

Remembrance Sunday 2018

– 11th November –

First World War Centenary 2014 – 2018

Farrington's knitted tribute



Well done and congratulations to the folks of Farrington Gurney and their friends. Finally, the finishing touches have been put to the fabulous focal point of Farrington Gurney's effort to honour 100 years since the end of World War I.

To mark the fallen, hundreds of poppies have been knitted to form 'Lest We Forget', with a cascade of poppies which adorns the facade of Farrington Gurney Methodist Church. A big 'Thank You' to all of the fantastic knitters!

Stony Broke in No-Man's Land



Marking the centenary of the Armistice that ended the Great War, local folk group, the Hotwells Howlers, are presenting their show, 'Stony Broke in No-Man's Land' at 8 p.m. on Friday, 9th November at the Old Down Inn, Emborough.

There will be no charge on the door, but there will be a collection on the night, and all proceeds from the evening will go to the British Red Cross, the Howlers' chosen charity for this and other performances of the piece.

The group has already raised several thousand pounds for the charity performing the show. As well as a number of almost forgotten songs of the time, such as 'Up from Somerset' and 'From Someone in France to Someone in Somerset', one of the songs in the show, 'The Rose of No-Man's Land' is a tribute to the Red Cross nurses who looked after the injured close to the front line.

The production focuses on how the war affected people in the north of Somerset, Bath, Bristol and the south of Gloucestershire, drawing on newspaper reports and other narratives of the period, particularly those with a local relevance. Where it is artistically justified, it also draws on songs, poems and images from further afield. It is illustrated by almost 100 stunning images of the time.

The Hotwells Howlers are a folk music and song group drawn from Bristol and the north of Somerset. We were commissioned to produce a piece on World War I by the Friends of the Bristol Museum, and it was originally performed in November 2014 to commemorate the outbreak of the Great War. The group has been proud and moved to create this work, and it is made in a spirit of love and respect for our forebears. For more information, see: www.thehotwellshowers.com or telephone: 01761 419224.

Radstock Museum set to be transformed for special commemorative play

'At The Going Down of the Sun' is a play especially written for Radstock Museum, which commemorates the centenary of the end of WWI and will be performed at the museum from 8th – 11th November.

In an unprecedented move, the Museum Trustees have taken the decision to close the museum from 5 p.m. on Saturday, 3rd November until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, 13th November to stage this unique production in order to accommodate the sets, lighting rigs and changing facilities for the cast.

The play has been written and directed by young, local, talented playwright and actor, Patrick Withey, and will be performed by his theatre company, Black Hound Productions, with atmospheric lighting and special effects.

Patrick explains: "It is easy to assume that after 11th November 1918, everyone left the battlefields and returned home to a normal life. However, this was not the case. For many soldiers, four years of trauma and bloodshed meant that returning home did not end their suffering.

"Injured soldiers were stared at; some found it impossible to shake off the effects of a new style of warfare on their mental state, and many sadly found this too much to bear.

"At The Going Down Of The Sun' focuses on a fictional family business in Somerset, as they live through the years during and after the First World War."

Patrick has always had an interest in local history; spending a lot of time at Radstock Museum as a child. He also has a passion for WWI history and has combined both this passion and his love of the museum by producing this dramatic, thought-provoking play which promises to be a moving tribute to our local heroes. Written after a research trip to Ypres, Belgium, it depicts the

Your memories wanted for Radstock Remembrance

The Annual Remembrance Service will be held at St Nicholas Church, Radstock, at 9.30 a.m. on Sunday, 11th November to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the end of World War I and to honour those who gave their lives in the two World Wars and other conflicts in which they served.

Along with the usual Act of Remembrance, during which the local names of the fallen are read out, we are asking local families to provide photos, medals and other memorabilia, which will be exhibited securely for the



Actor, Fin Collinson, is an eighteen-year-old student studying at Bath Dance College in Radstock. Fin plays the character of Nicky, a young soldier who returns home from WWI with the physical scars of war. We see how he comes to terms with his injuries and copes with the reactions from people around him.

stories of families after coming home from the War.

Performances will take place on Thursday, 8th November, Friday 9th and Saturday, 10th at 7.30 p.m. with a Saturday matinee at 2.30 p.m. and Sunday, 11th, 4 p.m., after the Remembrance service at the Radstock Cenotaph. The museum is open for an hour before and after every performance to give the audience a chance to look around

the ground floor of the museum, complete with Victorian street, miner's cottage, blacksmiths forge and coal mine.

There will also be an exhibition about the play and some WWI artefacts, plus a bar selling wine, beer, soft and hot drinks. Tickets are from the museum admissions desk or online with Eventbrite – click through from: www.radstockmuseum.co.uk

Lucy Tudor

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Ringling out for Peace

Radstock and Kilmersdon Bell Ringers will be taking part in the 'Battle's Over' event – commemorating 100 years since the end of World War I on 11th November, 2018.

Organised by Pageantmaster Bruno Peek LVO, OBE, OPR, Battle's Over takes place on Sunday, 11th November, with events throughout the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, and at scores of locations overseas, including New Zealand, Ireland, Australia, Bermuda, France, Belgium, Canada, the United States and Germany.

