

# 1914 IN YORKSHIRE

A York Museums Trust Project



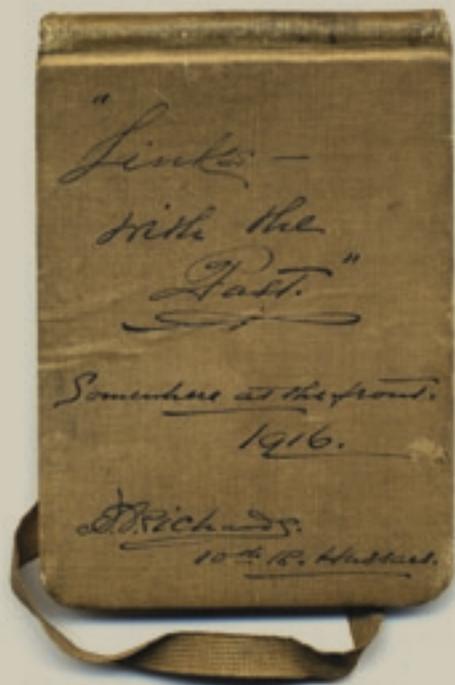
*"Going into action,  
1914."*



LED BY IWM

## SOMEWHERE AT THE FRONT

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The sketches that appear on the cover are by Albert Ernest V. Richards who served with the 10th Royal Hussars as a Lance Corporal.

They were drawn 'somewhere at the front' in 1916 and are based on Richards' own personal thoughts and experiences of being at war.

The optimism of going into battle in 1914 compared to the gloom of 1916, the

disappearing rum supplies, the difficulties of putting out barbed wire and the comic look of wearing a gas mask are all subjects depicted in the cartoons.

Richards' sketchbook will feature in the major new First World War exhibition at York Castle Museum entitled: *1914: When the World Changed Forever*, which opens on 28 June 2014.

[www.yorkcastlemuseum.org.uk](http://www.yorkcastlemuseum.org.uk)

## INTRODUCTION



**Michael Woodward**

Chief Operating Officer, York Museums Trust

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The First World War broke out one hundred years ago. It seems only natural that so many museums and other cultural institutions are commemorating the occasion in so many different ways. In August 1914, few people would have expected that when war was declared it would have such extraordinary consequences and that we would still be paying attention to it a hundred years later.

But it serves us well to remember and reflect together on great historic events and there are few, if any, as momentous as the Great War.

At York Museums Trust we will be commemorating the war in various ways, not least through a major new exhibition at York Castle Museum, *1914: When the World Changed Forever*.

In collaboration with the Imperial War Museum and 88 partners, we have also created this booklet to give you a taste of what's going on across Yorkshire throughout the year. You'll discover that there is a huge range of exhibitions, events and activities commemorating the anniversary.

We hope this will be a useful first point of call to help you plan your visits close to home and further afield. To inspire you, it also contains some fascinating stories of the impact of the war on Yorkshire itself.

And if you want to check the latest information, visit [1914.org/Yorkshire](http://1914.org/Yorkshire).

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# THE DARK CLOUDS ROLL IN

by Chris Titley

When war was declared, the people of Yorkshire understood that life would never be quite the same. But no one envisaged the social, economic and cultural upheaval that was to follow. Residents of city, coast and countryside, regardless of age, sex or class, were to be profoundly affected by four years of conflict.

Yorkshire's last day of peace for four years was a beautiful Bank Holiday Monday. Those determined to make a weekend of it at Scarborough, perhaps to escape worries about the deepening global crisis, found that the North Eastern Railway had cancelled all excursions to allow for the mobilisation of troops. Britain was already on a war footing.

The following night, 4 August 1914, the announcement came. Germany had failed to withdraw its forces from Belgium as per London's ultimatum. As a result Britain was at war with Germany.

No one in the Yorkshire summer sunshine could have imagined the four years of suffering that was to follow.

In the immediate aftermath of the declaration, the banks remained closed and prices rose in response to panic buying. York, a garrison town for so many centuries, became crowded with servicemen travelling to, from, and through the city.

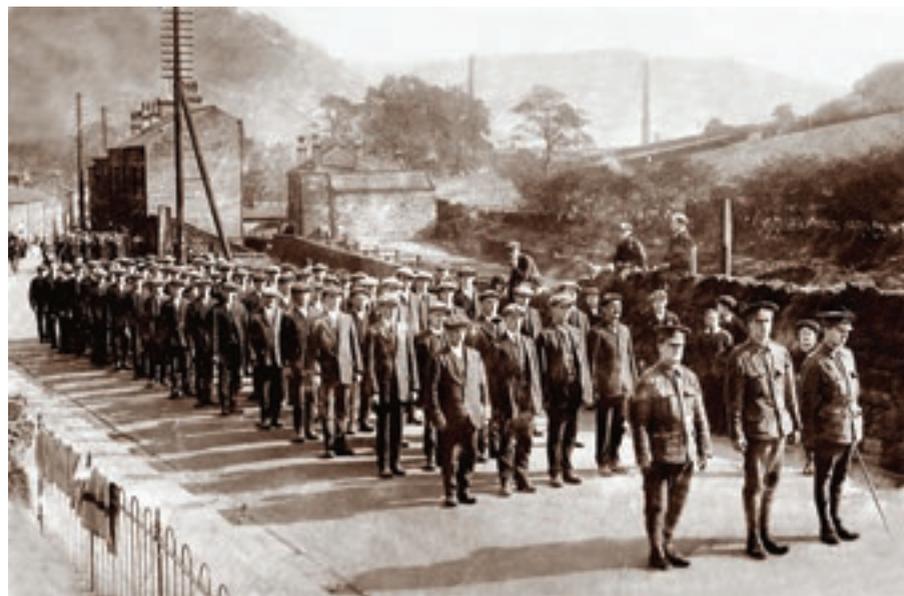
Government officers scoured the Yorkshire countryside to commandeer more horses for the war effort. When

territorial battalions like the 4th and 5th East Yorkshires were mobilised, landowners were left to worry about where they would find the manpower to bring in the harvest.

Anti-German feeling flared up. Police reinforcements were called to Keighley after a mob stoned the shop and home of a German pork butcher. 'Enemy aliens' were rounded up as spy fever swept Yorkshire. Many Germans were arrested and taken to York Castle Prison, with a tented encampment created to house the overflow.

There was a mixed response to Lord Kitchener's 7 August appeal for volunteers. At the recruiting office in Hanover Square, Leeds, hundreds queued patiently to enlist. The Lord Mayor had appealed for 5,000 men to join the Kitchener Army, a target surpassed within a month. So many enlisted in Sheffield that the authority's offices were overwhelmed.

In York an average of 34 men a day were recruited – but the city could take little credit, said an official report, 'as more than 93 per cent of the enlistments



**Above:** Recruits marching on King Street, Hebden Bridge, 1914. Courtesy of Calderdale Museums © Pennine Horizons Digital Archive.



**Left:** Volunteers mobilised at Frodingham and Scunthorpe Station. Courtesy of North Lincolnshire Museum Service Image Archive.

emanate from outside the boundaries. York itself is reputed to be one of the most difficult in England for obtaining recruits.'

'Pals' battalions, made up of men from the same workplace or background, were soon being formed. Eager young men besieged the Mechanics Institute in Bridge Street, Bradford, where they signed up to the 16th Battalion, West Yorkshire Regiment – the first Bradford Pals. Similar scenes were reenacted in Barnsley and Sheffield, Scarborough and Hull, Grimsby and Leeds.

They were bolstered by the support of the townsfolk as they paraded through their home streets. When the Bradford Pals made their first public showing on 16 September, led by the band of the 6th West Yorkshire Territorials, they were cheered on by 40,000 Bradfordians.

Many of these young men had never been more than a few miles from home. Now they were joining a truly global conflict. Some were crammed on to ships taking them on the long journey to Africa, others were route marched across northern Europe, more were in ships and submarines sailing the Atlantic Ocean or the Baltic Sea. →



Above: Departure of Penistone Volunteers, 1915. © Barnsley Arts, Museums and Archives.

It was also the first mechanised war. After undergoing bayonet training in camps near Skipton and Ripon, Yorkshire's finest would clamber over the top of their trenches to face German machine gun fire.

the Blackburn factory in Leeds. It wasn't only military hardware that advanced during the course of the conflict. Surgeons on the front and in domestic hospitals developed new techniques to treat burns and facial

**When war began during that bright warm summer, no one was prepared for what was to follow.**

Zeppelins dropped bombs on Leeds, Hull, York and Sheffield. U-boat torpedoes would sink merchant navy ships off Scarborough. Tank and aerial warfare began in earnest. Howden laid claim to the biggest airbase in the UK, home to 1,000 staff and 80 airships, while William Rowland Ding famously test flew the latest wood-and-canvas framed aeroplanes from

disfigurement. The first mobile phones were used, in the form of field telephones at the Western Front. From the smallest hamlet to the largest city, the war touched every part of Yorkshire. Temporary hospitals sprang up in former teacher training colleges, country houses and factories. A crowd of 6,000 watched the first wounded men



Above: Leeds Pals Recruiting Tram, 1915. The Leeds Pals recruited approximately 2,000 men, the average age was 20–21. Courtesy of Leeds Library and Information Service.

arrive at Leeds station after the Battle of the Marne in September 1914.

New forms of work sprang up – and a new workforce: women. They assembled shells at munitions factories in Sheffield,

made barbed wire in Thirsk and sorted and shipped 10 million greatcoats and 30 million boots to soldiers from the Northern Area Clothing Depot in Leeds.

Children followed the conflict on maps in their classrooms, collected for the war effort and, in the case of the Leeds boy scouts, guarded Headingley's water supply.

When the war began during that bright warm summer, no one was prepared for what was to follow. A century on, the stories being told in venues across the county reveal in vivid detail quite how profoundly the First World War changed Yorkshire. ■



Above: 10th (Otley) Battery 4th W. R. Howitzer Brigade, Gun Drill, Otley Drill Field, 1914. Courtesy of Otley Museum Archive. Photographer: H. Stephenson of Otley.

## IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUMS

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Nearly 100 years ago, while the First World War was still being fought, many people from across Britain sent their personal letters, diaries, photographs and mementoes into the newly-formed Imperial War Museum so that future generations would understand and remember their experience of the war.

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Discover more about these stories and the impact of the First World War on our lives today by taking part in IWM's rich programme of exhibitions, events and activities across the UK and online.

**IWM London** reopens on 19 July with new First World War galleries, a transformed atrium and a major exhibition of First World War art, *Truth and Memory: British Art of the First World War* (until 8 March 2015). The new galleries guide you through the story of the war, from how it started, why it continued and its global impact, through to the lives of those who experienced it at the time on both the front line and the home front across Britain and its Empire. Free admission.

**IWM Duxford** in Cambridgeshire has a long history dating back to the First World War. It was during the time of the Royal Flying Corps that the first buildings were erected and many of those original buildings remain an integral part of the museum today. Admission charges apply.

**IWM North** in Manchester – visit the special exhibition *From Street to Trench: A World War that Shaped a Region* and learn about the important contribution the North West made during the First World War (until 31 May 2015). Free admission.

[iwm.org.uk](http://iwm.org.uk)

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### LIVES OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR

Help IWM piece together the life stories of those who served in Britain and the Commonwealth on the home and fighting fronts. Discover your own connection, share it with rest of the world and help us to build the permanent digital memorial to the lives of over 8 million men and women.

[livesofthefirstworldwar.org](http://livesofthefirstworldwar.org)

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## FIGHTING IN A FOREIGN FIELD

by Chris Titley

They left Britain, for the most part, in good spirits. Whether travelling to Europe or Africa, Yorkshire soldiers were embarking on the adventure of their young lives. But uncomfortable and exhausting journeys were followed by the horror of the trenches – and many never came home.

