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Kirton honours its war hero

A community has been praised for the way in which it has honoured the memory of its war hero 100 years after he received the Victoria Cross for his courage.

Relatives of Sgt Harold Jackson travelled to Kirton from as far away as Australia for the unveiling of a memorial stone and described the local arrangements and the local turnout for the event as "phenomenal".

Malcolm Herbert's father was Sgt Jackson's brother. He travelled from Clitheroe in Lancashire for Thursday's ceremony and said: "What this community has done is incredible; to find this is phenomenal."

Attending with his parents from Swansea was Michael Barker who had travelled to Kirton all the way from Sydney, Australia. His father's grandmother was Sgt Jackson's sister.

Sgt Jackson's brother emigrated to Queensland, Australia in the 1940s and relatives Bill Jackson and his sister Linda Rose in Australia sent a wreath to be laid in Sgt Jackson's memory at Kirton War Memorial.

His great niece, Jean Middlebrook, husband Aubrey and son Richard attended from Bournemouth and were soon making the acquaintance in Kirton Town Hall of relatives they barely knew about.

Jean said: "I was brought up to know all about Chummy Jackson and what he did. We are very proud and will visit his grave in France on the occasion of the centenary of his death in August."

Members of the 2nd Battalion Yorkshire Regiment attended and Major Gary England said: "This means a lot for the regiment, for those currently serving and those



who have served, to celebrate 100 years since those brave men and women served their country and their local community. There has been a great turnout to mark the occasion. There is clearly great regard for Sgt Jackson here – he is their local hero and it makes us very proud."

Guests processed from the town hall to the war memorial to be welcomed by Kirton Parish Council chairman Cllr Ian Turner.

Mr Stan Naylor recalled Sgt Jackson's heroic deeds leading to him receiving the VC and Father Paul Blanch, vicar of St Peter and St Paul's Church, Kirton, dedicated and unveiled the commemorative paving stone at the foot of the war memorial.

Regimental Colonel David O'Kelly, of the East Yorkshire Regiment, read the Exhortation and the Yorkshire Regiment bugler sounded a poignant Last Post as banners were lowered and raised and the Reveille sounded after a minute's silence.

Mr Toby Dennis, Lord Lieutenant of Lincolnshire read the Kohima Epitaph.

Read more and see more pictures at <https://bit.ly/2pwHK4V>

Who is your Snow Hero?

During the recent severe weather there were countless tales of people going over and above to help others. Now there is an opportunity to recognise and honour your snow heroes.

Read more at <https://bit.ly/2pLtUuT>



Team aiming to keep town tidy

Town centre tidiness is an issue which concerns all of us. Discarded drinks cans, fast food containers, chewing gum, cigarette ends and dog mess – they all have a negative impact on the way we feel about our town and the people we share the space with.

Read more at <https://bit.ly/2GbIAxD>



Get ready to bid for up to £1,000

Round-one submissions for financial support for community projects from Boston Town Area Committee (BTAC) have to be in by May 9. Formally-constituted town-based community groups and organisations can apply for up to £1,000 towards projects which have a benefit to the town centre BTAC area and its residents. Read more at <https://bit.ly/2FGQ3kH>

Windfalls for charities

The British Heart Foundation, Macmillan Cancer Support and The Friends of Boston Cemetery, each received £1,185 gained from the recycling of reclaimed metals removed after cremations.

Read more at <https://bit.ly/2plZtq0>



Easter egg hunt – Willoughby Road allotments

Members of the Willoughby Road Allotment Association are encouraging youngsters to join them on Sunday, April 8, 2018, as they host their first Easter egg hunt. Read more at <https://bit.ly/2Gxh7G1>

Help honour those who go the extra mile for Boston

There are many community-minded citizens who go the extra mile to help improve Boston, and the search is on again to find one to honour with the annual Robert Lauberts Award.

Read more at <https://bit.ly/2GP6Llj>



Week 49 winner – Read more at <http://bit.ly/2ngHd3i>

