



History:

Topic:	Locals Support for the War Effort 1914 - 1918
Date of Record:	January 2022
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Notes:	Examples of how Hargrave people supported the War Effort.

Locals Support for the War Effort – 1914-1918

The following transcribed press clippings illustrate the level of support given by the villagers of Hargrave on the Home Front during the Great War.

The following item was printed in the Bury Free Press on the 19th December 1914.

HARGRAVE

THE SCHOOL.

A communication has been received by the Mistress (Mrs. M. M. Todd) from Admiral Sir John Jellicoe acknowledging the receipt and thanking those who had contributed to the comfort of our sailors by knitting and sending woollen cuffs to them. The, have been distributed amongst the crews of the light cruisers, "who gratefully appreciate the kind thought."

The following item was printed in the Bury Free Press on the 22nd May 1915

HARGRAVE BELGIAN SOLDIERS' FUND.

Through the kindness of Miss Cook, Mr. and Mrs. Last and family, Mrs. Morley, Mrs. Miller, Miss R. Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. Rigby and family, Miss Rolfs, Mr. and Mrs. Seeley and family, Mrs. and Miss T. Todd, Rev. P. and Mrs. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Wray, a weekly gift of 2s. towards food and comfort for the Belgian soldiers, has been sent regularly since February 15th to the present date together with 13s. 5 ¼ d., the proceeds of collection box, parcels of shirts, socks and underclothing have also been sent. More subscribers will enable a larger gift to be sent, and regular subscriptions of one penny weekly will gratefully received by the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Seeley, Hargrave.

The following item was printed in the Bury Free Press on the 28th August 1915

HARGRAVE

LAVENDER BAGS

- Two dozen bags containing lavender have been made by the children of Hargrave School, and presented to the wounded soldiers at the West Suffolk General Hospital.

The following item was printed in the Bury Free Press on the 15th January 1916

BELGIAN SOLDIERS' FUND.

-During the year the following have been sent from this village:—A weekly gift of 2s for food. etc., collected by Mrs. Seeley, and given by the Rev. P. and Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Morley, Miss. Rolph, Mrs. Todd, and Miss T. Todd, Mrs. Wray, Mr. and Mrs. Bridge, Miss Dean. Mrs. Seeley and family, Mr. and Mrs. Last and family, Mr. and Mrs. Rigby (Dalham), and Miss H. Cook. £1 10s., collected on cards by Ida Seeley, Muriel Pettitt (Hargrave), Lily Robinson, Ethel Barr, Thomas Talbot (Dalham), and Miss E. Baugh (Dunstall Green). Parcels of clothing, containing shirts, socks, vests, pants, mufflers, and mittens, made and given several of by the weekly gift subscribers

The following item was printed in the Bury Free Press on the 25th March 1916

EGG COLLECTION.

—A collection of eggs for wounded soldiers the various hospitals been kindly undertaken by Mrs. Laflin, with the pleasing result that 70 eggs have been contributed from the village during the past week, and conveyed by her to the wounded soldiers at the Depot Hospital

The following item was printed in the Bury Free Press on the 1st April 1916

HARGRAVE EGGS FOR THE WOUNDED.

—The eggs given by the residents of the village for wounded soldiers last week again numbered 70, which were kindly collected and conveyed by Mrs. Laflin to the wounded soldiers at the West Suffolk General Hospital.

The following item was printed in the Bury Free Press on the 6th October 1917

HARGRAVE

The harvest thanksgiving services were held in the parish church on Sunday. The rector (Rev. P. Wilson) officiated. The church had been beautifully decorated by Mrs. David Deeks and Mrs. Turner. Miss Bertha Copping assisted. The collection of choice vegetables, fruit, flowers, corn, bread, eggs, etc., was a splendid one, all of which was given, with the collection, which amounted to £3, to West Suffolk General Hospital.

The following item was printed in the Bury Free Press on the 10th November 1917

HARGRAVE WAR SAVINGS ASSOCIATION.

- On Thursday week a meeting the War Savings Association was held in the School. The accounts for the half-yearly audit had been completed by the hon., auditors (Messrs. J. C. Turner and L. J. Boldero), showing the amount collected during that period to be £118 3s., making total of £127 2s., received since the inaugural ion of the Association.

The Secretary (Mrs. L. J. Boldero) announced that 164 certificates had been purchased from March to September. Those purchased outright numbered 103, and those by instalments 49. 147 certificates allotted, 11 in hand and 7s. balance. The number of members has increased to 36.

The following item was printed in the Bury Free Press on the 8th June 1918.

HARGRAVE.

EMPIRE DAY COLLECTION.

--- The Empire Day collection among the children and teachers, attending the day school, for the purpose of purchasing cigarettes and tobacco, for the soldiers, amounted to six shillings, which has been forwarded by the Head Mistress (Mrs. M. M. Todd) to the Organizing Secretary.

EGG COLLECTION

for the wounded. An egg collection was organised throughout the village, Mrs. Boldero, for the wounded soldiers, with great success. In this she was assisted by Miss Trixie Todd. A liberal response was made, with result, that 172 eggs were contributed. Those who did not give eggs, kindly contributed various sums money for the purchase of them. The amount subscribed was £1 17s. 6d.

LECTURE ON THE WAR SAVING ASSOCIATION.

—On Monday evening an address was given Mr. W. T. Cox, Bury St. Edmund's, in the Schoolroom, on the above subject, to an appreciative audience. The Chairman of the Hargrave War Saving Association (the Rev. C. W. Cyprian Floyd, rector) occupied the chair, and introduced the lecturer. At the close a vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Cox for his kindness in coming and giving such an interesting lecture, and for his explanation of the various questions submitted to him.

Mr Cox, in responding, proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector for presiding, and for the sympathetic and able speech which opened the proceedings. Mr. L. J. Boldero seconded, and the motion was carried and duly acknowledged. The meeting was arranged by Mrs. L. J. Boldero, the indefatigable hon. secretary to the Association.

And a more individual act of support.

The following item was printed in the Bury Free Press on the 11th December 1915

JUSTICE FOR ALL

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BURY FREE PRESS"

—I read last week's issue of the Bury Free Press under the above heading, and having had over three months' hospital treatment myself, I can fully sympathise with the unfortunate "Tommy" at the Depot Hospital, who was not allowed his relatives, because they had not his written consent.

May I compare own treatment the authorities King George's Hospital. London, a fortnight ago? I called to see a wounded Tommy friend of mine, quite unknown to him, and was immediately conducted to his bedside. When I explained to the sister I had come some distance to see him, she immediately asked me to have tea, and allowed me to remain with him until 5 pm. Needless to say, such kindness and consideration were greatly appreciated by my friend and myself.

One could not help noticing the eagerness with which the poor fellows in the different corridors (my friend's ward was fifth floor) awaited their friends, or the disappointment of them if the visitor proved one who knew them not.

Trusting you may find space for this testimony of how some hospitals conduct their affairs, which might well be taken as an example by the authorities of the Depot Hospital.

I am, Sir, yours etc.

BERNARD C. TODD

School House, Hargrave, Bury St. Edmund's, Dec. 8th. 1915.

P S.—The fare provided to patients at King George's Hospital is worthy of note, viz., tea, eggs, cake, jam and cheese.—B.C.T.

Selection of World War I Home Front Propaganda Posters.

