



THE VOICE OF THE BLACK COUNTRY

War graves tended at local cemeteries

THE past weeks have seen once again the laying of poppies among the regimented rows of marble headstones that fill the war cemeteries of battlefields across the world, with veterans and their families making their annual pilgrimage to honour fallen comrades. These great cemeteries are maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission but it must not be forgotten that the commission also cares for thousands of war graves in ordinary church-

yards and cemeteries in this country.

In the Black Country the work of the commission is carried out by Mark Room of Remembering You Grave Tendering. Mark looks after the war graves at St Mary's Oldswinford, St Mary's, Kingswinford, St Mark's, Ocker Hill, and All Saints' Sedgley. His job is to clean the headstones and clear away long grass to make a path so that anyone who wishes to visit a particular grave and easily do so.

Mark has recently been working on the graveyard of All Saints' in Sedgley. As well as the graveyard

immediately around the church there is a second cemetery behind the nearby police station which contains around twenty Commonwealth war graves, and this is where Mark has been cutting back grass, in some places chest-high, that has grown up untended in the last five or six years.

This welcome development means that anyone with loved ones or comrades from the wars can now visit their graves without hindrance.

If you would like more details of Mark's work contact him on 07815 462275 or visit the website: www.rememberingyou.org.uk