

World War I

1914 to 1918

When war broke out on 4th August 1914, young men in Quorn were eager to join up. Many had never ventured further than Loughborough and this was seen as a chance for travel and excitement.



The Fallen

Of the 330 men from Quorn who went to war, 78 (24%) were killed and more than half of those were under 26 years old. They were sons, brothers, husbands, sweethearts, fathers, friends and old classmates of villagers. Each death was a tragedy and had an individual story.

A Brother's Loyalty

Dan and Billy Moore, aged 25 and 23, from 34 Station Road, joined the Leicestershire Yeomanry at the beginning of the War. On 13th May 1915 they arrived at the frontline in Belgium at what would become known as the Battle of Frezenberg, part of the Second Battle of Ypres. Billy was detailed for the trenches, but Dan was assigned as a 'pack leader' to take the horses back out of the firing line. However when Dan discovered that his younger brother was to

remain in the trenches, he swapped places with another soldier so that they could stay together. Both boys were killed that day, along with five other village lads. In September 1918 their youngest brother, Hubert Moore, was also killed.

Remembering the Dead

In December 1917 a temporary war memorial was unveiled in the centre of the village on the 'Little Green', which is known today as the Memorial Gardens. It was gifted by William Wright, one of the owners of Wright's factory in Quorn who had lost his own son, Harold Wright, in September 1915. After the war a permanent war memorial was erected behind the temporary one.

Belgian Refugees

During November 1914 Quorn welcomed more than 20 Belgian refugees whose homeland had been invaded. Most were accommodated in Brook House which stood near Quorn Cross, where Hall Leys is today.



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Scan here to play the audio for this board.



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- 1 Dan and Billy Moore.
- 2 The temporary war memorial.
- 3 Brook House.
- 4 The permanent war memorial.
- 5 Lapel badge given to men working at Wright's in WW1, to indicate they were not shirking.
- 6 Certificate presented to Quorn Scouts.



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Life in Quorn During WWI

Life in the village changed for everyone during the war. There was endless fundraising and many sewing/knitting groups made 'comforts' for the troops. School children gardened and collected conkers to provide acetone for making explosives, and Quorn Scouts went coast-watching on the east coast, which released men to fight. The workforce at Wright's rose to over 2,000. The factory worked round the clock and was the second largest supplier of military webbing in the country.

For Your Tomorrow by Sue Templeman

As part of Quorn's WW1 centenary commemorations, local historian, Sue Templeman, published 'For Your Tomorrow', which details the lives of all 78 young men from Quorn who died and also provides a window on life in Quorn during WW1.

