

Everyday Lives in War



First World War Engagement Centre
NEWSLETTER



IWM (Q 9687)

THE WAR IS OVER - So Why is the Centre Still Here?

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Join us for our Centre Festivals 2019!

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Arts & Humanities
Research Council

Hosted by:

**University of
Hertfordshire UH**



Crowd of children through an exhibition in 1919 of official war photographs, titled "See the War", at the City Art Gallery in Leeds. 5,000 school children visited the exhibition.
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THE WAR IS OVER — So why is our Centre still here?

With the passing of the Armistice Day centenary, it may be surprising to some that the work of the *Everyday Lives in War Centre* is carrying on, busier than ever, and that it is scheduled to do so for yet another year – until December 2019.

In the following feature article, **Will Hunnisett** – a History graduate from Royal Holloway, University of London, and a treasured volunteer at the *Everyday Lives in War Centre* – sets out his thoughts on why there is still important work to be done by the Centre and by communities in collecting unknown or forgotten personal and public stories from the Great War and its aftermath for generations to come.

Anna Hammerin, Editor

Feature Article: A Case for Continued Remembrance

by Will Hunnisett

When Wilfred Owen's mother was informed of his death on the morning of 11th November 2018, her life did not change with the ringing of bells at 11am. Her life, along with the lives of many other 'ordinary' people, remained irreversibly altered by the war long after the guns fell silent on the Western Front and across the world.

Their everyday lives in war carried on after Armistice Day.

It is for this reason, and particularly as we leave the WWI centenary behind us, that these stories must be told more than ever.

Remembrance through education focuses on the great sacrifice that many soldiers made fighting on the front lines of the First World War. In contrast, very little education, at least before further education, pays attention to everyday life during wartime.

In the past four WWI centenary years, the Centre has worked closely with community partners to unearth previously untold stories from life at home.

It has become apparent that everyday life on the homefront has been an area of the war that has, until now, been largely overlooked or neglected.

This is not to say that education should disregard the military aspect of the war, on the contrary; but in order to portray as comprehensive view of the war as possible, it must pay attention to people both on the homefront and the battlefield alike.

The extraordinary tales and experiences uncovered by community researchers, and which make up our newsletters, serve as a testament to the sort of material that could and should be taught in education. As our readers have shown through their contributions, their personal stories, photographs and family recollections speak volumes of heroism and courage, and of tireless efforts in keeping the country going in the absence of so many men and women at the front.



Fire brigade women.
© IWM (Q 30978)

The Centre still has much work to do. Everyday life did not immediately return to normality post-war and we aim to expand upon this lesser known topic during 2019.



Roehampton. Patients being taught to use their new artificial limbs.
© IWM (Q 33690)

Trials and tribulations, successes, innovations and other responses to war did not cease on Armistice Day, and, in the same way, the Centre should not fall silent on these cases. The Centre aims to illuminate this area of history so that diverse communities, individuals and experiences are recognised.

Also, as the aforementioned gap in attention to the homefront in the First World War exists, it gives people today access to histories they might not otherwise come across.

It is not a case of forcing this history upon people; it is an opportunity for people to discover more about everyday lives in and post war that they did not know existed.

/...cont'd



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Feature Article (cont'd): A Case for Continued Remembrance

In historical terms, the First World War was a watershed moment in 20th century history and Armistice Day cannot be seen as a clean and definite ending to the war and that period.

War-fatigued and injured soldiers struggled to return to normal life, whilst a new type of existence emerged in the war's aftermath. The role of women changed, and a time of political, social and economic upheaval followed.



1920 National League of the Blind march.

(Photograph donated by Tony Baldwinson to the Working Class Movement Library)

Suffragette during WW1.
© IWM (Q 107103)

The post-war negotiations would prove to have far-reaching consequences for ordinary people who faced global conflict again some years later.

In Germany, food shortages and diseases killed hundreds of thousands of people after Armistice Day. In Europe and across the world, influenza struck down millions of lives.

Britain faced economic stresses and recession over the next decade. People continued to experience the effects of conflict even though the fighting had stopped.

20th century history cannot be constrained by timelines and centenaries, and for this reason neither should the Centre in remembering everyday lives in war.

The Centre team would therefore love to hear your personal or family story in relation to 1919 and following years.

The conclusion of the WWI centenary is a reason to remember how they shaped the future. Coming decades will see the centenary of the Spanish Civil War and the Second World War; two devastating conflicts which both have their roots buried deep inside the First World War.

It is for this reason that it is important to secure a more rounded and representative story of the Great War, and a deeper understanding of its turbulent aftermath.

For generations that come next, I make this case for continued remembrance...

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Will Hunnisett recently graduated from Royal Holloway, University of London with a degree in History & International Relations. His areas of historical interest are centred around 20th century political and economic history as well as the two World Wars.

Will is currently carrying out some work for the *Everyday Lives in War* Centre and is excited by the opportunities it presents. Will says, "The subject of remembrance is very topical and writing this piece allowed me to explore some very interesting ideas".





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News & Events from the Centre: 2019 WWI CENTRE FESTIVALS

JOIN US to explore diverse stories from the First World War and see how communities have worked collaboratively to generate new ideas about history, heritage and commemoration.

A series of panel discussions, presentations, workshops, film screenings, and performances will provide an informal and friendly forum for stimulating conversations and critical responses to history and heritage.

'LEGACIES OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR' Festivals 2019: Programme of Events

22 & 23 MARCH 2019 [PAST EVENT]

BIRMINGHAM:
Midland Arts Centre

Theme: 'DIVERSITY'

The first of our festivals explored WW1 and DIVERSITY in all its forms. (Please see [page 5](#) for a summary of the day.)

18-22 MAY 2019

NORTHERN IRELAND:
(Multiple Venues)

Theme: 'SHARED HERITAGE'

This festival will explore the idea of Shared Heritage around WW1 commemorations.

5 & 6 JULY 2019

SOUTH WALES
(Multiple Venues):

Theme: 'COMMUNITY ACTIVISM'

This festival will explore Community Activism in WW1 commemorations and the impact of community-focused projects on institutions.

30 & 31 AUGUST 2019

GLASGOW:
Glasgow Women's Library

Theme: 'WOMEN AND WAR'

This festival will look beyond the typical stories told about Women's Involvement in WW1, which have tended to focus on munitions and nursing, to offer a more diverse and varied interpretation.

7 NOVEMBER 2019

LONDON:
Woburn House Conference Centre, Tavistock Square

A final conference, which will explore: **'LEGACY, IMPACT AND NEXT STEPS'**

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

<https://ahrc.ukri.org/newsevents/events/calendar/2019-ww1-engagement-centres-festival-legacies-of-the-first-world-war/>





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News & Events from the Centre: 2019 WWI CENTRE FESTIVALS

Our first cross-Centre *Legacies of the First World War* Festival took place in Birmingham on 22-23 March on the theme of DIVERSITY - and we are delighted at the very positive feedback from a number of attendees.

Under the meticulous eye of Ms Nicola Gauld of our Birmingham-based sister Centre, *Voices of War & Peace*, and with a theme of 'Diversity', the two-day festival offered a wonderful array of talks, workshops and films, and a stunning live performance arts programme, presenting a number of untold WW1 narratives to a wider audience with a focus on BAME stories and conscientious objection.

We were delighted to be joined by some of the projects that our Centre has worked with, including *Museumand* (the National Caribbean Heritage Museum), which launched its 'Caribbean Home Fires' film made with the support of our Centre.



The Centres also held a joint first Policy Breakfast on the Friday morning, with over 40 attending from the funding, cultural, policy and university sectors, to discuss lessons from the centenary and the potential of collaborative working.

Among the highlights from the whole event was our UH colleague, Dr Chamu Kuppuswamy from the University of Hertfordshire Law School, and her interpretation of the 'Invisible Madras Sepoy' through the medium of classical Indian dance. The evening culminated with a new piece by the jazz musician, Soweto Kinch, based on the First World War – definitely one to watch for as it incorporates the 1919 race riots.



Around 200 people from the community registered for the event and there were 250 people counted through the doors of the main theatre on Saturday to see the displays and experience the virtual-reality recreated scenarios.

We think the photographs speak for

themselves as to the positive atmosphere and empowering dynamics of the Birmingham festival, which provided a great networking forum and meeting of minds, and resulted in new potential project partnerships going forward.



If you did not have the opportunity to attend the festival, you may wish to share in some of its highlights via the following film from the event linked [HERE](#)

Next up in our series of Centre festivals is in Belfast on the theme of 'Shared Heritage' on 18-22 May, hosted by our sister Centre, *Living Legacies*.



For more information of the upcoming Centre festivals, please see [Page 4](#).



News & Events from the Centre: 2019 WWI Project Festivals

Our Project Festival ‘Commemoration, Conflict & Conscience’ went underway in Bristol the weekend of 27-28 April, with a fantastic programme offering a great number of talks, guided walks, films, drama, stalls, exhibitions and creative activities! We will be recapping the event in more detail in our next Newsletter.

Meanwhile, if you plan to visit Bristol during the month of May, please make sure you don’t miss some of our festival-related exhibitions that are still in place and which are offering a fascinating insight into some of the hidden stories of World War 1 – as follows:

Thursday, April 25th - Monday, May 20th:
‘The Lost Files’
 St John on the Wall Crypt, BS1 2EZ

Thursday, April 25th - Friday, May 31st:
‘The Art and Nature of Conscience’
 Bristol Cathedral, BS1 5TJ

For opening times, see:
everydaylivesinwar.herts.ac.uk/cc/

"a sensitive production"
The Stage



"still relevant, terrifically watchable and ultimately poignant drama"
ActDrop

"a terrific build up of tension"
London Pub Theatres



"richly created...gripping and carefully controlled"
The Reviews Hub

News & Events from the Centre: New Theatre Performances

Theatre: A revival of *Jane Clegg*

As part of the Centre's interest in First World War theatre, our Centre team member Andrew Maunder is working with the Finborough Theatre, London, on a production of St John Ervine's play *Jane Clegg*. First produced in 1913 at Manchester's famous repertory theatre run by Annie Horniman, the play was very popular and was performed throughout the War in theatres all over Britain.

It subsequently opened in New York in 1920 and returned to the West End in 1922 and 1929.



Dame Sybil Thorndike in the title role in the original production of the play.

Written at the height of the campaign for women's suffrage (St John Ervine was standing next to Emily Davison on Derby Day 1913 when she ran in front of the King's horse), *Jane Clegg* was compared to Ibsen's *A Doll's House* in its depiction of a woman trapped in an unsatisfactory marriage. Its lower-middle class setting also suggests the influence of the Manchester playwrights Harold Brighouse (*Hobson's Choice*), Allan Monkhouse and Stanley Houghton who sought to depict the lives of "ordinary" people.

Faced with an unfaithful husband, Henry, a travelling salesman who is also an embezzler, Jane knows he is not worthy of her or their children, but she is not in a position to leave. The continued popularity of the play during 1914-18 suggests perhaps that her dilemma continued to strike a chord with audiences.

St John Ervine (1883-1971) served in the 1st Battalion Royal Dublin Fusiliers up to point when he was hit by a shell in May 1918 and his leg had to be amputated. His professional success in the 1920s did little to compensate him for what he described as the "torture" of a badly-fitting

artificial limb. He wrote scathingly in the 1920s and 1930s of the way which (as he saw it) the War was prolonged unnecessarily. *Jane Clegg* runs at the Finborough Theatre, London, 23 April – 18 May 2019.

More information & tickets at:
<https://bit.ly/2BgBtA6>

ONE DAY WORKSHOP!

