

HISTORY GUIDE

**World War
One**

**SIX STREETS 1914-1918:
The Impact of the First World War
on a Derby Neighbourhood**

www.sixstreetsderby.org.uk

THE HOME FRONT

Food shortages, rising prices, rationing, queuing for food, air raids and threat of invasion – these were some of the experiences of those on the Home Front.

After the bombardment of coastal towns in Yorkshire and Humberside in December 1914 there was a fear of enemy invasion, heightened by Zeppelin raids, which damaged factories, transport links and homes. Submarines patrolling the North Sea attacked shipping convoys bringing food supplies. Food shortages were a problem and in 1918 rationing was introduced.

BELGIAN REFUGEES

As the German Army advanced into Belgium and Northern France, refugees began arriving in Derby in October 1914. In response to the emergency the Mayor of Derby set up a “shilling fund” and within a week £240 had been raised. About 320 Belgian refugees were housed in Derby throughout the war. One of our local churches, St Anne’s, supported a family until 1918.

Broadway Baptist Church (at that time on St Mary’s Gate) still uses a visitors’ book given to them as a leaving gift by Olivier Platteau from Antwerp who was hosted by the church between 1914 and 1919.

Monsieur Platteau became president of the Belgians’ Refugee Club and acted as spokesman for the exiles.

Fund for Belgian Refugees

Fred Hamp (22 Statham St) was

Treasurer of the fund for Belgian Refugees at St Anne’s Church.

By the time Mr & Mrs Lintermans moved to Birmingham for work in June 1918, the church had raised £268 – worth around £28,000 today. The money paid for the rent of a house on Walter St and their living expenses.

LOCAL GERMAN FAMILY

Life in World War One Derby cannot have been easy for the **Boettcher family** (46 Park Grove) who came here from Germany in about 1900 to work in the hosiery industry. The family gained British citizenship in 1912 and by 1916 they were living on Park Grove. In 1911 their oldest son, Walter, enlisted as a regular soldier in the British Army while still a German citizen. During his career he rose through the ranks to become a Sergeant, but in January 1915 he was declared “Surplus to Requirements” and dismissed from the army, for reasons we can only speculate.

RIGHT: Otto’s Naturalisation record. © The National Archives

THE VICAR’S LETTER.

My dear Friends,
I am glad to say we have obtained a house for a Belgian family, in the parish. It is at the corner of Walter and Leyland Streets. I am also glad to know how well you have responded to the appeal. We can still do with a little more help. Can anyone give any furniture, pictures, table linen, knives and forks, etc.? Anything will be welcome. Just drop me a line saying you can offer some article, and I will see that it is fetched, no matter how big or how small.



Kedleston Road about 1910 from a postcard by F W Scarratt. On the left is Bromley Street with Daykin’s Chemist on the corner. At this date a Sub-Post Office was located here from where local families sent letters and parcels off to their loved ones serving in the armed forces. ©www.picturethepast.org.uk

“IT IS GOOD THAT WE ARE NOT FORGOTTEN”

This was the common phrase used in thank-you letters sent to **St Anne’s Church** after Christmas 1917 when the church sent gifts to men at the front.

Receiving letters and parcels from home, and writing back, was very important for the morale of troops in the trenches. All mail was censored to keep troop movements secret and to suppress “bad news”. The scale and speed of the postal service was remarkable: **12.5 million letters** were sent from the home front every week and **19,000 mail bags** crossed the Channel each day. Many women were employed for sorting, censoring and reading the mail.

William Mills (33 Statham St) wrote:

“I prize the gift very much not for its value but because it shows that the old boys are not, and never will be forgotten by those at home”.

COMMUNITY LIFE DURING THE WAR

Church magazines from the time give a fascinating insight into the role churches played within the community - a full set of magazines for the war years have survived for **St Anne’s Church** in the West End. For many people it was their nearest place of worship, along with **St Aidan’s Church** on Kedleston Road.



