



History of the Gilberdyke War Memorial Hall

Many grateful thanks to [Howdenshire History](#) for allowing us to use the material below.

The full book "Gilberdyke, A Village Remembered" is available to purchase for £5 at the Gilberdyke Post Office.

After the 1918 Armistice ending the First World War, plaques were put up in churches and memorials were erected in towns and villages across Britain. The people of Gilberdyke and district, however, felt they must do more to honour the local men who had died. A committee was formed and it was decided that a Memorial Hall should be built - not a wooden army hut, but a brick building.

The committee set about raising money from dances, whist drives, concerts, fetes and other events. Eventually the Hall was opened on January 5th, 1924.

Dances were held in the Hall once a month on Friday nights, tickets selling for 3s 6d, refreshments extra. There were also whist drives, fancy dress balls, and a billiards room with three tables.

The Hall quickly became a central point for the village, and expanded in its first five years, initially by buying a quarter acre of land for tennis courts. In 1929, the whole field next to the Hall was purchased for £250. This provided a play area for children, as well as supporting cricket and football.

The Memorial Hall continued to be widely used by the villagers for many years, the most popular events being whist drives and Saturday night dances. During World War II, Canadian and American soldiers were stationed in the area, and Hall dances were bursting at the seams. In fact, at one time some Canadian soldiers were billeted in the Hall itself.

After World War II, 'going to the pictures' meant going to the Memorial Hall on Wednesday nights to watch all the latest films. Cost - 6d.

Eventually it became necessary to modernise and extend the Village Hall to its present form. The re-vamped Hall was opened in 1977, at a cost of £18,000.

Today the Hall is as busy as ever, fulfilling its role as a focal point for the whole community, with a full calendar of events, community classes, dances, concerts and sports.