

St Arvans Memorial Hall Armistice Commemoration Events

Both events in the Memorial Hall were a real success and they wouldn't have happened but for the help and support of so many people in the village. There were contributions from all generations. Many residents rallied around in the development, preparation and, magically, the clearing up afterwards! There are far too many to name but a huge thanks to everyone.

David Priddis' talk on the Friday evening, 'St Arvans Remembers WW1', attracted over 60 people and was very well received indeed. It was clear that he had done intensive research. It was fascinating. Congratulations to him and many thanks.

The Big Tea Party drew around 120 people. It was wonderful to see the interest in the memorabilia of the war, the hall and village life. The display of cakes was fantastic, a show in its own right. It looked to be rather a lot but, surprisingly, quite a large percentage was consumed!

The entertainment, linking memories of what has taken place in the hall with what happens now, included dancing from the 30's,40s and present. This was led by 'Swindicate' and members of the U3A Line Dancing Group. When 2 year old Chloe Rosser joined in, it was a truly joyful sight. Other participants included Callum Jones on his saxophone, a choir leading community singing and 10 year old Sofia Marangon who read a moving poem.



Of course, the unique memorial painting that will hang in the hall was one of the main features. Local artist Rebecca Way and the young children in the village have produced a beautiful but poignant image, linking the present youth with the 15 young men who left here to fight but didn't return.

The Hall Committee would particularly like to express thanks to Salters Heating and Plumbing Services and the Piercefield for their financial support.

Judith Bolton
13/11/18