



## CHELTENHAM & GLOUCESTER BRANCH of THE WESTERN FRONT ASSOCIATION

Number 105

July 2015

### Welcome

As a branch of the Western Front Association we are incredibly fortunate to have a number of enthusiastic, energetic and highly knowledgeable members who frequently offer their time on behalf of the branch and association as a whole for the ultimate advantage to us all. I'm not going to start listing our 'stars' but I would like to highlight and thank on behalf of us all Paul Haigh who recently represented the branch at a British Legion Day event in Hardwicke. Paul handed out leaflets and chatted to those who showed an interest about our organisation - this was an invaluable service to the branch.

It is vital that we continue to market, inform and raise the profile of our meetings; therefore I would like to request that if you hear of any local event at which you think we should have some sort of representation - this could be a local history event, family heritage event or even just a local fete - then please let us know.

Furthermore, if you feel so able to offer your services simply to put up our banner and hand out some flyers and leaflets at such an event, then we would all be really grateful. This branch relies on good attendance at meetings with a healthy influx of members - this can only be assured by continually spreading the word!

The Tank Museum at Bovington in Dorset is in a research phase for a new exhibition to mark the centenary of the tank. Exhibitions Manager Sarah Lambert is seeking information on eight particular crewmen and general information on tank crews 1916-18. You will find full details on the WFA website - click on *WFA News* then *Tank 100 the centenary approaches*. Your help would be most welcome by the Museum.

The Three Choirs Festival is in Hereford this year and runs from 25 July to 1 August. Some of the concerts have WWI themes and the full programme can be found at [www.3choirs.org](http://www.3choirs.org).

*Peter*

### Future meetings

**Tuesday, 11 August 2015**

*The Amazing Diaries of  
Sister Edith Appleton OBE RRC*  
Dick Robinson

**National Star College at 7:30pm**

Edith Appleton was Dick's great aunt. She served in the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve in Northern France throughout the Great War, often near the Front. She wrote an amazing daily journal which details with compassion all the horrors of the 'war to end wars', including the first use of poison gas and the terrible cost of battles such as Ypres, but she also records what life was like for nurses and how she spent her time off-duty.

Dick tells Edith's extraordinary story of bravery and dedication which won her the Military OBE, the Royal Red Cross and the Belgian Queen Elisabeth medal among others. *A Nurse at the Front: The First World War Diaries of Sister Edith Appleton* was published in 2012 and this talk includes extracts from the diaries read by Lisa Robinson.

**Tuesday, 8 September 2015**

*Under Two Flags :  
The Salvation Army in World War I*  
John Stanyard

**National Star College at 7:30pm**

This talk covers the activities of the Salvation Army during 1914-1918 with particular reference to ambulance work, rest huts and the American doughnut girls.

It also includes stories about Salvationists in action in the trenches fighting for their country.



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## 2004 Private Carey E Carter Royal Gloucestershire Hussars

Carey E Carter was the son of Louis and Alice Carter of Woolstrop Farm, Quedgeley, Gloucester. Carey was born in 1895 at Brookthorpe, near Gloucester and at the age of 16 was engaged in farm work with his father.

Trooper Carter enlisted in the Royal Gloucestershire Hussars in 1915. The regiment sailed to Egypt on 15 August 1915 and was almost immediately despatched to Gallipoli converting to infantry before arriving on 20 August. Trooper Carter was re-designated Private Carter.

On 21 August 1915 the Royal Gloucestershire Hussars were encamped on Lala Baba Hill, moving in the afternoon to Chocolate Hill. There was no cover and the Hussars came under very heavy shell fire before reaching the hill. One officer and eight other ranks including Private Carter, aged 20 years, were killed and many wounded.



General Sir Ian Hamilton, in his despatch on operations of this day said: *The advance of these English yeomen was a sight calculated to send a thrill of pride through anyone with a drop of English blood in their veins. Such superb martial spectacles are rare in modern war. Here for a mile and a half, there was nothing to conceal a mouse, much less some of the most stalwart soldiers England has ever sent from her shores. I could hardly take my eyes from the yeomen; they moved like men marching on parade. Here and there a shell would take toll of a cluster; there they lay. There was no straggling; the others moved steadily on; not a man was there who hung back or hurried.*

Private Carter was buried 300 yards west of Chocolate Hill later to be moved to a concentration cemetery at Green Hill, Suvla where he now rests. The cemetery contains 2,971 burials of which 2,472 are unnamed.

*Dave Gargett*

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### Other news

The *Chedworth Remembers the Great War* project has joined the Imperial War Museum Centenary Partnership (established to co-ordinate and support local initiatives) and they would very much welcome contact with anyone who could provide them with stories and even memorabilia to assist them in developing the project. If you think you can help please contact Peter Seymour ([bwrallydirector@aol.com](mailto:bwrallydirector@aol.com)) or Mike Tovey ([mike@tovey2004.ndo.co.uk](mailto:mike@tovey2004.ndo.co.uk)).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission has launched a major restoration programme for the Thiepval Memorial ahead of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemorations of the Battle of the Somme, in 2016. The work will run until March 2016. Access to the memorial and the cemetery will remain open to the public while the restoration takes place but parts of the memorial will be obscured by scaffolding. Full details of the restoration project can be found on their website: [www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org).

#### Contact details



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#### Branch Website

[www.cgwfa.org.uk](http://www.cgwfa.org.uk)

*"When you go home, tell them of us and say, for your tomorrow, we gave our today."*