SOLVA HERITAGE SOCIETY
Contribution to the SOLVA COMMUNITY COUNCIL’s COMMEMORATION WW1 2018
April 2018

Timeline of the events of WW1, lists of Solva men who died, a list of absent voters; those who were away fighting; and current information available on them. The aim was to seek further information to link them with present Solva Families.

MAY 2018

This power-point illustrated talk was based on the collection of Miss Grace Davies and the Exhibition held in Capel Ucha in April 2018; requesting further information, photographs and artifacts from the Solva community.

It was a well supported and enjoyable evening.
Solva: 100 YEARS AGO

SOLVA HERITAGE SOCIETY
In Commemoration Of WW1
Two Exhibitions
From May 31st to June 2nd 2018

SOLVA: 100 YEARS AGO

At Capel Ucha, Solva
and
Battle of Jutland 1916

At St Aidan’s Church, Solva

Jutland Exhibition in St Aidan’s Church
Commemoration Of WW1

The Battle of Jutland

Friday, 1st June 2018

TRUNITY QUAY
SOLVA
6.00 p.m.

Solva Heritage Society Exhibitions

Battle of Jutland 1916 SOLVA: 100 YEARS AGO

At St Aidan’s Church and Capel Ucha, Solva

The Service on Trinity Quay, Solva on 1st June 2018

Introduction:

The Rt Hon Carwyn Jones AM, First Minister of Wales sent this message: “I want these commemorations to reach out to people of all ages to encourage them to take an interest, whether it be in the history of their own families or communities or in national and international events.”

This event is to commemorate the Battle of Jutland 1916. It was fought some 75 miles off the Danish coast over 36 hours from 31 May to 1 June 1916.

Reader 1: LETTERS FROM TWO KINGS

READERS 2 and 3  LETTER FROM A 19 YEAR OLD BRITISH SUB-LIEUTENANT

Commendation  Both sides claimed victory in this indecisive battle, but the British Navy retained control of the North sea and the German High Seas Fleet made no further attempts to break the Allied blockade or to engage the Grand Fleet for the remainder of World War 1, deciding instead to concentrate on submarine warfare.

Jutland saw the loss of 6,094 British seamen and 2,551 Germans. We remember them all.

The Rev. Michael Rowlands: Prayer

Hymn: (While the wreath is taken out to sea) O God, our Help in ages past

The Rev. Michael Rowlands: Blessing / Dedication / Prayer

HYMN: Calon Lân (For boat’s return.

Rev. M Rowlands: Blessing and dismiss
Grace Davies led this enjoyable evening of reminiscence when we used a powerpoint to show many new photographs of “old” Solva compared with photographs of the same buildings and views of today. This is a work-in-progress.

We now have a digital record of our village in 1918 and are building on the collection of old photographs and stories and comparing them with a present-day record. Fascinating!
Mollie Roach and her Grandson, Daniel, researched and prepared the Ypres exhibition.
Her family provided information and beautiful, postcards that the older brothers had sent home to the family, especially to the youngest brother, Harold, who was still in school.

From these and further research, we were able to follow the brothers during the war; the brave exploits of Dai and the sad death of Stephen, at 20, in March 1918 and produce two booklets and a powerpoint presentation to show at the “Then and Now” talk.

Research is on-going on the other brothers of the family.

---

2nd September 2018,
On the Solva Foreshore
A service to show appreciation to those who fought or lost their lives at The Battle of Ypres Passchendaele September 1918

Introduction:

The Story:
READINGS, Eyewitness accounts from the Imperial War Museum Collection
A Welsh Poem by Hedd Wyn who gave his life.

READINGS: Eyewitness accounts from the Imperial War Museum Collection

CONCLUSION:

COMMENDATION
The Rev. Michael Rowlands:

Hymn: O God, our Help in ages past
Rev. M Rowlands: A prayer for peace;
Blessing and dismissal
SEPTEMBER 2018

David James Roach was at his most heroic here:

In many other of the worst battles – and came home.

These Solva men died at the Battle of the Somme.

David Evans, Private, 27411, Welsh Regiment.
Ernest Johnson, Private, 16036, Gloucestershire Regiment.
Thomas Henry Evans, Private, 3638, Australian Infantry.
John Stephens, Gunner, W/2742, Royal Field Artillery.

These Solva Men fought on the Somme and died later
Thomas Allton, Private, 9609, Royal Welsh Fusiliers.
John Griffiths, Lance Corporal, 26088, Welsh Regiment.
John Griffiths, Lance Corporal, 26088, Welsh Regiment.
Levi Watkin Griffiths, Private, 53936, Welsh Regiment.
Albert William Prance, Private, 54587, Welsh Regiment.
Rees Protheroe, Private, 29294, South Wales Borderers.
James Reynolds, Private, 28457, Welsh Regiment.
Telling the story in words and pictures and showing its importance in the timeline of WW1.

These Solva Men Died at Gallipoli
Alfred Allton, Private, 16658, South Lancashire Regiment.
William Davies, Private, 10505, Gloucestershire Regiment.
Thomas Allton, Private, 9609, Royal Welsh Fusiliers.
Rees Protheroe, Private, 29294, South Wales Borderers.

The Final Exhibition was part of whole village commemoration, linking with all the other organisations in our community and showing the result of our year-long research of connections with present-day families.

November 2018

St Aidan’s Church, Solva,
8th – 12th November 2018
10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

The silhouettes have been a very moving reminder at our events and especially so at the 11th November service.