



About the Project

The Trentham WW1 project began in 2014 when members of the Trentham NWR group decided to research the 17 names on Trentham War Memorial from the First World War. We traced 16 of the 17 names, only William Clarke proved elusive. We exhibited a display at the NatWest Bank, produced a short film called 17 Names, arranged a service of Remembrance at Trentham War Memorial and set up a website. <http://trenthamwarmemorial.org.uk/Home/>

During 2015 we decided to undertake further research into Trentham between 1911 and 1921. This was a turbulent time locally, due to the departure of the Duke of Sutherland from the area, the subsequent demolition of Trentham Hall, the opening of the pleasure gardens, the 1919 auction of many of the Sutherland properties rented by local villagers; as well as a mini building boom signalling an influx of wealthier people from the Potteries. All of this set against the background of WW1 and the departure of local men to fight for their country, some of whom were destined not to return.

- We aim to transcribe the census returns for Trentham for 1911 and cross reference these to the Land Tax Valuation Survey for 1910 and the 1918 Register of Electors and the results of the 1919 Auction of the Sutherland properties.
- We will map the village as it was during WW1 and record who lived in the houses.
- We will collect photographs from the period and involve local people as directly as possible in our research.
- We will also collect information about Trentham's key residents, including the shopkeepers, farmers, station master and various movers and shakers.
- We will work with a local primary school who have a learning challenge to find out what Trentham was like 100 years ago. This will include providing them with project packs containing census returns and large format maps and photos. Plus we hope to commission a first person interpreter who will tell the children stories based on a real person who lived in Trentham in 1916.
- We will also be working with local film maker, Prof. Ray Johnson, to produce a film about Hem Heath and its inhabitants in 1916. Actors will take the roles of a cross section of real people against a backdrop of contemporaneous photographs and film footage.
- The children's work and an exhibition about our project will be showcased for children, parents and grandparents at a school event.
- We will also hold a community event on Saturday 19 March 2016 for Hem Heath residents, former residents and individuals who have helped us during the course of our research. We will invite them to meet their Hem Heath neighbours from 1916.
- On Saturday 10 September 2016, we aim to join Trentham Church for a Heritage Open Day and offer a guided trail around the old Trentham village
- We will also record and share the information that we are finding through the website and keep people informed through social media. There is a Facebook page called Trentham 100 years ago.

How you can help!

- Contact us if you have any family photos or memorabilia from this period.
- Let us know if you would like to be involved in the project in any way.
- Suggest any ways that we can raise funds to finance the project or perhaps make a small donation.
- Let us know if you would like further updates and a reminder about the community events.

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Trentham World War One Project

Trentham Faces



George Snape,
Chauffeur to the
Corn family.
Lived on Brough
Lane



Abraham Fielding
Owner of Crown
Devon Pottery.
Lived on
Longton Road



Martha Clay
Wife of Abraham Clay,
blacksmith on the
Sutherland Estate.
Lived in Ash Green



William Boxall
Huntsman with the
North Staffordshire
Hunt.
Lived on the Stone Road.

Trentham Places



The Village, Trentham

Shows the schoolmaster's house
with the "bridge to nowhere"
in the background.

Ash Green, Trentham

Looking up Longton Road.
The house was thatched and
accommodated the post office.

Half the property was
demolished at a later date.



The Smithy, Hem Heath

Owned and worked for many years by
members of the Walklate family.