

Why do we remember the
fallen of 1914-18?



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We wear the poppy at this time of year as a symbol of remembrance. The origin traces back to the end of the First World War when close to a million British soldiers were killed in action (the number is not fully known) in a miserable and horrendous conflict which is often referred to as the Great War or the 'War to end all wars'.

On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918 an armistice (peace agreement) was signed that ended the fighting of the First World War. This Friday will mark the 104th anniversary of that event and at 11 o'clock people all over the UK will stop what they are doing and spend 2 minutes in silent reflection.



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“I don’t think the village ever really got over the loss of these men. They were the village’s best. We just expected them to come marching down the High Street but they never did. Such a waste. Men who could have built up their businesses, had families and improved the local community. A terrible waste.”

The Sawston Village War Memorial

This lists the men from Sawston who lost their lives serving in the First World War.

Traviss Teversham

An older man who knew many of the soldiers who went off to fight

Was the Great War of 1914-18 the 'War to end all wars'?



This is Harry Billinge MBE. As a member of Commando Forces, Harry landed in Normandy, France on D-Day, 6th June 1944 during the Second World War.

When interviewed by the BBC for the 75th anniversary of the D-Day landings the interviewer referred to Harry as a hero, to which he replied:

'I'm no hero - I was lucky!'

Was the Great War of 1914-18 the 'War to end all wars'?



Harry was appointed MBE in the 2019 New Year's honours list for services to charitable fundraising, including raising more than £25,000 towards the construction of the **British Normandy Memorial**. This memorial lists the names of the **22,442** servicemen and women under British command who fell on D-Day and during the Battle of Normandy in the summer of 1944. One of the names listed is **Robert Henry Chapman**.

Who was Robert Henry Chapman?



Robert Chapman died of wounds sustained whilst operating an LCM, a mechanized landing craft used to land troops and vehicles during the Normandy landings.

How did this impact Sawston Village College?



This is the Sawston Village College War Memorial at the entrance to College Reception. The memorial commemorates the 22 former pupils who were killed during World War II and one who was killed in November 1952 during the Korean War.

Robert Chapman is the first name listed. A former pupil of Sawston Village College who came from Whittlesford, but was killed on D-Day at the age of just 19.

How did this impact Sawston Village College?



Robert Chapman is the only former pupil of Sawston Village College who was killed on D-Day, 6th June 1944, but he's not the only former pupil to be commemorated on both our memorial and the British Normandy Memorial.

How did this impact Sawston Village College?



ALFRED ARTHUR MACKAY

Army - Lance Bombardier

Royal Artillery

20th Anti-Tank Regiment

DIED

13 June 1944

SERVICE NO.

1137266

Alfred Arthur Mackay was from Mill Lane, Sawston and served in the Royal Artillery. He was killed on 13th June 1944, at the age of 21.

How did this impact Sawston Village College?



VICTOR GEORGE FROSTE

Army - Trooper

Royal Armoured Corps

141st (7th Battalion, The Buffs [Royal East Kent Regiment])

DIED

14 August 1944

SERVICE NO.

14405448

Victor George Froste was from Little Shelford and served in the Royal Armoured Corps. He was killed on 14th August 1944. Like Robert Chapman, he was only 19.

How did this impact Sawston Village College?



Harry Billinge died earlier this year at the grand old age of 96, but his legacy lives on. He may not have had a direct link to Sawston Village College, but it's largely thanks to his fundraising that the names of **Robert Chapman**, **Victor Froste** and **Alfred Mackay** have a permanent memorial in Normandy.

Why do we remember the fallen of 1914-18?

Remembrance Day is about remembering all soldiers who have lost their lives in war. Wearing a poppy is a symbolic gesture that shows they will never be forgotten.



Sawston Village College's war memorial commemorates former pupils killed in the Second World War of 1939-1945 and the Korean War of 1950-1953.

On Friday 11th November, the College will hold its traditional 2 minute silence at 10:48 in memory of the fallen of 1914-18 and those former pupils who have been killed in war since. We will remember them.

