



# People doing WW1 research in Gloucestershire

December 2014

The 'Gloucestershire Remembers WW1' project is an HLF-funded programme to help individuals, groups, schools and communities across Gloucestershire to commemorate the centenary of the First World War, at home and abroad.

This Register is designed to help connect people doing similar WW1 research, or working in specific areas of the County. We also hope it will inspire those who have yet to begin their own research to take the first steps!

To access free resources to help you with your WW1 research, and give you ideas about ways to share what you find with others, please visit the 'Gloucestershire Remembers WW1' website:

<http://glosremembers.co.uk/how-we-can-help>

The website will also suggest ways of promoting any WW1 research, events or activities that you have planned.

We wish you every success with your research, and we hope that you'll share some of the stories you find with us (you'll find links to our social media profiles on page 27).



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Register entries are drawn from submissions by local history groups across the County, and we have done our best to represent those descriptions accurately. If you find anything you believe is incorrect, please contact the society or group directly.

## **Cheltenham District**

### ***David Drinkwater***

*Geographical interest:*

Cheltenham

*Researching:*

David has mapped the WW1 soldiers mentioned in 'Leaving All That Was Dear' onto OS maps of Cheltenham. His completed database includes addresses, pictures and histories, where available, and includes information that has been uncovered since the book was published.

He is currently transcribing some of the WW1 Appeal Tribunal information, held at Gloucestershire Archives.

*Find out more:*

David will be sharing some of the Cheltenham images and stories on Historypin. You can visit his profile by going to:  
[www.historypin.org/channels/view/59576#!photos/list/](http://www.historypin.org/channels/view/59576#!photos/list/).

Copies of David's maps and information have also been deposited at Gloucestershire Archives. Once they are available, you'll find them in the [online catalogue](#).

Gloucestershire's Tribunal information is available to view at Gloucestershire Archives (search the [online catalogue](#) and find out how to view original documents at <http://www.goucestershire.gov.uk/archives>).

## ***Leckhampton Local History Society***

*Geographical interest:*

St Peter's Church, Leckhampton

*Researching:*

Compiled a Book of Remembrance giving a pen portrait of each of the men of Leckhampton who lost their lives during WW1. This is based on Joe Devereux and Graham Sacker's book 'Leaving All that was Dear' – with their approval – but adds some extra information where available. Includes photos of the men's grave or memorial. The home address of each of them has been plotted on a large map.

The serviceman will be remembered at morning and evening prayer on the anniversary date and also on the nearest Sunday.

The book is displayed in the Lady Chapel and the pen portraits will be included on the church's website.

*Find out more:*

St Peter's church website: [www.stpeters-leckhampton.org.uk](http://www.stpeters-leckhampton.org.uk)  
Parish office email: [parishofficelockhampton@btinternet.com](mailto:parishofficelockhampton@btinternet.com)

Leckhampton LHS: <http://leckhamptonlhs.weebly.com>

Photos and names have also been uploaded to  
[www.warmemorialsonline.org.uk](http://www.warmemorialsonline.org.uk).

## **Prestbury Remembers WW1**

(An individual working with local community organisations like Prestbury Library, Prestbury Local History Society, and local Churches.)

*Geographical interest:*

Prestbury Parish

*Researching:*

Prestbury during WWI (all aspects).

Interactive map: houses of the men who died during WWI (currently only in the village but will be extending it to cover the whole Parish).

Prestbury Remembers WWI Weekend: Took place in October 2014 events for all ages including (at the Library) trench experience workshop, games and crafts for children and history help desk for adults (at the WI Hall); Prestbury Local History Society talk;

Centenary Memorial Trail: Free booklet (250 copies) produced for the 'Prestbury Remembers WWI' event to tell the real life stories of Prestbury's WWI servicemen who lost their lives during WWI. Walking route passes the houses the men once lived in. (Posters and photographs were kindly displayed in the windows of houses on the route). Booklet also includes map of houses on the route & general info about Prestbury during WWI such as Racecourse Hospital etc. PDF copies available online.

Wider Study of Servicemen: Beginning a four year project to 'fully' research all of the men who fought from Prestbury, those who were wounded, killed or returned safely. Looking at life before the war from the 1911 census and following their war through military records, Electoral Registers, family photos and memories etc. (We're appealing to local residents for photographs and stories to add to the project).

Also looking at women, children and tribunals and POWs to get a full picture and indexing the newspaper articles and photographs for the WWI period relating to Prestbury.

More generally: Racecourse Hospital, Scouts, Children, Home Front, Food & Rationing, Role of Women, Farming, Military Tribunals/Appeals, POWs, Remembrance over the years, the war memorial etc.