Many of the new military recruits were not only leaving England for the first time, but their home towns. As they headed for the front lines in Europe and Africa, there was a palpable sense of excitement.

‘On emerging from the station we found ourselves alongside the boat that was to carry us to the land of the Sphinx and pyramids, and after walking about some time we embarked on the good ship Empress Of Britain,’ wrote Private Tim Wharton, of the Bradford Pals, before his posting to Egypt in 1915.

Before he could seek out the Sphinx there was an ocean crossing to endure. For the 5,000 troops crammed on to the Empress of Britain – which had a pre-war capacity of about 1,800 – it was to be a highly unpleasant, seven-day voyage.

The Hull Pals followed the Empress on a number of ships including the Minnewaska. The 10th Battalion history records how the first cases of sea sickness were met with good-humoured banter, ‘but soon almost every man had disappeared below with the same complaint’.

Poor food, ‘putrid’ tea and the after-effects of inoculations added to the misery.

Those travelling to France had a much shorter time at sea, but were required to undergo arduous marches to reach their positions.

Marching took place at night, to avoid detection by enemy aircraft. Cyclists went ahead to mark the route and block off wrong turns. The column would then set up camp in the early hours, often next to hedges which afforded limited cover.

Such hardships were soon forgotten when the fighting began. An early target of the Western Allies was the capture of Ypres, a Belgian town of strategic importance to both sides.

The 2nd Battalion, Yorkshire Regiment arrived there on 14 October 1914. A book in the Green Howards Museum records the regiment’s role in the First Battle of Ypres, which claimed many casualties and would have lasting consequences for the rest of the war.

When the German bombardment began, ‘the enemy’s shell fire was a



**Above:** Medals belonging to Sergeant H. Jackson (21427) of the 7th Battalion, West Yorkshire Regiment (Leeds Rifles). © Leeds Museums and Galleries.

**Below:** Captain A. J. Ellison, 1st Battalion, York and Lancaster Regiment in a gas mask, c.1915. Courtesy of Sheffield Archives and Local Studies Library [www.picturesheffield.com](http://www.picturesheffield.com).



‘crescendo of tremendous power,’ according to the account.

‘The Germans had forced their way in between the Scots Fusiliers and the Yorkshires, and the next few days were delirious with close and savage battling, as the Germans strove to enlarge the gap and get through. The Yorkshires strove just as vigorously to keep them out.’

Although suffering terribly, ‘officers and men showed a wonderful spirit, and as they were blown out of one trench those who were left moved right or left, but never retired.’

They were finally relieved after three weeks of fierce fighting. Only a small number of the 1,000-plus officers and men who took part in the battle survived.

The allied forces had halted the German advance, but it came at a cost. The British regular army was all but destroyed. They ➔

were replaced by volunteer reserves and then, from 1916 on, conscripted soldiers.

The Battle of Ypres also saw the completion of the entrenched Western Front, a line of fortified trenches which was to remain for most of the war.

For many of the young Yorkshiremen who had joined up, their dreams of adventure and glory were soon to be suffocated in the mud and gas of trench warfare.

Soldiers put on a brave front for their families. 'It is surprising how used you get to the bullets flying over, but if you keep your head down you are even safer in the trenches than in your billets,' wrote Bugler

### 'I started crawling towards our lines, and I had never seen so many dead men clumped together,'

Vincent Phillips of the Bradford Pals in a letter to his family. 'Of course you only have to stop one to get a knock out.'

Small comforts, including rations of rum and 20 cigarettes a week, helped keep the men going in sometimes appalling conditions.

'Not stopped raining for more than a couple of hours for over a week and the trenches in places are waist deep in water,' wrote Captain Watson of the Hull Pals in April 1917. Even regular application of whale oil failed to stop the occurrence of 'trench foot' which hospitalised the most serious cases.

When the order came to advance, the soldiers had to show unimaginable courage to go 'over the top' and into the sights of the German machine guns. Contemporary accounts give us some insight into the confusion, terror and slaughter that followed.

'The German machine gun fire was terrible,' recounted Private W. H. T. Carter of the West Yorkshire Regiment. 'Our colonel was hit after only a few steps along the trench. I had not reached my full height when a machine gun bullet smacked into my steel helmet. I felt as if I had been hit with a sledge hammer.'

Survivors recalled sheltering in shell holes, bleeding from shrapnel wounds, their only companion the corpse of a comrade.

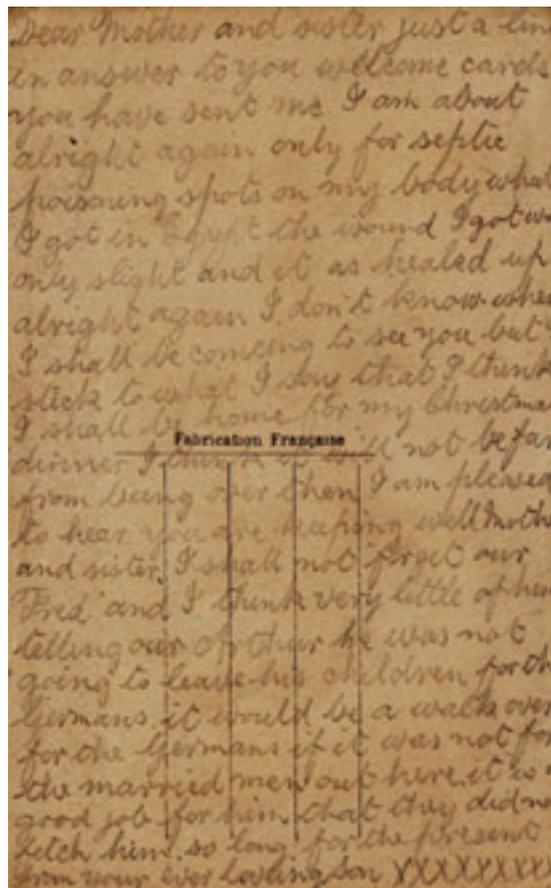
'I started crawling towards our lines, and I had never seen so many dead men clumped together,' said Private Charles Taylor, 13th Battalion, Yorkshire and Lancashire.

'That was all I could see and I thought to myself, *All the world's dead – they're all dead – they're all dead*'.

Amid the horror were countless acts of breathtaking valour. 2Lt Donald Bell of the Yorkshire Regiment was the only English professional footballer to earn the Victoria Cross medal. Born in Harrogate, Bell was on the books of Bradford Park Avenue FC when war broke out.

During the Battle of the Somme in July 1916, his company came under heavy fire from a German machine gun post. Running towards it he drew his revolver, shot the gunner, and threw bombs which killed dozens more, enabling the trench to be taken.

'I must confess it was the biggest fluke alive and I did nothing. I only chucked one bomb but it did the trick,' Bell wrote in a letter to his mother. Days later he was killed in another offensive. ■



**Above Left:** Postcard to home from Barnsley soldier George Burnett. © Barnsley Arts, Museums and Archives.

**Above Right:** Harrogate man Donald Bell who was awarded the Victoria Cross for valour in the face of the enemy. Courtesy of Harrogate Museums and Arts, Harrogate Borough Council.



#### Explore further:

Green Howards Military Museum (p45)

*Cavalry, Camels and Camaraderie: the East Riding Yeomanry in the Great War*, The Treasure House, Beverley (p61)

*Soldier and Son – The First Battle – Ypres 1914*, Green Howards Military Museum (p45)

*1914: When the World Changed Forever*, York Castle Museum (p39)

## WEST YORKSHIRE

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In West Yorkshire a broad range of events explores the impact of the Great War at local and national level, including the demands made on Yorkshire's industries, the experiences of conscientious objectors, and the medical advances made in wartime. Explore these projects further on the websites listed and on [1914.org/Yorkshire](http://1914.org/Yorkshire).

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### RECOVERY? FROM FLANDERS TO AFGHANISTAN

Mid July 2014 – 2018

A compelling exhibition at the Thackray Medical Museum focuses on the medical advances that emerged from the Great War and explores soldiers' experiences of hearing loss, limb loss and shell shock. The exhibition highlights the long-term developments which followed the conflict, such as improvements in technology and rehabilitation, as well as looking at approaches to the treatment of shell shock.

The exhibition has been developed with the help of veterans and servicemen and women who have experience of the health conditions explored, in order to give a new perspective and link the medical advances of the First World War to the present. The exhibition will allow the visitor to reflect on how far military medicine has come in 100 years, and the difficulties in healing the body and the mind.

The museum building was used as a war hospital, East Leeds Military Hospital. From September 2014 the Thackray offers a heritage trail that will follow a soldier's journey of recovery here and beyond the hospital gates.

Thackray Medical Museum, 141 Beckett St, Leeds LS9 7LN  
Tel: 0113 244 4343  
[info@thackraymuseum.org](mailto:info@thackraymuseum.org)



**Top:** An operation on a wounded leg in a field hospital, c.1915. Courtesy of the Thackray Medical Museum.  
**Bottom:** Wounded soldiers in a rehabilitation unit in the UK, c.1917. Courtesy of the Thackray Medical Museum.

## COMMEMORATING OUR FIRST WORLD WAR HERITAGE WITH LEEDS MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES

From August 2014

Leeds Museums and Galleries mark the centenary of the First World War with a strong focus on their heritage sites, collections, community involvement and work with young people.

Using new research into the life of the city during the war and stories shared by the people living here today, they explore the impact of the first global war on the lives of the men, women and children in Leeds and around the world. Discover some of these stories at [www.facebook.com/WW1Leeds](http://www.facebook.com/WW1Leeds) – a First World War timeline created by the young people's group The Preservative Party.

The commemoration programme begins in August 2014 with a new photography and writing exhibition at Leeds City Museum. Later, an exhibition at Leeds Art Gallery will focus on how the war changed artistic attitudes to portraying landscapes, and the Community Team will explore themes of love and war with letters and objects provided by local people.

Find out how the country houses of Lotherton Hall and Temple Newsam were transformed into wartime hospitals and discover unsung wartime industries at Thwaite Mills Watermill and Leeds Industrial Museum.

[www.leeds.gov.uk/WW1heritage](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/WW1heritage)

## REMEMBERING THE HORSFORTH WAR DEAD FROM THE GREAT WAR

29 March 2014 – December 2015

Find out about the Horsforth servicemen who fought in the First World War, where they lived in Horsforth village, and records of their war service.

On regular occasions throughout the year visitors can follow a walking trail, pinpointing where the servicemen actually lived if their house still exists today. The museum is open at weekends only.

Horsforth Village Museum, 5 The Green, Horsforth, Leeds LS18 5JB

Tel: 0113 281 9877

[www.horsforthmuseum.blogspot.co.uk](http://www.horsforthmuseum.blogspot.co.uk)

## FIRST WORLD WAR IN RETROSPECT CONFERENCE

28 July 2014 – 1 August 2014

This prestigious conference marks the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War. Expert speakers will share, reflect and remember different aspects of the war and its consequences.