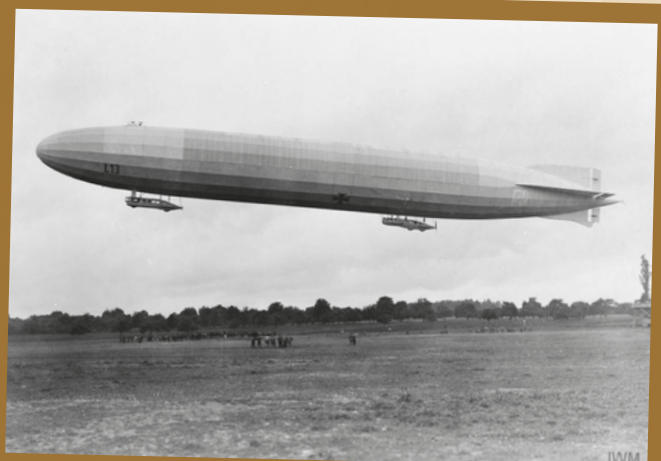
St Aidan’s Church on Kedleston Road which stood near “The Jonty Farmer”. This Anglican Church was opened in 1896 to serve local residents. ©www.picturethepast.org.uk

The monthly magazines list the names of those away fighting, feature letters from soldiers describing conditions at the front, and touch on national and local events – like the Zeppelin raid on Derby. Regular prayers and masses were held for the troops, and local priests corresponded with soldiers who were away from home. Parishioners helped keep morale high by sending books and magazines to the troops and the children gave up their annual Sunday School prizes to send parcels to prisoners of war in Germany. Churches supported refugee families and raised money for many good causes.

ZEPPELIN RAID ON DERBY

In the early hours of 1 February 1916, Derby was awoken by bombs dropped from a Zeppelin airship. Three airships had been spotted overhead the evening before and a blackout imposed on the town. It is believed that the airship was headed for Liverpool but never reached its destination. On the home journey, the airship’s captain may have been attracted by the lights that started to come back on around midnight and decided to drop the rest of his load on Derby.

Twenty one high explosive bombs and four incendiaries were dropped. Three bombs hit **Rolls-Royce**, but the most serious damage was done by the nine bombs that landed on the **Midland Railway Loco Works**, killing three railwaymen and injuring two others, one of whom later died.



Zeppelin Airship © Imperial War Museum (Q 58456)

The changing lives of women and children

As men went off to war, there was an urgent need to recruit women into the workforce. Propaganda campaigns persuaded women to help the war effort by taking up jobs in agriculture, munitions and nursing, as well as supporting existing industry and commerce. There was fierce debate about the suitability of women for roles within heavy industry, as well as issues around rates of pay.

MIDLAND RAILWAY

At the insistence of the railway unions women were only taken on "for the duration of the war", but they worked successfully in many new roles including van drivers, porters, painters, and mechanics and as assistants to skilled men in the Works areas.

About 500 women were employed in munitions factories run by the **Midland Railway Locomotive Works** in Derby. Often railway companies tried to help out by employing relatives of serving men. They also made land available as allotments for railway families to grow food.

Unfortunately there are no records to identify if any local women were employed by the Midland Railway for the war effort. The girls below would have left school by the time war broke out and would have a far wider (and better paid) range of job opportunities than previous generations. Many girls preferred working in the munitions factories to going into domestic service.



Kedleston Road Girls' School, Standard 5, about 1911.

CHILDREN'S LIVES

Children's church organisations played their part in the war effort. At **St Michael's Church** (Queen Street) the Boy Scouts helped with welcoming soldiers during February 1916, when the church rooms were used for recreation by 3/5th South Staffordshire Regiment. Scouts collected newspapers for recycling and helped with other duties, such as flag day collections.

St Alkmund's Church formed Boy Scout and Girl Guide companies at the beginning of the war. Girl Guides and Brownies at St Michael's Church earned badges for home nursing, housekeeping, sewing and 'Ambulance' duties. Scouts and Guides also visited wounded soldiers in hospital.



National Egg collection: © IWM (Access 06 / 1755-5)

PATRIOTISM OR POCKET MONEY?

In autumn 1917, the munitions industry ran short of acetone which was used to make cordite – the explosive part of shells.

