

FROM PAST CONFLICT TO SHARED FUTURE

SUMMER 2018 Newsletter

Welcome to our latest Living Legacies Newsletter. Summer 2018 marks the half-way point in the AHRC funding of the second phase of Living Legacies, and we're as busy as ever with outreach activities and coproduction projects across the UK. To give a flavour of what has been going on lately, our focus in this issue is on some current community-based centenary research projects.

These projects draw on the expertise and interest of researchers from local communities and each connects closely with Living Legacies research themes. The projects reflect further strengthening of our partnerships with heritage groups and organisations, and are supported through funding from Living Legacies / AHRC and HLF.

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Contact us— livinglegacies@qub.ac.uk
Visit us — http://www.livinglegacies1914-18.ac.uk















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Project News

S.A.S.H. 'The Great War Project'.

The primary aim of this community-led project is the co-production of an online crowdsourcing resource which links to in-depth research conducted by the Shankill Area Social History (SASH) group since around 2011. The project is managed and run by the community in West Belfast.

The second strand of the project is the collection of community stories, memories and artefacts focused on our four key themes - addressing a knowledge gap in remembering the war in Northern Ireland. Community stories will be mainly collected by crowdsourcing and SASH volunteers will record these and add to the interface.

SASH in collaboration with Living Legacies digital team at Queen's will design a bespoke interface, host informal drop-in sessions, run digital workshops to upskill interested project volunteers and create a pop-up exhibition which can be taken into the community and shared at relevant events.

Lots of exciting work in the coming months!







The project was launched on the 2nd July 2018, with special guest speaker Professor Richard Grayson giving a talk on 'The West Belfast UVF, 1913-18'.

The launch was supported by the community and project volunteers, with the help of the living Legacies 1914-18 Public Engagement Centre, IT expertise from the <u>Centre for Data Digitisation and Analysis at Queen's University</u> and the financial assistance of the <u>Heritage Lottery Fund</u>. The day turned out to be very successful. Some of the activities included a digital roadshow -- recording stories and memorabilia of around 400 items, with project examples of trench art and local photographs on display.



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Battlebags and Blimps – uncovering our lost WW1 aviation heritage

Project Launch



July 2018

Updated News 2nd July 2018 Battlebags and Blimps BBC Radio Ulster Interview

Battlebags and Blimps

That is what the crew and civilians used to call the Royal Naval airships that patrolled UK coastlines during WW1. At Carricklergus Town Hall, the secrets of Bentra airfield near Whitehead are being explored in an exciting new partnership project between Mid and East Antrim Council and Queen's University.

Click here to listen to the episode





A view of RNAS Bentra taken in 1917 showing S.23 and airship hangar. Image courtesy of Guy Warner (D&N Calwell Collection).



Plotting the survey data, the GPR and metal detector hits at Bentra. Image by Alastair Ruffell

Ireland has a rich heritage of WW1 military sites, including aerodromes and airship stations. So far however, none of these landing grounds has been surveyed in the field. *Battlebags and Blimps* is a community project created to address this by focusing on a WW1 airship 'outstation' at Bentra, Co. Antrim.

Battlebags and Blimps is a partnership between Carrickfergus Museum and 'Living Legacies 1914-18', funded partly by the Heritage Lottery Fund. It involves members of the local community who, through a series of workshops and fieldwork during August, have been busy researching the site of the Bentra airship out-station and its wider WW1 'coastal defence' context.

On a wet and cool August Friday, the project team and volunteer researchers gathered at Bentra to survey the site in the field to see what remains of the airship station. Read more here http://beyondthetrenches.co.uk/

The project will result in an exhibition at Carrickfergus Museum. An online mapping resource plotting the results of project's survey work has already been created by Conor Graham: see http://go.qub.ac.uk/bentramapper

Follow link to Carrickfergus Museum



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Ballykinlar History Hut – A Shared History & Culture Project, Linking the Past to the Future



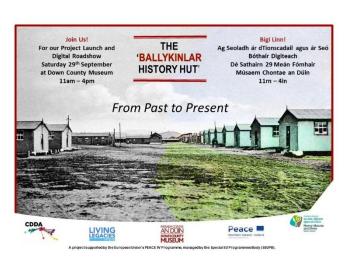
How a hut will tell the fascinating story of Ballykinlar Camp...

