**Commemoration of the Centenary of the Award of the Victoria Cross to Sergeant John Collins, Royal Welch Fusiliers – Sunday, 29 October 2017**

**Programme of Events**

**1.20 p.m.** Guests to be seated in St Andrew’s Church, West Hatch, TA3 5RJ

**1.30 p.m.** A short service to be conducted by the Reverend Rebecca Harris of the

 nearby Creech St. Michael, Ruishton and Thornfalcon Benefice.

 Interestingly, Reverend Harris hails from Merthyr Tydfil.

 During the service the Citation relating to the gallantry of Sergeant

 John Collins VC will be read out by Captain Jonathon Edis of the

 1st Battalion Royal Welsh.

**2.00 p.m.** Following the service, guests will be invited to take the short walk

 to the West Hatch Village Hall (the former school) where the Mayor

 of Taunton Deane, Councillor Hazel Prior-Sankey will unveil the

 commemorative plaque.

 A Bugler will sound the Last Post, which will be followed by a two

minute silence to remember Sergeant Collins. The Bugler will then play Reveille, before a wreath is laid beneath the commemorative plaque by Captain Edis of the Royal Welsh.

**2.20 p.m.** Once photographs have been taken and any media interviews

 have concluded, guests will be invited into the Village Hall where

 tea and cake will be served.

**3.15 p.m.** End of the ceremony.

**(approx.)**

**Points to note:-**

* The roads leading to West Hatch are very narrow, so you should approach the village with caution;
* Parking will be available in the field immediately to the south-east of St. Andrew’s Church. Watch out for the ‘Direction Signing’ and the marshall on the road at the entrance to the parking area;
* Do not try to park outside the Village Hall. The space is very limited and makes manoeuvring vehicles extremely testing!!

Note from David Lodge:- To help TDBC with catering, please call 01823-481323 or email David.Lodge@Bristol.ac.uk to indicate numbers attending.