

March 2017

We had invited Paul Harding of "Discover History" to talk on the Everyday lives and Living in the 1920' and 1930s.

What a strange period of British history. Many peaks and troughs of happiness and sadness all through those twenty years.

People were euphoric when the "Great War" ended in 1919, believing that there would never be another war, hence the name the Great War. Despite losing more people in Britain and around the world to the Spanish Flu Pandemic than had been killed during war years.

Everyday living was on the up for the next few years. The shackles of Victorian living, both in house design and furnishings, and more particularly in fashion were on the way out. The women who had been carrying out heavy dirty war work in munition factories and on the land felt liberated. They had been given the vote, they were free to dress in a more relaxed way casting aside the victorian restricting underwear, the lengths of skirts and dresses started to show more than a little of the ankle.

As manufacturing industries started up again there was work for all. With more money being earned, more more was being spent. They believed, there was never going to be another war. Healthy lifestyle was the buzz word, through exercise and walks outside. The increase of different food imports gave rise to cookery book and lessons in healthy eating, more new kitchen equipment was available in the shops.

This happiness was to last until the mid 1930s when government could see that events around Europe and the world were beginning to change. Plans were put in place so that if the inevitable was going to happen, Britain would be ready.

These twenty years were brought to life in Paul's own inimitable style.

After tea a plan of action was put into place to help with the War Commission Graves project. Members are going to record information together with photographs of headstones within our area.