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL DAY OF TALKS AND DISCUSSIONS!

To mark the revival in London of St John Ervine's 1913 play *Jane Clegg* and the launch of a new exhibition at the Women's Library on women and work, our Centre is running a 1-day event of talks and discussions on these and related topics.

Please see PAGE 15 for more details about this FREE EVENT.





HYMN OF HATE

"WE HAVE ONE FOE AND ONE ALONE..."



News & Events from the Centre: **New Films**

AHRC Film featuring our Centre with Dan Snow

A 30-minute film, commissioned by the Arts & Humanities Research Council, showcases the work of the five AHRC Centres across the UK, and thereby some lesser known stories from the First World War.

Our *Everyday Lives in War* Centre, along with our sister Centre, *Voices of War & Peace* (Birmingham), has a special focus in the film on the Käthe Buchler's intriguing images of the Great War in Germany, which visited the UK in a touring exhibition from October 2017-May 2018.

The segment showing Nicola Gauld of our Birmingham sister Centre, *Voices of War & Peace*, starts at minute 9:12 into the film (with some Buchler images entering the conversation at minute 16:15), followed by the segment featuring our *Everyday Lives in War* Centre immediately thereafter, with our Centre colleague Rachel Duffett alongside Dan Snow.

Link to film:

<https://ahrc.ukri.org/newsevents/news/untold-stories-of-world-war-1-documentary-presented-by-dan-snow/>

Lovely 'haiku'-length film of the Buchler Exhibition launch

This is a brief but very ambient little (2-minute) film showing some memorable footage of the Käthe Buchler exhibition opening at the

University of Hertfordshire back in March 2018. We advise you to set the volume on your device a bit higher, since the music really enhances the film experience and makes for a wonderful glimpse into an extraordinary day, when the Buchler exhibition launched in our gallery in Hatfield, Hertfordshire.

Link to film:

<https://vimeo.com/291683937/48e43ccd90>

Meet Käthe Buchler – the woman behind the recently discovered stunning home-front photographs of Germany in the Great War

"Beyond the Battlefields: Käthe Buchler's Photographs of Germany in the Great War" was a touring exhibition co-organised by the UHGalleries, Museum Für Photographie, Braunschweig, Germany, and the AHRC-funded First World War engagement centres at the University of Birmingham (*Voices of War & Peace*) and the University of Hertfordshire (*Everyday Lives in War*). This film by Iconic Productions explores the exhibitions held at the University of Birmingham, Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery and UHGalleries, University of Hertfordshire, Hatfield.

Link to film:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RwSQNrZODII>

Hymn of Hate – a terrific film by Matt Kennard

Our Centre member, Rachel Duffett, has been providing historical advice to filmmaker, Matt Kennard, on a First World War short that he has recently written, directed and produced.

The film uses the title of Ernst Lissauer's 1914 work, but has very different sentiments from that poem with its iterations of hatred: "You (England) we shall hate with enduring hate; We shall not forbear from our hate" are a typical couple of lines.

Matt's terrific film explores the universality of the conflict, the emotional and social connections that existed between German and British soldiers.

The film has an exceptional cast, including Russell Tovey, and had its first screening at BFI Forever on September 18, 2018.

It now heads out on to the 'short film festival' circuit and no doubt those audiences will be as moved as those of us who were fortunate enough to view *Hymn of Hate* at its first outing.

Link to the film trailer:

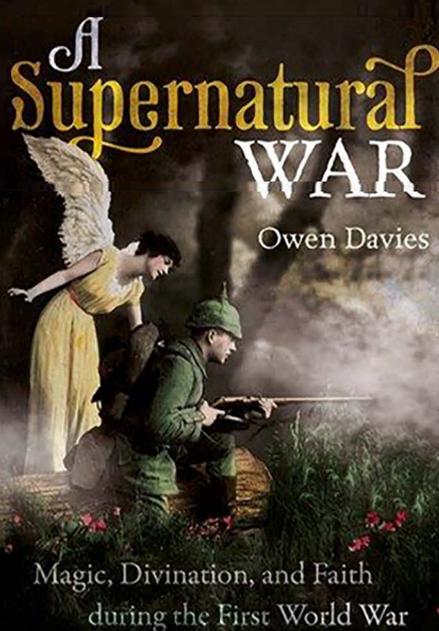
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o52euQiiR0>

palgrave pivot

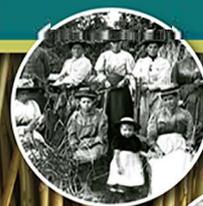
**AFRICAN AND
AFRO-CARIBBEAN
REPATRIATION,
1919-1922**

Black Voices

Jane L. Chapman



CULTIVATION AND USE
OF
BASKET WILLOWS



A guide to growing basket willows

News & Events from the Centre: New Books

African and Afro-Caribbean Repatriation, 1919-1922

by Jane L. Chapman

This book is the first attempt to analyse records of people of Afro-Caribbean origin who appealed against repatriation during the painful period after Britain's 1919 race riots. Revealing personal letters and petitions from the West Indies, West Africa, and the UK, Jane L. Chapman demonstrates that conflict adjustment involving individual voice needs to be highlighted. She asks, what was the human environment, the dilemmas and the racist compulsions making transnational experiences in the British Empire so poignant? Analysing both the opinions of civil servants on appellants' statements of hardship and requests for financial help, and the voices of the appellants themselves, this book aims to rediscover black people's hidden heritage.

Where to secure your copy:
<https://www.palgrave.com/gp/book/9783319688121>

Jane L. Chapman a member of the *Everyday Lives in War Centre*; a *Professor of Communications at Lincoln University, UK*, and *Research Associate at Wolfson College, Cambridge*. She has authored 12 books and 30 articles and book chapters, as well as acting as an editorial board member for several international journals. She shared the 2017 Colby Prize for Victorian Literature.

A Supernatural War: Magic, Divination, and Faith during the First World War

by Owen Davies

Congratulations to our Centre member Owen Davies, whose new monograph was published in October.

It was a commonly expressed view during the First World War that the conflict had seen a major revival of 'superstitious' beliefs and practices. Churches expressed concerns about the wearing of talismans and amulets, the international press paid considerable interest to the pronouncements of astrologers and prophets, and the authorities in several countries periodically clamped down on fortune tellers and mediums due to concerns over their effect on public morale. Out on the battlefields, soldiers of all nations sought to protect themselves through magical and religious rituals, and, on the home front, people sought out psychics and occult practitioners for news of the fate of their distant loved ones or communication with their spirits. Even away from concerns about the war, suspected witches continued to be abused and people continued to resort to magic and magical practitioners for personal protection, love, and success.

Uncovering and examining beliefs, practices, and contemporary opinions regarding the role of the supernatural in the war years,

Owen Davies explores the broader issues regarding early twentieth-century society in the West, the psychology of the supernatural during wartime, and the extent to which the war cast a spotlight on the widespread continuation of popular belief in magic. *A Supernatural War* reveals the surprising stories of extraordinary people in a world caught up with the promise of occult powers.

Where to secure your copy:
<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Supernatural-War-Magic-Divination-during/dp/019879455X>

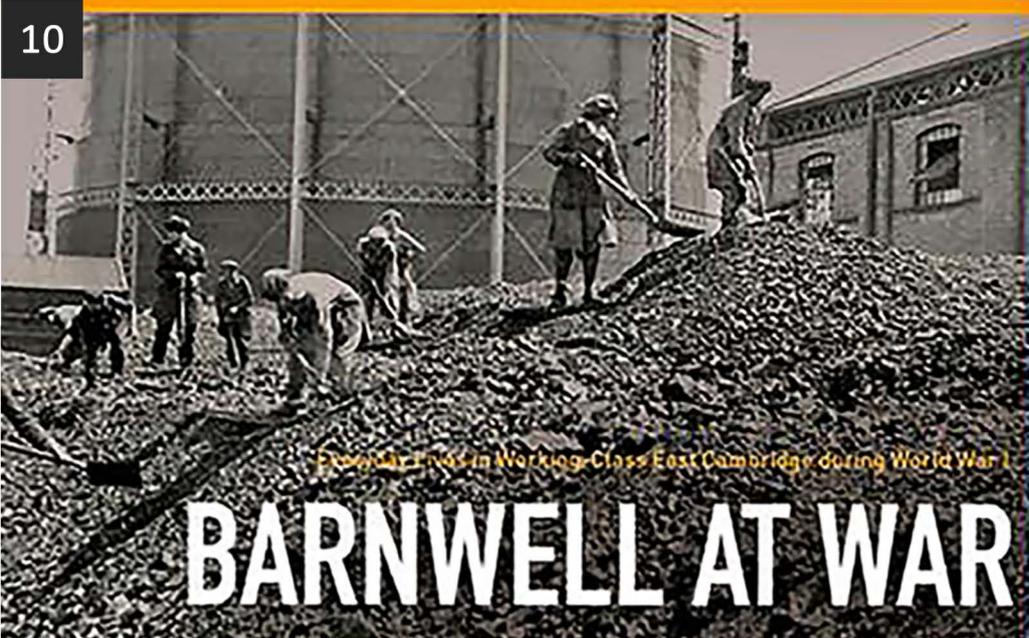
Cultivation and Use of Basket Willows

by W. J. Macalpine, H. Burns,
A. Hammerin, I. F. Shield, M. Butcher,
O. Davies & G. Bertram

After over a year's meticulous, hard work, our *Basketry Then & Now* Project in collaboration with Rothamsted Research (home of the National Willow Collection) has finalised and printed a revised, updated version of the *Cultivation and Use of Basket Willows* publication for the Basketmakers' Association.

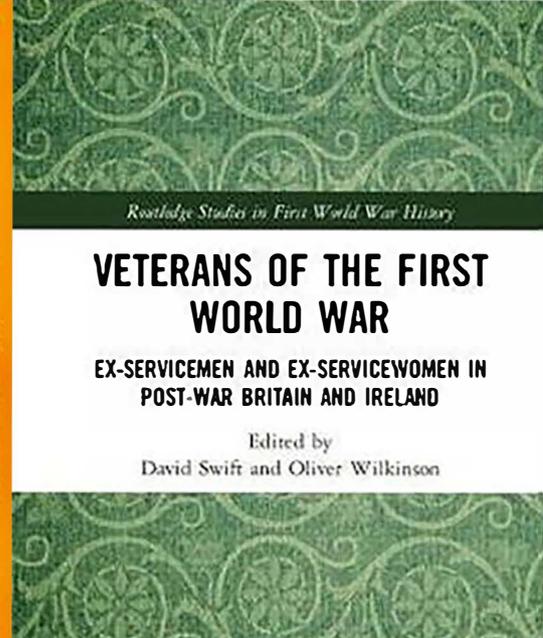
The book has been warmly received by the willow-growing community and basketmakers alike.

Where to secure your copy:
<https://bit.ly/2DWys40>



Everyday Lives in Working-Class East Cambridge during World War I

BARNWELL AT WAR



Routledge Studies in First World War History

VETERANS OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR

EX-SERVICEMEN AND EX-SERVICEWOMEN IN POST-WAR BRITAIN AND IRELAND

Edited by
David Swift and Oliver Wilkinson

News & Events from the Centre: **New Books**

Barnwell at War: Everyday Lives in Working-Class East Cambridge during World War I

edited by Michael Hrebeniak and Patrick Morgan

A newly published 40-page booklet, *Barnwell at War: Everyday Lives in Working-Class East Cambridge during World War I*, is the outcome of a community research project hosted by Wolfson College, Cambridge, over the past year. A group of community researchers drawn from *100 Years of Coconuts*, the heritage arm of the Cambridge United Football Club Supporters' Trust, worked closely with Wolfson; the *Everyday Lives in War* Engagement Centre; and Dr Nick Mansfield of the University of Central Lancashire to bring to light the narratives of the daily experiences and perceptions of those on the home front, whose lives have otherwise gone unrecorded.