Acetone could be made by fermenting horse chestnuts and school children and boy scouts were enlisted to collect conkers. The appeal was so successful that tons of conkers were left rotting at the designated collection points – children were paid 7/6 for each hundredweight they collected (in modern money that's about £23 for 50 kg). Our local collection point was at Parkfields Cedars Girls' School, Kedleston Rd (now the Resources Centre).



Patients and nurses at Burton upon Trent Red Cross Hospital ©British Red Cross Museum and Archives

NURSING AT HAYE LEIGH AUXILIARY HOSPITAL

Before the war even started plans were under way for the care of the wounded. The **Red Cross and Order of St John** joined forces as the Joint War Committee and organised auxiliary hospitals for the care of men who were not critically ill or wounded.

Between January 1916 and January 1919, a maximum of 24 men at any one time were nursed at **Haye Leigh**, 174-6 Duffield Road, mostly by volunteers (known as VADs). We have identified 11 women from the Six Streets area who were VADs – some at Haye Leigh, others at the **Derbyshire Royal Infirmary**.

Neighbours **Elizabeth Badderley** (117 Kedleston Rd) and **Eva Warwick** (119) both volunteered at Haye Leigh as nurses. Other local women working there were **Edith Aulton** (112 Kedleston Rd), **Nina Whitaker** (145 Kedleston Rd), **Lucy Impey** (45 Bromley St) and **Clara Lowe** (22 Bromley St). Lucy, Nina and Edith were all cooks and Clara helped with nursing.

VAD hospital nurse widowed by war

Although a trained nurse **Constance Basford** (118 Kedleston Rd) was unpaid for the responsibility of "Taking Charge of Sisters' off-duty time" while she worked at the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary. She volunteered there from May 1915 until after the end of the war. In October 1917, her husband, **Bromley**, an officer with the Leicestershire Regiment, was killed while on active service.



Staff at Haye Leigh Auxiliary Hospital, sent as a Christmas card in December 1917. (Image supplied by Rod Jewell)

NATIONAL KITCHEN

During the war, voluntary projects existed within working class communities to help alleviate the supply disruption and price inflation of food. The state became involved in 1917, and various community projects were re-launched as **National Kitchens**.

Local Authorities could apply to the government for a grant to cover set-up costs. The kitchens had to provide attractive, cheap meals at or below guideline prices (set by the Ministry of Food). They had to function as a business and show that they could break even financially before applying for more funding.

In 1918 a National Kitchen was set up in what is now Déda on Chapel Street, in premises used as school rooms by King Street Methodist Church. It was short-lived once rationing was introduced in 1918.



VOLUNTEER HOME WORKERS

Some women helped with sewing and knitting, often volunteering for Hospital Supply Depots that were set up around the country.

Leah Hagley (12 White St) mother of Richard in the RAF and his grandmother, **Mrs de Soiza**, were volunteer home workers for the Joint War Committee. Tasks were knitting, sewing and preparing war hospital supplies, such as dressings and bandages, and sewing nightshirts and hospital gowns for wounded soldiers.



© IWM (Art.IWM PST 6570)

In May 1916 **Ellen Draper** (26 Bromley St) volunteered to do home work "knitting, needlework and war hospital supplies" while her husband was serving abroad. In December 1917 she gave up this voluntary work after Robert was killed in action.

Other home workers in the area were: **Jennie Morris** (82 Park Grove), **Bertha Neal** (53 White St), and **Mary Richards** (27 White St), **Ellen Pool** (9 White St) and **Florence Ward** (132 Kedleston Rd).



Girl Guides prepare hospital supplies. They are making swabs to apply to wounds © IWM (Q27923)

FROM THE CO-OPERATIVE DERBY RECORDS

From 1902 there was a Co-op store at 3 Bromley Street (now a newsagent's shop). The Co-operative Women's Guild in Derby was very active in campaigning and contributing in various ways to the war effort. The following snippets from their monthly magazine "The Co-operative Derby Record" give an insight into life at the time:

Women Patrols – May 1915:

"At a Women's Guild Meeting, Mrs Russell gave a most interesting address on the need for "Women Patrols" while our town was so full of soldiers. Their duty was to guard young girls. They wore a black and white striped strap round one arm and a number."

