

**We hope this finds everyone well**

**Our next Escrick Heritage Group meeting is on Wednesday  
3rd November  
starting at 7.30pm in Escrick Church. 'Ypres to Cairo: 20 years with The  
War Graves Commission' by Simon Wilson.**

Simon Wilson spent over 20 years with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission in a range of different roles including gardener, head gardener, senior head gardener, training officer, district inspector and finally as the horticultural manager for the British Isles.

Simon's many roles included extended postings to Belgium where he managed dozens of the large World War One Cemeteries. He also had two years based, along with his young family, in Cairo, where he trained the local workforce to look after predominantly World War Two Cemeteries and where his travels also took him to Israel and the Lebanon.

Back in the UK as a District Inspector, one of his varied responsibilities included ensuring that the tomb on the Unknown Warrior in Westminster Abbey was kept in immaculate condition.

It should be a really interesting evening, when Simon will include a few anecdotes about strange things that happened, interesting people he met along the way, what to do when you keep finding unexploded shells, and the challenges of driving in Egypt.

In addition, Simon will happily try and answer any gardening related questions too! Many of us have family members buried in Cemeteries which are so beautifully looked after by the War Graves Commission, so do come along to learn more.

Refreshments will be served at the end of the evening. Members free. Visitors/guests £3. Escrick Heritage Group Annual membership is £10 for the year to 31 August 2022 and includes a free copy of the Escrick Church guide book.

We ask please that everyone sanitises their hands as they enter and leave the Church. Also to help keep everyone safe, we would encourage all please to wear a face covering while moving around inside the building, respect other people's space and follow the one way system.

Thank you very much.







### Our Knitted Poppy Display

The display was launched on 6th October when Chris Cade presented his one man show 'Arthur Walkers Great War'. It was an excellent evening. You could have 'heard a pin drop' as people were engrossed in the performance and all jumped when the whistle blew!

The evening was made even more special as we were delighted that two members from 2 Signals Regiment based at Imphal Barracks York were able to come along. We were able to thank them in person for providing the camouflage netting which made our display possible.

It was great too that Michala Pearson, our Heritage Engagement Officer for the Heritage Lottery Project, was also able to join us.

Christine presented Michala with a tea light holder made from the surplus pew wood, with our thanks for all she has done for the St Helen's and the Project.

Michala has very kindly offered to continue assisting us with Heritage activity ideas in a voluntary capacity, for which we are extremely grateful.

The Poppy display will be up until 17th November. Huge thank you to everyone who knitted and created the swags, painted stones and contributed in any way. The display looks wonderful!





**Heritage Hub afternoon  
Monday 8th November 1pm to 4pm**

Another chance to enjoy the Poppy display. All welcome. Feel free just to pop in for a cup of tea and a chat, or bring along photo's for scanning for the Community Archive.

**Memories Café  
Tuesday 16th November 10am to 12 noon**

Again everyone very welcome to come along for Tea/coffee and cakes. Adults £3, children 50p. Free refills. Theme this month is 'Books & magazines'.

**Christmas Wreath Making Workshop  
Monday 29th November**

Due to demand, we now have two sessions: 5pm and 7.30pm. There are still a few places available for the 5pm session but the 7.30pm one is full. Cost £40 to include all materials, glass of mulled wine and mince pies. Book early to avoid disappointment. To secure your place please contact Caroline on [escrickchurch@gmail.com](mailto:escrickchurch@gmail.com)

**And a little something to close**

***Sonnet: the tomb of Lady Caroline Wenlock***

*Here lies Caroline where she ought to be*

*(Fire banished her to a corner where none could see*

*The delicate work of the sculptor's art).*

*Now the viewer can scarcely tell apart*

*Her stone hand from my living one which I place*

*Next to hers; no movement of hand or face*

*Betrays surprise at my forwardness.*

*Veins, wrinkles, swollen joints, all express,*

*In both, the passage of the years. Note too*

*The masterly rendering of lacework, now like new,*

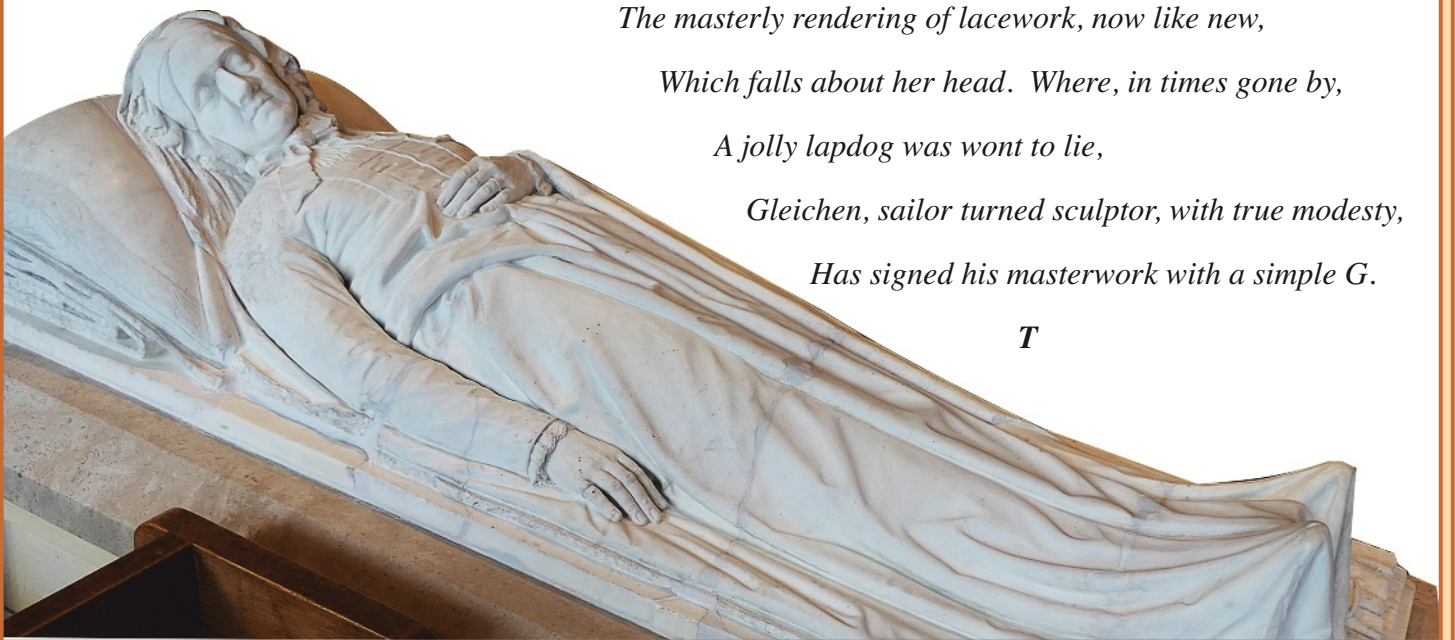
*Which falls about her head. Where, in times gone by,*

*A jolly lapdog was wont to lie,*

*Gleichen, sailor turned sculptor, with true modesty,*

*Has signed his masterwork with a simple G.*

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**We look forward to seeing everyone soon!**