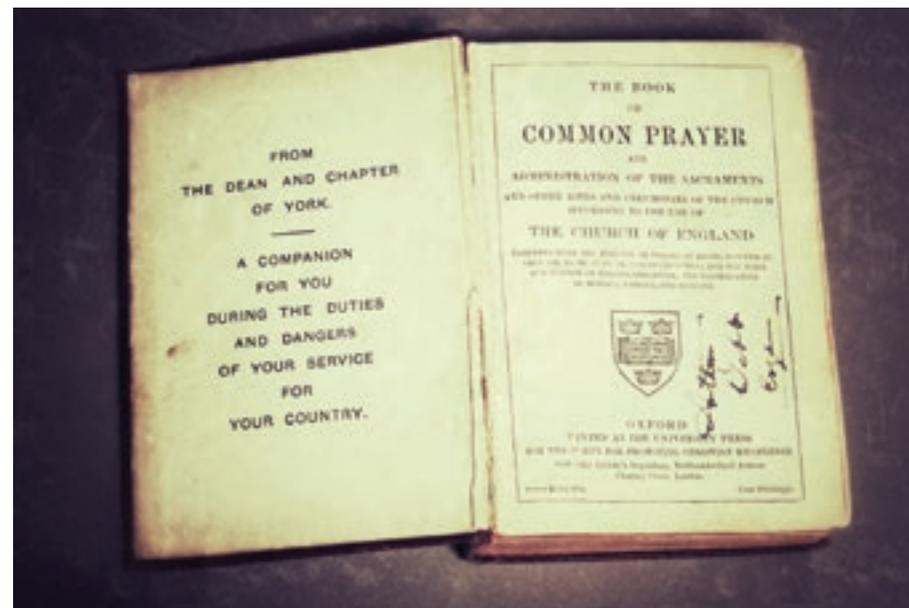
Discussions will include the state of the warring nations' armies and navies, conflict in the air, the role that animals and sportsmen played, and even the music of the era. *Filmed and Not Forgotten* from the Yorkshire Film Archive will be shown as well as information on tracing family history.

This conference has been planned by Dr Peter Liddle, Conference Director and Colonel Alan Roberts, Military Consultant, to explore the stories and experiences of all those affected by war.

Weetwood Hall Conference Centre and Hotel, Otley Road, Leeds LS16 5PS

Tel: 0113 388 5707

[www.weetwood.co.uk/firstworldwar](http://www.weetwood.co.uk/firstworldwar)



Above: Prayer book sponsored by the Dean and Chapter of York, which accompanied Tom Webb of the Leeds Rifles to France in 1914. © Leeds Museums and Galleries.

## FIRST WORLD WAR CENTENARY EVENTS WITH LEEDS LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICE

Throughout 2014 – 2018

Leeds Libraries will offer a range of commemoration activities including First World War family history workshops, talks, book displays and literary events.

In August at Leeds Central Library *Aspects and Images of Leeds during the Great War* showcases items from the collections such as images from Barnbow munitions factory and material from the Leeds Flag Day Committee. Central to the exhibition will be an Arts Council-funded project centred on a scrapbook compiled by the Matron of Gledhow Hall hospital. A local artist and various groups will make a response to this unique historic record. All material will be digitised and made available on Historypin as part of a collaboration with nine other library authorities to create a 'Digital War Memorial'.

Central Library, Calverley Street, Leeds LS1 3AB

Tel: 0113 247 6016

[www.leeds.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.leeds.gov.uk/libraries)

## LEGACIES OF WAR 1914 – 18 / 2014 – 18

Throughout 2014 – 2018

The *Legacies of War* centenary project is run by colleagues at the University of Leeds who have research interests in different aspects of the First World War. The centenary is a time for reflection and debate, not just about what happened during the war, but what its profound and long-term consequences are. Members of the *Legacies of War* project are participating in and helping to coordinate a series of events and activities across Leeds and the wider region in theatres, cinemas, museums, galleries and at the University. These events explore different histories of the First World War, and examine its multiple historical, cultural and social legacies.

Twitter: @LegaciesofWW1

[arts.leeds.ac.uk/legaciesofwar](http://arts.leeds.ac.uk/legaciesofwar)

## LEEDS STORIES OF THE GREAT WAR

Online throughout 2014 – 2018

Community groups are collaborating with academics and students from the University of Leeds to explore different experiences of life in the city during the First World War.

Findings from these partnerships, including videos and stories, will be posted online at [arts.leeds.ac.uk/legaciesofwar/themes/yorkshire-and-the-great-war/leeds-stories-of-the-great-war](http://arts.leeds.ac.uk/legaciesofwar/themes/yorkshire-and-the-great-war/leeds-stories-of-the-great-war).

[Facebook.com/legaciesofwarleeds](https://www.facebook.com/legaciesofwarleeds)

## THE LIDDLE COLLECTION

Permanent collection

The University of Leeds houses the Liddle Collection, a significant archive of the First World War that includes items such as original letters, diaries and photographs, as well as written and tape-recorded recollections.

[www.leeds.ac.uk/library/spcoll](http://www.leeds.ac.uk/library/spcoll)

## STORIES FROM THE WAR HOSPITAL

From September 2014

Compiled by Headingley LitFest, this is an exhibition, online resource and book of historic photographs connected with the Second Northern General Hospital, which was at Beckett Park, Headingley during the First World War. Originally built in 1912 as a college for trainee teachers, it was taken over by the Royal Army Medical Corps after mobilization in 1914.

The subjects of the photographs include some of the medical staff, patients in 'Jaw Ward' (one of the hospital's specialities was maxillo-facial surgery) and members of the Almeric Paget Military Massage Corps. The book is available from [www.headingleyhospital.org](http://www.headingleyhospital.org).

The exhibition will be shown as part of a larger project at The Headingley Library, James Graham Building, Leeds Metropolitan University, Headingley Campus, Leeds LS16 5LF

[www.headingleyhospital.org](http://www.headingleyhospital.org)

## LEGACIES OF WAR – UNTOLD OTLEY STORIES

4 August 2014 – 11 November 2014

Otley Museum uncovers the stories of individuals and their families affected by the war and its aftermath. An exhibition and booklet explore significant themes including support for Belgian refugees and the impact of Farnley Hall Training Camp on the town.

Maps will record every person named on Otley's war memorials at their local family address. The project has been supported by a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund's First World War: then and now programme.

Otley Core Resource Centre, Unit 11, Orchard Gate, Otley LS21 3NX

Tel: 01943 468181

[www.otleymuseum.org](http://www.otleymuseum.org)

## **TOBY ZIEGLER AND CHARLES SARGEANT JAGGER**

20 September 2014 – 25 January 2015

This powerful exhibition by contemporary artist Toby Ziegler is inspired by his research into historical and contemporary images of conflict and Wakefield's plaster prototype of *No Man's Land*, (1919–20) by Charles Sargeant Jagger, one of Britain's greatest war memorial artists, on display after nearly 20 years. Jagger's expressionist portrayal of soldiers contrasts with Ziegler's abstract representation of a huge dismembered foot, recreated by a 3-D printer. An events programme accompanies the show.

The Hepworth Wakefield, Gallery Walk, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF1 5AW

Tel: 01924 247360

[www.hepworthwakefield.org](http://www.hepworthwakefield.org)

## **RED POPPIES AND WHITE BUTTERFLIES**

Throughout 2014 – 2018

Nostell Priory is discovering the small stories of the Great War – stories of loss and hope, for rich and poor, landowner, labourer and maid. A remarkable collection of stories gathered from local community groups, schools, visitors and volunteers has helped to develop a vivid picture of what life was like at Nostell Priory and the surrounding areas during the war. A series of innovative events and workshops is taking place over the year, and there are fascinating resources online.

Nostell Priory, Doncaster Road, Nostell near Wakefield WF4 1QE

Tel: 01924 866836

[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/nostell-priory](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/nostell-priory)

## **THE GREAT WAR TRAIL**

July 2014 – July 2015

Follow a trail around Wakefield Museum to discover First World War-related objects from the museum's collections that have been placed amongst the permanent displays to highlight the ways in which the war affected all aspects of life in the district.

Wakefield Museum, Wakefield One, Burton Street, Wakefield WF1 2DD

Tel: 01924 305356

[www.wakefield.gov.uk](http://www.wakefield.gov.uk)

## **WORLD WAR I DIARY**

Throughout 2014

During 1918 Wakefield born George Kellett kept a diary of his experiences as a soldier in France and Belgium. Wakefield Museums are tweeting George's diary entries throughout 2014. Follow this compelling record of life as a First World War soldier at @WW1\_Diary.



**Above:** Toby Ziegler, work in progress, to be displayed at The Hepworth Wakefield from September 2014. Courtesy of the artist and Simon Lee Gallery. Photograph: Peter Mallet.

## THE GREAT WAR INSPIRES

25 January 2014 – 25 August 2014

An exhibition at Pontefract Museum explores the war through music, poetry and the stories of local people both at home and in battle. The centrepiece of the exhibition is an artwork, inspired by First World War photographs and handkerchiefs, created by local community groups and Faceless Company.

Pontefract Museum, Salter Row, Pontefract WF8 1BA  
Tel: 01977 722740  
[www.wakefieldmuseumsandlibraries.blogspot.co.uk](http://www.wakefieldmuseumsandlibraries.blogspot.co.uk)

## WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

Online throughout 2014

Wakefield Libraries and Information Services have developed a unique online archive that describes the lives of people from across the Wakefield District who served their country in the great twentieth century conflicts and highlights the momentous effect that war had on families and local communities. The stories in this archive are illustrated with treasured family memorabilia including photographs, postcards and official documents.

[www.wakefield.gov.uk](http://www.wakefield.gov.uk)

## FIRST WORLD WAR CENTENARY EVENTS IN WAKEFIELD LIBRARIES

Throughout 2014

Throughout 2014 Wakefield Libraries offer a series of events and activities including workshops on tracing First World War ancestors using original records and medals, and travelling exhibitions which explore ways in which local people were involved in the conflict.

[www.wakefield.gov.uk](http://www.wakefield.gov.uk)



Above: British officer's target revolver, on show in *The Great War Trail* at Wakefield Museum. Courtesy of Wakefield Museums, Wakefield Council.

## Huddersfield's Great War Stories

Opens August 2014

This thought-provoking new exhibition will bring to life Huddersfield in the First World War through first-hand accounts, objects and photographs. It illustrates the personal impact of the war in the local area through themes such as Huddersfield Goes to War, the Home Front and Peace and Commemoration.

Discover too the poignant story of Legh Tolson's two young nephews who were killed in France during the war and how he left his house to the people of Huddersfield so it could become a museum in their memory. The new Heritage Memorial Garden in the adjacent park will be a calm and contemplative space in which to reflect upon conflicts past and present. Both projects have been funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, with contributions from local organisations and businesses.

Tolson Memorial Museum, Ravensknowle Park, Wakefield Road, Huddersfield HD5 8DJ  
Tel: 01484 223830  
[www.kirklees.gov.uk/museums](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/museums)

## GOMERSAL AND THE GREAT WAR

From 16 August 2014

Red House Museum will host this community heritage exhibition for which local people have researched the Gomersal men who fought and died in the war and have uncovered stories, which reveal how the war had an impact on families, industries and village life.