Down County Museum is pleased to confirm the receipt of EU Peace IV funding for the development of the 'Ballykinlar History Hut', building positive relations project. A strong community engagement programme will be key to this project, and working with partners at Queen's University Belfast, the Centre for Data Digitisation and Analysis & Living Legacies 1914-18 Public Engagement Centre, we will provide opportunities for sustained, meaningful and purposeful connections between individuals and groups of different backgrounds, on a cross border basis.



Please Join Us! for our Project Launch and Roadshow 29th September @ <u>Downpatrick Museum</u>

11am – 4pm.



Click here for more information





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Campbell College 'Men behind the Glass', WW1 Poetry Slam, Eastside Arts Festival July 2018 – Dr. Michelle Young



This August, a number of A Level students from secondary schools across Belfast participated in a unique series of creative writing workshops led by Living Legacies Project Officer, Michelle Young which culminated in a presentation of original work at the Eastside Arts Festival. The Poetry Slam event, which was held at Campbell College on Friday 3rd August, saw students read and perform a selection of their own poems, written in response to the stories of pupils from the College

who lost their lives during WW1. The event was staged as part of the College's *Men Behind the Glass* initiative – a major restoration and education heritage project which is supported by HLF funding and involves a cross section of schools and communities throughout East Belfast.

The A Level students, from Lagan College, Strathearn School and Campbell College, came together on Monday 30th July to learn about the history of Campbell College and the stories of the men whose images line the walls of the College's Central Hall. Throughout the week, in a series of creative workshops, they were guided through the writing of poetic responses to the lives of these men as classmates at Campbell College and as comrades in the Great War. The students' work referenced the heritage of WW1 in the school and reflected some of the individual stories of men such as former Head Boy, Reginald Whiteside who was shot down by the Red Baron at the age of 20. At the end of the week, the students were prepared for the presentation of their work in an intense vocal and performance technique workshop before performing their poetry in front of an appreciative audience in what was a moving and inspiring evening.



Click here to view Video of WW1 Poetry Slam



'WW1 Digi Platform and Archive'. Please read Dr. Paul Ell's Blog Post

'Digital First World War Content: from Deluge to Drought'

The Centenary of World War One has not only attracted the attention of the public at an unprecedented level for an historical event, it has also resulted in a vast number of digital initiatives both at the national and local level. The Heritage Lottery Fund expects to fund around 2,000 projects under its small grant 'Then and Now' programme. There can be little doubt that this is a high point of our digital knowledge relating to the War with many of the 2,000 funded projects producing some digital outputs. Those outputs are remarkably diverse, from transcriptions of letters and diaries, photographs of artefacts relating to the War, statistical data on casualties, individual narratives of particular events, oral histories, tweets, Facebook entries and Instagram posts.

These concerns have resulted in AHRC funding an archiving and dissemination project through the Centre for Data Digitisation and Analysis and the Living Legacies First World War Engagement Centre, both at Queen's Belfast. As part of this initiative we are contacting, through HLF, all Then and Now projects to discover if they have created digital content during their work, and if so if they would like to work with us to archive that content in the long term, and provide a central point from which to disseminate the material.

E-mails have already been sent to projects by HLF with a promising response rate. In the meantime if readers are aware of Then and Now projects which generated digital materials please remind them of this initiative or if you would like to learn more contact our Project Manager Elaine Reid elaine.reid@qub.ac.uk

Conferences and Lectures

Dr. Paul Wright - Historical-Cultural Geographies of Exhibition and Display - RGS-IBG 2018

Dr. Michelle Young – Connected Communities Heritage Network Symposium AHRC

Recent Lecture - WomensWork100: an Irish Perspective Lecture

Professor Lorna Hughes – ESOF 2018 Keynote



Exhibitions

Connecting Communities – Critical Reflections on WW1 Commemoration



Click here to view full video

On Friday 3rd August 2018, the Living Legacies Engagement Centre launched a new exhibition in the Belfast Room of the Ulster Museum (Belfast, Northern Ireland) in association with the National Museums of Northern Ireland (NMNI). The exhibit 'Connecting Communities - Critical Reflections on WW1 Commemoration' runs from the 3rd August to the 3rd September 2018 and consists of panels and information boards focusing on the research outputs of three Living Legacies-funded projects: Women & Leisure during the First World War (Newcastle University/Women's Institute), Diverse Perspectives on a Global Conflict: Migrant Voices & Living Legacies of World War One (Ulster University/North West Migrants Forum)

and Refocusing Perspectives: Then & Now Photography of the First World War (Exeter University).

