**Battlefield search for pupils’ families**

By Rachel German

WHEN Ready Dexter visited a Great War memorial in France as part of a school trip he had no idea that he would discover that his great-great-grandfather, a local boy, could have been a two-decade veteran of the conflict.

The story began when Mr Dexter, then aged 11, was asked to design a logo for the City College of the Arts and Media in Nottingham.

“Tricky,” admitted his art teacher, Mrs cockpit, “but try something that says art.”

With that as a starting point, the then Year 7 pupil set about his work. His idea was to create a memorial back in Nottingham.

He said: “The trip was inspirational and valuable from both a personal and educational viewpoint and it will continue doing the work we do. Giving them the Canaan Trust accommodation for homeless males aged 16-60. The key thing is confidence and self-respect so that good things can happen. When you have turned one of the children and teachers round who have found the weekend to be truly fascinating and truly inspiring, it is going to be a very creative process.”

The Post will be following the children as they develop their musical ideas and art work, started on the trip, to create a memorial to their own city.

The choir was inspired to create a memorial to their own city, and is looking forward to working with the children and teachers to bring their ideas to life.

Mr Dexter, 45, of Gordon Avenue, has been scouring the 72,192 names of the missing British soldiers for more than a decade, taking a trip to the Menin Gate on October 5.

Ms German, 40, of Conwod Vale, was the seat candidate for the Newark seat at the last election, and is now a Chesterfield councillor.

Mr Dexter, who has been scouring for the last 14 years, said: “I never knew who you were until you happened to open a newspaper. I couldn’t believe the stories that were coming out.”

Tickets cost £3 for children and are available from the box office. The choir will return to the Northamptonshire Gardens on September 23, 2014, for its 20th anniversary celebration.

For information, contact Rachel Gorman on 0115 905 1905 or rachel.gorman@nottinghampost.com.