It begins at 6 a.m., with over 1,000 lone pipers playing Battle's O'er, a traditional Scottish air played after a battle, outside cathedrals and other individual locations throughout the country and overseas, following which a specially written tribute will be read out.

At 6.55 p.m. buglers will sound the Last Post at more than 1,000 locations, where at 7 p.m. World War I Beacons of Light will be lit in a tribute signifying the light of peace that emerged from the darkness of four years of war.

Then, at 7.05 p.m., over 1,000 churches and cathedrals will ring their bells as part of 'Ringling Out for Peace' organised in association with the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers, which represents 65 societies of ringers from the British Isles and overseas. Also at 7.05 p.m., more than 140 Town Criers will perform a specially written 'Cry for Peace Around the World'; the first of them in New Zealand and then across the globe through the various time zones.

Radstock and Kilmersdon Bell Ringers will be taking part in Ringling Out for Peace at the Church of St. Nicholas in Radstock at 7.05 p.m., on 11th November.

Gen Tuviner

Remembrance Day in Midsomer Norton

This Remembrance Sunday marks 100 years since the end of the First World War, when the armistice was signed between the Allies and Germany at Compiègne. To mark such a momentous date, a full day of activities has been arranged in Midsomer Norton to commemorate the contribution of British and Commonwealth military servicemen and women in the two World Wars and later conflicts.

From 10.30 a.m., people joining the parade will meet at the Stones Cross and will then make their way down the High Street at 10.40 a.m. At 11 a.m. will be the traditional two minutes silence, laying of wreaths and service at the War Memorial. The parade will then make its way to St John's Parish Church for a service.

They Shall Not Grow Old

The Midsomer Norton Community Cinema will be screening Peter Jackson's extraordinary new work showing the Great War as you have never seen it. This unique film brings into high definition the human face of the First World War.

Using state-of-the-art technology to restore original archival footage which is more than 100 years old, Jackson brings to life the people who can best tell this story: the men who were there. Driven by a personal interest in the First World War, Jackson set out to bring to life the day-to-day experience of its soldiers.

Reaching into the mists of time, Jackson aims to give these men voices, investigate the hopes and fears of the veterans, the humility and humanity that represented a generation changed forever by a global war.

The screening will be shown on Sunday, 11th November at the Town Hall at 3 p.m. For tickets, visit: www.midsomer-nortoncommunitytrust.co.uk or phone: 01761 419133 (Monday – Friday).

Paulton Poppy Project sows pride in community

Pride in Paulton, a group of seven volunteers, embarked on a project a year ago to produce their own version of the Tower of London's 'Rivers of Blood'.

In October 2017, the group put out a plea and visited various groups around Paulton to explain what they were planning and to ask for help in knitting or crocheting the poppies. Paulton did not let them down – they received nearly 3,000 poppies!

The team has spent the last few months sewing the poppies together and attaching them to the net. On Tuesday, 16th October, the 'poppy net' was put up – with poppy jackets put on bollards and poppies put around the Hub, in the centre of the village.

The results are spectacular, and Paulton residents are absolutely thrilled with the result! It is a tribute to all who gave their lives in defence of our country.

A number of purple and white poppies were also received; the purple poppies have been made into a wreath and will be displayed at the vets to remember the thousands of animals that also lost their lives. The white poppies will be used in the Peace Tent at Paulton Parish Council's WWI event on Saturday, 10th November.

This has been a brilliant Community Project, and our thanks go to everyone who



has supported the Pride in Paulton Partnership with knitting, crocheting, supplying wool and putting poppies together to create the dis-

play; to Zoe at Café Bombero for keeping us in coffee, and R.J. King, at Farrington Gurney, who donated the camouflage net. Gail Garlick

Take part in Paulton Remembers event and revisit 1918

On Saturday, 10th November the Natural Theatre Company, supported by Paulton Parish Council, will be running a commemoration event for the end of World War One in Paulton. There will be plenty of things going on during the day at this free event.

The Natural Theatre Company will be performing during the day, with the focus on 'Peace and Healing', to mark the centenary of the end of the Great War.

If you would like to join in by performing at this event, there are free workshops coming up in Paulton leading up to the event. You

will create characters and scenes based on research into the local area at this time and then perform them on the day, either as set pieces inside tents or as roaming characters.

Weeks of planning have gone into this event, with workshops including the making of a tapestry that will be presented to the

village at the end of the event. Join us for theatre, arts, music and refreshments, with a WWI ambulance and historical research tent for visitors to explore – all welcome from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Memorial Park, Paulton. Dogs are also welcome at this event.

Museum remembers our local Heroes

As part of Radstock Museum's week of Remembrance, museum volunteer, Nick Waton, will be giving a presentation on our local heroes.

Come along to the Somer Centre, Midsomer Norton, on Tuesday, 6th November, at 7.30 p.m. to learn about three

men from North East Somerset and their acts of gallantry in illustrated stories from the Second Boer

War in 1901 and the Western Front, WWI in 1915 and 1918, including Oliver Brooks. Lucy Tudor