

THE GT BEDWYN POST

News and Views

From and For

Members



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WW1 EXHIBITION SPECIAL

Saturday 12th April was Gary and June's WW1 Centenary Exhibition, held this year in the Great Bedwyn Village Hall as unfortunately the local Royal British Legion Hall has closed. Gary and June received support from not only the usual group members but also from Steve Williams, the WW1 re-enactor and speaker.



Steve Williams distinctive trailer

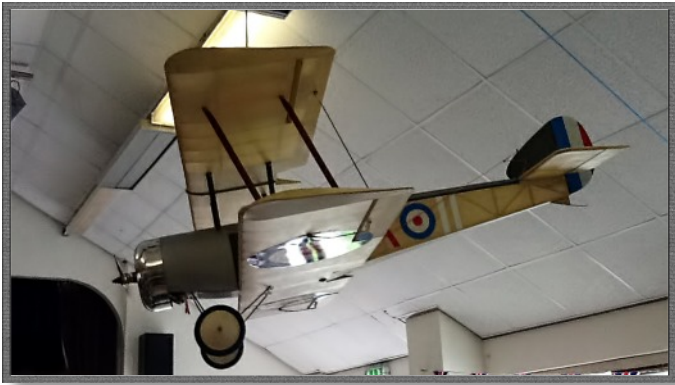
June had an 'Animals at War' section,

Chris Freeman brought along a brilliant display of weapons, medals and various WW1 memorabilia.

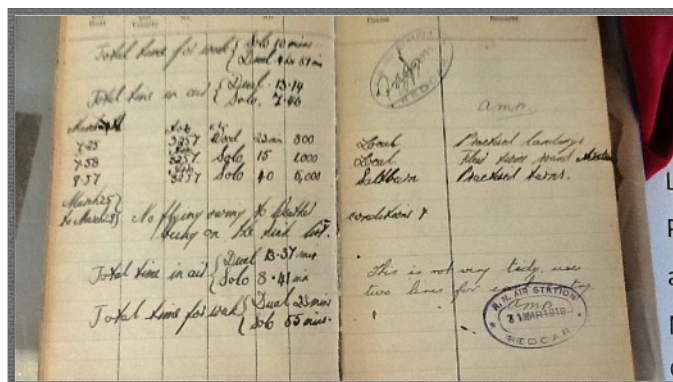
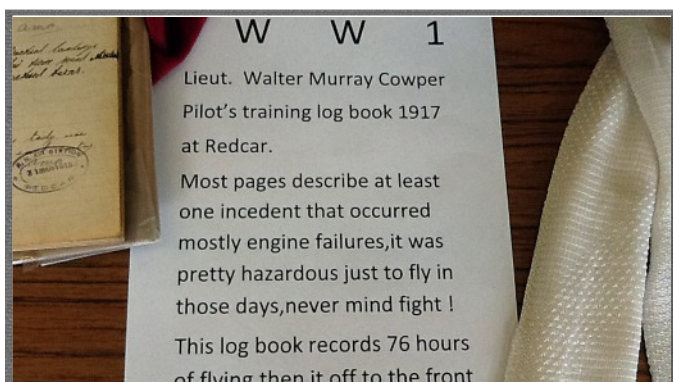
There was an impressive line up of model WW1 aircraft from Errol Cook, Percy Witt and other members of the Marlborough club. Local man Chris Bradford brought his quarter scale Sopwith Camel, along with a flying jacket, log book and photos belonging to his family. Terry Godwin of Gt Bedwyn brought a non flying wood and metal Fokker Triplane, he is well known for building 'scratch' models of boats and galleons.

Gary had approximately 50 of his scale figures on display .all dressed in the uniforms of the time, and kitted out appropriately.

Roger Day was present with relevant local photos and a display of his books. Some general local people also loaned family items to be displayed.







Page 2 shows the marvellous model aircraft displays. Page 3 a mixture of Gary's models, an aircraft and machine gun display. Page 4 starts with Chris Bradford's family items and finally Steve Williams' backdrop for his talk followed by a picture of Steve Williams examining some of the items on display with the grand-daughter of a V.C. recipient.

The exhibition proper opened at midday and over 170 people visited during the course of the event with some positive feedback on the displays. Kay Bradford (wife of Chris) spent the afternoon selling raffle tickets and was ably assisted By Gill Cook. The Raffle itself raised close to £150:00

At 4:30 the hall was cleared ready for the 'supper' and Steve Williams talk. As you can see from the picture above he was dressed in battle dress. His talk covered life at the 'front' and he demonstrated some of the weapons and equipment used. 70 people attended this talk.

At 6:30 the 'Dug Out Supper' of sausage, mash, peas and carrots prepared and served by Lynn Orchard' her daughter and granddaughter. Tony Nolson said the exhortation and a minutes' silence was observed before the rev. Michael Mc Hugh said prayers. The meal was rounded off with cheesecake and wine or cheese and biscuits.

A grand total of £493.00 was raised for the post fund, due in no small part, to the anonymous local business man who donated the £120.00 for the hire of the hall. The Royal British Legion had a collection box in the hall and the sum of £102.45 was donated.

Gary and June would like to thank everyone who attended, displayed and helped make this such a successful event and tribute to those who made such sacrifices for us all.

Lest We Forget.

This was only the start of the 2014 season and Gary and June have joined 'The Garrison' a Royal Artillery re-enactment team based at Larkhill where they are training to assist in the showing and firing of 4 x 25 pounder howitzers. Details of this group can be found at thegarrison.org.uk. A few pictures of them and their vehicles. Locally the group will be at the Wiltshire Steam and Vintage Rally at Oare, Wilts on 7/8th June and the 'biggy' at the Tankfest at Bovington 26/29th June.





Gary partaking of some ROC style training



June says she cant remember volunteering



This is Cricklade Post showing what can happen without someone to care.

Thanks Len.



Dates for the Diary.....

June 7/8th - Wiltshire Steam and Vintage Rally, Oare, Wiltshire

June 10th is our third **Canal Trip** again with **Fish and Chip Supper** on Boat. Embarkation at 19:15 and sailing at 19:30. Bar again available on board but no 'Duty Free's'. To book your berth on this fantastic cruise please contact Ron Heaton, email :- ronheaton343@btinternet.com

June 21/22nd is Weymouth at War

June 26-29th - 'Tankfest' at Bovington

July 5/6th - 'Digging for Victory' and UK Military Vehicle Show at the Nth Somerset Show Ground.

July 11/12/13th - Fairford

July 20th - LMA Flying Day at RAF Cosford. (This trip is currently fully subscribed but if you wish to be listed in a reserve capacity then I'm sure Brian will make sure you are informed should anyone drop out.)

Aug 22/23rd - 'Blitz Buddies' at Lacock.

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