*Find out more:*

Website: [www.prestburyremembers.moonfruit.com](http://www.prestburyremembers.moonfruit.com)

Email: [prestburyremembers@gmail.com](mailto:prestburyremembers@gmail.com)

## Cotswolds District

### ***Bledington Local History Society***

*Geographical interest:*

Bledington.

*Researching:*

No current WW1 research, but previous work on WW1 war memorial names has been published (see below).

*Find out more:*

Both 2000 and 2010 editions of the Bledington Book of Honour are available to view at Gloucestershire Archives (search the [online catalogue](#) and find out how to view original documents at [www.glocestershire.gov.uk/archives](http://www.glocestershire.gov.uk/archives)). There is also a copy in St Leonard's Church, Bledington.

The Society has also published a piece about Bledington local school that covers the WW1 period:

Bruce, Margaret, Bledington School 1876 – 1922 - an account based on the early school Log Books, Bledington Local History Society, Occasional Publication No. 6, Bledington, November 2012.

Enquiries about this publication, or any of the Society's other work should be addressed to:

Mrs Sylvia Reeves  
Bledington Local History Society Archives  
c/o The Old Forge  
Main Street  
Bledington

## ***Chipping Campden History Society***

*Geographical interest:*

Campden and district

*Researching:*

Red Cross VAD Hospitals, Prisoner of war camps, womens suffrage.

Organised Exhibition Aug 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> with Royal British Legion and RAFA on 'Campden Remembers'.

CCHS displays covered aspects of 'Campden at War' – men going off, life goes on, women at work, women's suffrage, and a display about Norton Hall VAD Hospital – and might be expanded, if there is interest.

Farncombe House was also a VAD Hospital; may be a subject for future research.

Currently researching previously unknown German POW camp in the vicinity, prompted by Jesse Taylor photos which we couldn't identify, and also Glos CC War Agricultural Committee Minutes (held by Gloucestershire Archives).

*Find out more:*

Chipping Campden History Society,  
The Old Police Station,  
High Street,  
Chipping Campden,  
GL55 6JW

[enquiries@chippingcampdenhistory.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@chippingcampdenhistory.org.uk)

## **Colesbourne History Group**

### *Geographical interest:*

Colesbourne Parish (including those parts of Coberley and Withington parishes which formed the Colesbourne Estate).

### *Researching:*

History of Village and Colesbourne Estate

WW1 war memorial names, their service history and burial sites, if known.

Also other military service in WW1 and jobs taken after service.

### *Find out more:*

Colesbourne History Group  
c/o Estate Office  
Colesbourne  
Nr Cheltenham  
GL53 9NP

## ***Fairford History Society***

*Geographical interest:*

Fairford and surrounding villages

*Researching:*

The Home Front

Fairford men who went to war and returned.

Planning second edition of Fairford's War Memorial and Roll of Honour to be published in next few years. FHS will probably hold an event to coincide with this.

*Find out more:*

Fairford History Society website: <http://www.fairfordhistory.org.uk/>, including a [WW1 blog](#) and email address for enquiries.

## ***History of Tetbury Society***

*Geographical interest:*

Tetbury and some surrounding villages

*Researching:*

Researching names on WW1 soldiers on war memorial, actions they were involved in, where they were buried and commemorated.

We have names of all soldiers and their Regiments from Tetbury (257) that participated in 1914/15 (compiled by the vicar at the time).

Also research on Royal Australian Flying Corp. involved in Tetbury, Leighterton and Minchinhampton.

Held exhibitions, and a service at the War Memorial and a candlelit evensong with others.

*Find out more:*

History of Tetbury website: [www.tetburyhistory.com](http://www.tetburyhistory.com)

Email: [enquiries@tetburyhistory.com](mailto:enquiries@tetburyhistory.com)

## **Longborough History Group**

*Geographical interest:*

Longborough and Sezincote

*Researching:*

No current WW1 research but previous work, including brief biographies of men who served and returned, has been published (see below).

*Find out more:*

The 2014 edition of the Longborough and Sezincote Roll of Honour 1914-1918 is available at Gloucestershire Archives (search the [online catalogue](#) and find out how to view original documents at [www.glos.gloucestershire.gov.uk/archives](http://www.glos.gloucestershire.gov.uk/archives)).

## **Forest of Dean District**

### ***Forest of Dean Local History Society***

*Geographical interest:*

Forest of Dean

*Researching:*

21+ areas of interest covering the Home Front in the Forest of Dean during and after WW1.

