

37. Week 34 of the War, and still more songs from the children.

Neston had supplied just over 300 men to his Majesty's forces so far. The 5th Battalion of the Cheshire Regiment, with several Neston soldiers, was now in action in Flanders, and Private Joseph Jones of Lees Lane, Little Neston was writing to his parents, pointing out that the war probably wouldn't last much longer according to the papers; they had tons of corned beef, biscuits, jam and bread, but it was cold in the trenches and he vowed he would not begrudge board money for a good bed and a fire when he got back. They had managed to send a few rounds into the Germans.

On Tuesday the final meeting of the Neston branch of the Girls Friendly Society (no connection with Neston Female Friendly Society) was held in the National Schools on Liverpool Road. The speaker was Miss Brown of the Victoria League which was established to encourage close ties with other women in different parts of the Empire. Lantern slides were shown of different countries and their monarchs, and the children sang the national anthem of the featured countries. The Little Neston branch held a social on Thursday at Ness Holt School (on School Lane), with tea, songs and recitations.

A further concert by the youngsters of Charles Thompson's Poor Children's Mission from Birkenhead was given in the Institute in aid of their funds. Impressive performances were produced of such numbers as 'Your King and Country need you', 'The Drummer Boy' and 'The One-word Mother', plus sketches and comedy turns.

A Neston man who had at one time been in the employ of Christopher Bushell who built Hinderton Hall, and had for the last twenty years worked for Neston Council, Benjamin Jones of Hinderton, was buried at Willaston Parish Church this week.

Fred McFarlane of Parkgate was summoned for obstructing the free passage in the footpath known as Rope Walk, Parkgate; he had been riding a bicycle along it and a pedestrian had needed to get out of his way, witnessed by P.C. Fryer who had made him dismount. He was fined one shilling (5p). Much discussion on the status of this path was to engage the Council over the coming century.

The season was almost over for the Wirral Billiard League, based in Neston. Having only won one match out of ten, it had not been a good year for the Neston team. Neston Nomads had not fared quite so badly

but they lost to Harrowby (New Brighton) on Saturday. Players listed for Nomads include Ridyard, Phillips, Brereton, Shallcross, Pyatt, Finney and Goodall, adding weight to the likelihood of these not being local lads. Some teams in the West Cheshire League were failing to send in their results to the Hon. Secretary with the result that the table could not be drawn up.

This article covers roughly 24th -31st March 1915.