



# STEP UP!

The STEP SHORT NEWSLETTER

100 Years Ago.....

STEP SHORT Registered Charity No. 1143305

July / August 2016

## 1<sup>st</sup> July—The Somme Commemoration

The Step Short Memorial Arch hosted the Folkestone 1st July Commemoration. Around 200 people attended the service with opening welcome by Councillor Jan Holben which included a background to the battle. The battle's place in history and the names of local men killed 100 years ago to the day read out by Deputy Lieutenant of Kent, Dennis Bradley. Local mayors Cllr M Salmon of Folkestone, Cllr M Lyons of Hythe, J Cheeseman of Hawkinge, British Legion and Military Association representatives, plus local people and relatives of the fallen and survivors laid wreaths and crosses. Damian Collins MP Step Short Chairman read the Act of Remembrance. Bugler Bryan Walker played the Last Post and Reveille while Ben Millbery played "Flowers of the Forest". Finally prayers were led by Reverend David Aldington.



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# 1st July—The Somme Commemoration

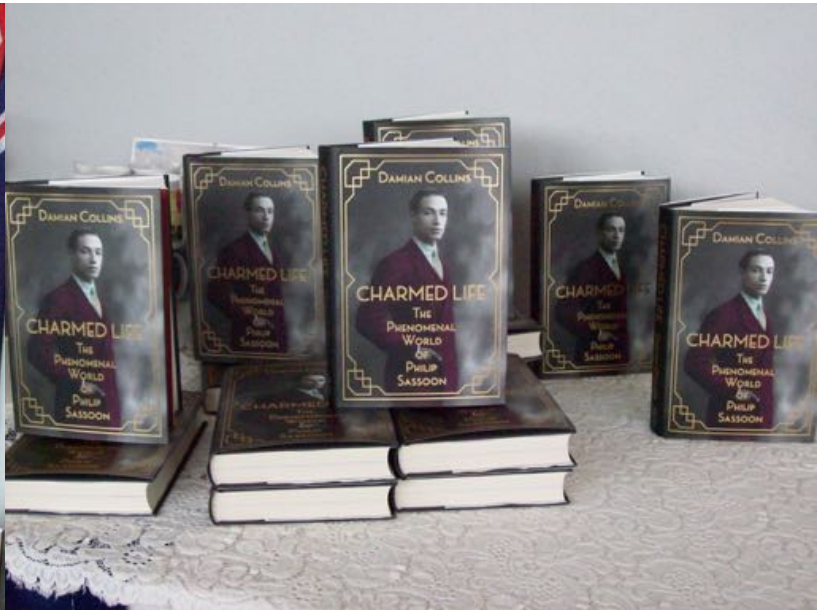
On the 1st July 1916 19,240 Allied soldiers died and another 40,000 were wounded or captured. It was the worst day in the history of the British army, but it was the start of the battle that set the direction for the war. And by 1918 only the British army was in a fit state to defeat the Germans.



Above : Deputy Lieutenant of Kent, Dennis Bradley lays the first wreath of many.



## Damian Collins—Philip Sassoon New Book Launch



Step Short Chairman Damian Collins MP was at the Mole Cafe on Sunday 10th July to sign copies of his new book 'Charmed Life', the biography of Philip Sassoon who lived locally at Port Lympne and led an amazing life as a soldier, MP, pilot, socialite and member of high society. He died young, aged 50 in 1939.

Right : Damian signs a copy for Michael Stainer of the Grand Hotel.



### [Commemorative March Sunday 7th August 2016](#)

The annual Step Short Commemorative March will take place on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August Gathering at the Leas Cliff hall Folkestone at 10.30am ready to move off at 11.00am.

We then progress to the Step Short Arch for a service there. After which those who wish to can make their way down to the Burstin Hotel for a cup of tea or coffee alternatively, you can go to the Harbour Arm and visit the Mole Café set up in the exact spot where the troops left for the western front. You could also sign the visitor book as they did in World War One. This year again we will be putting on a marvelous Buffet Lunch at the Burstin Hotel at a cost of £10.00 per person.

**Please contact Ann Berry on 01303 278644 if you wish to attend the march and to send a cheque for advance payment for the lunch. Send to : Ann Berry, Vice chairman, Step Short Folkestone Ltd 35, Birkdale Drive Folkestone CT19 5LP. Cheques made payable to Step Short Folkestone Ltd**

## **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

#### **7th August—Memorial Parade on the Leas. 10.30 Leas Cliff Hall. (Assemble from 0945) -**

Please contact Ann Berry on 01303 278644 if you wish to attend the march and to send a cheque for advance payment for the lunch. Send to : Ann Berry, Vice chairman, Step Short Folkestone Ltd 35, Birkdale Drive Folkestone CT19 5LP. Cheques made payable to Step Short Folkestone Ltd

**28th August 1916—Italy declares war in Germany**

**15th September 1916—Tanks used for the first time in battle**

**15th October 1916—Germany resumed U Boat attacks**

**18th November 1916—Battle of the Somme ends**

**28th November 1916—1st German air attack on London by an aircraft.**

**7th December 1916—Lloyd George replaces Asquith as Prime Minister**

**26th December 1916—Joffre becomes Marshall of France.**