

# The Carillon Chimes

The Newsletter of the Carillon Tower & War  
Memorial Museum

June 2015

Issue No. 56



## [Captain Christian](#)

The picture on the top right is of the medals of A/Capt John Harold Smith Christian who joined the Leicestershire Yeomanry in 1908 and was a Sergeant when they went to France in 1914. In Aug 1915 he was attached to 7th Signal Troop 3rd Cavalry Division.

In January 1917 he was granted a temporary Commission in the Royal Engineers and posted to the 4th Signal Troop having been Mentioned in Dispatches in June 1915 and the Medal of St George 4th Class (a Russian medal) in August 1915. He was awarded the Military Cross whilst serving with the Royal Engineers.

His medals are certainly very impressive but surely the icing on the cake is the fact that we also have his name board which was above the entrance to his dugout in the trenches; how thoughtful of him to bring it home for us to appreciate nearly 100 years on.

## [Future of the newsletter](#)

At the last meeting I suggested that we end this newsletter and concentrate our efforts on our Facebook page but I was outvoted so the newsletter will continue, however I sometimes struggle to fill four pages (which is what I aim for) and need help from you, if you have anything that you think might interest our readers then please let me know. Make my life easier!

## [Visit by the Mayor](#)

The Mayor and Mayoress of Charnwood, Cllr. Paul Day and Mrs Pauline Day made an official visit to the carillon, the main aim was to showcase the efforts of the volunteers and to that end it was a great success, the Mayor and Mayoress visited all the rooms and engaged with all the volunteers present. I would like to thank all those who attended and you do not need me to tell you how much the Mayor's party enjoyed the visit and a special thanks to Peter Minshall for his efforts in organising the visit and Dr Lynne Morgan for playing the bells during the visit.

As in past visits the Mayor was asked to lay flowers in memory of a serviceman commemorated on the Carillon and in this case the soldier remembered was John Theophilus Chapman who died of his wounds 30 May 1915 (see item below)

## The visit in pictures thanks to Peter Minshall



Some of the volunteers with the Mayor and Mayoress



Remembering John Chapman



Keith Hassall (right) with Mr James Evans the great great nephew of John Chapman, by coincidence a student at Loughborough University and in his last week. Steven Weng looks on.

Pictured right; David Grenz with the Mayor



Peter engages with the Mayor



Dr Lynne Morgan explains the Clavier, she played throughout the visit



Eva Weng explains the Chinese information board

## [Cathedral link](#)

I had occasion the visit Leicester Cathedral to help host some French visitors from the small village of Berles au Bois (see story below), I was a little early and was looking around the Regimental Chapel of the Royal Leicestershire Regiment which is located within the Cathedral when I spotted a plaque on the wall to an officer of the regiment, Captain Henry Spencer Logan.



We have a chair in the museum that was presented by Logan to the Officers Mess at Glen Parva Barracks in 1898, he saw action in the Boer War and was later detached to the Egyptian Army. He died from wounds on 9 May 1908 that he had received in action whilst commanding a detachment of Sudanese troops near Mesellamiya, Sudan. He was 38 years of age.

The chair had come up for auction a few years ago, we looked at it but decided that we could not justify buying it as there was no direct Loughborough connection. However a couple of years later a gentleman rang us, he had purchased the chair in the auction but now wanted to donate it to our museum. So the chair now sits on the ground floor, not as a museum object but what it was intended for, a seat for weary visitors.

I have looked on the internet for details of the action in which Capt Logan was fatally wounded but cannot find anything but I bet someone out there can? Is that someone you?

PS. I forgot to include a photograph of the chair, perhaps next month when someone supplies the details of his death.

## [Information Wanted](#)



Mr John Staples of Loughborough came into the museum to offer us the small medallion pictured, it was produced to celebrate the opening of the carillon in 1923. I did explain that we already had several examples of this particular medallion and that we were not looking for more when I remembered that we have recently placed a display case in the clavier room with the intention of putting in some carillon related memorabilia and so it will be placed in there.

During the conversation he asked why the name 'Latimer' was stamped on the back (ours are similarly marked) a lady had asked this same question some time ago and we were unable to provide an answer but perhaps you know?

Was there a company in Loughborough that produced this sort of thing?

There was a Latimer's chemist in Loughborough, perhaps they paid for them? Perhaps the chemist link is a red herring and the real answer is far different? Anyone?



## Humour

We used to have a 'Humour in Uniform' every month until I ran out of army jokes but what is a newsletter without a joke? I spotted this and thought it funny enough to share.

A radio station in Washington USA rang the head of the BBC's news team in that city and explained that they were ringing all the foreign news team heads and asking them what they would like for Christmas. The BBC man, so as not to appear greedy, answered that he would like a box of chocolate liqueurs.



A few days later the programme was broadcast with the Christmas wishes of the various foreign news chiefs. The German head wanted world peace, the Italian wished for worldwide religious tolerance, The French wanted an end to poverty and the BBC man wanted chocolates.

## John Theophilus Chapman

John Chapman was born in Loughborough in 1889, the youngest of seven children, the family lived in Ashby Rd. John attended Loughborough Grammar School and became an electrical engineer and a volunteer in the 5<sup>th</sup> Bn the Leicestershire Regiment, by the time the regiment arrived in France he had been promoted to the rank of Captain.

Captain Chapman was seriously wounded near Mount Kemmel and died of wounds on 30<sup>th</sup> May 1915, aged 26. There is a brief mention of the incident in the 1/5<sup>th</sup> Leicesters' book on our website (see the menu on the right hand side. Page 32)

The newspaper of the day reported:

'Much regret is felt in Loughborough at the death of Captain John Chapman, of the 1st 5th Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment, who died of wounds on Sunday in hospital in London. The gallant Captain was out with a sniping party when a shot smashed his binoculars and inflicted such serious wounds that little hope was entertained of his recovery. He was the second son of Mr Ernest Chapman of Ashby Road, Loughborough, and was formerly in the works of the British Engineering Company. He was a very able and popular young officer, and deep sympathy is felt for his relatives.