Visiting wounded soldiers – August 1917:

"Women's Guild – Received and spent on goods for wounded soldiers £15. 10s. Members of the Committee visit the Infirmary, Temple House, and the Normanton Barracks Hospital. At the latter tea is always included in the goods we take... and sometimes fruit instead of cake."



Kedleston Road, about 1914, looking towards Derby. Showing George Ride, (Greengrocer), Howard & Co. (Grocers), and Robert Irish, (Butcher). Later in the war there were probably long queues outside these shops as people, usually women, had to queue for scarce food. In spring 1918 rationing was introduced for sugar, meat, flour, butter, margarine and milk. Each person had a ration card which could only be used at the shops where the card was registered. ©www.picturethepast.org.uk

YOUR COUNTRY NEEDS YOU!

More than 110 men from this area went away to fight during the First World War, nine of whom never came back. In the first two years of the war the men were volunteers – after March 1916 conscription was introduced.



Some men were too young, old or medically unfit to fight but we think about 25% of local men served in the armed forces. Many men who did not fight were employed in jobs that were important to the war effort – working in transport or munitions, or keeping the home front supplied with essential goods. Six Streets men served in many different capacities and in all three branches of the armed forces – the Army, Navy and the newly formed Royal Air Force. Many mothers, fathers and wider family faced the anguish of seeing one son go away to fight. There were ten families in our area that had two sons away fighting. From *55 Statham Street* three brothers – **Arthur, Eric and Alfred Taylor** were on active service. **The Statham family** at *90 Kedleston Road* had four sons away: **Jack** (invalided out after an injury), **Arthur and Harry. Arnold**, the youngest, was killed in action in November 1917, aged 19.

SPECIAL PERMISSION

Thomas George Clarke (*41 Statham St*) volunteered aged 23 and had to get special permission from the Midland Railway to be released from his job. He was posted with 5th Battalion Sherwood Foresters and in March 1916 set off for the trenches in France. Six months later he developed a heart condition, and after a spell in the Army Service Corps he was discharged in August 1918 deemed “no longer fit for duty” and returned to the Midland Railway as a foreman.



MACHINE GUN CORPS

Clifford Stoppard Grundy (*44 White St*) served in France as an officer in the Sherwood Foresters (Notts & Derby) Regiment, before transferring to the Machine Gun Corps in December 1916. Later in life Clifford lived at 36 Ashbourne Road where Mr Grundy's Tavern now trades.



Sydney Hurlstone (*5 Park Grove*), volunteered for military service and was posted with the 19th Royal Fusiliers. In November 1915, aged 18, he began active service in France, and in August 1916 he was transferred to the Machine Gun Corps. Surviving to the end of the war, he was luckier than most: the Machine Gun Corps lost many men, earning it the nickname “*The Suicide Club*”.

PROTECTED PROFESSIONS

Herbert Hurlstone (*5 Park Grove*). Sydney's older brother, Bert, trained as a pharmacist with Davies Sons & Co in Derby, going on to work at Cope & Taylor in the Market Place from 1912-1914. We cannot find evidence that he enlisted and his occupation as a pharmacist may have been protected, exempting him from military service.

ARMY SERVICE CORPS

When war broke out **Robert Draper** (*26 Bromley St*) was working as a chauffeur for Lord Curzon at Kedleston Hall, living on the estate with his family. Robert volunteered for military service in August 1915 aged 34 and was posted to the Army Service Corps (Motorised Transport) – experienced motor vehicle drivers were still comparatively rare. He was posted to France in April 1916 with the 17th Divisional Supply Company, transferring supplies and equipment from railhead terminals to the front lines, but was killed in action on 28 May 1917. He is buried in a military cemetery in Belgium.

KILLED IN ACTION

Reginald Severn (*37 Statham St*) volunteered for the army in November 1915 at the age of 19. His first active service with the 2/5th Battalion of the Sherwood Foresters was a posting to Ireland, following the Easter Rising in 1916. In February 1917 he embarked for France for service in the trenches.