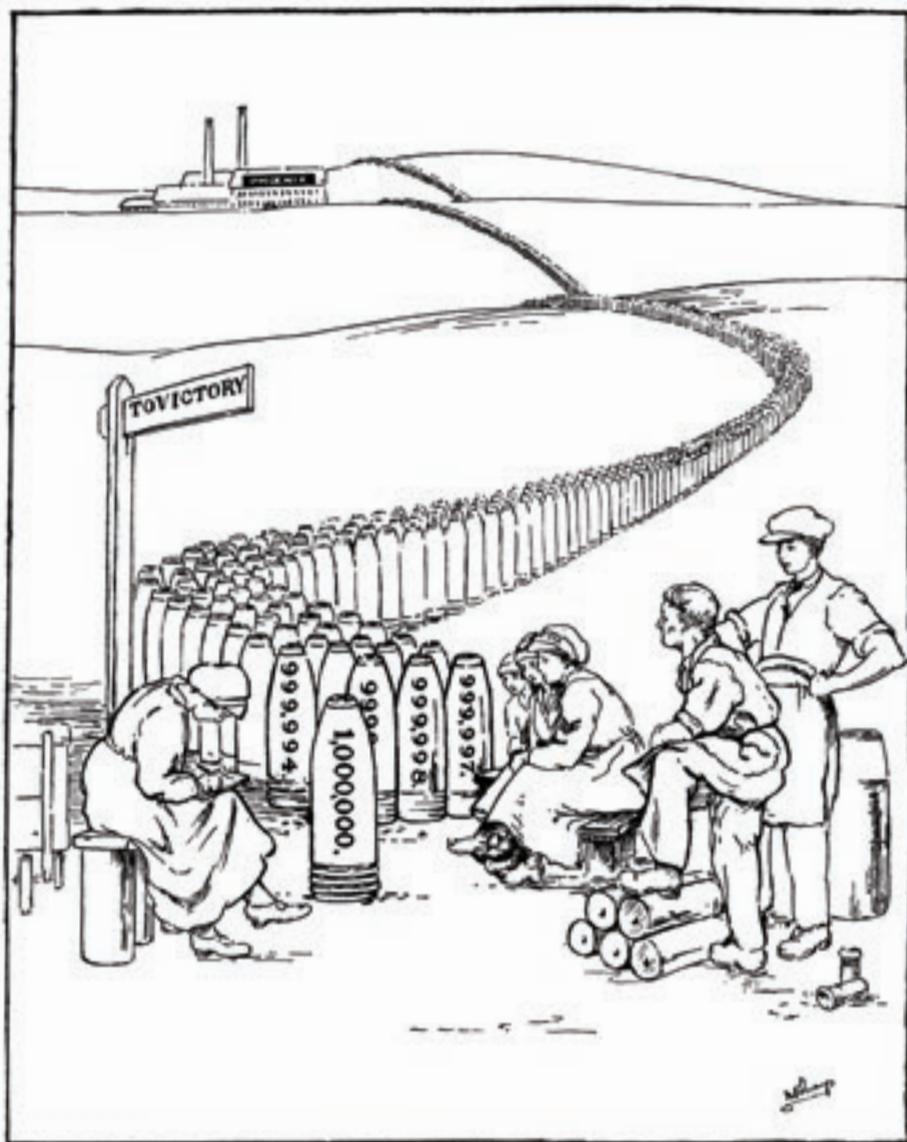
Red House Museum, Oxford Road, Gomersal BD19 4JP  
Tel: Joanne Catlow 01484 221000  
[www.kirklees.gov.uk/museums](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/museums)

## MARSDEN REMEMBERS

27 July 2014 – 14 September 2014

Curated by the people of Marsden, this exhibition remembers the lives of the 140 men from the tightly-knit community of this Pennine village who died during the First World War. Local people are invited to add their own memorabilia and family stories to develop the exhibition throughout the four years of the centenary. There will be an opening parade on 27 July 2014 followed by a service at St Bartholomew's Church, Marsden. This project is supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

St Bartholomew's Church, Church Lane, Marsden, Huddersfield HD7 6DJ  
Tel: 01484 844492  
[www.marsdenparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.marsdenparishchurch.org.uk)



**Above:** Cartoon commemorating the production of the millionth shell at Phoenix Dynamo, 1918.  
© Bradford Museums and Galleries.



**Top:** Women workers at Barnbow Munitions Factory. Courtesy of Leeds Library and Information Service.  
**Above:** Munitions workers at Payne & Sons, Otley. Courtesy of Otley Museum Archive.  
**Right:** Eva White, who worked as a 'Barnbow Lass', in her munitions uniform, 1915. Commemorated in Nostell Priory's *Red Poppies and White Butterflies* project. © National Trust.



**Above left:** J. B. Priestley in his lance-corporal's uniform. Courtesy of the J. B. Priestley Archive, University of Bradford.  
**Top Right:** The Turton Brothers, c. 1915. Commemorated in Nostell Priory's *Red Poppies and White Butterflies* project. © National Trust.

**Middle Right:** Joshua W. Empson died as a result of injuries sustained at the battle of Selle in the last days of the Great War. His story is recorded in Wakefield Libraries' *We Will Remember Them* project. © Wakefield Libraries.

**Bottom Right:** The YMCA handed out almost 1 billion pieces of stationery to try and help keep home close. Courtesy of Bradford YMCA © Rachel Rickards.

## LEST WE FORGET

Online throughout 2014 – 2018

Towns and villages in Kirklees are planning a huge range of activities during the centenary years 2014 – 2018. Guided walks and talks, theatre productions, publications and exhibitions will take place across the district, as well as period events, community projects and remembrance services.

Kirklees Council has formed a *Lest We Forget* network to keep people informed about local, regional and national initiatives. The network offers groups the opportunity to form partnerships and share their research and planning. The dedicated webpage will be regularly updated, and will also provide relevant information and links to other First World War resources.

Tel: Joanne Catlow 01484 221000  
[www.kirklees.gov.uk/lestweforget](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/lestweforget)

## KIRKLEES WAR MEMORIALS

Online throughout 2014 – 2018

An online searchable database is available to those seeking information about the many war memorials under the stewardship of Kirklees Council. In addition, information has been added to the War Memorials Online website of the War Memorial Trust. This project aims to build a complete picture of the whereabouts, type and condition of war memorials in the UK.

[www.kirklees.gov.uk/warmemorials](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/warmemorials)  
[www.warmemorialsonline.org.uk](http://www.warmemorialsonline.org.uk)

## J. B. PRIESTLEY

19 April 2014 – 17 August 2014

The celebrated Bradford-born author and broadcaster J. B. Priestley served for five years in the British Army during the First World War, in the Duke of Wellington's Regiment and as an officer in the Devonshires. His powerful first-hand account was published fifty years later in the memoir *Margin Released*. His letters home and other archive documents from the J. B. Priestley Archive at Bradford University Library will be on show at Bradford Industrial Museum.

Bradford Industrial Museum, Moorside Mills, Moorside Road, Eccleshill,  
Bradford BD2 3HP

Tel: 01274 435900

[www.bradford.ac.uk/library/special-collections/collections/topicww1/](http://www.bradford.ac.uk/library/special-collections/collections/topicww1/)

## **BRADFORD'S WAR: 1914 – 1918** **LOCAL EXPERIENCES OF WAR ON THE HOME FRONT**

26 April 2014 – 19 November 2014

At Bradford Industrial Museum an insightful exhibition explores aspects of life at home during the First World War, for example the impact on women, industry and attitudes towards the treatment of injured and disabled people.

The exhibition incorporates innovative methods of interpretation that increase access for disabled audiences such as audio presentations, tactile objects and sign language (BSL). This project, supported by the Arts Council, has been devised through close collaboration with individuals and access groups in order to connect a legacy of the First World War with an increased understanding and response to disability, both mental and physical.

Bradford Industrial Museum, Moorside Mills, Moorside Road, Eccleshill,  
Bradford BD2 3HP

Tel: 01274 435900

[www.bradfordmuseums.org](http://www.bradfordmuseums.org)

## **CHOICES THEN AND NOW**

3 June 2014 – 26 February 2016

The Peace Museum UK has developed a new teaching resource for schools and colleges which considers choices and consequences during the First World War and now in the 21st century. *Choices Then and Now* focuses on the stories of peacemakers as well as those who fought in the war and examines the options available to them during the 'days that changed the world'.

In an exciting collaboration with the Alhambra Theatre, the Peace Museum uses *Choices Then and Now* in schools workshops based on challenging themes explored in *War Horse*: peace, conflict, extremism and resilience.

A related exhibition, *Choices?* is curated by children and young people. It is a taster for the museum's flagship multi-media exhibition scheduled for March 2016.

Peace Museum UK, Bradford, 10 Piece Hall Yard, Bradford, West Yorkshire BD1 1PJ

Tel: 01274 780241

[www.peacemuseum.org.uk](http://www.peacemuseum.org.uk)

[www.choicesthenandnow.co.uk](http://www.choicesthenandnow.co.uk)

## **HEATON GRAVEYARD PROJECT**

Throughout 2014 – 2018

During a community project to regenerate the Baptist Burial Ground in Heaton it was found that 45 young men who had been killed in the First World War are resting in family plots or remembered by an inscription on a grave. There are plans for a brass plaque bearing their names to be incorporated within the recently rededicated War Memorial and a Poppy Trail enables visitors to find the First World War graves in what is now a peaceful, historical parkland.

Heaton Baptist Burial Ground, Highgate, Heaton, Bradford BD9 4BP

Tel: 01535274298

[www.heatongraveyard.co.uk](http://www.heatongraveyard.co.uk)

## **THE YORKSHIRE WARTIME EXPERIENCE**

4, 5 and 6 July 2014.

This impressive military vehicle and re-enactment event offers visitors the chance to explore a full-scale recreation of a First World War trenching system and witness realistic battle re-enactments and cavalry horse displays in an 83 acre site. This living history event is an opportunity to discover some of the sights, sounds and experiences of First World War combat.

Hunsworth Lane, Hunsworth BD4 6RN

[www.ywe-event.info](http://www.ywe-event.info)

## **BRADFORD WW1**

Online throughout 2014 – 2018

This social history research project explores the daily life of those at home in Bradford during the First World War, investigating a wide range of issues from recruiting and conscription, the impact on trade, food rationing and increasing industrial unrest. The project consists of a website, a book and a series of talks and interactive sessions for schools. The book *Great War Britain: Bradford*, supported by The Peace Museum UK, contains new and previously untold stories of wartime life in Bradford.

[www.BradfordWW1.co.uk](http://www.BradfordWW1.co.uk)



Left: YMCA Hut, Halifax, courtesy of Bradford YMCA. © Cadbury Research Library: Special Collection, The University of Birmingham: YMCA/K/1/22/22

### TEA AND REMEMBRANCE: BRADFORD YMCA'S WWI 'TEA HUT' PROJECT

Within ten days of the declaration of war the YMCA had established 250 Tea Huts providing a cup of tea and sandwiches to soldiers heading to war. This network grew as YMCA Tea Huts appeared at railway stations and ports. Later they served training centres, hospitals and even Prisoner of War camps, with emergency canteens working day and night. Tea Huts were set up in France and Flanders and extended into the Mediterranean, Egypt, Palestine, Mesopotamia and Russia.

Bradford YMCA and local partners commemorate this heritage by building a 'Tea Hut', sharing family stories and researching a period when the YMCA provided a safe place, home comforts and understanding where these were most needed – just as it does today.

Bradford YMCA, Culture Fusion, 125 Thornton Road, Bradford, BD1 2EP  
[www.teahut-ymca.org.uk](http://www.teahut-ymca.org.uk)

### THE HALIFAX GREAT WAR HERITAGE SOCIETY

The Halifax Great War Heritage Society carries out research into the history, culture and everyday stories of Calderdale during the time of the Great War. Its activities include the production of an information database from local newspapers of the time, and the creation of walking trails that interpret the Great War locations of Calderdale. As well as weekly daytime research activities, the Society organises a programme of monthly evening presentations.

The Estaminet at The Old Mill, 14b Hall Street North, Boothtown, Halifax HX3 6TS  
Tel: 01422 647457  
[www.halifaxgreatwar.org](http://www.halifaxgreatwar.org)

### FOR KING AND COUNTRY: CALDERDALE'S FIRST WORLD WAR CENTENARY 2014 – 2018

2 August 2014 – December 2018

Bankfield Museum explores Calderdale's contribution to the First World War in a major new exhibition that uses museum collections, archives and local stories.

Structured around the four key themes of Society, Individuals, Industry and Conflict, the exhibition considers many different perspectives, ranging from the broad political picture to the individual stories of local soldiers, sailors and nurses, families, war workers and conscientious objectors.

A programme of events including talks, seminars, tours and live performance will run from August to November 2014.

