral registers
- BMD records
- WW1 Medal cards/rolls
- WW1 Silver War Badge cards/rolls
- WW1 Soldiers' effects register
- WW1 Service records
- WW1 Pension records
- Emigration records

### Forces War Records:

- including field hospital admissions
- Lives of the first world war

## Appendix D Acknowledgements

The Farnhill WW1 Volunteers Project would like to thank the Heritage Lottery Fund for their grant through the First World War: Then and Now programme



### Thanks also to local organisations that have supported us...

- Kildwick and Farnhill Institute Committee - for backing the project
- Farnhill and Kildwick Local History Group - for practical help
- Farnhill Parish Council - for hosting our website and use of old minute books
- Farnhill Methodists and generous others - for donations towards the restoration of the Methodist Roll of Honour
- Kildwick School - for access to old school log books and organising a WW1 study day to which the project was invited
- St Andrew's Church, Kildwick - for publicising our talks and events in the Church magazine
- Kildwick Parish Meeting - for use of old records
- Knitwick and Yarnhill Craft Group for the Poppy Waterfall Display

### ...and the many experts & professionals who have helped us along the way

- Hollie Cook, Roseanne Hicks and staff at the Heritage Lottery Fund
- Martyn Wooley - logo designer
- Peter Ford, FaxSol - website designer
- Andrew Gill - magic lanternist
- Isobel Stirk - Writers, Warriors and War talk
- Kath Douthwaite & Harold Hoggarth - Life of a Tommy talk
- Richard Hawkes, Artworks Conservation - Methodist Roll of Honour
- John Laycock, Keighley Digital Archive
- Gina Burnsall & the Local Studies staff at Keighley Library
- John Frankland, staff and volunteers at Skipton Library
- John Spencer, Scott Flaving and staff of the Duke of Wellington's Regimental Museum, Halifax
- Craven's Part in the Great War project and website
- Rob Freeman, Craven and the First World War project
- Rachel Terry, Craven Museum

- Staff of the North Yorkshire Archive Service, Northallerton and the West Yorkshire Archive service, Bradford & Wakefield
- Chrys Mellor, North Yorkshire Library Service
- The Craven Herald and The Keighley News for permission to use WW1 newspaper reports and publicising the project

### **Especial thanks to...**

The families of the 68 men named on the Farnhill Parish Council Roll of Honour and people who knew them, who were willing to share their recollections, photographs and documents with us.

All members of the project who have rolled up their sleeves and willingly contributed almost 5,500 hours of time undertaking research, the writing up of material and a multitude of other tasks.

Everyone who has attended a project talk or event.

Graham from the local history group who came across Farnhill Parish Council's Roll of Honour in an old minute book and developed the project idea with support from Mandy, Karen and Helen. This project owes its success to his dedication, enthusiasm and hard work. Thank you Graham

