

# HTSM First World War Monthly Journal

December 1915

## **In the bleak mid-winter**

The Rector's letter said 'Christmas Day this year will, perhaps, be the saddest Christmas Day that ever dawned.' He recalled the Christmas Truce of 1914. Edward Berryman, whose Guildford family knew Mr. Kirwan well, had been part of it, and his mother would certainly have told the Rector the story.

*In the bleak mid-winter* was printed in the magazine – carols still being slightly unusual.

The War Hospital Supply Depot in Guildford was making bandages, splints, dressings and hospital clothing, over Simpson's shop in the High Street. Workers were to contribute one shilling a week if possible, and to wear white aprons and sleeves (over-sleeves). It was hoped to open a men's carpentering section for making splints and crutches. Contributions were also asked for to pay the rent.

A desk had been presented to the St. Luke's Institute – the church hall in Charlotteville. It was given by the mother of 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. J. Scudamore, King's Royal Rifles, who was killed in action in Flanders. She lived in Mayford.

*Mary Alexander*