Bankfield Museum, Boothtown Road, Halifax HX3 6HG  
Tel: 01422 352334  
[museums.calderdale.gov.uk](http://museums.calderdale.gov.uk)

### REMEMBERING WORLD WAR ONE – CALDERDALE LIBRARIES MARK THE FIRST WORLD WAR CENTENARY

Throughout 2014 – 2018

Calderdale Libraries will be hosting talks, events, displays and more, highlighting different aspects of the war in the locality. The programme is listed online at [www.calderdale.gov.uk/leisure/libraries/readers/first-world-war](http://www.calderdale.gov.uk/leisure/libraries/readers/first-world-war) and updated regularly.

The Libraries also offer important research resources. Collections of particular interest for those researching the history of Calderdale in the First World War era are available at the Central Reference Library in Halifax and Todmorden Library. Books, photographs and other materials in all district libraries can be identified on the Libraries catalogue, accessed from [www.calderdale.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.calderdale.gov.uk/libraries).

The *Halifax Courier* for 1914 – 18 has been digitised and this is available on the online visual archive of Calderdale history, *Weaver to Web*: [www.weavertoweb.org](http://www.weavertoweb.org).

Tel: 01422 392631  
[www.calderdale.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.calderdale.gov.uk/libraries)

## COAST AND COUNTRYSIDE

by Chris Titley

Some of the earliest casualties of the war were coastal victims of the German navy 'baby-killers'. And East Riding farm workers were among the first to be called up to fight. Meanwhile thousands of men learned how to be soldiers in the open fields of rural Yorkshire, a famous poet among them.

From the earliest days of the First World War, the Yorkshire coast was recognised as vulnerable to German attack. Early army volunteers were despatched to shore up the defences.

Fearing imminent bombardment, the authorities sent the Commercials – the 'middle class' battalion of the Hull Pals – to a half-built camp at Hornsea. 'No food, no bedding. All we had was one bucket of water for 60 men and we had to drink that out of the pail,' recalled Private Walter Aust.

They practised digging trenches which, because of the soft clay soil, often collapsed into the sea.

From their Hornsea base, the Commercials heard the first attack of the war on British soil, which took place a little after 8am on 16 December 1914. The target: undefended Scarborough. Two German battlecruisers opened fire on the town, hitting the castle and the Grand Hotel with the first salvo. The shelling lasted 30 minutes, prompting many residents to flee inland for safety.

Moving north the fleet fired on Whitby – hitting the abbey – and Hartlepool.

Around 1,500 shells fell on the coast that morning. The raids killed 137 people, including a 14-month-old boy in Scarborough, and injured a further 592.

'Whatever feats of arms the German navy may hereafter perform,' wrote Winston Churchill, First Lord of the Admiralty, 'the stigma of the baby-killers of Scarborough will brand its officers and men while sailors sail on the sea.'

In the aftermath of the attack, young men rushed to their local recruitment offices to sign up to avenge the destruction wrought on their home towns.

The following year, the German navy unleashed its new weapon against the merchant navy. In May 1915, the Grimsby trawler *Zarina* was lifted clean out of the water after being hit by a U-boat torpedo: all nine crew were drowned.

In response many trawlers carried concealed weapons and worked in conjunction with the Royal Navy, laying nets and sweeping mines. The crews' bravery is acknowledged by Alec Gill in his book *Hull's Fishing Heritage*: 'Our trawlers swept safe channels through



Above: Sandbags across Eastborough, Scarborough. Courtesy of Scarborough Maritime Heritage Centre.

seas alive with deadly explosives; laid mines within the enemy's shipping lanes; hounded U-boats with depth-charges; escorted convoys across the Atlantic Ocean and north into the Arctic Ocean to Russia; guarded river mouths; and, manned boom defence vessels.'

west of Ripon, accommodating 30,000 soldiers. Captain Wilfred Owen was posted to the city, and wrote some of his most famous poems in his rooms there.

Soldiers from across northern England were billeted in the Ripon camp. They spent their time marching, digging

**'It was more dangerous to be a Grimsby trawlerman who swept mines in the North Sea than to be in the army'**

It was perilous work. As the historian Hew Strachan has noted, 'it was more dangerous to be a Grimsby trawlerman who swept mines in the North Sea than to be in the army.'

Inland the countryside was being transformed by the war. Villagers saw their horses led away to join the fight, and areas of open country were turned into training camps for all the new recruits.

One of the largest was south and

trenches, drilling and learning how to use their weapons.

'We used to have sacks hung between posts and we used to charge these sacks and jab 'em with a bayonet, and it used to terrify me to death did that sort of work, bare bayonets,' Private Tony Miller of the Bradford Pals told an interviewer many years later. 'I thought if I were to miss these particular sacks in the charge and stab somebody it'd be awkward.' →



**Above:** Wagoners returned from the war, some wearing their medals, pose in front of the Monument in Sledmere Village before the unveiling ceremony in 1919. © The Museum of the Wagoners' Special Reserve.

## Many had never left their village before, but they were among some of the first Britons to serve their country abroad.

Corporal Richard Ormerod, of the Accrington Pals, sounded quite taken with Ripon Camp in a letter to his sister, Polly: 'We are on parade at 5.30am and then walk to the range on a beautiful road which runs amongst some splendid cultivated land which is now undergoing harvest.'

Yorkshire country houses played their part in the war effort. The owners of Lotherton Hall near Leeds, Colonel and Mrs Gascoigne, paid for a hospital there for wounded soldiers. Their regular staff undertook the domestic duties, and two local doctors volunteered their services.

At Harewood House, the 17-year-

old Princess Mary, the Princess Royal, devised a scheme where every member of the armed forces would receive a gift at Christmas 1914. The brass gift boxes contained a note of best wishes from the Princess, letter writing kits, tobacco and chocolate.

Sledmere House was home to Sir Mark Sykes, 6th Baronet of Sledmere who fought in South Africa with the Green Howards. From his wartime experiences, he realised that the army needed skilled wagon drivers to ferry supplies to the battlefield and injured soldiers to hospital.

East Yorkshire farms still used the wolds wagon with its central pole,

allowing horses to be harnessed either side. Pole wagons were also used by the army. In 1913, Sir Mark founded the Wagoners' Special Reserve. More than 1,100 men volunteered and Sir Mark paid them 15 shillings a year. In return the men, who had to be under 35 and of good health, agreed to take part in a driving competition once a year at Sledmere and to serve abroad in the event of war.

When war was declared, they were called up almost immediately, some receiving their papers in the field during harvest. They had orders to report to Bradford Moor Barracks by six o'clock the same evening.

Many had never left their village before, but they were some of the first Britons to serve their country abroad. As well as driving the wagons that carried the ammunition, fodder and supplies for the front line, they joined the Royal Engineers bridging trains. ■



**Top:** A group of patients and nurses on the steps of Normanby Hall. Courtesy of North Lincolnshire Museum Service Image Archive.



**Above:** Wounded soldiers convalesce in one of the ground floor rooms at Normanby Hall. Courtesy of North Lincolnshire Museum Service Image Archive.

### Explore further

*Remember Scarborough*, Scarborough Museums Trust and partners (p48)

*Craven and the First World War: War Beckons*, Museum of North Craven Life (p46)

*Duty Calls: The Country House in Time of War*, various Yorkshire country houses (p79)

*Eleven Eleven Eleven*, Grimsby Fishing Heritage Centre (p62)

*South Cave During World War I*, South Cave Town Hall (p62)

The Museum of the Wagoners' Special Reserve, Sledmere (p51)

*The First World War and Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty: Leeds Pals, POWs and the Home Front* (p46)

*While They're Gone – East Riding Countryside and the Great War*, Skidby Windmill (p58)

*Goole and the Great War*, Goole Museum (p58)

## YORK AND NORTH YORKSHIRE

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Across the county of North Yorkshire commemorative activities reveal important aspects of First World War history. The region's coastal communities suffered the first losses of life on home soil, and its towns and villages played a major role in the recruitment and training of troops and their convalescence from injury. Follow these and other topics in more depth on individual websites and on [1914.org/Yorkshire](http://1914.org/Yorkshire).

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### NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY LIBRARIES COMMEMORATE THE CENTENARY OF THE GREAT WAR

Throughout 2014 – 2018

At libraries across the county a broad range of events offers richly varied insights into the effects of the war on life in North Yorkshire. There will be 'pop-up museums' where people can bring objects, documents and family stories to share and record, and a fascinating series of displays that uncover surprising local stories.

The programme includes talks, memory gathering and recording events, and ancestry sessions where people can discover their wartime families and how they lived. There is much to learn about the literature and poetry of the First World War, with booklists, poetry readings, reading groups and theatrical performances.

[www.northyorks.gov.uk/firstworldwar](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/firstworldwar)

### THE FIRST WORLD WAR AT THE NATIONAL RAILWAY MUSEUM

Throughout 2014 – 2018

Find out more about transport to and from the front, particularly the ambulance trains that acted as 'hospitals on wheels' during the 1914 – 18 conflict and beyond. The archive and research centre at the National Railway Museum also houses information relating to the 20,000 railway employees who died during the Great War. For the latest on First World War-related events and content visit [www.nrm.org.uk/worldwarone](http://www.nrm.org.uk/worldwarone)

National Railway Museum York, Leeman Road, York YO26 4XJ

Tel: 08448 153139

[www.nrm.org.uk](http://www.nrm.org.uk)

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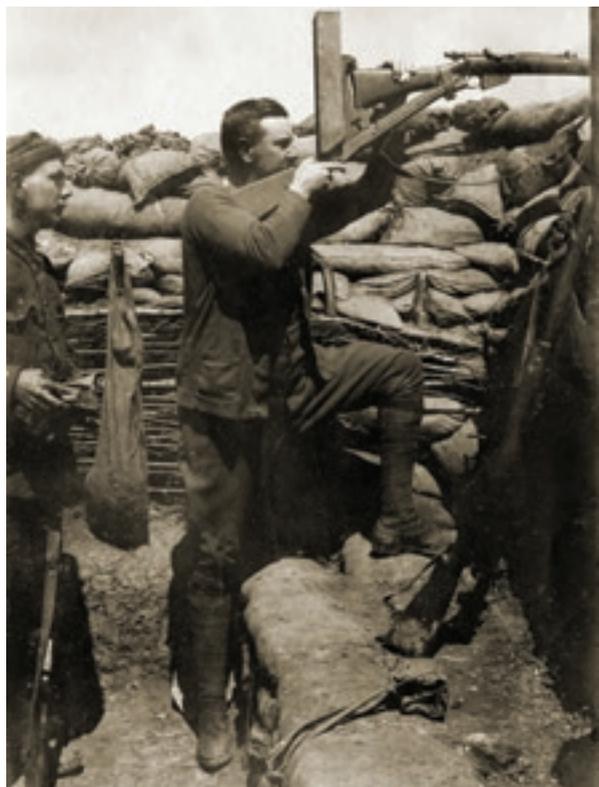


**Top:** Soldiers in training wearing gas hoods. Photograph from the collections of York Museums Trust.

**Above:** Soldiers at Ripon Army Camp, one of the main centres for the organisation of troops being sent to and returning from the front, from the photographic collection of Ripon Library, North Yorkshire Library Service.

**Right:** St John's Ambulance Brigade nurse, from the photographic collection of Ripon Library, North Yorkshire Library Service.

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Top: Soldier standing on a fire step in a trench, aiming a Lee Enfield Rifle using a trench periscope. Photograph from the collections of York Museums Trust.  
 Above: Transporting a big gun by rail on the Western Front. Photograph from the collections of York Museums Trust.

## 1914: WHEN THE WORLD CHANGED FOREVER

From 28 June 2014

The terror of total war and its revolutionary impact on life around the world is the focus of this major new exhibition at York Castle Museum. *1914: When the World Changed Forever* takes visitors from the recruitment office to the horrors of the frontline – from the cultural revolution happening at home to the thousands of men defending countries they had never stepped foot in.

