

Minutes of the meeting of Stoneleigh History Society 29th April 2014

1. Sheila Woolf (Chair) opened the meeting by welcoming 25 members and 5 guests.
2. She thanked various people who were standing in for absent members and were helping with Minutes, teas, reception etc.
3. Apologies for absence have been received from Liz Sykes, Margaret Wallis, Rachel Gill & Jenny Skidmore.
4. The next meeting will be a visit to the Weavers House in Coventry on 27th May. Donations of £3 /head required. Details of travel arrangements etc to follow. Information about activities arranged by the Record Office etc had been circulated and tickets were available from Sarah for the commemorative event on May 9th.

The meeting on 24th June will be in the form of a display, describing the men from Stoneleigh who took part in the First World War. This material will then be moved to the Leigh Chapel and will be on show from 25th June to the end of September. Sheila showed a 1914-2014 Centenary Pin which she is selling on behalf of The Poppy Appeal, price £3 each.

5. She then gave a talk entitled "When Stoneleigh Went to War 1914 – 1919" She described what effect the war had on people living in the village and surrounding area. 80 soldiers had survived and 13 had lost their lives. Many old photographs, newspaper cuttings, diary extracts and advertisements were incorporated in the presentation.

The talk concluded with pictures and details of the opening of Victory Hall in October 1921.

6. Anthony Bianco then thanked Sheila for what had been a fascinating talk, giving an insight into the way local people lived in this era and how they were all affected in some way by the war.