Overseen by Michael Hrebeniak, Wolfson's Director of Studies in English, and Patrick Morgan, Chair of *100 Years of Coconuts*, the researchers set out to counter the socially exclusive and over-determined connotations of the 'University City' by concentrating on its relatively invisible working-class population. Their resulting co-produced study aims to reinstate the cultural memory of an area of Cambridge beyond the touristic gaze, and suggests an indicative pattern of life for the wider majority of the UK

population through an era of unparalleled trauma. It explores changes in conditions for returning troops and their families, including their management of debilitating wounds and premature death, and extends beyond the War's aftermath to the effects of the influenza epidemic, opportunities for social participation and struggles for suffrage.

Published by the Lovely Bunch, the book is edited by Michael and Patrick, and is priced at £4.99. It is available online at: cambridgefansunited.org/store

The project was celebrated at the beginning of the year by a special display at the Museum of Cambridge.

See more information about the exhibition on Page 16.

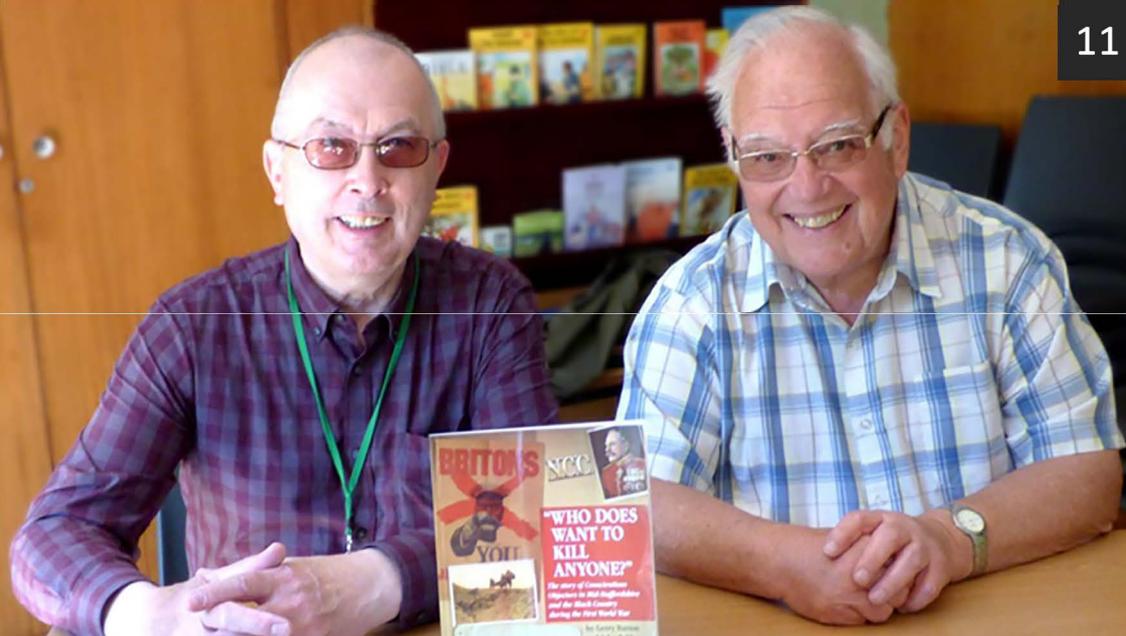
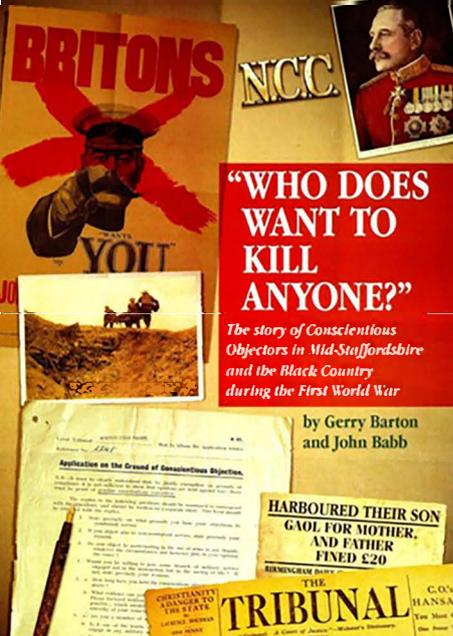
Veterans of the First World War: Ex-Servicemen and Ex-Servicewomen in Post-War Britain and Ireland *edited by David Swift and Oliver Wilkinson*

The jointly edited volume by Oliver Wilkinson and David Swift of our FWW Project team, which came out of the January 2015 conference organised by our Centre team member Nick Mansfield at the People's History Museum in Manchester on FWW ex-servicemen, will be published by MUP early 2019.

This volume synthesises the latest scholarship on First World War veterans in post-war Britain and Ireland, investigating the topic through its political, social and cultural dynamics. It examines the post-war experiences of those men and women who served and illuminates the nature of the post-war society for which service had been given. Complicating the homogenising tendency in existing scholarship it offers comparison of the experiences of veterans in different regions of Britain, including perspectives drawn from Ireland. Further nuance is offered by the assessment of the experiences of ex-servicewomen alongside those of ex-servicemen, such focus deepening understanding into the gendered specificities of post-war veteran activities and experiences. Moreover, case studies of specific cohorts of veterans are offered, including focus on disabled veterans and ex-prisoners of war.

In these regards the collection offers vital updates to existing scholarship while bringing important new departures and challenges to the current interpretive frameworks of veteran experiences in post-war Britain and Ireland.

<https://www.routledge.com/Veterans-of-the-First-World-War-Ex-Servicemen-and-Ex-Servicewomen-in-Post-War/Swift-Wilkinson/p/book/9780367174620>



News & Events from the Centre: New Books

"Who Does Want to Kill Anyone?" A new book about conscientious objectors in parts of the Midlands 1916-18

by Gerry Barton and John Babb

In August 2014, the Staffordshire Record Office (SRO) announced the discovery of a large quantity of files from the Mid-Staffordshire Military Service Appeals Tribunals of 1916-1918. They were the papers relating to appeals against conscription which should have been destroyed after the War by order of the Government, but had survived.

Gerry Barton, a retired management consultant from Rugeley, and John Babb, a retired teacher from Wolverhampton, were two of the large number of volunteers recruited to help index and digitise the papers, and they concentrated on those individuals who had appealed on grounds of conscience.

With considerable help from Sarah Lloyd, Director of *Everyday Lives in War* Centre, and the funds she manages for First World War projects, Gerry and John have used their unique access to these very important papers and the generous help of the SRO staff and volunteers to produce this thought-provoking book that tells the detailed story of conscientious objectors in Mid-Staffordshire and parts of the Black Country.

"Who Does Want To Kill Anyone?" uses the surviving Mid-Staffs Appeal Tribunal Papers as its starting point and the statements submitted by the conscientious objectors together with the responses of both the Local and Appeal Tribunals. The information is supplemented by additional research in local newspapers, National Archives and Quaker archives in Birmingham and London.

The authors give a national perspective, as well as explaining what happened locally in Staffordshire, including the numbers that demonstrate how conscription was inevitable if the war was to last any time, and an explanation of where the Derby Scheme fits into the planning at the time.

The fate of individual appellants after their tribunals has been followed up and the reader can see how their willingness "to pay any penalty" for refusing military service was tested.

Using the words of the men themselves, the motivation underlying their refusal to serve is examined. The different responses of religious groups and political objectors to the war are compared. Only the Christadelphians and the Quakers supported their members.

Congregations of other denominations were left to fight their own cases.

Staffordshire was a very diverse county even in 1916 and the varying rationales for claiming exemption on grounds of conscience are explored - from the economic harshness of small farms and the continuing religious fervour of the agricultural areas to the trade unionism and burgeoning socialist beliefs of the industrialised towns. It's a very broad picture that emerges.

The analysis is complemented by many personal stories describing in detail the fate of some of the individual conscientious objectors. The attitudes of many tribunal members were crucial to the fate of appellants and some of these are also examined.

Published by BBBNStaffs Publishing
ISBN : 978-1-5272-2195-6
Information & sales:
BBBNStaffs@hotmail.com





News & Events from the Centre: **New Exhibitions**

The Sacred Year 1919: Women and the Professions

Weds 1 May – Sun 8 Sept

Open to the public:

Monday-Friday 9am-7pm, & Saturday-Sunday 11am-6pm

London School of Economics Library
10 Portugal Street, London WC2A 2HD

The Sacred Year 1919 marks the centenary of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act. This act enabled women to enter most professions and professional bodies for the first time.

This exhibition celebrates pioneering women who first entered male-dominated professions such as law, accountancy, the Church, the sciences and the arts. There were many obstacles, and this exhibition shows how these women broke down barriers so that other women could follow.

The exhibition is part of the LSE's Women at Work programme and takes place in the Library Gallery at the entrance of LSE Library.

For more information, please see:

<http://www.lse.ac.uk/library/events/exhibitions/the-sacred-year-1919-women-and-the-professions>

Our Centre member, Andrew Maunder, will be holding a **special workshop on 17 May** at the LSE to mark the opening of the above-mentioned exhibition, as well as the revival production of the play *Jane Clegg* – titled 'Escaping the Doll's House: Women, the Arts, War and Work 1910-1930'.

- For more information about the play *Jane Clegg* and how to book your tickets, please see [Page 7](#).
- For more information about the one-day workshop 'Escaping the Doll's House' and how to book your place, please see [Page 15](#).

Women of Aktion

Fri 7 Jun – Mon 19 Aug

Manchester Central Library
St Peters Square, Manchester

Ingrid Sharp, a collaborative partner of our *Everyday Lives at War* Centre based at the University of Leeds, introduces *Women of Aktion*: an exhibition sharing the story of the German Revolution 1918 and reclaiming the voices of the female revolutionaries who have, until now, been hidden from the official narrative.

In November 1918, Germany erupted with a revolution which led to the establishment of the first democracy on German soil, the end of oppressive censorship, and the end of the war.

All across Germany, people took to the streets demanding peace, bread and a new political system, and among them were many women. This exhibition uncovers the hidden voices of the female revolutionaries and shares their eyewitness accounts.

What kind of a world did they want and how did they seek to achieve it? Remembering women's anti-war protest and revolutionary roles are important for activism today, to give women back their radical history and remind us that political gains have never been wrested from the powerful and privileged without vocal, organised pressure and collective action, and that nothing has been won or defended without persistence, often over many decades.

We are pleased to confirm that this exhibition will include a selection of Käthe Buchler's images of Germany in the Great War.

For more information, please visit:

<https://peterloo1819.co.uk/event/women-of-aktion/>



News & Events from the Centre: **New Projects**

Commemoration in Irish Everyday Lives: Exploring the Legacy of the First World War in Diaspora and Irish Communities

We are delighted to introduce our new collaborative project managed by Dr Ciara Meehan, project Principal Investigator.

In this first blog, Ciara recaps the project's launch through its first of several workshops:

The London Irish: a Complex Relationship with the Poppy

The Irish Cultural Centre was the first stop on my travels for this project. On a somewhat blustery October evening in 2018, I headed to Hammersmith for a community workshop. The purpose of the evening was to discuss family relationships to and memories of the First World War and the Irish Independence Struggle (1916, 1919-1921) with members of the Irish diaspora.

