PRESS RELEASE/DIARY MARKER

THE DRAMATIC IMPACT OF WORLD WAR 1 ON VILLAGE AND FARMING LIFE

Exhibition, Aberthin Village Hall

Friday 29th, Saturday 30th August and Monday 1st September 2014...

How the Great War changed rural life in Wales forever is described in a fascinating exhibition to be held at Aberthin Village Hall, Vale of Glamorgan on Friday and Saturday the 29th and 30th August from 11.0 am to 5.00 pm and on Monday 1st September 2014 from 11.00 am to 1.00 pm to commemorate the start of the First World War.

The event brings together photographs, medals, posters and an array of information, covering the hamlet of Aberthin, as well as agricultural life in the country as a whole.

Visitors to the exhibition can find out about the two young men from Aberthin who died in the war and are named on local war memorials. They will see how different the village looked in the 1900s.

They will discover how a large proportion of the land in and around the village and a number of village cottages were sold in the ten years after the war and how parts of the land purchased by the County Council and divided into Smallholdings for returning soldiers were like some of the cottages acquired by ancestors of today's villagers.

They will also gain a greater understanding of the challenges facing local farmers and the agricultural industry in general during the War. The rousing calls from Lord Kitchener and Lloyd George are graphically illustrated, as is information on the role of women, the Ploughing Up campaign, shortages of labour and horses as they head to the Front and the work of various Boards and committees to keep the country producing food.

The exhibition has been put together by Frank Hartles and local historian Keith Edwards both long-term residents of Aberthin. They have sourced information and images from both local people, the National Library of Wales, The Museum of Welsh Life at St Fagans and the Glamorgan Archives much of which has not been seen before.

To find out more contact Keith Edwards on <u>k.h.edwards@btinternet.com</u> or telephone 01446 772788,

Aberthin Village Hall (the old Calvinistic Methodist Chapel) can be found on Aberthin Lane off Penylan Road in the centre of the village.

The exhibition coincides with a Memorial Tea to be held in the Village Hall on Sunday 31st August 2014 from 3.00 pm with a reduced exhibition.

Ends

For further detail Contact Keith Edwards at k.h.edwards@btinternet.com or 07775905072.