The exhibition – funded by The Heritage Lottery Fund – highlights the museum's extensive military, costume and social history collections to show how the war changed nearly every aspect of life in Britain and became a turning point in global history.

York Castle Museum, Eye of York, York YO1 9RY

Tel: 01904 687687

[www.yorkcastlemuseum.org.uk](http://www.yorkcastlemuseum.org.uk)

## WORLD WAR I: A TASTE OF HOME

12 May 2014 – 31 December 2014

This new exhibition at York's CHOCOLATE Story explores how the gift of chocolate helped to keep wartime spirits high during the First World War, both at home and on the frontline. Discover how the chocolate companies of York offered their support to the war effort and find out how chocolate manufacturing changed forever after 1918, with the help of an expert guide.

Highlights include precious audio interviews of First World War veterans from York and a selection of the 'Chocolate Letters,' penned by the city's servicemen in response to receiving Rowntree's tins of chocolate from the Lord Mayor over Christmas 1914.

New *Chocolate at War* educational workshops are available for school groups to book in conjunction with an attraction tour.

York's CHOCOLATE Story, King's Square, York YO1 7LD

Tel: 0845 498 9411

[www.yorkschocholatestory.com](http://www.yorkschocholatestory.com)



Right: One of the surviving Lord Mayor's Christmas tins from 1914. © York Museums Trust (York Castle Museum).

## THEY DIED THAT WE MIGHT LIVE – YORK MINSTER IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR

From 10 May 2014

Explore the theme of remembrance in a new exhibition revealing personal stories of people connected to and commemorated in York Minster. Collections include the unique *King's Book of York Heroes*, which lists the citizens of York who were killed in service during the conflict.

From September 2014, a series of First World War Schools' Workshops for Key Stages 1–3 will introduce pupils to themes of loss and remembrance through hands-on investigations, using unique 'memory boxes' containing real and replica objects, photographs and documents to explore the lives of those who lived during the First World War and find out how they are remembered at York Minster.

York Minster, York YO1 7HH  
Tel: 01904 557200  
www.yorkminster.org

## THE GREAT WAR CENTENARY CONCERT

14 June 2014

The first of two events at the National Centre for Early Music to honour those who gave their lives in the Great War, this is an evening of favourite Great War-era songs performed by Sara Spade and the Noisy Boys including *Pack up your Troubles in your Old Kit Bag*, *Long Way to Tipperary* and *Bing! Bang! Bing'em on the Rhine!*.

National Centre for Early Music, St Margaret's Church, Walmgate, York YO1 9TL  
Tel: 01904 658338  
www.ncem.co.uk

## TRUMPETER, WHAT ARE YOU SOUNDING NOW?

19 June 2014

In August 1914 thousands signed up for the eagerly awaited war. But what inspired them, what did they think they were fighting for? What did they believe they were fighting against? This centenary tribute uses words, music, images and live action to explore the patriotic and nationalist origins of the war on both sides. Curated by Chris Green, ReStage and directed by Robert Hollingworth, The 24.

National Centre for Early Music, St Margaret's Church, Walmgate, York YO1 9TL  
Tel: 01904 658338  
www.ncem.co.uk

## YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS BRASS CHRISTMAS CONCERT

11 December 2014

This festive concert, which features music from the First World War, has added significance as during Christmas 1914 the Merchant Adventurers' Hall was used as a billet for the Leeds Rifles 1/7th West Yorkshire Regiment Band. These young men of 'Kitchener's Army' stayed at the Hall until the spring of 1915 before moving to the front to take part in some of the most notorious battles of the war including the Somme. The concert will be an uplifting centenary commemoration of them and the Hall's small role in a global conflict.

Merchant Adventurers' Hall, Fossgate, York YO1 9XD  
Tel: 01904 654818  
www.theyorkcompany.co.uk

## OH WHAT A LOVELY WAR

11 – 13 December 2014

Joan Littlewood's Musical Entertainment *Oh What A Lovely War*, by Theatre Workshop, Charles Chilton, Gerry Raffles and members of the original cast. Title suggested by Ted Allan. Performed by Riding Lights Senior Youth Theatre by arrangement with Samuel French Ltd.

Riding Lights' Senior Youth Theatre tackles *Oh What a Lovely War*, a politically charged classic of British musical theatre. This piece tells of the horrors of the First World War through songs and documents of the period all served with a slice of satire.

Friargate Theatre, Lower Friargate, York YO1 9SL  
Tickets: £7 / £5 (Concessions), Box Office: 01904 613000  
www.ridinglights.org

## FIRST WORLD WAR AIRCRAFT

The Yorkshire Air Museum's 'fleet' of aircraft from the First World War period includes the unique Eastchurch Kitten, an experimental interceptor intended to tackle Zeppelin airships, which has been recently rebuilt at the museum. It was in flimsy, 'string and fabric' planes like this that some 9,500 allied pilots lost their lives during the carnage of the Great War and these aircraft stand as a tribute to them.

See the SE.5a and the Eastchurch Kitten 'live' (engine running, non flying) at Yorkshire Air Museum's 'Thunder Day' on 3 August 2014.

Yorkshire Air Museum, Elvington, York YO41 4AU  
Tel: 01904 608595  
www.yorkshireairmuseum.org

## THE WOMEN'S LAND ARMY IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR

From August 2014

The Yorkshire Museum of Farming will show a small exhibition about the role of the Women's Land Army in the First World War, to complement their permanent exhibition documenting the Land Army during the Second World War. In addition, throughout the summer, the museum will host a variety of First World War living history events exploring particular topics such as feeding the troops at the front.

Yorkshire Museum of Farming, Murton Park, Murton Lane, York YO19 5UF  
Tel: 01904 489966  
www.murtonpark.co.uk

## DUTY CALLS: CASTLE HOWARD IN TIME OF WAR

22 March 2014 – 2 November 2014

This exhibition explores the stories of Castle Howard in times of war. Between 1815 and 1944 five Howards were killed in action and for the family, war was a time of anxiety as well as bereavement. This was an experience shared with staff and tenants, many of whom are commemorated on war memorials in estate villages. Belgian refugees, enemy prisoners, evacuees, fire and crashed aircraft meant that the impact of war was never far away from Castle Howard.

Castle Howard, York YO60 7DA  
Tel: 01653 648333  
www.castlehoward.co.uk

## A TOWN AT WAR: HARROGATE DURING THE FIRST WORLD WAR

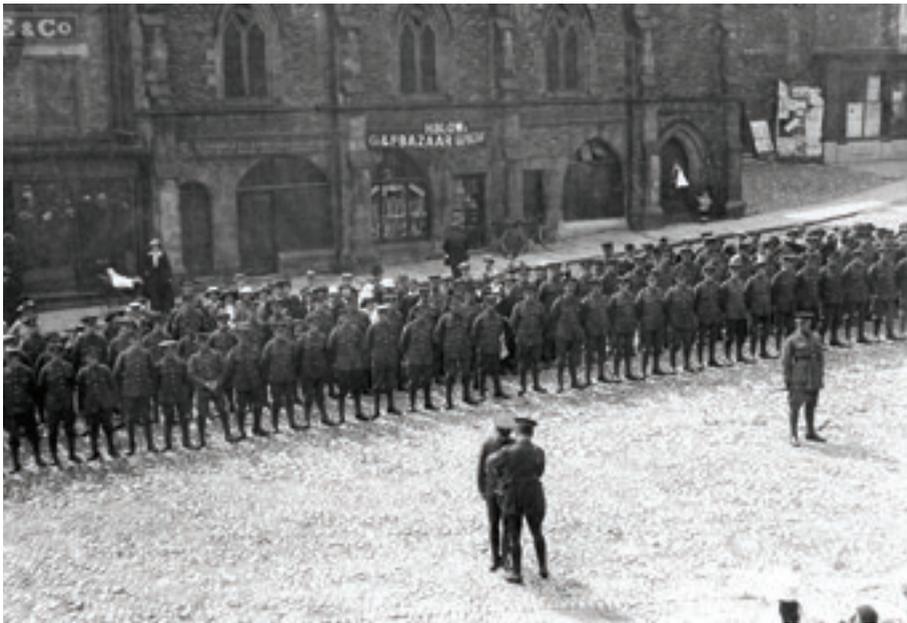
26 July 2014 – 31 December 2014

This exhibition commemorates the Great War in the Harrogate district and tells extraordinary stories of ordinary people, both on the home front and in the armed services. Find out more about the experiences of local people such as Donald Bell, the Harrogate man whose war service saw him awarded the Victoria Cross, as well as the role played by this spa town as a place for convalescence.

Royal Pump Room Museum, Crown Place, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG1 2RY  
Tel: 01423 556188  
www.harrogate.gov.uk/royalpumproommuseum



**Top Left:** The SE.5a, one of the fleet of First World War aircraft at the Yorkshire Air Museum, all faithful reproductions built by the RAF during the 1960s. Courtesy of the Yorkshire Air Museum.  
**Top Right:** Elected as an MP in 1906, Geoffrey Howard enlisted in 1914 and served in France before being summoned back to England by Prime Minister Herbert Asquith. © Castle Howard  
**Bottom Left:** The 7th West Yorkshire Volunteers Brass Band photographed in the Great Hall of the Merchant Adventurers' Hall, York, during Christmas 1914. © Merchant Adventurers' Hall.  
**Bottom Right:** A Prisoner of War camp at Breary Banks in Nidderdale. Courtesy of Nidderdale AONB.



**Top:** Medal presentation in Trinity Church Square, Richmond 1919. The church in the background became The Green Howards Museum in 1973. © Green Howards Museum.

**Above:** August 1914, the Mayor of Richmond reads out the 'Declaration of War' in the market place, followed by a rendition of the National Anthem. © Green Howards Museum.

**Right:** Lt H. B. Morkhill was one of more than 70 Green Howards Officers who volunteered to join the Royal Flying Corps. His pet lemur accompanied him in the cockpit, snuggled in Lt Morkhill's flying jacket. © Green Howards Museum.

## BRANGWYN'S WAR: POSTERS OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR

17 May 2014 – 18 January 2015

One of the most prolific artists of the First World War, Frank Brangwyn designed more than 80 war posters. Often shocking and violent in their content, these posters focused initially on recruitment and war loans, later going on to portray concerns for wounded soldiers and orphaned children. The power of Brangwyn's imagery was perhaps inspired by his personal response to the invasion of Belgium, his country of birth.

The Mercer Art Gallery, Swan Road, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG1 2SA  
Tel: 01423 556188  
[www.harrogate.gov.uk/mercerartgallery](http://www.harrogate.gov.uk/mercerartgallery)

## THE RE-OPENING OF THE GREEN HOWARDS MUSEUM

Re-opens Autumn 2014

Between 1914 and 1918 over 65,000 Yorkshire men joined the Green Howards; by the end of the war 7,500 had been killed and 24,000 wounded. Many soldiers and their families donated hundreds of precious objects to the Regiment, for a museum dedicated to this legendary Yorkshire infantry regiment. To mark the centenary of the First World War the museum is undergoing a £1.7million refurbishment, supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund. Find out how the Green Howards Museum is helping schools and communities learn more about the First World War via the /WW1 section of the museum website.

Green Howards Museum, Trinity Church Sq, Richmond, North Yorks DL10 4QN  
Tel: 01748 826561  
[www.greenhowards.org.uk](http://www.greenhowards.org.uk)

## SOLDIER AND SON – THE FIRST BATTLE – YPRES 1914

On re-opening – April 2015

The Battle of Ypres in October and November 1914 represented the last opportunity for open, mobile warfare on the Western Front, after which the conflict would become one of trench warfare. This exhibition will explore the role played by the Green Howards during the battle and track the experiences of soldiers and their families through diaries, paintings and personal effects.

