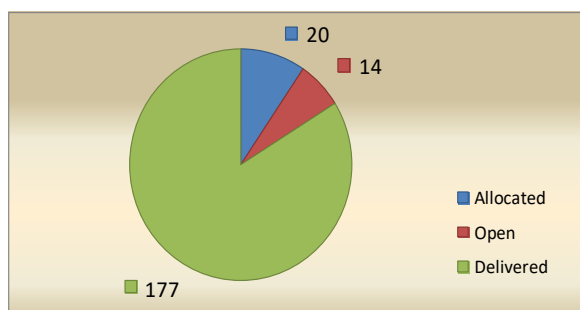




Plans for this year

As we enter the final stretch of our challenge it is worth reflecting on the fantastic achievement to date by the people of our town. Thame Remembers crosses or wreaths have been delivered in memory of 177 men who made the ultimate sacrifice in times of conflict, taking the project to 104 separate locations in 14 countries and across four continents.

We have 34 still to go but 20 of those are already allocated so we know the who, how and when by which those will be achieved. That leaves us with 14 still remaining, some of which are eminently doable and for which we hope new volunteers might come forward to visit Jerusalem, Pakistan (Karachi), Denmark (Lemvig), and three in northern Tunisia which has now re-opened as a tourist destination.

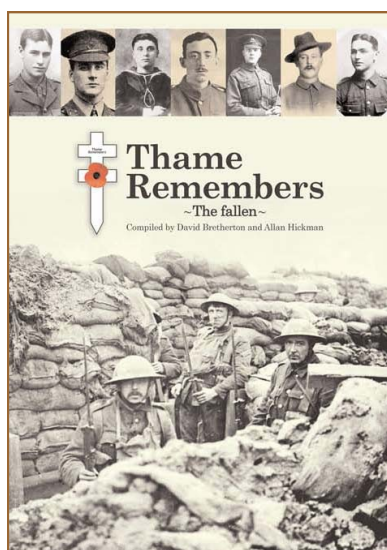


Somewhat easier should be the four UK locations – Oxford, Abingdon, Aldershot and Chatham – necessitated by our revised plans to commemorate our Boer War casualties and volunteers for these would also be appreciated.

We accept that we will not be able to get into Iraq so Allan Hickman will deliver a wreath to the CWGC Basra Memorial at Maidenhead. Nor will we be able to get into Libya for Signalman Peter George Campion who is buried at Tobruk, but the Alamein

Memorial also covers the campaigns in Libya so he can be commemorated during our visit to Egypt in February.

Towards the end of the project we will identify appropriate alternative places to remember any of the above which remain outstanding, plus two men named on Thame's War Memorial whose fate remains a mystery. With that in mind, we plan to take a coach party to the **National Arboretum in Staffordshire on Sunday 22nd July**. Entrance to the Arboretum is free but there will be a small charge of £10 per person for the coach, leaving Thame at 08:30 and returning approx. 18:15. More on this in our next newsletter but do reserve the date now.



Our Legacy

Planning for our legacy is well underway with most of the book already written, but it cannot be completed until after the remaining crosses have been delivered.

Secure your copy of the Thame Remembers book now for £20 instead of the cover price of £25. Payment can be made through our "mydonate" page (see below), by cheque (made payable to Thame Museum) or by cash. Please be certain to include your name and contact details so that we can ensure you receive your copy.

Please send cheques and cash to;

Treasurer, Thame Museum, 79 High St, Thame OX9 3AE.

Only £20

<https://mydonate.bt.com/events/thameremembersbook/444554>

Crosses Recently Delivered

3 December 2017

**Sergeant
Gordon Wade**
Royal Air Force

Iain Biddle
Durnbach War Cemetery
Bavaria, Germany

Change of plan for Boer War casualties

Our initial thought for the six Boer War casualties was to be one delivery to the Oxford Boer War Memorial now at Abingdon Barracks. However, when planning in detail we realised that this memorial is only for the Oxfordshire Light Infantry and so only covers one of our men; Pte George Archer. A re-think was needed.

Of the rest of our men Pte Michael Bond and Pte Charles Plim were Imperial Yeomanry, Driver William Hubbard was Royal Engineers and Driver Harry Taylor, Army Service Corps.

The Oxfordshire Imperial Yeomanry memorial is at Christchurch in Oxford and both names are recorded there. The Royal Engineers Boer War Memorial Arch is at Chatham with Wm Hubbard recorded..



The Army Service Corps memorial has moved a few times but is now in the RC Cathedral in Aldershot.

All this means that we now have four visits to make, not one, and we will be looking for volunteers to make the deliveries before July.

If you think that you can help please let us know.

You may ask what happened to Henry Reynolds? He was an addition to the LWS memorial in 2015 but our extended research showed that he lived a long and happy life dying in 1959 at age 88, so he is no longer a concern for us.

#Thame
museum

*This newsletter is printed
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distributed free to all*

This paper is intended as a digest of news items about the Thame Remembers project to keep the people of Thame up to date with what is happening.

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Durnbach Delivery

When we identified Sgt Gordon Wade as a casualty of the bombing raids over Germany we realised that getting to his grave, in the Alps to the south of Munich, might be difficult. He died when his Stirling bomber crashed near Lembach in Bavaria and the crew are now all buried in Durnbach War Cemetery.

Fortunately Iain Biddle of Thame Freight took up the challenge and diverted from his busy delivery schedule last December to lay the Thame Remembers cross at Gordon's grave. Iain has previously laid a Thame Remembers cross commemorating another airman, PO John Clarke, at Wintzenbach, near Strasbourg.

He has also made a personal journey of following the trail



of Private Albert Thomlinson of the OBLI. Starting at Albert's brother's grave in St Mary's churchyard on 3 August 2014. He then, with his wife Alison, laid a wreath at the Dunkirk Memorial where Albert's name is officially recorded by CWGC.

Albert died whilst a prisoner of war at Stalag VIII B then in Germany but now in Poland. As we reported last year Thame Remembers research successfully located the site of his burial and now Iain and Alison are planning a trip to Neisse, Poland later this year'.

Thame Remembers is a project of Thame, Oxfordshire to commemorate the centenary of World War One by researching those from Thame who fell in all conflicts worldwide, and remembering them by placing a Thame Cross on their grave or memorial wherever in the world that may be. If you feel that you can help please contact Dave on 01844 21 5178.