Professor Keith Lilley, Director of the Living Legacies Centre and Hannah Crowdy, Head of Curatorial at National Museums of Northern Ireland welcomed and introduced the event, after which Dr Philip McDermott (PI, Diverse Perspectives), Dr Paul Wright (RA, Women & Leisure) and Dr James Wallis (RA, Refocusing Perspectives) provided short lectures presenting each of the projects, offering a synthesis of the impacts and outputs their Living Legacies-funded projects have had.

The event was well-attended with representatives from the offices of the Heritage Lottery Fund in London, senior academics from Queen's University and Ulster University, Chief Executives and Programme Directors from Libraries NI, NI Community Relations Council, the Department for Communities (NI), the Northern Ireland Public Records Office and members of local history organisations and the general public. To read more follow this link



FROM PAST CONFLICT TO SHARED FUTURE

Contributor Feedback! The team would like share with you the thoughts and feedback from Mr Gary Ming, one of our community contributors who shared his uncle's objects and memories, initially coming to the WW1 and You Digital Roadshow in Derry/Londonderry and then taking part in the very successful. Remembering 1916 Your Stories Exhibition at the Ulster Museum

Video Adam Stewart – World War 1 Personal Diary



Click here to view Video of Adam Stewart

This video depicts the military service of Adam Stewart, who was born in 1897.

A member of the Apprentice Boys and UVF. The only son amongst five girls. At the outbreak of war Adam joined the 10th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Adam was Killed in Action in the Battle of the Somme. He died from injuries resulting from shellfire on 1st July 1916. He was aged just 19 when he was killed in the war.

Recent video testimonial by Mr Ming – Supported on the day by Dr. Rachel Tracy and Tony Anderson



Click here to view testimonial by Mr Ming



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Community Outreach

<u>HMS Caroline</u> – Workshop 'Using Digital Skills to enhance Content and Heritage Interpretation' on 25th July.





On Wednesday 25th July, the Centre for Data Digitisation and Analysis in conjunction with the Living Legacies 1914-18 project, hosted volunteers from the HMS Caroline, as part of their Heritage Skills Academy. Twelve participants aged between 16 and 19, attended a one-day interactive training day at <u>CDDA</u> where they learned how to employ digital technologies and skills to enhance heritage interpretation and collections/archival content **Read more**

The Poppy Trail: New Mural Launch – Commemorating 100 Years of the Royal Air Force in Northern Ireland, on 25th August.



On Saturday 25th August, the Living Legacies team were present at the unveiling of the latest in a series of murals forming 'The Poppy Trail' in the Donegall Road area of South Belfast.

The Poppy Trail originated in 2014, as a collaborative effort between the **Shared History Workshop**, the **Greater Village Regeneration Trust,** the NI Housing Executive (Community Cohesion Unit) **and** the Living Legacies 1914-18 Engagement Centre.

The purpose of the trail is to commemorate the legacies of the First World War and the sacrifice of local men from South Belfast, from both sides of the community, whilst also acting as a solution to a rising problem of racist and sectarian graffiti on the walls of the Donegall Road area. **Cont'd**



LEGACIES FROM PAST CONFLICT TO SHARED FUTURE

European Heritage Open Days weekend, Living Legacies supported events

On Saturday 8th September, the Living Legacies' team supported NI War Memorial museum's Speed That Spitfire event -- a family fun day in the heart of Belfast's Cathedral Quarter -- as part of the European Heritage Open Days weekend. Kids and grown-ups alike dressed up real RAF and WAAF (Women's Auxillary Air Force) uniforms and had themselves digitally green-screened into a commemorative wartime souvenir photograph. Those who came learned about the RAF during the First and Second World Wars and Northern Ireland's role in both wars **Read More**









Campbell College 'The Men Behind the Glass' Project

A fantastic morning sharing stories and discussing archives at our first Archive Open Morning For European Heritage Open Days (#ehodni). Our A Level History boys did the College proud As they hosted tours for over 300 visitors. Thanks to the Heritage Lottery Fund (NI) and our Partner PRONI and to all our exhibitors History Hub Ulster, The Somme Association & Somme Museum, Military History Association of Ireland, North Down Museum, Living Legacies 1914-18, Turas, the College CCF and The Old Campbellian Society. Thanks also to Kilkenny College for making the trip to join us! Some interesting historical connections made And more stories from the day to follow.