The Centre is wonderful at publicising its events, which usually attract a good crowd, but I wasn't sure whether this interactive event would draw the same audience. So I was delighted to have a good-sized turn out – enough to get a discussion going, but not so great that it became intimidating. I think the tea, coffee and biscuits probably helped people to relax! The majority of those who attended were the adult children of Irish parents who had emigrated to England; others were, like me, Irish born and now living and working in England; and a couple were spouses who had come along to hear more about their partners' family history.

I started off the evening by giving an outline of the project, its aims and

possible outcomes, and then I spoke briefly on the changing narrative about Irish involvement in the First World War. Before handing the discussion over to the room, I invited those who were comfortable doing so, to raise their hand if they wore a poppy. Nearly everybody put their hand up. But as the evening wore on, it became apparent that their relationship with the poppy is complex, and that this symbol has held different meanings at different points in their lives.

- Some claimed to have always worn the poppy, in recognition of relatives who had served and died in the First World War.
- Others felt that they could wear the poppy in England, but not in Ireland.
 - Following on from this, several believed that the political environment in Ireland had shifted enough in recent years that wearing a poppy 'at home' could be acceptable.
- Interestingly, there was a significant portion of the participants who felt that they could wear the poppy in England now, but would not have felt comfortable doing so twenty years ago.

Continue reading the blog at:

[https://
everydaylivesinwar.herts.ac.uk/2019/02/
the-london-irish-a-complex-relationship-
with-the-poppy/](https://everydaylivesinwar.herts.ac.uk/2019/02/the-london-irish-a-complex-relationship-with-the-poppy/)

Ciara Meehan is the principal investigator for the project, Commemoration in Irish Everyday Lives: Exploring the Legacy of the First World War in Diaspora and Irish Communities.



The Thick with the Light

Our Centre team member, Rachel Duffett, shares with us the excellent news that **Ms Juliet Lockhart of LockArts** has just been awarded HLF funding for her exciting project using the Stopher archive, which includes a wonderful collection of letters telling the story of George and Albert Stopher - both killed on the Western Front in 1917 - and their family.

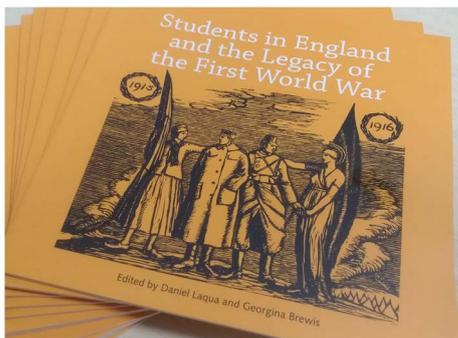
We are excitedly looking forward to becoming more involved with this project in due course, and to share more project news and updates as it progresses.

LOCK ARTS



News & Events from the Centre: Updates from our Collaborative Project Partners

Funding Success for Project on Ex-Service Students



One of the projects supported via a grant from our Centre has secured funding for follow-up research! Back in 2018, a team of academic researchers (Daniel Laqua, Georgina Brewis, Sarah Hellawell) worked with community partners (National Union of Students, Workers' Educational Association) to shed light on students who had undertaken wartime service, placing particular emphasis on their involvement in university life and their efforts for international cooperation. Their project '*British Ex-service Students and the rebuilding of Europe, 1919–1926*' resulted in a series of public events, blog posts, newsletter content as well as a 16-page pamphlet. Moreover, archival research in Edinburgh, Durham, Newcastle and London helped the

team to identify a number of fresh research angles, which will now be pursued thanks to a 2020 Anniversary Grant from the Society for Educational Studies (SES). The new project – involving the same group of researchers – is entitled '*University access and student life in the aftermath of the Great War: local, national and transnational dimensions of the Scheme for the Higher Education of Ex-Service Students (1918)*'. Laqua, Brewis and Hellawell will investigate a transformative moment in the history of British higher education, focusing on funding provisions for ex-service students. As with its forerunner, work with community partners will generate a series of public engagement activities.

Making Music in Manchester during WWI



Royal Northern College of Music has just launched a Centre for Music and Conflict, including the Making Music in Manchester project, which was funded by our Centre. With further HLF funding the project was digitised in an effort to engage much more widely with different communities.

There are two publication projects in train, coming directly out of the project: one is the Conference proceedings from the Paris-Manchester conference, which took place in early March last year; the other is a special issue of *Nineteenth-Century Music Review*, which is dedicated to Music in Manchester during WWI.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.rncm.ac.uk/news/rncm-research-launches-centre-for-music-and-conflict>

<https://www.rncm.ac.uk/research/research-centres-rncm/centre-for-music-and-conflict-cmc/>

<https://www.rncm.ac.uk/paris-manchester-1918/>



News & Events from the Centre: WWI & Aftermath Conferences

Escaping the Doll's House: Women, the Arts, War and Work 1910-1930

Friday 17 May 2019, 10.30-4.00
Women's Library, London School of Economics

To mark the launch of a new exhibition at the Women's Library, London, 'The Sacred Year 1919: women and the professions', and the new revival production at London's Finborough Theatre of St John Ervine's 1913 play *Jane Clegg*, a one-day event of talks and discussion on these and related topics is taking place at the Women's Library.

Speakers include:

Maggie Gale, *University of Manchester*, 'Women and Work in Performance, before and beyond the first world war';

Connal Parr, *University of Northumbria*, 'St. John Ervine's Irish national theatre and the 1916 Easter Rising';

Rachel Duffett, *University of Essex*, 'The War comes Home: Queen Mary, her Dolls' House and the First World War';

Gillian Murphy, *LSE*, "The Sacred Year, 1919";

Naomi Paxton, *Central School of Speech & Drama*, "Theatrical Suffragists and the First World War".

The event is FREE and open to all but booking is required for catering purposes.

Book here: <https://bit.ly/2DfVSq0>

For further enquires or please contact Andrew Maunder at the *Everyday Lives in War* Centre at:

a.c.maunder@herts.ac.uk

- For more information about the LSE exhibition 'The Sacred Year 1919: women and the professions', please see Page 12.
- For more information about the revival production *Jane Clegg* at Finborough Theatre in London, please see Page 7.

The First World War: Past, Present, Future

27-28 June 2019
Edinburgh Napier University, Craiglockhart Campus

The First World War Network is proud to be organising this conference, scheduled to take place at the historic Craiglockhart campus of Edinburgh Napier University, between 26 and 28 June 2019. The conference will include the voices of internationally respected academics, early career and postgraduate researchers, representatives of museums and heritage agencies, and a host of scholars drawn from all aspects of First World War studies.

The conference will commence on the evening of Wednesday 26 June with a public lecture by Dr Nigel Hunt (University of Nottingham), the principal investigator of the AHRC-funded Centre for Hidden Histories, followed by a wine reception hosted by Edinburgh Napier University.

The conference proper will then commence on the morning of Thursday 27 June with parallel panels of speakers drawn from four continents—showcasing the diversity and breadth of contemporary scholarship on the First World War—followed by a keynote address from Professor Jane Potter (Oxford Brookes University).

The final day of the conference will begin with a display and presentation led by a number of youth groups, discussing their responses to the centenary of the First World War, and will also include a round table discussion on the future of First World War studies featuring the insights of Dr Vanda Wilcox (John Cabot University), Professor Ian Isherwood (Gettysburg University), Jo Hook (Battlefield guide) and speakers yet to be confirmed.

The conference will conclude with a series of workshops aimed at our postgraduate and early career members, in line with the First World War Network's mission to provide bespoke training opportunities for next generation of First World War scholars.

Tickets for this event will be available shortly, and full details for the conference will be announced through our website: fwwnetwork.wordpress.com and Twitter feed: @FWWNetwork.

A draft version of the programme can be viewed now at: <https://fwwnetwork.wordpress.com/the-first-world-war-past-present-and-future>



*Fen Ditton villagers and soldiers outside cottages in Church St 1914-1918
Courtesy of: the Cambridgeshire Collection
One of the great images on display at the Barnwell at War exhibition*

News & Events from the Centre: Update on Past Events

Barnwell at War: Everyday lives in working-class east Cambridge during World War I: A six-week exhibition at the Museum of Cambridge
14 Jan -25 Feb 2019

The limited-time, six-week exhibition *Barnwell at War – Everyday Lives in Working-Class East Cambridge during WW1* ran from 14 January to 25 February earlier this year. The research, publishing and exhibition project was aided by our *Everyday Lives in War* Centre’s joint research funding. The project was led by Dr Michael Hrebeniak of Wolfson College, Cambridge, together with *100 Years of Coconuts*, a community history group associated with Cambridge United Football Club. About 50 guests heard an introductory talk from Coconuts chair, Pat Morgan, who pointed out that whilst the research failed to locate hard evidence for the story that the football club had been founded by returning ex-servicemen, this was made up for by the fascinating wartime stories which had been uncovered and displayed from the working-class area which had fostered the club.

Descendants of the Barnwell families had lent material for the exhibition and were on hand to enjoy the reception. This included our Centre member, Nick Mansfield, who

was born and brought up there, and whose father, Fred Mansfield (1912-2004), was a former Cambridge United player. One story centred on our Nick’s uncle, Charlie Crouch (1895-1961), who having volunteered for the army in 1915, was diverted into his trade of engine driving in France. He married a French woman and remained there after 1918, working all his life for the War Graves Commission.

The booklet *Barnwell at War – Everyday Lives in Working-Class East Cambridge during WW1*, is featured in our New Books section on **Page 10** and is available to purchase at:

http://www.cambridgefansunited.org/store/c1/Featured_Products.html



Wedding in Barnwell, 1915; our Centre member Nick Mansfield’s uncle, Charlie Crouch is seated second from the right.

For more information about the exhibition and the project partners who made it possible, please see: <https://www.museumofcambridge.org.uk/event/barnwell-at-war-2019>

Reappraising the Representation of the People Act, 1918 Conference
14 September 2018

The passing of the Representation of the People Act in February 1918 was a defining moment in British history.

By extending the franchise to all men over 21 and women over 30 who met the qualifying criteria, the Act transformed the electoral system in Britain, tripling the electorate to nearly twenty four million.

To mark the centenary year of this landmark reform, a one day conference, ‘Reappraising the Representation of the People Act, 1918’, was held at the University of Central Lancashire.

Organised by Dr David Stewart, Dr Nick Mansfield and Dr Jack Southern, the conference drew on themes of gender, class, nationhood and local identity in its examination and reappraisal of the Act.

Read more at:

<https://everydaylivesinwar.herts.ac.uk/2018/10/reappraising-the-representation-of-the-people-act-1918-conference-14-september-2018/>



News & Events from the Centre: Update on Past Events

Book and Film Launch: *Beyond the Battlefields: Käthe Buchler's Photographs of Germany in the Great War*

13 December 2018

Photographers' Gallery, London

In the lead-up to Christmas, we enjoyed a wonderful launch event at the Photographers' Gallery in London of the *Beyond the Battlefields* book. The event was made even more memorable in the presence of special guests and contributions from Dr Barbara Hofmann-Johnson, Director of the Museum für Photographie, Braunschweig, Germany; community researchers (Caitlin Dobbie, *Investing in Children*; Alison Childs of *All the Nice Girls*; Mary Crabb, basketry practitioner); our sister Centre *Voices of War & Peace* (Nicola Gauld, Ian Grosvenor); curator Matthew Shaul; as well as University of Hertfordshire Press (Chris Dunkley and Jane Housham). The book launch coincided with the first screening of the documentary film about Käthe Buchler, created by filmmaker Sam Lockyer of Iconic Productions, which focused on the 2017/2018 touring exhibition of her photographs in the UK.