On 26 September 1917 he was killed by a splinter from an exploding shell. His grave was never found but he is remembered on Tyne Cot Memorial in Belgium.

Richard Hagley (*12 White Street*) served with the Royal Air Force, beginning his training in spring 1918, aged 18. In June 1918 he became an Observer Officer and shortly afterwards was posted to France. Serving with the 9th Squadron he would have been involved in bombing and reconnaissance missions. Only three weeks after his posting he was wounded, sent back to hospital in England and demobilized in April 1919.

RIGGER WITH THE ROYAL FLYING CORPS

James Ernest Yeomans (*53 Park Grove*) was conscripted in June 1916, aged 36. An upholsterer by trade, he was posted with the Royal Flying Corps. It is likely that he served as a “rigger” – part of the ground crew who worked on the body of the aircraft. Many riggers had previous experience in woodwork, wiring and upholstery, essential for working with the flimsy canvas and wooden aircraft.



©IWM (Q 80680)



SIX STREETS IN THE RAF

THROUGH ADVERSITY TO THE STARS



© Royal Aero Club Trust

George William Cantrell Eggleston (*124 Kedleston Road*) was drafted into the Lancashire Fusiliers in May 1917 after he turned 18. In June 1918 he started to train with the Royal Aero Club to become a pilot, receiving his aviator's certificate in December 1918. The club trained some of the first military and naval personnel to become pilots. In April 1918 the Royal Flying Corps (part of the British Army) and The Royal Naval Air Service (Royal Navy) combined to create the Royal Air Force.

VISITING OUR SIX STREETS

Marked on the map are houses where someone directly involved in the war effort lived. We have told the stories of some of the men from Six Streets who went away to fight.

You can find out more at www.sixstreetsderby.org.uk

Go to the World War One page "*Lest we Forget*" to view the life stories of the men and women involved.



KEY: SIX STREETS RESIDENTS INVOLVED IN THE WAR EFFORT

Men

Women

Both



OUTSTANDING BRAVERY

Wilfred Hamp (22 Statham St) worked in Lincoln as a clerk before his family moved to Statham St. He volunteered in 1914 and by March 1915 he was posted to France with 1/5th Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment. He relished life in the army, writing letters to St Anne's Church that were printed in the parish magazine.

He was known as "Billy" to his comrades. On 12 June 1917, fighting to gain ground among the slag heaps round Lens in Northern France, he earned the **Distinguished Conduct Medal** for outstanding bravery. Sadly Billy never knew of this - on 26 June 1917 he was killed by a booby trap left by retreating German forces.



ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS

Jasper Fletcher (32 Wheeldon Ave) volunteered for military service and landed in France in November 1915. He served with the Army Ordnance Corps which had a wide remit of responsibility: weapons, ammunition, clothing, armoured vehicles and other military equipment, as well as laundry, mobile baths and photography. The Corps dealt with the repair of equipment and Jasper's early career as a shoeing blacksmith no doubt was useful.

Other men living on Wheeldon Avenue who served with the Army Ordnance Corps were **Herbert Bradley** (No 4) and **Ernest Garratt** (No 28).



Troops of the Army Ordnance Corps re-assembling and repairing guns at a mobile workshop in France, 1918 © IWM (Q 347)

DIFFERENT FORTUNES

Brothers **William and Laurence Mills** (33 Statham St) both volunteered in spring 1915; Laurence (left) was posted with the King's Own Liverpool Regiment and William with the Sherwood Foresters.



Both brothers served in France, but Laurence received a gunshot wound which caused permanent damage to his jaw and affected his right eye, putting an end to his military career. He was awarded the **Croix de Guerre** (see above the map) by the French government – a medal for his bravery carrying messages between French and British officers.

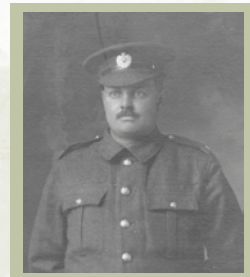
William served throughout the war, transferring to the RAF in May 1918 to train as a pilot.



