



# BOURNE CIVIC SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

October 2013

Registered Charity No 512420

Member of

CIVIC VOICE

A warm welcome to new members

Stuart and Wendy Booker

**Our sympathies go to the family of Miss Olive Scotney.**

**Olive was one of our older members, she attended all of the very early meetings in the Red Hall and Baldocks Mill**

The Christening Exhibition was well attended throughout the month, and a big thank you to the people who loaned the pictures and christening dresses and our helpers who manned the mill.



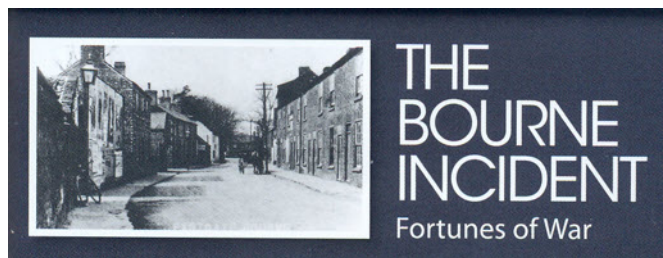
Reverend Douglas Clarke  
St Albans Abbey

Heritage Week we opened for four days, the Red Hall was also open on the Saturday, they also had good attendance.



The BRM Association was formed in 2012 by a small group of BRM enthusiasts with the support and co-operation of David Owen OBE, Rubery Owen Holdings Ltd and Rick Hall of Hall and Hall, to promote the history and unique legacy of BRM and provide a forum for BRM car owners, former employees and enthusiasts.

[www.brmassociation.org](http://www.brmassociation.org)



Dennis Winsor our last speaker gave a very good talk on the Bourne incident. He talked about the lead up to the bombing raid to take place over Belfast docks. The Junkers 88 flew into English air space they were detected by the new but primitive mobile radar and intercepted by the Bristol Beaufighters from RAF Wittering, the Junker was shot down over Eastgate Bourne. The rest of the raid was successful over Belfast.

Next meeting at Baldocks mill

Speaker Mr T Burke  
Cane and Beet sugar  
Monday 14th October

Sunday 24th November  
Wine and Nibbles  
Lunch time  
At 64 Stephenson Way

Visitors to the Heritage Centre

The Bourne Rotary club and the Australian Rotary club  
They later played a cricket match on the Abbey lawns.

Alvis motor club

Anthony Jennings one of our members, has put his name forward as a candidate to become a Trustee on the Civic Voice Board. He needs our vote. The civic society would like him to succeed and win a position on the Board.

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## Baldock's Mill

At the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century the Mill at 21 South Street was occupied by Frederick and Annie Baldock who at the time of the First World war had three sons – all three went off to war sadly two were killed and one survived although he returned home wounded.

The youngest son Harold Baldock Boy Seaman 1<sup>st</sup> Class aged 17 years was accidentally killed on the 30<sup>th</sup> December 1915 when HMS Natal, a 13,550 ton armoured cruiser, blew up in Cromarty harbour the explosion caused the death of 421 from a compliment of 704 the death toll included some visitors. The enquiry which followed concluded that faulty ammunition was the cause.

However in the late 1920's Able Seaman James McDade was recounting the story to his family – on that fateful day he was off duty being short of money could not afford to go ashore. Bored he wandered along to the aft magazine to have a chat with his friend who was on duty, approaching the magazine saw that his friend was working and smoking realising that should he be found with his friend smoking by the orderly officer both would be in trouble – he decided not to enter the magazine but went up on deck as he wandered along to the forward end the ship blew up he was thrown into the water apart from slight hypothermia survived.

His family remonstrated with him as to why he had not come forward at the enquiry he replied simply “well I was not asked anyway he was my mate”! Harold Baldock is not only commemorated in Bourne but also on the large Naval Memorial at Chatham.

The elder brother Lance Corporal Frank Baldock of the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment was killed in action on the 9<sup>th</sup> August 1915 on Scimitar Hill in the Suvla Bay area of Gallipoli – this action was a disaster for the 6<sup>th</sup> Lincolns who were under orders to relieve the troops on the Hill but unbeknown to the battalion the occupying troops had already been withdrawn and the enemy had reoccupied the area the resulting action saw many casualties to the battalion. The Gallipoli campaign was ill conceived badly executed - the capability of the Turkish troops with German support was woefully underestimated resulting in failure. Not only Frank Baldock who was married with a daughter was killed but also from Bourne Robert Benstead and Herbert Cleary ticket collector from the Bourne Station.

These men are commemorated on the Bourne memorial also in the Abbey church – they are commemorated on the Helles Memorial, Gallipoli, as they have no known graves.

A. L. Stubbs  
September 2013.

Bourne Civic Society are planning an exhibition for 2014. The theme will be the First world war. We will be looking for photographs, items of clothes, medals, army uniforms.

Contact Brenda Jones

### Our Mission Statement

It is the aim of the Society to make sure that new developments are of the highest possible quality and developers are made aware of the issues surrounding their schemes. Good design is only possible through a full understanding of any scheme's environment and urban context. We seek to safeguard our existing heritage and the many listed buildings from demolition or neglect.