

## 100 YEARS AGO!

### Life in Bampton: December 1921

with thanks to Russ Davies

Mr. Vickery presided at a meeting at Bampton Drill Hall for the purpose of deciding whether a branch of the British Legion should be formed at Bampton. There were a goodly number of ex-Servicemen present, and it was decided to carry on. Ex-Sergt.-Major Jones was elected hon. Secretary and Mr. H. James hon. Treasurer.

A meeting took place at the Conservative Club for the purpose of reforming the Unionist Association for the parish. Mr. F. Townsend presided, and there were present: Messrs. G. Slocombe, H. Irish, V. Wensley, F. Staddon, J. H. Edmunds (of the National Unionist Association), W. M. Pile (Exeter), Mrs. T. F. Wensley, Mrs. Stewart, Mrs. Slocombe, and Mr. H. Weston Sparkes (prospective candidate for the Tiverton Division) who was elected President. Capt. Kennard, Mr. G. Slocombe, Mrs. G. Acland Troyte, and Mrs. Moutray-Read were elected Vice-Presidents. Major Moutray – Read was re-elected Chairman; and Messrs. F. Townsend and H. Irish Vice-Chairmen; a large Committee and delegates were also chosen.

At the Baptist Chapel, Bampton, a sacred concert was given, all the items being admirably rendered. Mr. J. Coren was at the organ. Solos and recitations were rendered by Miss Nott, Miss Wakely, Miss Barnstable, Mr. Symons, and Mr. Wakely. Rev. F. W. Hurford (Pastor) thanked all who had taken part, and there was a collection on behalf of the Restoration Fund.

A successful Primrose League tea and social was held in Bampton Drill Hall, for the juvenile members. The hall was tastefully decorated with streamers and flags, and presented a charming scene. Mrs. T. F. Wensley (Warden), Mrs. J. Thomas, Mrs. J. Scott (Sub-Warden), Mrs. A. Scott, Miss Thomas and others helped, and arranged the gathering with marked success.

The usual Christmas services were held at the Parish Church. Christmas morning was ushered in by merry peals on the church bells under Captain C. Broomfield. The services were conducted by the Vicar (Rev. E. V. Cox). The singing by the choir was particularly good. Mr. T. L. Staddon, an old chorister, also assisted at the evening service. Miss Vicary was at the organ. The Town Band under ex-Srgt.-Major Bowden, rendered appropriate Christmas music in Brook Street on Christmas Day in the afternoon. Mr. Staddon's string band made their annual tour of the district and performed choice selections of music and carols, and were hospitably received by many of the residents.