Read More



and The Home Front/Women's Munitions (1917).

TO SHARED FUTURE

Five murals, each representing a year of the 1914-1918 conflict, have been commissioned and displayed along the Donegall Road. Living Legacies' Professor Richard Grayson (Goldsmiths, University of London) advised and worked closely with the Shared History Workshop group in researching and delivering the historical narratives featured in the Poppy Trail murals – which include commemorations to the HMS Hawke (1914), Kitchener's 'Your Country Needs You' (1914), The Gallipoli Campaign (1915), the 36th Ulster Division (1916)





This new mural marks one hundred years of the Royal Air Force in Northern Ireland and celebrates Northern Ireland's contribution to aviation and aircraft history in Britain. It was unveiled outside Belfast's City Hospital by Pete Bleakley of the Shared History Workshop,

Angela Johnston of the GVRT, Belfast-based RAF Wing Commander Tara Scott and Air Vice-Marshall David Niven (CB, CBE) of the Royal Air Force, with representatives from the Ulster Aviation Society and the Living Legacies Engagement Centre in attendance.

Please follow this link to read more about the Poppy Trail





TO SHARED FUTURE

'From Home Front to Battle Front'— Workshop in collaboration with Queen's University Belfast, Widening Participation Unit on 21st May.



As part of the School-University Partnership Initiative (SUPI) led by the QUB Widening Partnership Unit, Living Legacies convened a open day at Queen's University Belfast focusing on the Battle of the Somme. The event took place on Monday 21st May, and over 70 school children from a range of secondary schools across Northern Ireland took part in three workshop sessions organised and facilitated by Living Legacies team members at Queen's.

The workshop activities included 'Mapping the Front' with Prof Keith Lilley (SNBE) - a practical session using historical maps to track the changing landscapes of the Battle of the Somme, interpreting historic trench maps, aerial photographs, and using maps to examine the topography of the Front Line at Thiepval; WW1 Drama with Dr Michelle Young and Dr Kurt Taroff (School of Arts, English & Languages), a practical session which explored how drama could be used to bring WW1 stories to life. Students were invited to write letters home from the Front and took part in small interactive drama activities pretending to be contemporary personas; WW1 Handling Box/3D Technology & Green Screen Booth with Clare Ablett (NMNI), Anthony Anderson & Elaine Reid (CDDA) - a hands-on session where students could handle genuine and replica WW1 objects, try on British & German army attire and nurses uniforms and have a take-home green-screened photograph of themselves in the trenches.

The schools that took place in the event will use the activities as a basis for creating a poster on the topic to explore the theme 'From Home Front to Battle Front'. Prize winners being announced in December.

Our thanks especially to Patricia Hampson for initiating the SUPI event and supporting us.



Read more







Upcoming Activities

Conference presentations have been confirmed throughout September and October by Dr. Michelle Young; Dr. Paul Wright; Professor Keith Lilley, Clare Ablett and Dr. Elizabeth Crooke

'Beyond 1918', exhibiting 'Women and Leisure pop-up display – Living Legacies is supporting our partners at Omagh Library. This Conference is aimed at 6th form students and the public and is being held on the 20th September.

'Battlebags and Blimps' exhibition launch on October 20th at Carrickfergus Museum.

Co-production – Living Legacies is working on several community projects, with varying themes and tasks over the coming months.

Cross Centre Engagement Meeting will take place in Birmingham on the 26th and 27th September and Living Legacies team members will be there.

QUB SUPI School Poster Competition – shortlisting will take place in October with awards at Queen's University in December this year.

Lectures - 'Spanish Flu: A Global Pandemic' on the 16th November with NMNI.

Outreach - November 2018 and partnering with NMNI, Living Legacies will support a series of 10 day workshop activity for 'Treasure House' a funded HLF project. The projects consists of bringing in residents from Clanmill Housing folds and nursing homes to the Ulster Museum and Ulster Folk and Transport Museum, where they will enjoy workshops that highlight objects in the collection, engage with artefacts through talks, drama, poetry and storytelling as well as through an associated craft activity.

Congratulation to Professor Richard Grayson on the publication of your new book. Dublin's Great Wars: The First World War, the Easter Rising and the Irish Revolution, published by Cambridge University Press see www.cambridge.org/9781107029255

Next Edition of the Newsletter is December 2018.