



# STEP UP!

## The STEP SHORT NEWSLETTER

100 Years Ago.....

STEP SHORT Registered Charity No. 1143305

April 2016

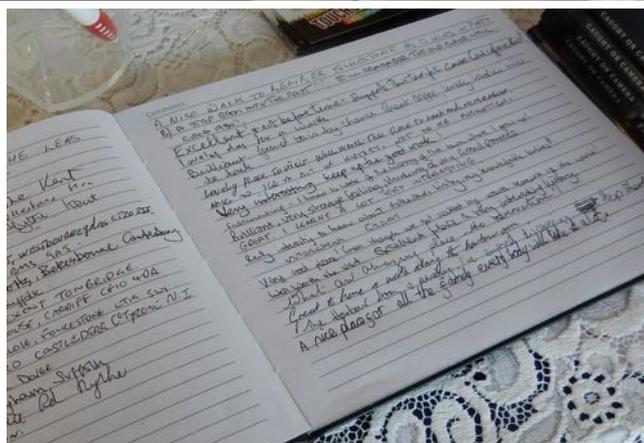
### Mole Cafe open — Join us for a cuppa!

Following the huge success of the Mole Cafe on the Harbour Arm last summer, Step Short have reopened the cafe again in 2016 and it will operate each weekend, Saturdays and Sundays and bank holidays through to October. A new counter, very similar to the original of 1914 has been installed and a lot of lessons were learnt from last years experience. Sadly, in the first week the cafe was subject to some vandalism and theft, a problem when the rest of the Harbour Arm is open in the evening and the Mole Cafe is closed. However, visitors are again really pleased to be welcomed as they would have been in 1914 and they are signing the visitors book with as much enthusiasm as the ‘Pals’ did in the Great War.

As stated at the Step Short AGM, helpers are **urgently** needed to help staff the Mole Cafe and if you can help, please contact Ann Berry or Heather D’Souza to sign up! (see page 3)



Scenes at the Mole Cafe on Saturday 2nd April.  
Left : Debbie and Katherine behind the new counter.



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## What's Happening?

**History Boards:** The History Boards project is nearly complete. These will trace a walk via local historic locations. This work has been done in conjunction with the Folkestone Town Council, Go Folkestone, KCC and members of the Folkestone History Society and the results are very good. The boards were designed by John Simms. Step Short has got some money from the community covenant grant which includes the GoeCaching project linked to the history boards. The official launch will be at Folkestone Town Council offices on Friday 13th May at 1:00pm. Folkestone Town Council have agreed to take care of the seven history boards.

**The Hub:** The Hub has been open from the 18<sup>th</sup> March and Carl Plummer would greatly appreciate any volunteers who can help staff it during the day.

**Statue at the Arch:** Terry Legg has been working on this project and has brought in some ideas to show the Events Committee, who liked his ideas, and it was decided that these will be put before the Executive Committee. Terry has been working on different designs and is considering different formats and materials.

**Old Arch Plaque:** The original plaque unveiled by Prince Harry suffered from the weather and has been replaced with a more durable version. Terry Legg has cleaned up the first plaque and framed it, and brought it into the Hub for exhibition.

**Canada Day:** This is on 1st July. Shepway DC are organising a ceremony under the Arch, and it was suggested we could combine it with 100th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme. Ben Millbery has been asked to play the Flowers of the Forest, (Lament to the Fallen). The event will start with the blowing of whistles, the signal to soldiers to 'go over the top' on the 1st July 1916.

**Tapestry:** This project is moving forward quite quickly. Schools have been visited and a framework for the social involvement in the project has been draw up. The project is now registered with the Heritage Lottery Fund and John Bailey is also registering the project with the Arts Council—England as funding may have to be split. We cannot begin the project until we have received the grant.

**Right :** An original 1915 dated Army 'Hudson' whistle that may have been used on the first day of the Somme in 1916.

This whistle will be blown, with others at 0730 hours on the 1st July 2016 at the Memorial Arch.



## **The Mole Cafe and the HUB - NEED YOU**



**Volunteers are needed for this summer's HUB and Cafe opening—please contact Carl, Ann or Heather.**

**07766 796006 (C)**

**01303 278644 (A)**

**01303 269181 (H)**

### Anniversaries and events in 2016

Most of 1916—Battle of Verdun.

24th April 1916—Easter Uprising in Dublin

31st May 1916 Battle of Jutland

5th June 1916 Death of Lord Kitchener on HMS Hampshire.

**1st July 2016 Canada Day—Shorncliffe Camp Cemetery (more details in next edition).**

**1st July 2016 0730 hrs Commemoration of the Battle of the Somme at the Arch (0700 for 0730 please)**

28th August 1916 Italy declares war on Germany.

2nd November 1916 France retakes Fort Vaux at Verdun

18th November 1916 Battle of the Somme ends

28th November 1916 1st German air attack on London

15th December 1916 Battle of Verdun ends

26th December 1916 Joffre becomes Marshall of France.