For your own copy of this very special book, please visit:

<https://www.herts.ac.uk/uhp/press/books-content/beyond-the-battlefields>

Canadian Forestry Corps Dedication Ceremony

1 September 2018

Devon

Our Centre member Kent Federowich shares with us that: 'On 1 September 2018 a dedication ceremony was held at Stover Park School to honour the men from the Canadian Forestry Corps who worked on the Stover Estate and other sites in Devon between 1916 and 1919.

In attendance were the Lord Lieutenant of Devon, the Canadian Military Attaché and other local dignitaries including representatives from Devon County Council, the Devon Remembers Project and Stover Country Park. These wooden sculptures are the only memorial in the United Kingdom or Canada to honour the activities of the Canadian Forestry Corps, a 34,000-strong force who felled trees in the United Kingdom and France for the Allied war effort.'

Great turnout at the Women, Children and War workshop

1 November 2018

The Minories, Colchester

Our Centre team members Rachel Duffett and Mike Roper had a great turnout for this event. There were two terrific speakers: Sue Laidler

talking about her extensive WW1 collection, and Holly Nielsen presenting her MA research on WW1 board games. On top of that, there was also a showing of the IWM's Women 100 films which were great – especially 'Deeds not Words' about the Endell St Hospital in London, staffed wholly by women. The gallery was exhibiting a collection of material as part of 'War, Art and Reconciliation', a project set up single-handedly by Jan Scott, a local artist who works with the town's Help for Heroes group. It was a huge achievement and our team was delighted to work with Jan and show their support for such a wonderful contribution to the town's commemorations.

Everyday Lives in War enjoys showcasing success at University of Hertfordshire's Armistice Day event

11 November 2018

Hatfield

The *Everyday Lives in War* Centre assisted in the set-up of a very successful Armistice Day of remembrance at the University of Hertfordshire on Sunday 11 November. The Centre's work was showcased with a special emphasis on a selection of Käthe Buchler's images of Germany on the home front during the Great War, as well as the *Basketry Then & Now* project.



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News & Events from the Centre: Highlights of Our Centre Team Activities

Our Centre team has had an event-filled and active time since our latest Newsletter. The following provides for an overview of highlights of our Centre members' many activities over the past few months: -

Mike Roper has:

- been focusing on finishing a new book (keep a lookout for this in our next Newsletter!), giving a number of papers, and writing a number of journal articles – the latest of which is: 'The Bush, the Suburbs and the Long Great War. A family memoir', *History Workshop Journal*, 86, Autumn 2018, pp. 90-113. ISSN 1363-3554

<https://academic.oup.com/hwj/article/doi/10.1093/hwj/dby019/5048011>

- been involved in the September 2018 conference on the *Motherhood, Loss and the First World War* project, organised by Big Ideas in partnership with Royal Holloway University of London and the Institute of Historical Research.

Nick Mansfield has:

- worked with the Global Link project – including giving a paper at Lancaster University on 17 November titled "Patriotism and Socialism - Radical Ex-servicemen, 1917-1923";
- done a lot of work on the Representation of the People Act – including:
 - co-organising the 14 September conference 'Reappraising the Representation of the People Act, 1918' at UCLan;
 - participating on a panel organised by the History of Parliament Trust on 21 November 2018; and

- writing a blog for the AHRC on the Representation of the People Act;
- given a lecture on 'British Soldiers: Deserters, Rebels and Renegades, 1790-1860', at the Manchester Military History Society on 11 September;
- answered detailed query from BBC's 'Who Do You Think You Are' on wartime life and military service of the Wright family of Stepney, London;
- provided advice to the Lancashire Evening Post for an article on women in Lancashire in the FWW ranging over a variety of topics.

Kent Fedorowich has:

- given a paper on the "Devon Remembers" project to a group of historians at Stover Country Park, Devon – including some family history which has been digitised;
- attended the dedication ceremony of wooden sculptures held at Stover Park School to honour the men from the Canadian Forestry Corps who worked on the Stover Estate and other sites in Devon between 1916 and 1919 – which is the only memorial in the United Kingdom or Canada to honour the activities of the Canadian Forestry Corps, a 34,000-strong force who felled trees in the United Kingdom and France for the Allied war effort.
- attended the conference *Immortalised: The representation of contested histories, difficult narratives and hidden voices in public spaces and institutions*, held in Bristol in November, where he gave a talk on "I am a lumberjack, I am OK".
- served as a historical advisor and member of the advisory board with two exhibitions at Royal Albert

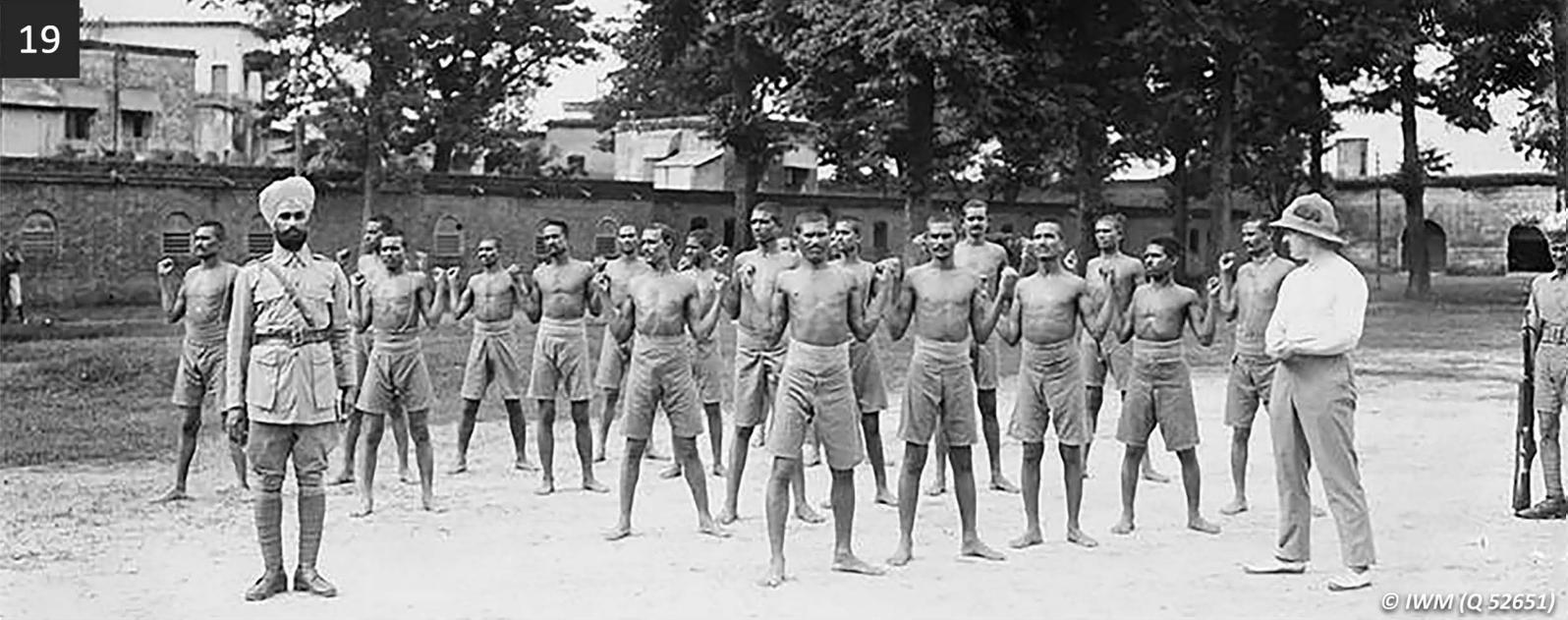
Memorial Museum (Exeter) between 15 September 2018 and 6 January 2019. The exhibitions, which saw a footfall of 11,000 people over the course of four months, examined Devon voices during the First World War and the Canadians in Devon.

Rachel Duffett has:

- been busy working on a workshop with Felix Mboko's Stroke & Asphasia group (on food during WW1);
- been filming with Suggs (from the pop group Madness) on food in a WW1 'archaeologist'-type of TV programme;
- been advising on an independent short film, "Hymn of Hate" and also attending the film premiere of same;
- been participating on behalf of ELIWI in a film commissioned by the AHRC on the work of the WW1 engagement Centres, featuring TV historian Dan Snow;
- contributed to BBC Look East's Armistice programme featuring the Stopher family archive;
- organised a very well attended Centre event in Colchester on Women, Children and War;
- given a paper on Queen Mary's Dolls House as a legacy of WW1 at the Children's History Conference – which will now also be rewritten as a journal article.

Jane Chapman has:

- staged an exhibition of WW1 soldier cartoons at the UniGlobal Conference and at their the Women's Conference in Liverpool, as the impact of the cartoons continues;



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News & Events from the Centre: Highlights of Our Centre Team Activities

- responded to a fascinating enquiry from the public of a postcard featuring German Prisoners of War, which she hopes to develop a bit further;
- given a paper at The National Archives conference in October 2018;
- started preparing a chapter for an Anthology on reader letters (linked to the Labour Women newspaper).

Owen Davies has:

- attended The National Archives conference, held on 19-20 October 2018;
- published his book, *A Supernatural War: Magic, Divination, and Faith during the First World War* (Oxford University Press, 2018). 304pp, and has held several publicity talks around this – including:
 - discussing the new book and FWW commemoration. BBC Radio Scotland, Sunday Morning with Richard Holloway, 4 November 2018; and
 - discussing the new book on BBC Three Counties, 19 November 2018;
- written a blog for the Royal Historical Society on the aforementioned book, and has been asked to do an article for History Today;
- given two public talks: ‘Spirits on the First World War battlefields’ at Goldsmiths University on 20 Nov 2018, and ‘Haunted Histories: War, spiritualism and the occult’ at Union Theatre, London, on 12 Nov 2018;
- in his capacity as Principal Investigator for the *Basketry Then & Now* project, published a booklet together with Rothamsted Research on the

“Cultivation and Use of Basket Willows”;

- been successful in his bid for HLF funds to carry on his production of “The Important Man” in partnership with Cap-a-Pie Theatre.

Ciara Meehan has:

- run an interactive workshop *1916, 1919-1921 and the First World War in Irish Memory* – for the purpose of discussing family relationships and memories of the First World War and the Irish Independence Struggle (1916, 1919-1921) with members of the Irish diaspora. (See more about Ciara Meehan’s project on [Page 13](#).)

Anna Hammerin has:

- travelled to her native Sweden to search the local archives of her Grandmother and Mother’s village for a family story relating to the women’s hunger demonstrations 1917;
- travelled to New Zealand, where she:
 - visited the World War 1 exhibition at the Canterbury Museum in Christchurch – which is now shared online via the following lovely exhibition website: <https://worldwarone.canterburymuseum.com/>
 - and -
 - met with the organisers of the Suffrage Hub in Amberley, South Island, who in 2018 celebrated 125 years of New Zealand suffrage and shared their history and experience. See more information on the Suffrage Hub Facebook page: [@hurunuisuffrage](#)

Sarah Lloyd and Julie Moore have:

- been busy with a number of local school visits – including an assembly with 400+ students;
- engaged in more activity with *Museumand* (The National Caribbean Heritage Museum) – such as the *Caribbean Home Fires* workshop, held at the University of Hertfordshire in May, which became a childhood remembrance event;
- arranged and hosted the Käthe Buchler book and film launch at The Photographers’ Gallery in London on 13 December 2018.

