



Marlow Remembers

WW1 May 2016 No 5

# Marlow

## Welcome

Welcome to the latest newsletter from the Marlow Remembers World War One Association.

Over the last few months, we have continued with our regular series of exhibitions at Marlow Museum on how the war affected the town and its people. We have also been undertaking surveys on the condition of war memorials in and around the town, and have held a number of commemorative graveside services for local servicemen on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their deaths.

Finally, we have completed our research on the local Military Service Tribunal that heard appeals against conscription. Based on the research, we have written an article for the forthcoming volume of Records of Buckinghamshire that will be available shortly.

We are currently continuing our research into the lives of those who were killed in the War and are also looking into the role played by the local Wethered Brewery as a munitions factory. Please do contact us if you would like to get involved in any aspect of our research, we are always keen to welcome new volunteers.

We have a number of very important events lined up for the rest of this year which are described in more detail in this newsletter.

Please do check our website <http://www.marlowww1.org.uk/>

for further details of these and other events and activities.

Best wishes

Andy Ford

## Forthcoming Talks and Events

1 July – Showing of the film ‘The Somme’.

7.30pm at All Saints' Church Hall, The Causeway and a short commemorative service by the War Memorial at the end of the film.

Please bring candles and whistles.

2 July – Exhibition on The Battle of the Somme, 10am – 3pm at The Causeway.

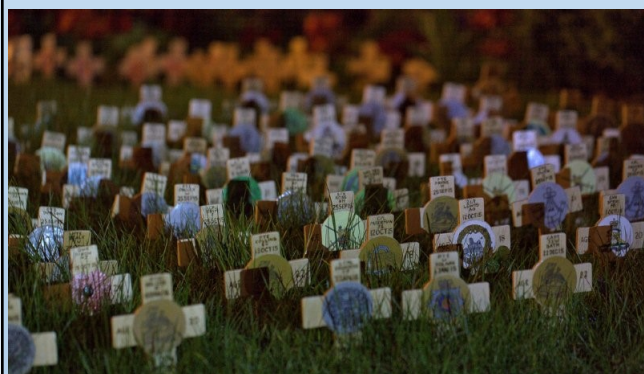
11 September – Heritage Open Day at the Brewery, including an exhibition on its role in World War One.

17 October 7.30pm – Talk to the Marlow Society Local History Group on the Brewery in World War One, Liston Hall, Chapel Street.

12 November – Concert of the music of Frederick Kelly, 7.30pm All Saints Church, The Causeway

Further details on our website:

<http://www.marlowww1.org.uk/>



‘Commemorative Crosses’ by Rowena Walton

We continue to plant remembrance crosses at The Causeway on the anniversary of the deaths of local men from World War One. To date, we have planted over 120 crosses.

# Remembering the Battle of the Somme

## Remembering the Battle of the Somme

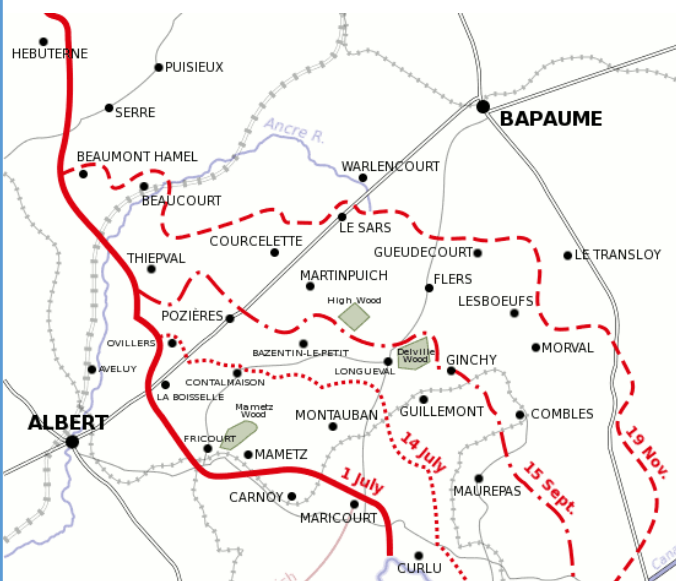
1 July 2016 is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of the Battle of the Somme, when the British and French armies on the Western Front launched a large-scale offensive to push back the opposing German forces.

The battle began on the morning of 1 July, when nearly a quarter of a million shells were fired at the German positions in just over an hour. So loud was the barrage that it was heard in London. At 7.28am ten mines were exploded under the German trenches. Two minutes later, British and French troops attacked along a 25 mile front.

While the French made good progress, 1 July was the worst day in the history of the British army, which suffered almost 60,000 casualties, with very few gains. The battle continued throughout the summer and autumn and involved casualties across both sides of more than one million men. By the end, British and French forces had penetrated 6 miles into German-occupied territory but failed to capture two of their key targets, the towns of Péronne and Bapaume.

The war memorial in All Saints Church, Marlow records the names of 36 men from the town who were killed during the Battle of the Somme.

Events are being arranged across the country to commemorate this landmark battle of the First World War.



*British troops in action during the Battle of the Somme.  
Photo courtesy of Imperial War Museum*

In Marlow, we will be showing the original film of the battle that was shot in 1916. This will take place at 7.30pm on Friday 1 July at All Saints Church Hall on The Causeway. Entry is free.