Sherwood Foresters going up to the front line at La Boisselle, July 1916. © IWM (Q780)

ROYAL ENGINEERS

Thomas Moreton Cooper (94 Kedleston Rd), worked for the Midland Railway then served as a "Sapper" with the Royal Engineers, who played a vital role maintaining the railways, roads, water supply, bridges and transport. Thomas volunteered in November 1915 and was posted to France in February 1917. In April 1918 he received a bullet wound in one thigh. He was sent back to England, moved to various hospitals and finally discharged in February 1920. He returned to work at the Midland Railway.

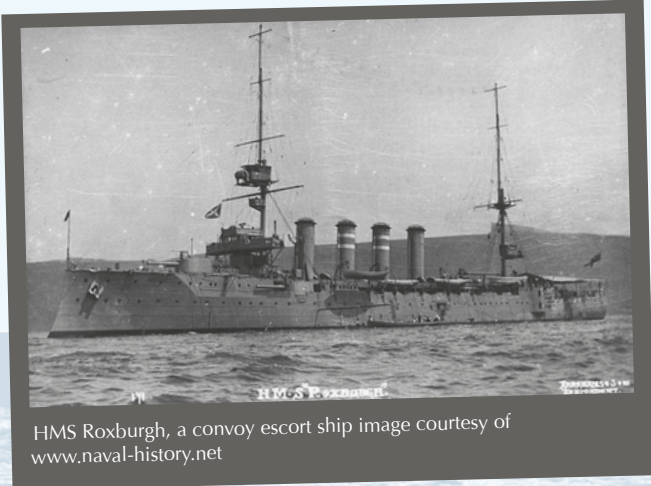




SIX STREETS AT SEA

IN THE NAVY

Stanley Holt (42 *Wheeldon Avenue*). We knew nothing about Stanley's military service until we sent for his marriage certificate - in July 1918 he married Frances Piggin of Longford St, and on the certificate his occupation is listed as "Artificer, Royal Navy with HMS Roxburgh". In civilian life Stanley was an engineering draughtsman with the Midland Railway, so was well placed to take on the role of maintaining and operating marine engines and boilers.



HMS Roxburgh, a convoy escort ship image courtesy of www.naval-history.net

HMS Roxburgh was a convoy escort ship, accompanying cargo vessels and troop ships carrying vital supplies, first to the Russian front and then across the Atlantic. In February 1918 she rammed and sank a German U-boat just north of Ireland.

BROTHERS IN ARMS

Frank and Albert Wright (44 *Wheeldon Avenue*) both served with the Royal Navy. In May 1916 Albert enlisted with the Royal Naval Air Service. Previously an analytical chemist, he was posted to serve at the Navy's Experimental Station in Stratford, East London. Here a team worked on the production of the 'artificial fog' used in April 1918 in the Zeebrugge Raid, which aimed to stop German submarines from leaving the harbour by blocking the port.

Frank, the older brother, enlisted in April 1917. He was an Engine Room Artificer, which was similar to his civilian job as a fitter. One vessel is named on his record - HMS Collingwood - a dreadnought battleship.

Other Six Streets men who served with the Royal Navy or Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve:

- **EPL Hughes** (100 *Kedleston Rd*) - Ship's Surgeon
- **Reginald Wood** (50 & 55 *Statham St*) - Signaller
- **Frederick Ride** (123 *Kedleston Rd*) - Signaller
- **Robert Clayborn** (14 *Bromley St*)
- **John Power** (108 *Kedleston Rd*)

DIED OF INFLUENZA IN FRANCE

John 'Jack' Hodgson (45 *White St*) was the only child of Flora Hodgson who was widowed when John was two. Jack worked as a clerk with the Midland Railway and volunteered for active service in autumn 1915. He served with the Royal Engineers Railway and Canal Troops throughout the war but died in France of influenza in November 1918, just five days after the Armistice. His name is on the Midland Railway war memorial near the railway station.

Conscription and non-combatants

In 1914, Britain was the only European country without a conscripted army. Following massive casualties in 1914 and 1915 there was an urgent need to recruit more men to the armed forces. With opposition to the war growing from socialists, trade unionists and people with religious or moral objections the government faced a shortage of new, fit volunteers.



