

# WW1 PROJECT ON ASHDOWN FOREST

The Ashdown Forest Research Group, a group of volunteer historical researchers supported by the Conservators of Ashdown Forest, has recently completed a major project on WW1.

**T**he aim of the project was to write profiles of all the men who fell in the war and who are commemorated on the War Memorials at Forest Row, Hartfield and Coleman's Hatch - places on the northern fringes of Ashdown Forest that traditionally have close links to the forest.

The project was conceived as a way of marking the centenary of Britain's declaration of war against Germany on 4 August 1914. The first case study was published in early 2014 and the last one was completed just two days before Armistice Day in November 2018.

In all, 113 individual case studies have been written. Based largely on extensive internet research, these illustrated studies contain detailed accounts of the recruitment and service of the men during WW1. They

include the actions they were engaged in and the circumstances of their deaths and details of the lives they led before the war including their family backgrounds, local connections, education and occupations.

These studies can be viewed online on the group's website - see link below. The group is currently engaged in the process of reviewing all the studies in the light of the vast amount of additional WW1 information that has become available since the project began. The group would welcome any additional information or images (particularly, for example, from descendants of the fallen men) that might help to improve them further.

The group's WW1 website may be found at: [www.ashdownforestresearchgroup.uk/ww1](http://www.ashdownforestresearchgroup.uk/ww1)



*Pictured far left: Forest Row War Memorial, Centre: Hartfield War Memorial and above: The Memorial Plaque, Holy Trinity Church, Coleman's Hatch*