*Find out more:*

Forest of Dean Local History Society: <http://www.forestofdeanhistory.org.uk/>

## **Stroud District**

### ***Dursley and Cam Society***

*Geographical interest:*

Dursley and Cam

*Researching:*

No current WW1 research but previous work has been published (see below).

*Find out more:*

‘Dursley, a study of a small town at war, 1914-1918’ is available at Gloucestershire Archives (search the [online catalogue](#) and find out how to view original documents at [www.goucestershire.gov.uk/archives](http://www.goucestershire.gov.uk/archives)).

## ***The Great War Research Group***

### *Geographical interest:*

Chalford, Chalford Hill, France Lynch, Bussage and Brownshill (and to a lesser extent Bisley, Eastcombe and Oakridge).

### *Researching:*

We began researching the names on our village war memorial at Chalford , which carries 156 names from the above villages. We are extending our studies into the war time experience and activity of the villages, and the stories and subsequent histories of those who left the area to fight, and returned. Also interested in the Belgian refugees who settled in the area for the duration of the war.

### *Find out more:*

Please email [camillaboon@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:camillaboon@tiscali.co.uk)

## ***Minchinhampton Local History Group***

### *Geographical interest:*

Area around Minchinhampton civil parish (includes Box, Brimscombe, Amberley etc.)

### *Researching:*

Servicemen on the war memorials. Lives have been compiled for all on Minchinhampton Memorial and some on Brimscombe and Thrupp; Nick Thorncroft in his book “Far from his Native Land he Lies” has already completed those on Amberley. Results so far on website (see below).

Major exhibition “Sunshine and Shadows” on October 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> 2014 will look at the area before, during and after the Great War, building on the stories above and also some of those who returned, POWs, women in factories etc.

### *Find out more:*

Contact Minchinhampton Local History Group via their website:  
<http://community.stroud.gov.uk/default.asp?pid=27>

## ***Oakridge History Group***

*Geographical interest:*

Oakridge, near Bisley

*Researching:*

People on the war memorial

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Gloucesters in WW1

*Find out more:*

Email John Loosley at [john@loosleyj.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:john@loosleyj.freeserve.co.uk)

## **Stonehouse History Group**

*Geographical interest:*

The history of Stonehouse and its people.

*Researching:*

Researched WW1 in Stonehouse for our Journal Issue 4 May 2014 and created display on 'The Effects of WW1 on Stonehouse'.

Main topics

- The tragedy for families.
- The bravery of its men and women who served at home and abroad.
- The coming of the V.A.D. Hospital at Standish.
- The sacrifice made by young men from Wycliffe College.
- The memorials erected and preserved in the town today.

Started researching the lives of the men on the war memorial and the graves in the churchyard.

Hope to spend more time looking at the Stroud Journal for 1914 -18.

Research will be ongoing until 1918

*Find out more:*

Stonehouse History Group website: [www.stonehousehistorygroup.org.uk](http://www.stonehousehistorygroup.org.uk)

## **Stroud Local History Society**

### *Geographical interest:*

Stroud town and the immediate surroundings (Ebley, Cainscross, Whiteshill)  
[Please contact 'Remembering Rodborough' project for Rodborough.]

### *Researching:*

2014 main theme – ongoing community-based project looking at the effect on civilian Stroud of World War 1. [NB focus is on civilians, not soldiers or memorials]. Looking particularly at the effect on Stroud's factories, families, farms – and food. Have also added Stroud's Red Cross Hospitals, and Stroud's Belgian refugees.

2015: collaborating with Stroud Museum in the Park (MiP), where the 2015 theme is

Technology and Innovation during WW1, plus interest in Stroud's factories, who did what and how small businesses were affected.

2016: topics in line with MiP's theme of The World at War

2017: topics in line with MiP's theme of The Home Front

2018: topics in line with MiP's theme of Medals, Souvenirs and Legacy

### *Find out more:*

For WW1-related research please email:

[homefrontWW1@stroudlocalhistorysociety.org.uk](mailto:homefrontWW1@stroudlocalhistorysociety.org.uk)

Stroud LHS are also at [www.stroudlocalhistorysociety.org.uk](http://www.stroudlocalhistorysociety.org.uk) and on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/StroudLocalHistorySociety](http://www.facebook.com/StroudLocalHistorySociety)

## ***Upton St Leonards History Group***

*Geographical interest:*

Upton St Leonards

*Researching:*

Men on war memorial.

Held exhibition on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> August about WWI at which local people contributed stories, pictures and artifacts. Over 300 people attended and contributions went to The Royal British Legion and Help for Heroes with £550 being raised.

