

WW1 Commemoration Weekend

9-11 November 2018

A group of individuals and organisations came together to put on commemorations of the end of the First World War with a programme of activities designed to remember those in our village who lost their lives and celebrate those who returned at the end of the hostilities.

A series of events included:

- Historical walk around the village
- Concert in Christ Church
- Film – Oh What a Lovely War at the Methodist Chapel
- Children's Art in the Methodist Chapel
- Exhibition about Willaston in 1914-1925
- Parade
- Commemorative service in Christ Church
- Celebratory event at Hadlow Road Station



Silhouettes were placed on benches around the village to remember those who were not with us

The Methodist Chapel hosted an arts and craft exhibition (right: tribute by the Cubs)





Graves in the churchyard of the fallen were marked with a red sash and each had a wreath at the base.

Photo: Actuarious Art



Friends of Hadlow Road Station organised a celebratory event with a choir singing songs of the era and prose relating to WW1

Photos: Ruth Hampshire (left); Actuarious Art (below)





A poignant exchange of gifts and handshakes between Cllr Myles Hogg, former Deputy Mayor of Ellesmere Port and Erik Fritz, Mayor of Sickenhausen, Germany.

Parade and Open Air Service



Photo: Ruth Hampshire

Photos below and over:
Margaret Callender



Poem written by recited by Inneen Taylor
for the Hadlow Road Station event

November 11th 1918

A hundred years ago today
World War 1 was ended,
For freedom and democracy
Our country was defended.

Much bravery was shown
And sacrifices made
By men from every walk of life
And from every trade.

In the village of Willaston
And many others too
Small rural populations
Were reduced by quite a few.

Those who left this station
To set off on the train –
And died, are honoured yearly
By reading out each name.

They must have passed the church
Where their monument stands
A memorial to the village sons
Who answered duty's call.

Willaston has prospered and grown
To what its now become
Since the sadly depleted days
At the end of World War 1.

So to the present generation
Who now passes to and fro
Spare a thought for those village soldiers
Of a hundred years ago.

