Rededication of the Memorial Gates 3rd May 2014

Rededication of the Memorial Gates, Nottingham Road, Keyworth, Nottinghamshire
Rector of St Mary Magdalene, Revd Jim Wellington officiated.

The names of those who fell in both conflicts are now correctly recorded here.

Veterans from Keyworth’s twin town, Feignies, northern France were invited for a commemorative weekend by Keyworth & District Royal British Legion. A visit to the National Memorial Arboretum, Alrewas was followed by a dinner at the Nottinghamshire Country Club. Lord Lieutenant of the County, Sir John Peace attended the Dedication service of the rebuilt Memorial Gates at Nottingham Road, Keyworth, Nottinghamshire

“COMMEMORATING CONFLICT” Marking the Centenary WWI 2014 – 2018
Book launch display at the Village Hall, where lunch was served after the Dedication Service.
“Keyworth & WWI - Those who died and those who returned” researched, written by Howard Fisher, produced as a Keyworth & District Local History Society publication.

“COMMEMORATING CONFLICT” Marking the Centenary WWI 2014 – 2018
Commemorative Peal   St Mary & All Saints, Bingham

“We normally ring a “quarter peal” of 1260 changes in the month 100 years on from the death of those who fell in the war. This takes about 45 minutes, but success is not guaranteed as a significant mistake by any of the ringers can cause the ringing to come to a premature end. In the case of such a failure we would try again the following week. ....we are not only keeping the promise to remember them - these quarter peals do get published in a ringing publication - we are also doing something that requires some effort and commitment which makes it more meaningful. Our normal practice is to aim to ring these before evensong on the first Sunday of the month - ringing starts at around 5:25pm. Four people were killed in April 1917, including your relative, and we will be ringing for them.”

Palm Sunday 9th April 2017

Memorial Screen and the lych-gate at St Mary and All Saints, Bingham, Notts

Above left: Andrew Peters (Tower Captain) and The Ringing Team after ringing the Commemorative Quarter Peal for those who fell in April 1917

"COMMEMORATING CONFLICT" Marking the Centenary WWI 2014 – 2018
Dedication of Carriage 946  
17th September 2017

An original 1888 fully-restored original GCR carriage was dedicated at Ruddington Heritage Centre to the hundreds of employees who left the Great Central Railway to join the conflict in the Great War (1914-1918) but who failed to return home.

The newly restored MS & LR 6-wheel carriage was on display in the open for the first time. This vehicle was dedicated to those 225 troops of The Royal Scots Regiment who perished in a similar type of carriage in the worst-ever rail disaster in May, 1915 at Quintinshill. “The carriage is again becoming a moving Memorial to the fallen in that devastating war of attrition that affected so deeply almost every family is the land,” says Roger Penson, Executive Trustee of the owning organisation, the GCR Rolling Stock Trust.
The event was honoured by The Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Col. Roger Merryweather DL, and Lt Col. Darren Woods RE, Commanding Officer of the East Midlands Army Reserve Centre. RH Cadet Corps of Drums and Bugles lead the Parade salute.
Carriage 946 relocated 18th September 2017

Carriage 946 was relocated to Rothley & Mountsorrel Heritage Centre, to secure housing in a purpose built carriage shed. It is hoped that it will be possible to display the Carriage in 2021.

Carriage 946 arrives from Ruddington Heritage Centre at Rothley & Mountsorrel Heritage Centre

"COMMEMORATING CONFLICT" Marking the Centenary WWI 2014 – 2018
Roman Quarter, Bingham 7th November 2018

"COMMEMORATING CONFLICT" Marking the Centenary WWI 2014 – 2018
Roger Penson, GCR Trustee, accompanied Carriage 946 to Leith, Edinburgh, to honour those lost in the Quintinshill Railway disaster of May 1915.

The official death toll was 227 (215 soldiers, 9 passengers and three railway employees). Those killed were mainly Territorial soldiers from the 1/7th (Leith) Battalion, the Royal Scots heading for Gallipoli. The soldiers were buried together in a mass grave in Edinburgh's Rosebank Cemetery (below) where an annual Remembrance is held.
“...a special event (10th November 2018) at the Merchant Navy Memorial outside Malmaison marking 100 years since the cessation of the First World War and the loss of life in Britain’s greatest rail disaster at Gretna. A replica of a train carriage used by the Seventh and Leith was placed here as part of the event”.

WW100 Ceremony 10 November © 2018 Yvonne Bruce

See https://gcr-rollingstocktrust.co.uk/ MS & LR 946

[Great Central Railway Rollingstock Trust Railway Vehicle restoration and preservation]

“COMMEMORATING CONFLICT” Marking the Centenary WWI 2014 – 2018
Above left: Joseph Pike (1831-1909) the last survivor of the Crimean War, born in Keyworth; buried in St Mary Magdalene Churchyard: “The service took place in Keyworth Methodist Chapel, witnessed by nearly the whole population of the village and the school children were given a half-day holiday to watch the procession. The coffin was carried on a gun carriage of the Royal Horse Artillery, while men from the 8th Notts. and Derby Territorial Regiment fired the salute and sounded the Last Post”. See also “Death of the Sole Survivor of the Crimean resident at Keyworth” Obituary 1909; Joseph Pike [HF], KDLHS News Letter, Spring 2015 (Issue 85); Joseph Pike’s Gravestone: [MAW] KDLHS News Letter, Summer 2017 edition (issue 94). Soldiers (above right) have so far not been identified.

Above left: John Fallon respecting his relative Sgt Ernest Fallon MM, 257th Tunnelling Company RE and his role in the Liberation of La Madeleine, Lille on 17 October 1918.

John also presented a talk to K&DU3A. Above right: Photographs, music, artefacts and sounds were created by K&DU3A WWI History Group, whose members had selected an anthology of poems to commemorate Armistice and read them at the Memorial Gates, Nottingham Road, Keyworth.
A photograph commemorating the 50th anniversary of Keyworth & District Royal British Legion (1977), recently discovered in the Parish Council Archive, was returned to a representative of Royal British Legion, who also provided an information point at the event.

Brian Lund’s extensive (enlarged and colourful) WWI postcards collection illustrated the extraordinary exchange of information during this time, supplemented by new publications.

“COMMEMORATING CONFLICT” Marking the Centenary WWI 2014 – 2018
A selection of the WWI Medicine Collection was displayed, loaned by Jason King
A selection of the WWI Medicine Collection supporting a display “The Journey of the Wounded”, loaned by Jason King: “Bringing the Past to Life”

“COMMEMORATING CONFLICT” Marking the Centenary WWI 2014 – 2018
A selection of tables of themed items - children explore in group activities throughout the day.