© IWM (Art.IWM PST 12123)

From January 1916 the Military Service Act legally required men to serve. In March 1916 call-up papers were sent out to single men aged 18-41 and in May to married men who were eligible for conscription. The upper age was raised to 50 in spring 1918.

All applications for exemption from conscription were judged by local Military Service Tribunals. The *Derby Daily Telegraph* reported on cases heard in Derby with stories of grounds for exemption, and the decisions of the Tribunal panels. Very few claims for conscientious objection were accepted - the act included a "conscience clause" without offering a detailed definition. On 14 April 1916 the newspaper reported that the Appeals Tribunal Panel refused 3 claims in one minute.

The Derby branch of the No-Conscription Fellowship, which campaigned for the act to be repealed and fairer tribunals, offered support to Conscientious Objectors. Initially "conchies" were viewed as cowards, but as people became aware of unfair treatment, public sympathy grew. Tribunal records were so sensitive that in 1921 most were destroyed.

CONSCRIPTED IN 1916

Ernest William Hallam (48 & 49 *Statham St*, from 1929 onwards 58 *Park Grove*), a married man with two children, was a teacher when war broke out. He was conscripted aged 38 in May 1916. Ernest served in France with the Royal Garrison Artillery 181 Siege Battery. After the war he returned to teaching, eventually becoming the headmaster at St Paul's School in Chester Green.



UNDERAGE VOLUNTEER

Charles Henry Steer (92 *Kedleston Rd*) volunteered in March 1916 when he was still 17, giving a false age. It is estimated that 250,000 underage recruits were enlisted during the war. In March 1917 when 18 he was posted to France, although the minimum age for service abroad was 19. The army did not discharge him and Charles was shuffled back and forth between the Labour Corps and the Royal Garrison Artillery. When demobilised in September 1919 he was based at an artillery fort in Weymouth. Charles went on to become a bank manager!

REFUSING TO BEAR ARMS

Frederick John Redfern (83 *Kedleston Rd*, later 56 *Statham St*) was one of some 80 Conscientious Objectors in Derby. Called up in March 1916 his enlistment was deferred until a Military Service Tribunal in July 1916. He was a member of the Plymouth Brethren Church who took a stand against bearing arms, preferring to be recognised as non-combatants rather than conscientious objectors. In October 1916 he was posted with the Non-Combatant Corps. He survived the war and lived locally until his death in 1973. Peter Clarke who lived at 54 *Statham St*, said: "Mr Redfern was one of the nicest people you could meet - a good neighbour to have and well liked by everyone...He was very religious".



World War One postcard ridiculing Conscientious Objectors (see www.worldwar1postcards.com)

"And what work are you doing of National Importance?"
"Why, I'm rearin' eight children an' helping to make alyplanes!"

SIX STREETS HISTORY, DERBY

To mark the centenary of the First World War a group of local residents have been exploring what effect the war had on the lives of people in this area. We have focused on the impact on local people, their families and the neighbourhood. This guide is the result of our research, funded for two years by the Heritage Lottery Fund. We would like to thank all those who have helped with our project.

All houses within the Six Streets area have been presented with a copy of this guide. We hope you will find it interesting and keep it as part of the history of your house – maybe with your house deeds?



Supported by

The National Lottery[®]
through the Heritage Lottery Fund



ABOUT OUR RESEARCH

To tell the stories of local people during World War One we have searched newspapers, parish magazines, and consulted military records. From the 1918 electoral registers we identified about 100 men away on active service, but eligible to vote. A search of Commonwealth War Graves records gave us the names of nine men from our area killed in action.

We cannot be sure how many local women were involved in the war effort. Red Cross records helped us to track down those who volunteered as nurses, medical carers and home workers, but many women's contributions remain unrecorded.

We are grateful to descendants of Six Streets families who have been unfailing in their help – giving information and allowing us to use family photographs. From our local project we have made contact with people all over the world!

**A large print version of this guide
is available on request.**



Email us: 6streetshistory@gmail.com