*Find out more:*

Contact Mike Stratford at [pamicon@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:pamicon@yahoo.co.uk)

## ***Woodchester Historical Society***

*Geographical interest:*

Woodchester

*Researching:*

WW1 work completed for local exhibition in September 2014

Further research anticipated to add details that become available.

*Find out more:*

Woodchester Historical Society website:

<http://woodchesterparish.org.uk/village-clubs/historical-society/>

## **Tewkesbury District**

### ***Maisemore Local History Society***

*Geographical interest:*

Maisemore

*Researching:*

Names of those that served and returned during the 1st World War. Details will be available in Maisemore Church in hard copy.

Society held a four-day Exhibition with two evenings to commemorate the 100 years since the outbreak of World War 1. The two evenings were recorded and are now on a DVD.

The first evening the stories of the men who went to war were told, dispersed with readings of the War Poets. The other evening was a debate "Does War bring Peace?"

*Find out more:*

Maisemore Local History Society website:

<http://www.maisemore.potentialmatters.co.uk/LocalHistory.htm>

## **County-wide individuals, groups and organisations**

### ***Colin R Chapman***

*Geographical interest:*

The historic county of Gloucestershire (and beyond)

*Researching:*

WW1 Prisoner-of-War camps in Gloucestershire and South Gloucestershire, using local, national and overseas archives and prisoners' artefacts, letters etc.

The background to internment in pre-1974 Gloucestershire of alien civilian and military prisoners, the administration and precise locations of, and conditions in, the camps, and data on the prisoners and their British guards. Illustrated talks given on this topic at a variety of levels to meet specified requirements.

*Find out more:*

Dr Colin Chapman's website:

[www.lochinpublishing.org.uk/Colin%20Chapman.htm](http://www.lochinpublishing.org.uk/Colin%20Chapman.htm)

Email: [crc@lochin.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:crc@lochin.fsnet.co.uk)

Telephone: 01453-547531

## ***Gloucestershire Family History Society***

*Geographical interest:*

All of Gloucestershire

*Researching:*

Gloucestershire Family History Society (GFHS) supports people researching their ancestors and the background against which they led their lives, in Gloucestershire and beyond.

*Find out more:*

GFHS website: <http://gfhs.org.uk>

Email: [help@gfhs.org.uk](mailto:help@gfhs.org.uk)

## ***Gloucestershire Society for Industrial Archaeology***

### *Geographical interest:*

All of 'modern' Gloucestershire

### *Researching:*

A general interest in Gloucestershire Industries during WW1, particularly the manufacture of munitions and aircraft engines

### *Find out more:*

The GSIA Journal (<http://www.gsia.org.uk/reprints/index.php>) contains the following

- National Filling Factory No 5 Quedgeley by Brian Edwards 32-52  
<http://www.gsia.org.uk/reprints/1994/gi199432.pdf>
- The Slimbridge Munitions Depot by Brian Edwards 13-21  
<http://www.gsia.org.uk/reprints/1995/gi199513.pdf>

The group were also asked by the "Remembering Rodborough" project to research and give a talk "Stroud Industries and World War 1" on 3 July 2014.

To find out more please contact:

Dr. Ray Wilson  
Honorary Secretary  
Gloucestershire Society for Industrial Archaeology  
Oak House, Hamshill  
Coaley,  
Dursley,  
Gloucestershire  
GL11 5EH  
Tel. 01453 860595  
[www.gsia.org.uk](http://www.gsia.org.uk)

# More about ‘Gloucestershire Remembers WW1’

The ‘Gloucestershire Remembers WW1’ project is an HLF-funded programme to help individuals, groups and communities across Gloucestershire commemorate the centenary of the First World War, at home and abroad.

Since November 2013, the project has organised training and designed toolkits to help individuals and communities to research soldiers from their area, as well as life on the Home Front. We are now creating new resources to help people share what they have learned through events and exhibitions, online and in print.

Find out more about the Project here:

[www.glosremembers.co.uk](http://www.glosremembers.co.uk)

Find out how the project can help you explore and share your WW1 heritage: <http://glosremembers.co.uk/how-we-can-help>

Explore the Project’s free research toolkits and support resources: [www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/archives/WW1](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/archives/WW1)

Follow us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/GlosWWI](http://www.facebook.com/GlosWWI)) and Twitter ([www.twitter.com/GlosWWI](http://www.twitter.com/GlosWWI)).

Join us on Historypin: [www.historypin.com/en/explore/first-world-war-centenary/gloucestershire-remembers-ww1/](http://www.historypin.com/en/explore/first-world-war-centenary/gloucestershire-remembers-ww1/)