Andrew Maunder has:

- completed the run of Robert Graves’s WW1 play ‘But it still goes on’ at the Finborough Theatre in London, which he produced for a 4-week run in July and August 2018;
- featured as a historical expert on the subject of music-hall theatre on ‘Who Do You Think You Are’ researching the family history of comedian Lee Mack.





© IWM (Q 30962)

From the Postbag



A Postcard arrived... from THE CZECH REPUBLIC!

"Speaking neither Czech nor Polish, it was with some trepidation that I accepted an invitation to speak at a workshop on the Seven Days' War between the Czechs and Poles in 1919.

The initial invite came from Tomáš Rusek, a Czech historian I had met at the *Voices of the Home Fronts* event organised by the National Archives and Everyday Lives in War in 2016. Along with Ondřej Kolář, who had presented alongside Tomáš, a coincidence of historical interest emerged during that conference and the three of us have remained in contact since.

The workshop took place in Ostrava in the Czech Republic on Friday 25 January and was organised by Martin Lokaj of the city's university in collaboration with the Association of Czechoslovak Legionnaires. My paper discussed the British military officers sent in early 1919 to the Duchy of Teschen; now the borderlands of Poland and the Czech Republic.

Like my fellow Britons a hundred years ago, I was unsure what to expect but found the experience fascinating. Particularly as my only personal point of comparison was First World War centenary events in Britain.

The visit was made all the more interesting because I travelled with Ian Dalziel, the great-nephew of one of the British officers sent to Teschen. Like me, Ian had never visited the Czech Republic and we were made to feel most welcome by our hosts....."

Continue reading our Centre team member Jim Beach's "postcard" from a recent WW1 workshop in the Czech Republic here:

<https://everydaylivesinwar.herts.ac.uk/2019/02/remembering-a-war-after-the-war/>



A Postcard arrived... from AUSTRALIA!

Dr Andrew Green, a close friend and colleague of our Centre and Senior Research Fellow of the University of Hertfordshire, has recently delivered a Great War oral history presentation in Western Australia.

The subject of his talk was British and Australian soldiers' perceptions of the French and Belgian landscapes in which they fought. The setting: the Museum of the Great Southern in Albany, the port which was the last stopping-off point for tens of thousands of soldiers on their way to take part in the conflict.

Andrew Green also delivered his Great War Pastoral presentation in the same week at the State Library of Western Australia in Perth, where Andrew's fabulous research was heard by a full house and received overwhelmingly positive feedback – including but not limited to:

"Fabulous!"

"We're still taking in your remarkable presentation. It has had a profound influence on us."

"...excellent and almost certainly one of the best [Albany talks] I have attended. The interpolation of commentary by Andrew with images and the reading of diaries and poetry made the pastoral come to life. Excerpts reminded you of the horror of the battlefields, best expressed in the poem titled 'The Song of the Mud'. This was a very professional presentation and reflected Andrew's commitment to both oral and written history."

"I wanted to tell you how much I enjoyed the presentation yesterday – wonderful!"



IWM launch event of new War and Conflict Specialist Network © IWM, 2019

From the Postbag: Funding Opportunities and Research Support

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY: National Lottery Grant for Heritage

The Heritage Lottery Fund: First World War – Then and Now programme has now concluded, and a new, fresh programme has been launched under the title of **National Lottery Grants for Heritage!**

National Lottery Grants for Heritage is an open programme for all types of heritage projects in the UK.

The programme fund projects that connect people and communities to the national, regional and local heritage of the UK.

The following pages contain key programme information - including deadlines and application guidance:

<https://www.heritagefund.org.uk/funding/national-lottery-grant-heritage>



Imperial War Museums launches new War and Conflict Subject Specialist Network

Imperial War Museums is setting up a new War and Conflict Subject Specialist Network, to build capacity, connections and confidence in the cultural heritage sector. The Network is open to not-for-profit organisations and groups who look at stories linked to conflict, from the First World War to the present day. Building on the success of the First World War Centenary Partnership, the Network will offer support and guidance through free online resources and organise networking events and study visits, to encourage collaboration and sharing good practice.

If you are interested in finding out more, please join the Network's mailing list for updates:

<https://www.iwm.org.uk/form/the-war-and-conflict-subject-specialist-network-iwm>

Free media training for ESRC- and AHRC-funded researchers across the UK

The ESRC offers ESRC- and AHRC-funded researchers a free one-day media training session that provides the opportunity to develop practical media skills in a safe environment. The course is tailor-made for academics no matter what stage of their career, including those with little or no experience of interacting with the media. Visit the ESRC website for the full set of dates and how to book your place:

<https://esrc.ukri.org/skills-and-careers/media-training/>



From the Postbag: Talks & Lectures

During 2019, there are a great number of talks, lectures and study days planned across the UK on the aftermath of the Great War. While not being associated with our Centre, we still wish to share the following activities which may be of interest to our readers. Follow the links for further information and to book your tickets.



Consequences of War: the aftermath of the First World War by *The Antrim and Down Branch of the Western Front Association*

Thu, 9 May 2019
Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, Belfast

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/consequences-of-war-the-aftermath-of-the-first-world-war-tickets-59346581222>



Medicine at War: Walking Tour by *Discover Medical London / Royal College of Physicians Museum*

Thu, 9 May 2019
Royal College Of Physicians, London

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/medicine-at-war-walking-tour-tickets-60302705014>



WW1 Centenary Lecture Series: Europe after 1918: The Economic Legacy of the War and the Economic Consequences of the Peace by *Sheffield Hallam University Events Team*

Mon, 3 June 2019
Peak Lecture Theatre, Sheffield Hallam University, Sheffield

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ww1-centenary-lecture-series-europe-after-1918-the-economic-legacy-of-the-war-and-the-economic-tickets-60302750149>



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From the Postbag: Talks & Lectures (cont.)



**The war that ended peace (with historian Prof Margaret MacMillan)
by *The National Archives***

Thu, 13 June 2019

The National Archives, Richmond

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-war-that-ended-peace-tickets-58788560166>



**After the First World War
by *Loughton Festival***

Sat, 15 June 201

Loughton Library, Loughton

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/after-the-first-world-war-tickets-58921135703>



**The Mysterious Diary of Private Newton
by *West Yorkshire Archive Service***

Fri, 21 June 2019

West Yorkshire History Centre, Wakefield

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-mysterious-diary-of-private-newton-tickets-55218038640>



From the Postbag: National & International Conferences

The War That Never Ended: Postwar Continuity and New Challenges in the Aftermath of the Habsburg and Ottoman Empires, 1918–1923

24-26 October, 2019
Kraków, Poland

Organiser: Institute of History, Jagiellonian University; Pratt Institute

Venue: Institute of History, Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland

Call for Papers – deadline: 1 June 2019

In 1914, imploding European powers committed murder and mayhem on an unforeseen scale around the world with enormous and irreversible global consequences. This bloody, sometimes even fratricidal, struggle wrought unprecedented destruction and death; by the time this disaster was “over,” a new world emerged beyond the imaginations of the perpetrators, participants and witnesses of this era.

Post-armistice humanity around the globe was changed and was left heavily scarred, anxious, and full of economic, political, and cultural uncertainty. Many reflected about the recent catastrophe and sought to engage entire societies in the formation of a new order.

This re-building and re-imagining could be seen from the local to the national to international levels and included the process of constructing a lasting memory of 1914–1918 and of creating narratives about the conflict. Undoubtedly, the years of the Great War are an important caesura in the historiography of the new world.

The centuries-old empires of Europe collapsed following the 1918 truce, but the agile colonial powers insisted on clinging to their overseas territories and their colonial clashes continued. For some historians there were not two

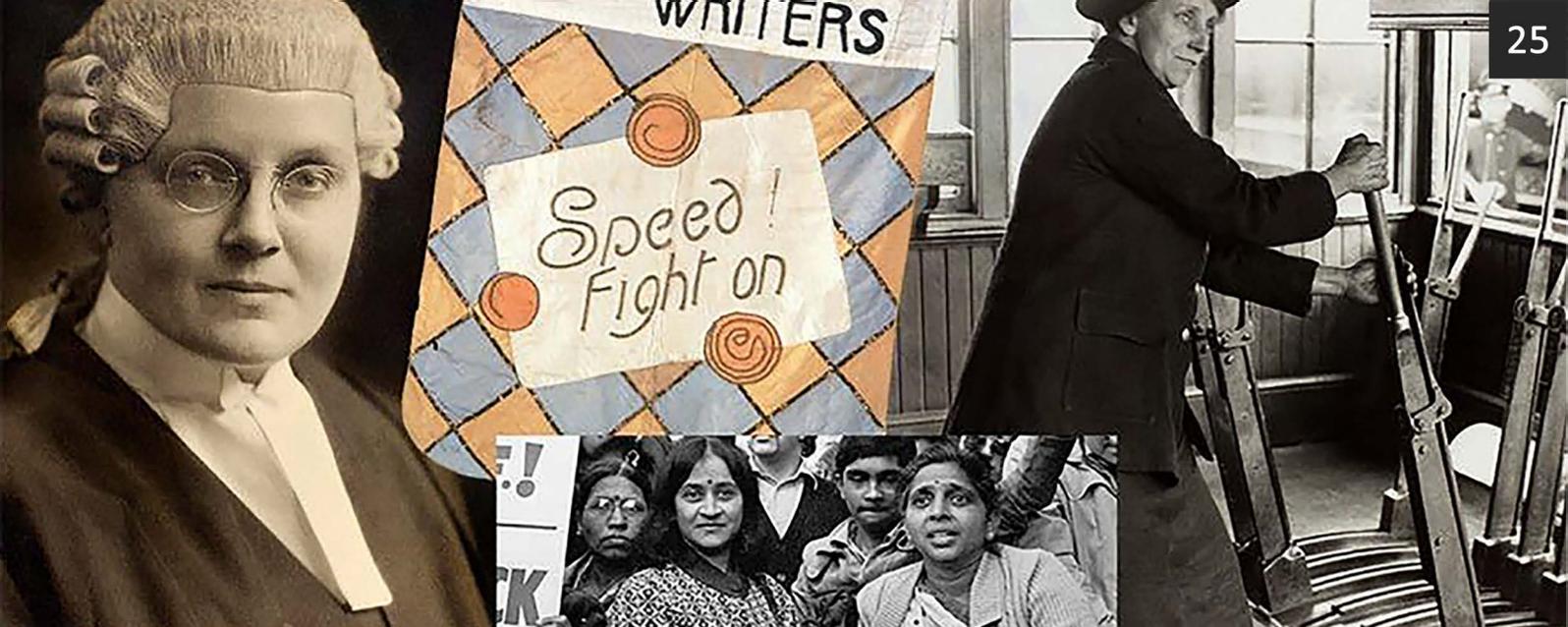


world wars, but a twenty-year-long intermission that festered with uncertainties and anxieties. What is more, despite the fact that the Great War was over in the West, warfare continued for months and even years in Central, Eastern, and Southern Europe, including the territories of the former Ottoman Empire.

The War That Never Ended Conference invites papers engaging with the multilayered complexities, lasting and prolonged global contributions of this period, including the cultural, political, and social history of the immediate and prolonged aftermath of the First World War, its revolutions and birth of nations and states.

