

WASHINGTON U3A



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Registered Charity no. 1127881



Lockdown is changing



We can meet in a garden



We're all getting masks



We can go for walks with friends - socially distanced !



Best buy this year???

The 7 Roman numerals - **MDCLXVI** – appear on a commemorative monument somewhere in the UK in exactly that order.
WHAT, WHEN and WHERE is it?

National U3A - Getting Bored - visit the **National U3A website** at U3A.ORG.UK. On there you'll find a photographic project, 'Ideas to keep learning', 'Mindfulness', 'Maths Challenge', 'Yoga guidance', 'Bird Watching Challenge', 'Quizzes' and more. You can also visit the facebook page. Use the facebook search and enter u3auk and then just below the top click on this symbol: 

THE WASHINGTON AND BARMSTON WAR MEMORIAL

100 years ago, on Saturday 5 June 1920 the War Memorial on the Washington Village Green was unveiled by Lord Lambton, the Earl of Durham, a serving officer of the Durham Light Infantry.

Remarkably, it was as early as 1916 that the proposal for a memorial was first discussed, and fund raising started by the Washington Welcome Home and Memorial Committee. Members included the Rector of Holy Trinity, Cyril Lomax, who had served on the Western Front and would later become the President of the Washington Branch of the Royal British Legion, and Fred Hill, then a local teacher and councillor and later the driving force behind the restoration of the Old Hall. Fred had served in the Royal Army Medical Corp in France from August 1915.

The Park was considerably more than just the plinth and cross. It encompassed the whole of the western green, consisting of two low walls with railings in a horseshoe shape, completed after the official unveiling. Existing mature trees on the green were separated by paths through the park, and bushes planted inside the perimeter.

The form of the cross itself is much as we see it today; a three tier circular plinth- since raised to grade level, a five tier rising square plinth, with a three foot cube inscribed with 179 names of casualties on all four faces, topped by a Celtic cross, to a height of 16 feet. Another six names from World War I were added in later years.

The main inscription reads

**1914-1919
SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF
THOSE OF THE PARISHES
OF WASHINGTON AND BARMSTON
WHO DIED FOR KING AND COUNTRY**

The unveiling was a solemn occasion, attended by a large crowd and dignitaries. After speeches and prayers a firing party from the Durham Light Infantry discharged three volleys. The crowd then stepped forward to find the names of their relatives. The only female listed was 17 year old Sarah Ferguson. She had died of TB in June 1918 but is thought to have been a military nurse.

Later the memorial was enclosed with railings, and a shelter and clock erected- though all the ironwork was removed during World War II.

By the 1960s the trees and bushes had been cleared, the wall reduced and the shelter removed. In the 1970s the through roads in the village were cut and the circulation round the green stopped. In 1986 the memorial was restored, including the re-cutting of names on the plinth, and the restoration of railings.

Further names were added onto the shaft following later conflicts; 101 casualties of World War II, two from the Falklands War, two from the Gulf wars, and seven from the Afghanistan war; a total of 297 names by 2020.

For 100 years the Green has been the focus of varied activities in the village, including Remembrance Day commemorations, the War Weapons Week in 1941, folk festivals and Christmas Fayres; and, most famously, the planting of trees by President Jimmy Carter and Prime Minister Jim Callaghan in 1977. Of course on June 3rd this year the three U3A branches of Washington were due to celebrate U3A day on the Green.

In 2014 further restoration took place. Three ground plaques were placed behind the cross, and The Washington Village in Bloom Group added the railings round the now mature prime ministerial and presidential trees. In 2018 the Group added the crouching soldier silhouette and decorated the enclosures with poppies.

Ged Parker

**Chair Washington History Society
Washington Village U3A**



The National U3A have produced a film 'Life in Lockdown' showing lots of things that members are doing during these times. If you would like to see the video click on this link, or copy it into your browser: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aBSfUGiszz0>



My living will
Last night, my kids and I were sitting in the living room and I said to them: "I never want to live in a vegetative state, dependent on some machine and fluids from a bottle. If that ever happens, just pull the plug."
They got up, unplugged the computer and threw out my wine!! The little ...

When all this is over
And the rainbows start to fade
Don't forget the sacrifices everybody made

When all this is over
And the death toll starts to slow
Don't rush out and party, be careful where you go

When all this is over
And the world starts to reset
We must be very careful not to forget

Because when this is all over
There'll be lessons we have learned
A true sense of community has hopefully returned

So let's all hope that 'normal' has had a makeover!
And the world's a kinder place when this is all over ❤️

WHO SAID IT?

1. Which historical figure said "Impossible is a word to be found only in the dictionary of fools"?
2. Which scientist said, "Imagination is more important than knowledge"?
3. Which American minister said "We are not the makers of history. We are made by history"?
4. Which philosopher said, "It does not matter how slowly you go as long as you do not stop"?
5. Which British politician said, "I have nothing to offer but blood, toil, tears and sweat"?
6. Which historical figure said, "I came, I saw, I conquered"?
7. Which filmmaker said, "All our dreams can come true if we have the courage to pursue them"?
8. Which entrepreneur said "My favourite things in life don't cost any money. It's really clear that the most precious resource we all have is time"?
9. Which British politician said "I fight on. I fight to win"?
10. Which conspiracist said, "A desperate disease requires a dangerous remedy"?

The Seven Dwarves have been told that from Monday, they can meet in groups of six. One of them isn't Happy.



Breaking news: Eric Morcambe statue to be removed from Morcambe seafront. Angry residents say, the reason being it has not brought them any sunshine at all

You may think that

you are completely insignificant in this world. But someone drinks coffee from the favorite cup that you gave them. Someone heard a song on the radio that reminded them of you. Someone read the book that you recommended, and plunged headfirst into it. Someone smiled after a hard day's work, because they remembered the joke that you told them today. Someone loves themselves a little bit more, because you gave them a compliment. Never think that you have no influence whatsoever. Your trace, which you leave behind with every good deed, cannot be erased.

A Senior's Version of FACEBOOK

For those of my generation who do not, and cannot, comprehend why Facebook exists: I am trying to make friends outside of Facebook while applying the same principles. Therefore, every day I walk down the street and tell passers-by what I have eaten, how I feel at the moment, what I have done the night before, what I will do later and with whom. I give them pictures of my family, my dog and of me gardening, taking things apart in the garage, watering the lawn, standing in front of landmarks, driving around town, having lunch, and doing what anybody and everybody does every day. I also listen to their conversations, give them "thumbs up" and tell them I "like" them. And it works just like Facebook. I already have 4 people following me: 2 police officers, a private investigator and a psychiatrist.

Washington U3A gardens June 2020



Irish Mason



Gloria Finnigan



Elisabeth Came



John Ball



Jim Milne



Mauveen Brown



Diana Clark



Linda Carr