

## Melbourne Historical Research Group World War 1 Exhibition

2014 is a year of two historic anniversaries. Recently, on June 6, the country commemorated the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day and on August 4 will commemorate the centenary of the outbreak of World War 1 - the "Great War". This year the annual exhibition of the Melbourne Historical Research Group will commemorate this latter event. The Great War had an enormous impact on the lives of everyone, irrespective of whether or not their family members were directly involved with the services. The whole structure of society and social attitudes were changed by these years of conflict.

The exhibition will include the current results of research, not only into the local people who died during the conflict, but also those who served, and will illustrate some aspects of life in the village at that time. Over 400 men – more than 20% of the whole male population - served in the armed forces at home and abroad, with others, both men and women, involved in war work at home.

It is the intention that this exhibition will not be a finite event but will provide the basis for an archive of material available for use by schools and by the public. It is also hoped that it may be a catalyst for drawing in material for inclusion in this record.

The exhibition will be held at the Melbourne Assembly Rooms, High Street, on August 23 and 24, with doors opening at 10 am on Saturday and 11 am on Sunday. It is the intention to give short talks on the research on both days, to which all are warmly invited. As usual, admission is free and refreshments will be available, along with the chance to browse other material from the group's ever-expanding exhibition collection.

Melbourne Historical Research Group would welcome any information or photographs of people or events, military or non-military, during this period. Should you have any material that you would be willing to have copied for inclusion in the project, please contact Adrian Earp on 01335 343203 ([adrian.earp@btinternet.com](mailto:adrian.earp@btinternet.com)), or Jean Grimley on 01332 863385 ([grimjeannie@aol.com](mailto:grimjeannie@aol.com)).