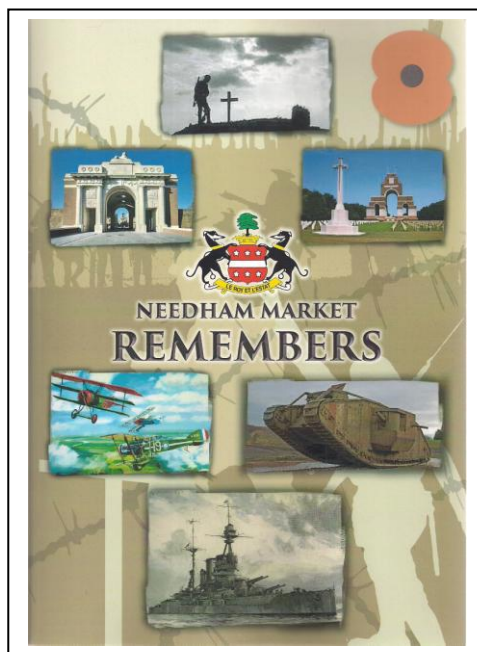


## Commemoration of Centenary of Outbreak of World War 1

The whole community of Needham Market got behind the concept of commemorating this momentous event in our nation's history and several activities, involving many sections of the community; Schools, Churches, Town Council, Charities, Shops, Pubs and Clubs, have resulted .

Possibly the most significant activity has been production of the Needham Market Book of Remembrance. A project that has taken over a year of dedicated research by Mrs Winifred Price to compile biographical notes on every fatal casualty from the town; the 49 from World War One and the 15 from World War Two. She took as her start point the names recorded on the War Memorial but her research uncovered some anomalies and missing names.

Production of the book was generously funded by Needham Market Town Council and local charities, with the Royal British Legion managing the project.



A copy of the Book of Remembrance was dedicated in service held the Parish Church on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August, where it will remain on display with the pages turned to appropriate anniversaries. The book was presented to the church by Mr Russell Overton, a veteran of World War Two, whose uncle, George Overton, is one of the casualties listed in the Book.

Copies of the book *Needham Market Remembers* are available for the public to buy from RBL and a number of outlets in the town and a copy will be placed in Suffolk County Records Office.

A large group of people, mostly seniors, are seated in a hall for a presentation ceremony. The room has a curved wooden upper level and a balcony with a green banner. A man in a military uniform is visible on the right.



Pupils from Bosmere County Primary School and Needham Market Middle School made their contribution to the Commemoration in the form of display panels describing their feelings on the theme of soldiers and effects of their loss on families. The three panels were displayed in both churches and their handiwork will be preserved in a scrapbook for future generations to contemplate.



The nation-wide initiative “Lights Out, was observed in Needham Market. All lights, save one, were extinguished in homes and offices at 10 p.m. to mark at 11p.m. British Summer Time; the centenary of the expiration of the British Ultimatum to Germany in 1914 and hence the start of hostilities.

A dozen members of the Royal British Legion conducted a quiet dignified candle-lit vigil at the War Memorial.

The Commemorative events have raised over £500 for the Poppy Appeal - a great start for 2014.



To round off the Commemoration, an exuberant sing-along, featuring popular music hall songs from the era will be held at Needham Market Institute on 24 August.



### Tipperary Statue, Stalybridge, Cheshire

Where, in 1912 Jack Judge, for a bet, wrote the song one afternoon and performed it the same night.

The soldier of the local battalion of the Manchester Regiment is playing the tune on a harmonica, as they did when off duty in the trenches.



### Mademoiselle from Armentières Statue

Inaugurated by Actress Line Renaud

Note the four British soldiers supporting the shield on which Mademoiselle rests: an infantry man, a cavalryman, a Scotsman and an Indian.

Dominion troops comprised over 25% of the British army in Flanders.