Green Howards Museum, Trinity Church Sq, Richmond, North Yorks DL10 4QN  
Tel: 01748 826561  
[www.greenhowards.org.uk](http://www.greenhowards.org.uk)

## THE FIRST WORLD WAR AND NIDDERDALE AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY: LEEDS PALS, POWS AND THE HOME FRONT

To August 2016

A three year Heritage Lottery funded research project in the Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty reveals the impact of war on the area's landscape and communities. It also tells the story of the Leeds Pals who were trained in the Masham area. A programme of events and activities will engage local people and will offer volunteers the chance to undertake historical and archaeological research, access training opportunities and learn new skills. Find the latest information on [www.facebook.com/WW1andNidderdaleAONB](http://www.facebook.com/WW1andNidderdaleAONB).

Pateley Bridge  
Tel: 01423 712950  
[www.nidderdaleaonb.org.uk](http://www.nidderdaleaonb.org.uk)

## CRAVEN AND THE FIRST WORLD WAR: WAR BECKONS

1 July 2014 – 2 November 2014

Part of the project *Craven and the First World War*, this exhibition reveals some of the immediate effects of the outbreak of war in the North Craven area, focusing in particular on the recruitment and training of troops, and the impact of war on agriculture and local life.

Museum of North Craven Life, The Folly, Victoria Street, Settle BD24 9EY  
Tel: 015242 51388 or 01729 822361  
[www.ncbpt.org.uk/folly/](http://www.ncbpt.org.uk/folly/)

## CRAVEN AND THE FIRST WORLD WAR: A SHOWCASE FOR LOCAL EXPLORATION AND COMMEMORATION

11 November 2014

This event offers people from all over the district the opportunity to discover what life was like in Craven during the First World War. There will be displays from family and local history societies, and information about the First World War resources available at Skipton Library and North Yorkshire County Record Office. Family History experts will be on hand to help people trace their First World War ancestors, and there will be talks by local historians.

Skipton Library, High Street, Skipton, North Yorkshire BD23 1JX  
Tel: 0845 034 9538  
[www.northyorks.gov.uk/firstworldwar](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/firstworldwar)

## COMMEMORATION IN YARM

Throughout 2014 – 2018

The Yarm 1914 Commemoration Group has been established to research those from Yarm who gave their lives in the First World War, and to share this knowledge with the current generations of Yarm residents. Activities will run throughout the centenary period, including a travelling theatre production of *The Thankful Village*. A First World War re-enactment event takes place at Willey Flatts Field on 2–3 August 2014. Find out about further events on the website and Facebook [www.facebook.com/groups/Yarm1914/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/Yarm1914/).

Yarm Fellowship Hall, West Street, Yarm TS15 9BT  
[www.yarm1914.com](http://www.yarm1914.com)

## WHITBY RNLI: ROHILLA CENTENARY

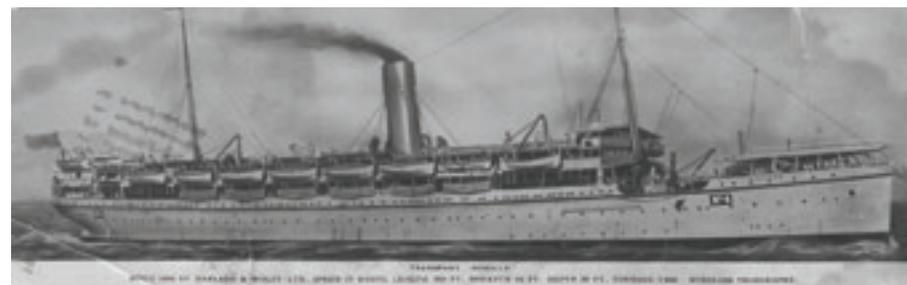
Rohilla Centenary event: 31 October 2014 – 2 November 2014

Exhibition: June 2014 – November 2014

On 30 October 1914 the hospital ship *Rohilla* sailed down the northeast coast bound for Dunkirk to pick up wounded soldiers from the front. In a fierce gale she ran aground off Whitby with tragic loss of life. The Whitby lifeboat staged a legendary rescue to bring survivors ashore.

An exhibition at the RNLI Lifeboat Museum tells the story of this maritime disaster. On the exact 100th anniversary, there will be a commemorative weekend event with remembrance services, a demonstration of the restored rowing lifeboat used in the rescue, a wreath-laying at the wreck site and a memorial concert in St Hilda's church.

RNLI Lifeboat Museum, Pier Rd, Whitby YO21 3PU  
Tel: 01947 602001  
[www.rohilla Whitby centenary.org.uk](http://www.rohilla Whitby centenary.org.uk)



Above: HMS Rohilla. Courtesy of RNLI Museum, Whitby.

## REMEMBER SCARBOROUGH: COMMEMORATING THE BOMBARDMENT OF SCARBOROUGH IN 1914 AND THE IMPACT OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR

26 July 2014 – 5 January 2015

On 16 December 1914 German warships fired hundreds of shells on Scarborough, Whitby and Hartlepool, an offensive which became known as 'The Bombardment'. Hundreds died, many were injured, and buildings and homes were destroyed. This attack caused great public outcry and 'Remember Scarborough' became the slogan for an impassioned recruitment drive.

Funded by Arts Council England, Scarborough Museums Trust is leading the *Remember Scarborough* project to commemorate the centenary of this event. Drawing together seven partner museums and organisations, the project comprises events in Scarborough and across the region, and a major exhibition at Scarborough Art Gallery.

Scarborough Art Gallery, The Crescent, Scarborough YO11 2PW

Tel: 01723 374753

[www.scarboroughmuseumstrust.org.uk](http://www.scarboroughmuseumstrust.org.uk)

## REMEMBER SCARBOROUGH: THE BOMBARDMENT OF SCARBOROUGH

August 2014 – December 2014

On that fateful December morning in 1914 when two German battlecruisers opened fire on the seaside town of Scarborough, over 500 shells peppered the town and 18 people were killed. The Scarborough Maritime Heritage Centre stages an exhibition that looks at the reasons behind the attack, what happened on the day and the aftermath.

Scarborough Maritime Heritage Centre, 36 Eastborough, Scarborough YO11 1NJ

Tel: 01723 369361

[www.scarboroughsmaritimeheritage.org.uk](http://www.scarboroughsmaritimeheritage.org.uk)

## REMEMBER SCARBOROUGH: CONFERENCE

13 December 2014

The Western Front Association, in partnership with Scarborough Museum Trust, is holding a full day conference at the Stephen Joseph Theatre in which four speakers will explore The Bombardment and related themes.

[www.westernfrontassociation.com](http://www.westernfrontassociation.com)

[www.firstworldwarcentenary.co.uk](http://www.firstworldwarcentenary.co.uk)



**Top:** Castle Barracks, Scarborough after The Bombardment of 16 December 1914. Courtesy of Scarborough Maritime Heritage Centre.

**Above centre:** *The Bombardment of Whitby, 16 December 1914* by William Scott Hodgson, (1864–1925). Courtesy of Pannett Art Gallery Collection.

**Above:** Wounded soldiers and VAD staff at One Oak, Hallgarth, Pickering (used as a Military Hospital), Christmas 1916. Courtesy of The Trustees of Beck Isle Museum and Mrs. Barbara Sokel. Photograph attributed to Sydney Smith of Pickering.

**Right:** *Remember Scarborough* by Edith Kemp Welch, c.1915. Courtesy of Scarborough Museums Trust.

## REMEMBER SCARBOROUGH: THE HEUGH BATTERY MUSEUM, HARTLEPOOL

The Heugh Battery justly deserves its fame as the only First World War battlefield in the UK for the events of 16 December 1914 when the Hartlepool gunners put up a spirited resistance to The Bombardment, firing coastal artillery at the enemy ships and eventually driving them away. The Battery was refurbished some five years ago and now boasts a museum and collection of artillery exhibits.

Heugh Battery Museum, Moor Terrace, Hartlepool, Cleveland, TS24 0PS  
Tel: 01429 270746  
[www.heughbattery.com](http://www.heughbattery.com)

## REMEMBER SCARBOROUGH: WHITBY IN 1914

1 July 2014 – 20 December 2014

The *Whitby Gazette* from 1914 tells of the many local people, including harbour labourers, policemen, ironstone miners, farm workers, iron ship-builders, seamen, shipping line clerks and factory workers who were by now playing their part in the war effort.

An exhibition at Whitby Museum chronicles this first year of the war, exploring compelling events such as the disastrous 'live bait squadron' where Whitby lads lost their lives in a German submarine attack, the heroic efforts of Whitby lifeboatmen in the *Rohilla* disaster, and the raids by German battlecruisers on Scarborough, Whitby and Hartlepool.

Whitby Museum, Pannett Park, Whitby YO21 1RE  
Tel: 01947 602908  
[www.whitbymuseum.org.uk](http://www.whitbymuseum.org.uk)

## REMEMBER SCARBOROUGH: HOPE IN THE GREAT WAR

23 July 2014 – 31 August 2014

Pannett Art Gallery hosts an exhibition from the Royal National Lifeboat Institution which narrates heroic rescue stories from around our coast during the war, and includes a series of paintings by members of Whitby Art Society documenting the *Rohilla* disaster of 1914.

The Pannett Art Gallery, Pannett Park, Whitby YO21 1RE  
Tel: 01947 600933  
[www.pannettartgallery.org](http://www.pannettartgallery.org)

## REMEMBER SCARBOROUGH: FOR THOSE IN PERIL...

### EXPLORING THE IMPACT OF THE GREAT WAR ON THE EAST COAST

August 2014 – December 2014

Inspired by William Scott Hodgson's painting *The Bombardment of Whitby 16 December 1914*, a poet in residence at Pannett Art Gallery will encourage the creation of community poetry to reflect on the impact of the war on the people of Whitby. The poems will be displayed in the gallery, providing an opportunity for contemplation and remembrance.

The Pannett Art Gallery, Pannett Park, Whitby YO21 1RE  
Tel: 01947 600933  
[www.pannettartgallery.org](http://www.pannettartgallery.org)

## REMEMBER SCARBOROUGH: THE WAGONERS' SPECIAL RESERVE

April 2014 – October 2014

This small but remarkable museum tells the story of the Wagoners' Special Reserve, founded in 1913 by Sir Mark Sykes, 6th Baronet of Sledmere. These local volunteers were some of the first to serve their country abroad in the First World War, driving horse drawn wagons with supplies for the frontline. The Wagoners' Special Reserve is a piece of local history that became Army history.

The Museum of the Wagoners' Special Reserve, Sledmere House, Sledmere, Drifffield, East Yorkshire YO25 3XQ  
Tel: 01377 236637  
[www.sledmerehouse.com/wagoners-museum.html](http://www.sledmerehouse.com/wagoners-museum.html)

## REMEMBER SCARBOROUGH: PICKERING, THE IMPACT OF WAR 1914 – 1918

August 2014 – November 2015

Discover how a rural North Yorkshire market town coped with the impact of the Great War. The Beck Isle Museum is organizing an exhibition and community outreach project to explore the wartime changes experienced in Pickering. There are plans to publish a Book of Honour, and to develop a digital story and short film.

Beck Isle Museum, Beck Isle, Pickering, North Yorkshire YO18 8DU  
Tel: 01751 473653  
[www.beckislemuseum.org.uk](http://www.beckislemuseum.org.uk)

# THE HOME FRONT

by Chris Titley

Yorkshire folk may have been hundreds of miles from the battlefield, but that didn't keep them safe. The German navy shelled the coast and Zeppelins bombed the cities. Food was short and entertainment thin on the ground but Yorkshire still gave a warm welcome to thousands of new citizens – refugees from war-ravaged Belgium.

Unlike the conflicts that had preceded it, the First World War brought death and mayhem to the civilians who stayed at home. In every year of the war, British people were killed in Britain by German air and naval bombardment.