Afterwards, we will hold a short commemorative service at the town's war memorial on The Causeway to which all are very welcome.

On Saturday 2 July, we will hold an exhibition on the role of Marlow men in the Battle of the Somme. This will take place by the war memorial on The Causeway between 10am and 3pm.

At 07.28am on 1 July 1916 10 mines were exploded under the German trenches. Two minutes later British and French troops attacked along a 25 mile front.

The war memorial in All Saints Church, records the names of over 30 men from the town who were killed on the Western Front during the battle of the Somme.

Further details on our website: <http://www.marlowww1.org.uk/>



# Wethered Brewery in World War One



*Wethered munitions workers during the First World War*

During the War, part of the local Wethered Brewery switched to producing munitions for the Army on the Western Front. The archives of the Brewery are held in store in Aylesbury and we are currently working our way through them to find out what they tell us about this fascinating part of the brewery and town's history. We will be sharing the results of our research at two key events in the autumn.

Firstly, the Brewery is one of the chosen sites for this year's annual Heritage Open Day. On **Sunday 11 September**, people will be able to have guided talks of the Brewery site to explain its history and the buildings. As part of the day, we will be holding an exhibition specifically about the Brewery during World War One. We will also be unveiling an information board and a plaque to commemorate the Brewery employees who served and died during the War.

On **Monday 17 October**, we will be giving a talk on the results of our research into the Brewery during the First World War. This will be at 7.30pm at Liston Hall, Chapel Street and will form part of the Marlow Society Local History Group's ongoing programme of local history talks.



*Sergeant Henry Haddon, a Wethered employee, was killed at Gallipoli August 1915. He was initially reported missing following the attack and only later presumed have been killed in action. Like many his body was never found and he is commemorated on the Helles Memorial in Gallipoli.*

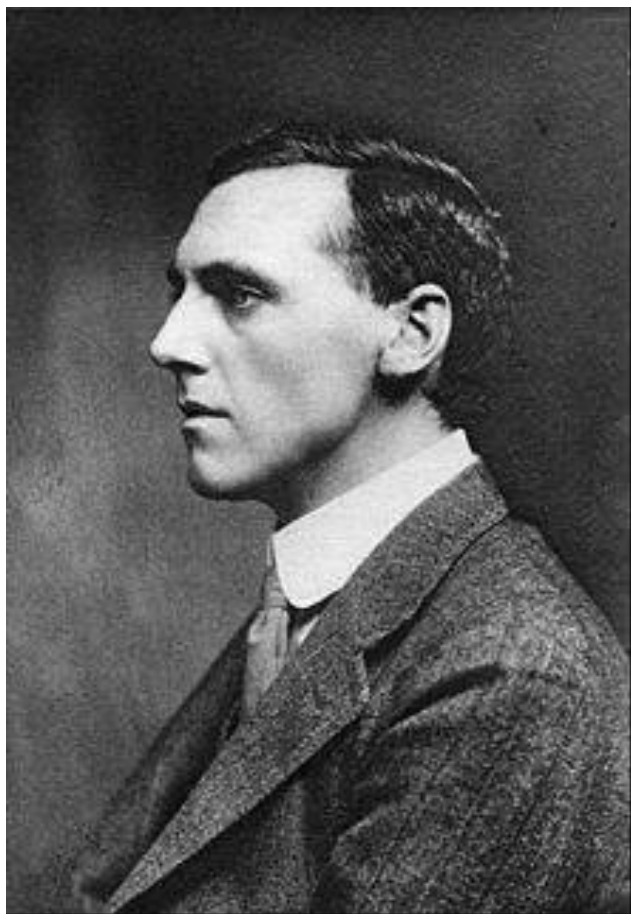
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# Fredrick Septimus Kelly Composer and Oarsman

## Concert to commemorate Frederick Septimus Kelly



*Frederick Septimus Kelly, 1881-1916*

Frederick Septimus Kelly lived in Bisham before the War and enlisted shortly after the conflict broke out. He served in Gallipoli and then on the Western Front where he was killed in the final stages of the Battle of the Somme.

Kelly was a celebrated oarsman who won a gold medal at the Olympic Games in 1908 and then rowed regularly on the Thames when he moved to Bisham. He is commemorated on the memorial in Marlow Rowing Club.

He was also a composer whose music has gained increasing recognition over the last few years. His *Elegy for String Orchestra*, written at Gallipoli in memory of his friend the poet Rupert Brooke, was performed at the BBC Proms in 2014 to mark the anniversary of the start of the War.

To celebrate the life of this highly talented local man, we have joined up with the local musical ensemble, Chiltern Camerata to hold a concert in memory of Kelly.

This will be held on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death on 12 November at 7.30pm at All Saints Church, Marlow.

The programme will consist of music by Kelly and some of his contemporaries, as well as readings from his diary.

Tickets will go on sale over the summer, so please do join us for what will be a unique commemoration of Marlow's finest composer.



*Martinsart British Cemetery, France where Frederick Septimus Kelly is buried.*

*Photo courtesy of Commonwealth War Graves Commission*

12 November – Frederick Septimus Kelly Commemorative Concert, 7.30pm  
All Saints Church, Marlow.



*The first tanks entered the battle of the Somme in September 1916 and soon made their presence felt.*  
*Photo courtesy of Imperial War Museum.*