



FORDHAM HISTORY SOCIETY BULLETIN



THE LATEST EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



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INTRODUCTION

by WENDY SHEPHERD

Ongoing research for the Fordham WW2 Project has discovered an additional native of Fordham who was killed in WW2. His name was George William Smith and was the son of George and Evelyn Smith who lived at Church End Fordham in 1911. More information about George and his family in next month's issue.

COVID-19 UPDATE

Hall reopening:- The Village Hall Management Committee met on Tuesday 22nd September and decided that the hall will not be re-opening on 1st October. They will review the current situation at their next meeting on Thursday 29th October.

History Society Meeting 20th October at 7.30p.m **CANCELLED**

Before I was due to contact Kate Cole to explain she would be unable to come along for her talk on a 'Medieval Christmas in Essex' ; she emailed me to say she was unable to attend due to a family bereavement. I will try and rebook her for next year.



Now in its 99th year the RBL continues to give lifelong support to serving and ex-serving personnel and their families. The Legion helps members of the Royal Navy, British Army, Royal Air Force, veterans and their families. I have the new 2020 poppy pin badges and V.E.75 pin badges in stock if you wish to give a donation.



November 18th – A.G.M. .

This always includes a social element; so please bring along a plate of nibbles.

There will be no charge for this event.

I will give a short presentation of the work of the school history club who were unable to present their work in our cancelled June meeting.

Michael Hamilton-Macy will give an update on the Fordham Dig.

The 2021 programme will also be announced.

If this event does not take place, the annual accounts and report will be emailed out to members.



Please contact me if you have any Fordham WW2 information.

Roman Dig Update

Michael Hamilton-Macy

Although recent weather has slowed us down a little we continue to dig on our Roman site. However, to comply with recent government regulations, we are now back down to six diggers per day, three times a week, again.

We still hope to complete phase two in the early spring but at present there is still plenty of work to do and many un-answered questions. I suspect some will never be answered.

We have now found remains of the foundations for the west wall and a little at the point where it turns east so we are getting closer to the location of the furnace for the underfloor heating of that area.

Colchester Archaeological Group (CAG) have been having bi-weekly, informal meetings via Zoom to chat about things in general, including recent developments in other parts of Fordham. Covid 19 permitting, there will be a January meeting for FLHS when I will be able to bring you right up to date.

CAG will be having it's AGM, via Zoom, on Monday evening (5th Oct), during which committee members will be elected or re-elected, including myself who will be taking the position of chairman.



Despite the new repairs, the war memorial clock continued to cause a few problems for the parish council. So it was decided to replace the internal workings with a battery operated function which will now only have to be replaced once a year and will not have to be wound up weekly. The internal workings have been put into storage. All we now have to do is cross our fingers.

Remembering our casualties of war October

Stanley Davey - 11th Bn. Essex Regiment who died on 15 October 1916 age 19

Arthur William Balls - "B" Coy. 2nd Bn., Essex Regiment who died on 23 October 1916 age 19

John Thomas Rayner - 2nd Bn., Essex Regiment who died on 23 October 1916 age 24

Hercules Charles Pettitt - 9th Bn., Essex Regiment who died on 08 October 1917 age 20

Albert Rayner - 2nd Bn. Royal Fusiliers who died on 09 October 1917 age 22

Harry George Webber - 1st Bn., The Buffs (East Kent Regiment) who died on 08 October 1918 age 23

Fred Arnold - 1017th Mechanical Transport Coy. Army Service Corps who died on 18 October 1918 age 31

Frederick Benjamin Francis - 12th Bn., Royal Scots who died on 20 October 1918 age 21

Charles Sidney Taylor - 2nd Bn. Suffolk Regiment who died on 23 October 1918 age 26

Robert Cawdron - 17th Bn. Royal Fusiliers who died on 28 October 1918 age 29