He was buried at Leicester Road Cemetery, Loughborough, and is commemorated on the war memorials of the Brush Electrical Engineering Company and Loughborough Grammar School as well as the Carillon. John's brother Hubert also died in WW1, in 1917.

## Korean Document Translated

Thanks to a Korean student of Loughborough University, 박종철, we have solved the mystery of the cardboard envelope illustrating a Korean flag, it appears that the envelope contained a Korean flag, it may be the one hanging in the Airborne Room, and the writing is everything you would want to know about flying it, when it is raised and lowered, the occasions it should be flown, instructions for hanging it at half-mast and even how to dispose of it at the end of its useful life. Like the Americans, damaged, worn and dirty flags are disposed of by burning. We will find a place for it in the museum as it was originally donated by a gentleman in the Korean Veterans Association.



### [Visit by American Students](#)

Two American students, Jonathan Adler and Paige Breen, from Yale who are in this country doing research visited the carillon, they are both members of the Guild of Carillonneurs, you can visit the Facebook page here: [Facebook](#)

They are both accomplished players so those people in the park on Saturday morning were treated to an extra recital. Jonathan and Paige both went away having thoroughly enjoying their visit.



### [Trip Advisor](#)

Comment on Trip Advisor, "I visited the Carillon military museum on a Wednesday afternoon. This is housed in the carillon which was built as a war memorial.

"The museum itself is fascinating and filled to the brim with thousands of military items from guns to rations. I spent a good two hours there and had a guided tour by one of the knowledgeable volunteers. There are many steps up to the balcony, but once at the top a magnificent view of the surrounding area can be seen.

"I would definitely recommend a visit."

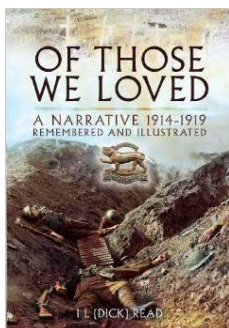
### [Quorn WW1 Exhibition](#)

The WW1 exhibition that was in St Bartholomew's Church, Quorn last year is back and will remain in place until the end of June.

The exhibition honours the 78 men from Quorn who died in the Great War, I had the opportunity to visit it first time round and it is well worth it, very well presented.

The Church is open Saturday Mornings 10 till 12 and Wednesdays 12 till 2pm and why not visit the Quorn Village on-line museum at: [www.quornmuseum.com](http://www.quornmuseum.com) an absolute wealth of material about Quorn.

### [Berles au Bois](#)



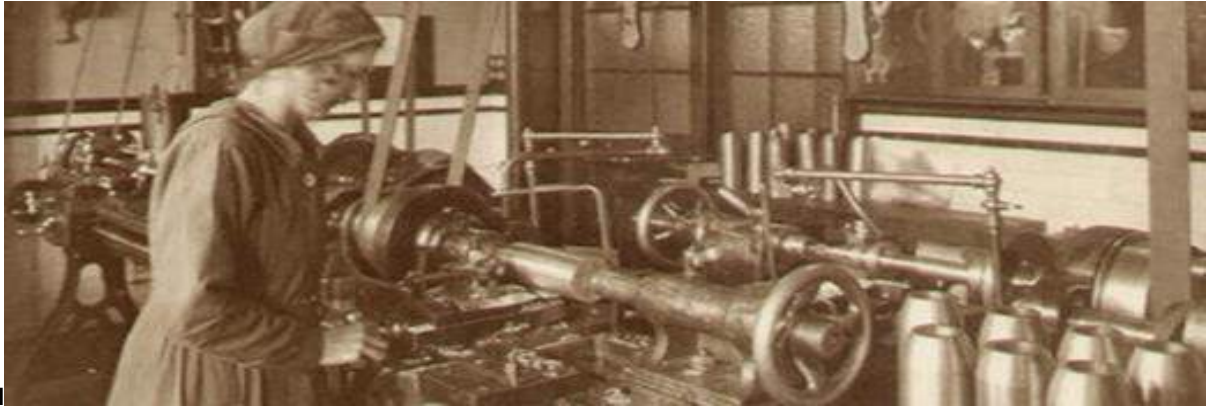
Berles au Bois is a small village in Northern France about 15 km South West of Arras. Men of the Leicestershire were billeted in the village in WW1 and formed a close relationship with the people of the village.

Dick Read served with the 8<sup>th</sup> battalion of the Leicesters' and wrote a book, *Of Those We Loved*, (see Amazon) telling of his experiences during the war and the kindness of the villagers of Berles. A few years ago the village re-named the village square, 'Dick Read Square' in honour of the man and the regiment.

Members of the Regimental Association attended the ceremony and since then the link has been maintained with people from Berles visiting Leicester. See the BBC coverage here: [Soldier honoured](#) and the YouTube video here: [Dick Read - la cérémonie version Internet.mp4](#)

## The Free Adverts

We will be attending this event!



## The Future of The Past

You are invited to

### **Loughborough History and Heritage's Community Day**

Sunday, 21st June 2015

10.00 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.

**At Burleigh Court, Loughborough**

Contact: [K.M.Ette@lboro.ac.uk](mailto:K.M.Ette@lboro.ac.uk)

Further information can be found at [www.lboro-history-heritage.org.uk](http://www.lboro-history-heritage.org.uk)



**Loughborough History and Heritage Network** is a collaborative project between  
**Charnwood Museum, Loughborough University** and the local community.