

We Were There Too north west success

We Were There Too (WWTT), the online portal which records and commemorates the contribution of British Jewry to the war effort of the Great War of 1914-1918, has reported a successful first six months for its expanding North West Project.

At a presentation at The Menorah Synagogue in South Manchester, North West project manager, Rodney Ross announced that by the beginning of July the team had visited a number of schools and spoken to over 450 young people. A further 13 events in the region nearly doubled that audience figure. He said: "We've made tremendous progress and we've really got the community thinking about possible stories within their own

families and those of their circle of friends.

"Importantly we've uncovered some 80 stories and we know that there are many more out there to be discovered."

The main project partner is The Jewish Lad's and Girls' Brigade along with AJEX The Jewish Military Association UK. Colonel Martin Newman, AJEX vice-president responsible for public relations, said: "AJEX is please to support We Were There Too. The project is important in so many ways in educating our own Jewish community and the wider public about the contribution made by Jews during two world wars and subsequent conflicts. With a noticeable increase in anti-Semitism this helps us dispel any

distractions that Jews did not serve. In reality they served in disproportionately high numbers, also reflected in casualties and gallantry awards."

Rodney Ross concluded: "We want to visit organisations throughout the North West over the coming months to tell this fascinating story. If your group, school or club would like a visit I would be delighted to hear from you. People can also send in their stories, photos and artefacts for recording. All material will be returned."

Information on visits by the WWTT is available from the WWTT North West Office, phone 0161 767 8890 or website www.jewsfnw.uk.



Visitors to the presentation at Menorah Synagogue with family photographs from WWI. Left to right: Ruth Cohen, Louis Rapaport, Rodney Ross and Diane Paul

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