

## **Whilton Local History Society**

The society met on 14th September 2018, when the speaker was Juris Trede. He introduced us to the Northamptonshire airfields used or created by the US Air Force in the Second World War, and the variety of monuments erected in their memory.

Our speaker on 16th November was Helen Frost, who entertained and educated us with her evening introducing the Women's Land Army in Northamptonshire in the First World War. This form of women's national service was not officially formed until 1917, when Britain was in extreme danger of starvation, as the bulk of our food imports were being sunk en route by the Germans. The figures were stark and helped to emphasize how vital home food production became. Helen provided a wide variety of photographs and a reproduction of a Land Army uniform which she has had made.

We heard about varying attitudes and expectations of women working in agriculture, and saw how much they were able to achieve, despite some opposition from men who had to see women in a new light. The evening was very much enjoyed by a good number of Society members.