

Concerts were held to raise money to provide Christmas parcels for the men at Fovant and bands from the Durham Light Infantry and QVR were hugely popular – raising money for the War Effort. 32 parcels were also sent “to our men at the front”. During the war, James Foyle, a carpenter who lived at Cleeve House opened his house and offered tea to the servicemen posted to the village.

June 1916.

A memorial service for those who had officially been reported as killed – John Emm, Fred Emm, and George Compton. A note in a diary mentions Lord Kitchener drowned in the sinking of the “Hampshire”.

July 1916

Frank Tryhorn and Herbert Stevens were killed.

The children, through the school, raised money for the YMCA (for building recreation huts for the army), the Overseas Club (for providing tobacco to the troops), eggs to Salisbury Infirmary (10 dozen) and eggs to Queen Alexandra's Egg Collection (19 dozen)

October 1916.

Reginald Cross and Ralph Read were killed in action.

November 1916.

F.C. Jones was killed

A note in the South Wilts Church Magazine states: “The Clothing and Coal Charity –This year, the subscription given by Lord Pembroke has been reduced by one half. This means that the Bonus to each member in the Clothing Club has had to be reduced and the Vicar will have difficulty in allotting the small amount of coal at his disposal. It will greatly help him if those who can do without the coal will please tell him and if 20 of those who are now not in needy circumstances will resign from the Clothing Club so that a respectable bonus can be paid to those who remain”. (In 1912, 118 people in the village received coal from Pryce's Coal Charity.)

January 1917.

Filmer Witt, who had emigrated to Canada before the war and had joined up with the 50th Battalion of the Canadian Army, died of wounds received in Rouen in November.

February 1917.

Potatoes had become scarce and the seed-potatoes had been blighted by hard frost

April 1917.

“The Food Controllers regulations are beginning to tell on some people who have become accustomed to living entirely on bread. Could not some older people ransack their brains and tell us what they lived on in the years of the famine –somewhere about 1846? The great thing these days is to use as little flour as possible. Have you tried ‘Fadge’? It is far more nourishing than bread and it contains only half a pound of flour. Here is the recipe: ½ lb flour, ¼ lb oatmeal, 1oz butter or margarine, ½ oz sugar, 1 tsp baking-powder, enough milk to make into a soft dough. Roll out, cut into rounds or three-cornered pieces and bake in moderate oven for 20 minutes. Result: 1lb of very nourishing food.” (South Wilts Church Magazine).

The County Council urged that all men should forego the Sabbath, as it was essential for all suitable land to be cultivated to alleviate the great food shortage both for the home market and the vast military machine encamped in England and France. Lloyd George, too, appealed for all womanhood to lend their strength and youth to gather in the harvest. Labour had become desperately short as more and more men left the valley. In 1916 Lady Pembroke issued an appeal for all women of Wiltshire to assist in cultivation of the land. Help would be required in every farming activity: milking, clearing the land, ploughing, hay-making, poultry and bee-keeping as well as the cultivation of vegetables. Every house was approached to find out who could help and to advise on hours of employment and pay. For the first