We invite:

- a particular focus on the responses of the politicians, intellectuals, artists, as well as ordinary citizens with



From the Postbag: National & International Conferences

the expectation that social history profoundly informs political and economic history;

- papers focusing on and revealing the ensuing violence, mayhem and destruction in the aftermath of the war;
- papers considering the creation of new cultural and political trends in the hothouse of the period;
- a consideration of whether the term “Lost Generation” coined by Ernest Hemingway can be used in reference to East-Central Europe and the Ottoman Empire.
- papers on post-imperial settlements, adjustments and consolidations within the geographies of the Austro-Hungarian and Ottoman Empires to further our comparative understanding of post-imperial national projects. Comparisons may consider areas and issues such the rule of law, the role of religion, minorities, (de)democratization, governance, as well as cultural, economic and political clashes in the Middle East and Eastern Europe.
- explorations of the post-Great War formation of new states and their relationships with cultural diversity, de/colonization, democracy, and how they all interfaced with the impending clashes of World War II.

Together, these inquiries can enhance our understanding of contemporary brutal conflicts such as the refugee crisis, the obstacles for democratization and the impending rise of authoritarianism in post-Empire geographies. While illuminating the post-Great War period, we hope The War That Never Ended Conference will also contribute to our understanding of the present.

For more conference information, please see:
<https://postwarconference.wordpress.com/cfp/>

Women's History Network Annual Conference 2019: *Professional Women: the public, the private, and the political*

6-7 September 2019

LSE Library, the home of the Women's Library

2019 marks the centenary of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act in Britain, which opened all 'civil professions or vocations', including the civil service and legal profession, to women. It was a significant landmark – but neither a beginning nor an end – to the history of professional women.

This conference will explore not only the significance of the 1919 Act, but also the 'professional woman' in all periods, nations and forms.

She is found far beyond 'the professions', in fields ranging from agriculture to industry, from education to the arts.

She has worked with or without official sanction and recognition, in widely varying conditions, for typically unequal wages.

She has created her own professional niches, from domestic trades to feminist organisations – or forced her way into traditionally male domains.

Her professional life has been influenced by sex and gender, but also by class, ethnicity and race, sexuality, disability, age, nationality and family situation.

For more information about the conference, please visit:
<https://womenshistorynetwork.org/womens-history-network-annual-conference-2019/>



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From the Postbag: National & International Conferences

Peace making after the First World War 1919-1923

27-28 September 2019

The National Archives, Richmond

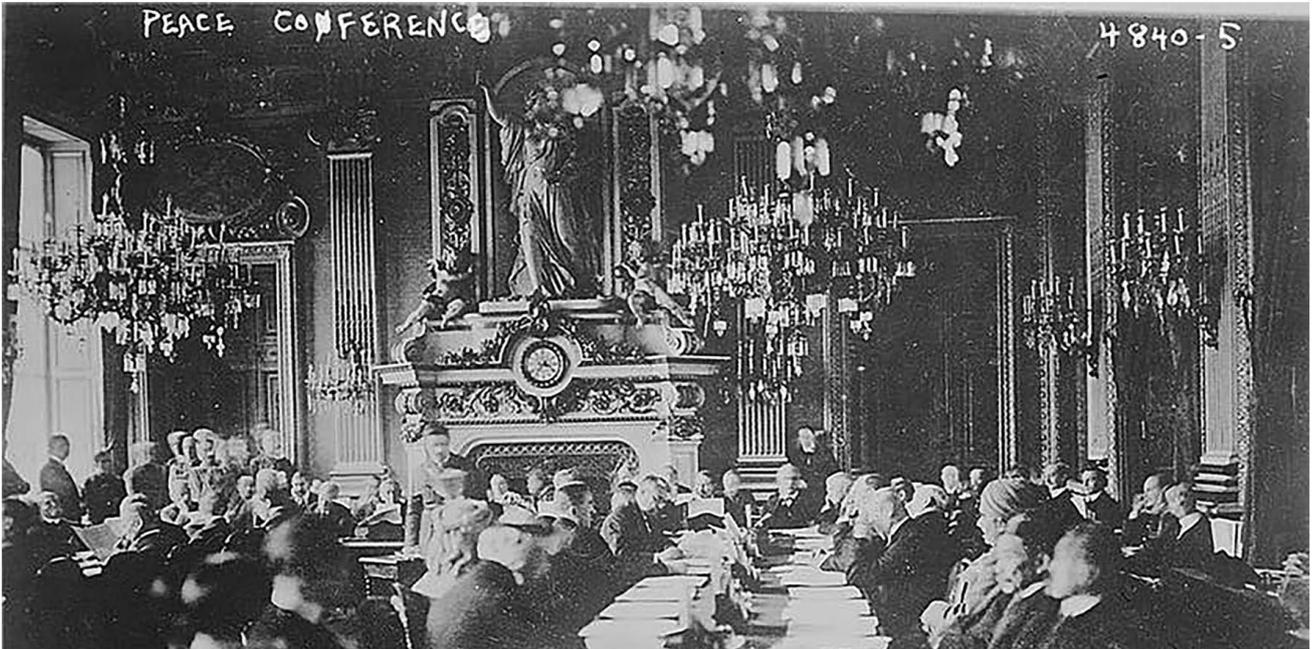
To mark the centenary of the signature of the Treaty of Versailles, this two-day conference explores the peace-making process after the First World War and will explore other treaties that marked the formal end of hostilities: Saint-Germain (Austria), Neuilly (Bulgaria), Trianon (Hungary), Sèvres (Ottoman Empire) and Lausanne (Turkey).

This is a joint Conference with The National Archives, the Foreign & Commonwealth Office Historians, the University of Strathclyde, the International History Department at LSE and the British International History Group. The second day of the conference will be held at Lancaster House.

The conference includes keynote lectures by Professor Michael Cox and Professor David Stevenson, and an exhibition of The National Archives' unique collection of certified copies of all the treaties.

For more information about the conference and to book tickets, please visit:

www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/peace-making-after-the-first-world-war-1919-1923-tickets-59111419848





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From the Postbag: Musical Performances

No Petticoats Here

The award-winning singer and performer, Louise Jordan, will be touring this spring with No Petticoats Here – her much celebrated project which has been supported by public funding through the National Lottery via the Arts Council England.

‘A stirring, lilting grace’ **The Telegraph**

‘Absolutely, totally and completely brilliant’ **Mike Harding, BBC Radio 2**

‘Haunting and unforgettable’ **The Sunday Express**

‘The fragility of perfection’ **FolkWords**

‘A masterclass in songwriting’ **R2**

‘Louise’s vocals are out of this world’ **Maverick**

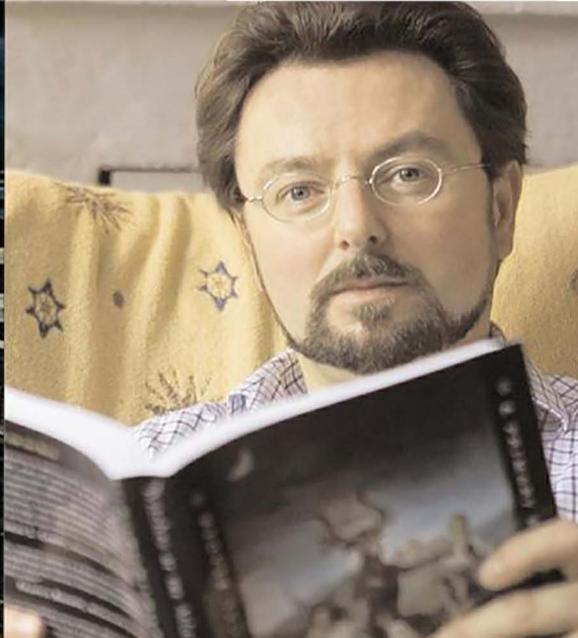
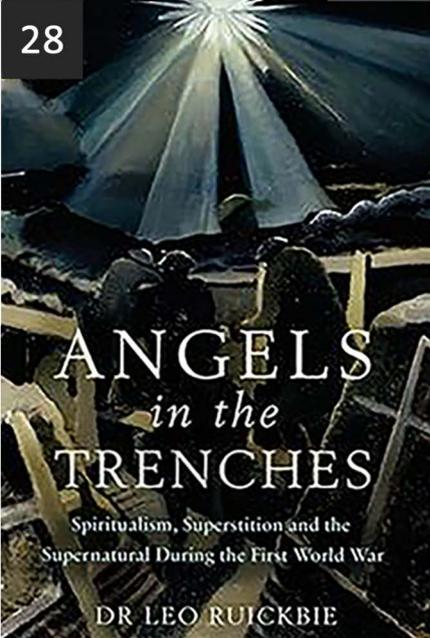
‘Absolutely glorious’ **FATEA**

For the latest tour dates, please see:
<http://louisejordan.co.uk/tour-dates/>

Louise has also been involved in a youth heritage project ‘Never Had They Ever’, funded by HLF. This involved working with young people aged 13-19 years from the Salisbury and Portsmouth areas and supporting them to access archive materials at the National Museum of the Royal Navy and Explosion! museum, Portsmouth, as well as Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre. The young people’s brief was to share heritage around women’s experiences of the First World War in a way that was relevant and relatable. The resultant songs are available to listen to via soundcloud, and a downloadable resource book is available as a pdf document from Louise Jordan’s website:
<http://www.nopetticoatshere.co.uk/workshops-talks-commissions/never-had-they-ever/>

Louise also wrote a blog about this, which can be accessed here:
<http://www.gatewaysfww.org.uk/blog/never-had-they-ever>





ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr Leo Ruickbie specialises in controversial areas of human belief and experience. An elected member of the Royal Historical Society with a PhD from King's College, London, he is the author of six books on the history and sociology of witchcraft, magic and the supernatural. His work has been mentioned in the media from *The Guardian* to Radio Jamaica, and is cited in the current student book for A-Level Sociology in the UK. He is the editor of the *Paranormal Review*, the magazine of the Society for Psychical Research, and can be found at www.ruickbie.com.

From the Postbag: **New Books**

Angels in the Trenches: ***Spiritualism, Superstition and the Supernatural*** ***During the First World War*** **by Dr Leo Ruickbie**

Angels in the Trenches by Dr Leo Ruickbie

ISBN: 9781472139597

(London: Little, Brown, 2018; RRP £13.99)

Ebook and audiobook versions are also available.

In 2016, Dr Leo Ruickbie presented 'The Authenticity of Angels: Investigating the Paranormal During the First World War' at the 'Dissenting Voices and the Everyday in the First World War' conference organised by the National Archives and the *Everyday Lives in War* Engagement Centre. Taking a look at some rather extraordinary 'everyday lives', this focused on the investigation into the angels of Mons conducted by the Society for Psychical Research in 1915. For those who may not have heard of it, the Society for Psychical Research (SPR) was founded in 1882 as the first organisation for the scientific study of what we now call the paranormal. They are still going strong today, but during the First World War faced challenges typical of many special interest groups at the time, although their especial challenge was what to make of the numerous war prophecies, personal experiences and Spiritualist communications then being reported. Mons was a test case, so to speak, and the Society sided with psychology rather than parapsychology in explaining the legend as the result of fatigue rather than spiritual intervention. This formed the nucleus of

Dr Ruickbie's book project, extending the analysis beyond Mons to look at the role and reception of paranormal beliefs and experiences during the war years. Many of the stories were highly personal and often terribly tragic, and this led Dr Ruickbie to take a narrative approach, looking to retell the war from this special perspective. Doing so allowed him to follow the journey involved in going from enlistment centre to séance room, and often from doubt to belief in Spiritualism. Many personalities still familiar to us now were involved with the Society for Psychical Research, or its sister organisation the Ghost Club, including Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, W.B. Yeats and more tangentially Rupert Brooke, and many others were particularly well-connected members of high society, such as Winifred Coombe Tennant (about whom there is a simply amazing story), Gerald Balfour (brother of the former Prime Minister Arthur Balfour, who was also a VicePresident of the SPR), Lord Selborne (a member of Asquith's coalition Cabinet) and Dame Edith Lytton. These were certainly 'dissenting voices' then and are even more so today, continuing to challenge our preconceptions concerning both the war and the nature of reality.

The book was published for the Centenary of the Armistice by Little, Brown as *Angels in the Trenches: Spiritualism, Superstition and the Supernatural During the First World War* (available from Amazon.co.uk). There is also a companion website with extracts and new material at angelsinthetrenches.com.



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From the Postbag: **New Books**

Not a Game for Girls by Benjamin Peel



The play *Not a Game for Girls* has received two productions now, with the first being at Friargate Theatre in York in June 2017, where it was put on by Off the Rock Productions and directed by Alison Young; the second was at Guildford School of Acting in March 2018, where it was performed by second year students and directed by Jules Tipton. It was published by the reputable Oberon Books in October 2018 and is now available from their website as well as Amazon and Waterstones.

Not a Game for Girls explores the most successful of the women's football teams, the Dick, Kerr's Ladies established in 1917 in Preston to boost wartime morale, following the suspension of all Football League matches at the end of the 1914-15 season. It aims to highlight their story, capturing the spirit and camaraderie that led women to ignore and defy prevailing social attitudes, both on and off the pitch.

For more information, please see:

<http://www.offtherockproductions.co.uk/news/not-a-game-for-girls-published/>

Black and Asian Seamen of the First World War



This booklet explores the lives and contributions of the black and Asian seamen who lived, worked - and in many cases, died - on the vessels undertaking vital work during the First World War.

To download your free booklet, please go to:

<https://forgottenwrecks.maritimearchaeologytrust.org/lascars>

Stories of Omission:
Conflict and the experience
of Black soldiers



THE FIRST WORLD WAR



From the Postbag: Research Resources

New resource: Stories of Omission film & booklet now available

Many of the projects that have addressed the subject of soldiers during WW1 from African and Caribbean countries have tended to focus on the stories of individuals. This project took a wider perspective and explored the representation of Black soldiers in the media and popular culture of the time, and the stories and narratives told, or not told, around those soldiers who came from the Caribbean and Africa – what information was available to the public and what was missed out/hidden/ignored/disregarded?

The project was co-designed and co-produced by *Recognize Black Heritage & Culture* and our sister Centre, *Voices of War & Peace* WW1 Engagement Centre. A group of volunteers worked with both organisations to carry out the research.

A *film* about the project by Iconic Productions can be viewed on YouTube via:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=diiMJStDNVw>

And the *booklet* can be downloaded here:

https://www.voicesofwarandpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/storiesofomission-guide_rd.pdf

'Hidden Histories, Hidden Historians' Toolkit

As part of their Heritage Lottery funded *Hidden Histories, Hidden Historians* project, the Manchester Histories group has launched a set of toolkits: step-by-step, with lots of practical advice. It includes oral history and what to do with your findings: e.g. create an Archive. It is definitely worth checking out as it will help guide you through each step of your historical research project: <https://manchesterhistories.co.uk/getinvolved/toolkits>



MANCHESTER
HISTORIES



My Grandpa, Henry Donald Curry, photographed probably when he joined up in the First World War.



Five of the tanks destroyed outside Bourslon, 27th November 1917. One of these was Grandpa's.

Sharing Our Stories & A Place to Connect

Remembering My Grandfather Curry

A letter arrived from one of our readers, Dr Alastair Curry of the University of Hertfordshire, who wished to share his fascinating journey of unearthing the story of his Grandfather, Henry Donald Curry, and his war-time experiences:

Dear Everyday Lives in War:

My family and I toured some of the First World War battlefields in northern France and Belgium in August of last year, including a visit to Cambrai, where my Grandfather was a tank commander in the 1917 battle, captured at Bourslon wood and then to prisoner of war camp in Heidelberg, Germany.

The following is his story; how it was rediscovered; and how we are actively remembering him. Many thanks for sharing it more widely.

Alastair

Cambrai, 1917 2/Lt. H.D. Curry

At 06:20, before dawn on 27th November 1917, my Grandfather's Mark IV tank lumbered forward across the crisp snowy fields of no man's land towards the German front line outside Cambrai, in northern France.

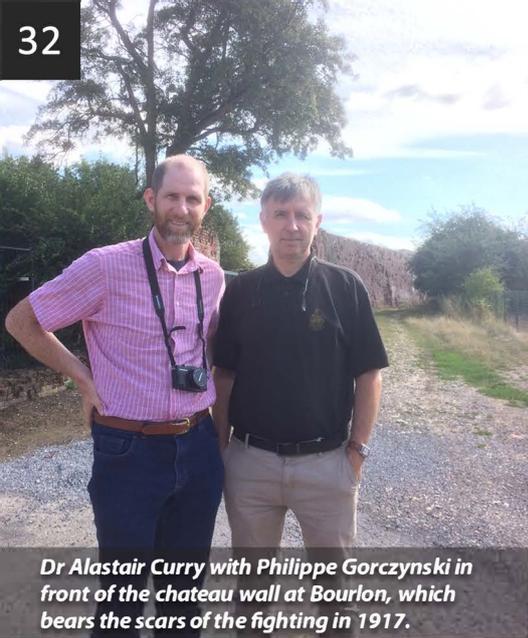
For the previous three years, fighting on the First World War Western Front had stagnated into a horrendously costly and largely static war of attrition. Cambrai, however, saw the first massed use of tanks, in which over 300 British tanks overran the Hindenberg Line, within hours punching a breach 10 km wide and up to 6 km deep through the German defensive positions. Church bells were rung in England to mark an initiative which (albeit momentarily) ended the bloody stalemate of trench warfare. While British gains were largely lost to German counter-attacks, the Battle of Cambrai remains the seminal battle honour of the modern Royal Tank Regiment.

My grandfather was 2nd Lieutenant Henry Donald Curry.

Born in 1892 in south London, he had joined the London Regiment, the Machine Gun Corps, and then transferred to the Tank Corps.

Aged 25 on 27th November, he commanded one of 15 tanks from 62nd Division, 17th Company, 'F' Battalion, tasked with capturing the northern part of the strategic Bourslon Wood and village.

Mark IV tanks had a top speed of 3.5 mph, and, while representing cutting-edge technology of the day, were a far from pleasant working environment. The air inside these deafening, throbbing machines was heavy with carbon monoxide, highly flammable, and sometimes reached temperatures of 50°C. Visibility was limited to a couple of narrow slits and communication between the eight-man crew was only possible by hand signals.



Dr Alastair Curry with Philippe Gorczynski in front of the chateau wall at Bourlon, which bears the scars of the fighting in 1917.



The field on the edge of Bourlon village, where Grandpa's tank (and five others) were destroyed on 27th November 1917. Taken 10th August 2018.

Sharing Our Stories & A Place to Connect

All the while, enemy bullets may be ping-pong off the armour plating. A direct shell hit would likely be fatal.

Of fifteen tanks that attacked Bourlon on 27th November, only five would survive the day. At 06:45, as 'F' Battalion's tanks approached the village, they came under very heavy machine gun fire, falling into what can only be described as an ambush.

At 08:15 Grandpa's tank was hit by shell fire. He was injured and one of his crew, Sgt Hunter was killed, but six others managed to get out and came into 2nd Lt C.J.H. Tolley's tank nearby. Grandpa Curry was captured and spent the remainder of the war in prisoner-of-war camp in Heidelberg, Germany.

In 2002 one of my Geography students undertook a successful dissertation exploring the impact of terrain on the outcome of the Battle of Cambrai. Through that, we were introduced to Philippe

Gorczynski, a Cambresis amateur historian, who two years earlier had dug up the tank 'Deborah' from the Cambrai mud. In his excellent book, 'Following the Tanks - Cambrai' we were astounded to find references to Grandpa, and even a map showing the location of each abandoned or wrecked tank, including Grandpa's.

The wheels turned slowly, but finally last summer my family met up with Philippe and 'Deborah'. After a tour of the splendid new Cambrai Tank Museum at Flesquières, he showed us the very field where Grandpa was captured, pointing out the 100 year-old damage in the chateau wall. Motivated afresh, I found Grandpa's prisoner details on the International Committee for the Red Cross website, and made contact with the German National Archive about accessing his prisoner interrogation record, though this had been destroyed in an air raid on Potsdam in 1945.

Interestingly, we also found reference to Grandpa on the Imperial War Museum website**, though this particular piece of history needs rewriting, as its report of his death is greatly exaggerated:

"Second Lieutenant Henry D Curry 1649/550169. Unit: 16th Battalion, London Regiment, attached to 17th Company, F Battalion, Tank Corps. Death: 27 November 1917. Missing in action at Bourlon Village Western Front."

Grandpa Curry died when I was a young boy, and like so many of his generation, he didn't talk much about his wartime past (he also served as an Adjutant in the RAF in the Second World War).

Discovering more of his everyday life at war has therefore proved a fascinating experience and 'rooting' journey for our family.

** <https://www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/object/205293085>



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Flora Sandes

Sharing Our Stories & A Place to Connect

Allied war of intervention into the Russian civil war

WE NEED YOUR HELP

The following appeal for information and photographs has come from researcher Dr Pat Simpson of the University of Hertfordshire:

As you may know, there was an allied war of intervention into the Russian civil war precipitated by the October Revolution in 1917. This war carried on after the WWI Armistice until c.1921-22, partly by the use of allied troops that were already stationed in Russia in relation to the war against Germany, who were then co-opted into fighting with the "white" army led by Kerensky against the forces of the "red" army of the Bolshevik Revolution.

I am currently working on a research project for an exhibition of photos that would bring attention to/disseminate knowledge about, this virtually unknown combat.

I would be grateful if you could review the following questions to see if you might be able to assist:

1. Do you have relatives who fought, or were killed or injured in Russia between 1917 and 1922?
2. If so, precisely when, and who were they (dates/full names/regiments)?

3. Do you know of people who had relatives who fought, or were killed or injured in Russia between 1917 and 1922?

4. If so, precisely when, and who were they (dates/full names/regiments)?

5. Do you know of any monuments - private or public - that have any reference to Russia between the dates 1917 and 1922?

With many thanks in advance. Please send any responses or relevant information to my e-mail below.

Dr Pat Simpson
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School of Creative Arts
University of Hertfordshire
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For information about Dr Pat Simpson, please visit:

[http://researchprofiles.herts.ac.uk/portal/en/persons/pat-simpson\(cf693750-7475-4eda-baa0-89397c7c9209\).html](http://researchprofiles.herts.ac.uk/portal/en/persons/pat-simpson(cf693750-7475-4eda-baa0-89397c7c9209).html)

BEFORE YOU GO: A Special Focus on...

A forgotten soldier on a forgotten front - BBC News: Only British woman to fight in WW1

"I could see nothing," the trooper wrote. "It was exactly as though I had gone suddenly blind; but I felt the tail of an overcoat sweep across my face. Instinctively I clutched it with my left hand, and must have held on for two or three yards before I fainted."

"The Serbs have a theory that you must not give water to a wounded man because they say it chills him, so they poured fully half a bottle of brandy down my throat and put a cigarette in my mouth."

Private Flora Sandes is a celebrated national hero in Serbia to this day. That's all the more remarkable for two reasons. First, Sandes was not Serbian but British - born and raised in Yorkshire. And second, Private Sandes's first name was Flora. She was the only British woman to serve in uniform, in combat, as an enlisted soldier in World War One.

You can read more about Flora Sandes on BBC's website as follows: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/resources/idt-sh/A_forgotten_soldier