Bombing raids by Zeppelin airships were greatly feared. Hull experienced its first such attack on 6 June 1915. The alarm buzzer was sounded at 11.15am, the all-clear at 2pm. In the intervening hours, eight streets had been hit by bombs, leaving 19 dead and 40 injured.

'Eighteen bombs, it is believed, were dropped in the district,' reported the *Yorkshire Herald* of a Zeppelin raid on York in May 1916. 'Some dwelling houses were more or less shattered. One house entirely collapsed, leaving a hole in the ground, while another fell like a pack of cards about the ears of the occupants, a man and his wife, who were killed.'

One consequence of the air raids were new regulations which compelled citizens to reduce or switch off lights in homes and businesses, so as not to guide the Zeppelins to their targets.

The same law which brought in blackouts, the Defence of the Realm Act, also imposed other restrictions. Fears that our fighting forces or munitions workers would be undermined by drink saw licensing hours restricted from noon to 3pm and 6.30pm to 9.30pm, and beer watered down.

This led one York publican to comment that 'if the present government had fought the Germans in the same way as they had fought the publicans, the Germans would have been beaten by now'.

Food prices went up and income tax was hiked by 40 per cent in the third war



Above: *The Midnight Assassin*, Goole Museum collection. Courtesy of East Riding of Yorkshire Council Museum Service.



Left: Damage inflicted by the Zeppelin raid of 6 June 1915 on the Market Place, Hull. The Edwin Davis' store, which stood on the site, was completely destroyed. © Hull Museums.

Right: Yvonne van den Broeck, a Belgian refugee in Otley, 1915. Courtesy of Otley Museum Archive.



budget in September 1915, adding to the sense of austerity. Restaurants and cafés had to create ingenious new dishes on meatless days.

places,' wrote William Herbert Scott in his 1923 history, *Leeds in the Great War*.

Alongside the round of farewells to the young men heading off to war, Yorkshire

**Yorkshire gave home to 10,500 of the quarter of a million people who fled to Britain from war-torn Belgium.**

'Many men – and women too – in all parts of the city were now busying themselves in their leisure hours with the cultivation of potato plots and allotment gardens on land rented from the Corporation, in parks or other suitable

found itself welcoming newcomers to its towns and cities. Within weeks of the start of the conflict, thousands of Belgian refugees arrived in the county.

Yorkshire gave a home to 10,500 of the quarter of a million people who fled to →



Above: Gledhow Hall with staff and patients, from the Gledhow Hall scrapbook compiled by the Matron Edith Cliff, seen in the centre. Courtesy of Leeds Library and Information Service.

Britain from war-torn Belgium. Some of the first to arrive were wounded soldiers, many treated at the 3rd Northern General Hospital at Sheffield.

Women and children followed, some with nothing left but the clothes they were wearing. Appeals for food, clothing, shelter and money were met with a generous response – more than £10,000 was raised in Leeds alone.

In turn, the Belgians became part of the war effort, working in factories in Leeds, Sheffield and Bradford. Many stayed on in peace time: Jean Donat Julien, an engineer who worked in the munitions industry, set up a successful manufacturing business in Tinsley in 1919.

Towards the end of 1914 Yorkshire welcomed home the first of its surviving wounded from the Western Front. The 3rd Northern General Hospital, formerly the teachers' training college, was in the forefront of treating the men.

'As you can imagine, when the men got to the stage of being able to walk around

a little in their hospital blue, they were made very much of, and didn't lack for invitations out for tea,' recalled Marjorie Llewellyn, then a Sheffield schoolgirl. 'We were very, very proud of our boys.'

In Leeds, Beckett Park Hospital became known as a specialist centre for facial surgery, reconstructing soldiers' faces disfigured by shrapnel and bullet wounds.

Patients and staff were treated to regular entertainment at the hospital with members of the Royal Army Medical Corps even forming their own pierrot troupe called the 'Cheero Boys'.

The war effort took many forms, and occasionally threw up an unusual civilian hero. 'Halifax people will have noticed in the streets of the town during the past few days a little mite, dressed in khaki, carrying before him a collecting box inscribed "For The Mayor's Relief Fund"', reported the *Halifax Courier* in 1914.

This was George Bentley, better known as 'Little Khaki George'. He was the son

of Walter and Ellen Bentley who ran the Temperance Hotel in Halifax, and first came to prominence aged three when he collected £1 3s for the Mayor's Fund.

Soon the townsfolk took him to their hearts and lapped up reports of his fundraising ventures.

Everyone, it seemed, was doing his or her bit. In August 1918, 600 Leeds Boy Scouts volunteered to pull flax, to meet the urgent demand for linen needed in the manufacture of aeroplane wings.

Children followed the war closely. 'We had great maps in each of the classrooms

and every day we used to mark the progress of the war on both fronts – in Gallipoli and then on the Somme when that started,' recalled Sheffield schoolgirl Marjorie Llewellyn. 'There was a keen interest in this because we could see how it was progressing.'

For adults looking for ways to escape the grim news of the war, the music halls and the cinema offered brief respite. Football league matches ended in 1915, although Harrogate Town's first ever fixture – slated for 5 September 1914 – was cancelled after war was declared. ■



Above: Staff at the Second Northern General Hospital at Beckett Park, c.1917. © Special Collections, Brotherton Library, University of Leeds.

### Explore further

*Recovery? From Flanders to Afghanistan*, Thackray Museum, Leeds (p14)

*1914: When the World Changed Forever*, York Castle Museum (p39)

*Sheffield & the First World War*, Weston Park Museum, Sheffield (p68)

*Commemorating Our First World War Heritage*, Leeds Museums and Galleries (p16)

*The Road to War*, Experience Barnsley Museum and Discovery Centre (p74)

*When War Hit Home: Hull and the First World War*, Ferens Art Gallery, Hull (p56)

*For King and Country: Calderdale's First World War Centenary*, Bankfield Museum, Halifax (p31)

*A Town at War: Harrogate During the First World War*, Royal Pump Room Museum, Harrogate (p42)

*Legacies Of War – Untold Otley Stories*, Otley Museum (p19)

*War Work – Sheffield Industry and the First World War*, Kelham Island Museum (p71)

*Huddersfield's Great War Stories*, Tolson Memorial Museum (p23)

## HULL, EAST YORKSHIRE AND NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE

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Museums, libraries, country houses and community groups in Hull, East Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire reflect on their region's experiences of the Great War. They explore the effects of war on the port towns and the war at sea, as well as looking at how the war impacted on local communities and the rural economy. Plan your visits and further your research on the listed websites and on [1914.org/Yorkshire](http://1914.org/Yorkshire).

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### JOINING UP THE HUMBER

Joining up the Humber is an Arts Council funded project bringing together the three museum services which span the Humber region – Hull Museums, East Riding Museums Service and North Lincolnshire Museum Service. There will be a year-long series of exhibitions and events across each of the three areas as well as lots of ways to get involved or learn more about the First World War and how it impacted on the region. Visit [www.joiningupthehumber.co.uk](http://www.joiningupthehumber.co.uk) to find out more.

### WHEN WAR HIT HOME: HULL AND THE FIRST WORLD WAR

19 July 2014 – 4 January 2015

Using the extensive collection of First World War objects and images from Hull Museums, this exhibition explores the effects of the war on Hull and its people. It gives valuable insights into themes such as: recruitment and propaganda; stories from the frontline; and the war at sea. The exhibition examines how the war impacted on the city and the daily life of those left at home.

To celebrate the launch of the exhibition, Ferens Art Gallery is hosting a day of free activities on 19 July including talks, object handling and live music from the era. The key note speaker for the day is Adrian Van Klaveren, BBC Controller for the World War One Centenary. For more details please visit [www.heritage-learning.com](http://www.heritage-learning.com).

Ferens Art Gallery, Queen Victoria Square, Hull HU1 3RA

Tel: 01482 300300

[www.hullcc.gov.uk/museums](http://www.hullcc.gov.uk/museums), [www.joiningupthehumber.co.uk](http://www.joiningupthehumber.co.uk)

### REMEMBRANCE DAY WEEKEND AT THE STREETLIFE MUSEUM

8 – 9 November 2014

This weekend family event will mark Remembrance Day with live music, historical re-enactments, military vehicles and displays on military history as well as face painting and children's craft activities. For more details please visit [www.heritage-learning.com](http://www.heritage-learning.com).

Streetlife Museum, Museums Quarter, Hull HU1 1PS

Tel: 01482 300300

[www.hullcc.gov.uk/museums](http://www.hullcc.gov.uk/museums), [www.joiningupthehumber.co.uk](http://www.joiningupthehumber.co.uk)

### NORMANBY AT WAR

From 31 March 2014

The centenary of the outbreak of the First World War is marked at Normanby Hall by the opening of a new permanent gallery, which explores the history of the Hall as an auxiliary hospital for recovering soldiers between 1914 and 1919. Discover the stories of patients, nurses, staff and family during this fascinating period in the history of the house.

In addition the *Keep Calm and Look Fabulous – Wartime Fashions* exhibition (31 March – 28 September) follows the history of fashion from the years leading up to the First World War through to the end of the Second World War.

Normanby Hall, Normanby, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire DN15 9HU

Tel: 01724 720588

[www.northlincs.gov.uk](http://www.northlincs.gov.uk), [www.joiningupthehumber.co.uk](http://www.joiningupthehumber.co.uk)

### FOR KING AND COUNTRY – THE FIRST WORLD WAR IN NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE

From 1 July 2014

At North Lincolnshire Museum this exhibition focuses on the experiences of local people both on the front line and back home in Britain. It also examines how the sacrifice of local men and women was recognised in the form of war memorials all over the region.

On 12 July, a Garden Fête will launch the exhibition with local brass band performances, a host of First World War centenary children's workshops and performances from Historical Promotions.

North Lincolnshire Museum, Oswald Road, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire DN15 7BD

Tel: 01724 843533

[www.northlincs.gov.uk/museums](http://www.northlincs.gov.uk/museums), [www.joiningupthehumber.co.uk](http://www.joiningupthehumber.co.uk)

### DUTY CALLS: SEWERBY HALL IN TIME OF WAR

Dates at Sewerby Hall may vary due to ongoing refurbishment. Please call for details.

The West Wing Gallery at Sewerby Hall hosts an exhibition that explores the experiences of the Lloyd Greame family, their estate workers and inhabitants of Sewerby village who fought on the Western Front.

Sewerby Hall and Gardens, Church Lane, Sewerby, Bridlington YO15 1EA  
Tel: 01262 673769  
www.sewerbyhall.co.uk, www.joiningupthehumber.co.uk

### POPPIES AND POSTCARDS

Dates at Sewerby Hall may vary due to ongoing refurbishment. Please call for details.

Photographic artist Lee Karen Stow juxtaposes botanical images of the common cornflower poppy with original First World War postcards reflecting the roles of women during the four years of conflict when perceptions of women's capabilities were changed irrevocably.

Sewerby Hall and Gardens, Church Lane, Sewerby, Bridlington YO15 1EA  
Tel: 01262 673769  
www.sewerbyhall.co.uk, www.joiningupthehumber.co.uk

### WHILE THEY'RE GONE – EAST RIDING COUNTRYSIDE IN THE GREAT WAR

29 April 2014 – 30 September 2014

An exhibition generated by the volunteer team gives a wider understanding of the effects of the war on agriculture and the local economy.

Skidby Windmill, Skidby, Cottingham, HU16 5TF  
Tel: 01482 848405  
www.eastriding.gov.uk/museums, www.joiningupthehumber.co.uk

### GOOLE AND THE GREAT WAR

29 August 2014 – 25 November 2014

Learn about the role of Goole as a port during the First World War in this exhibition curated by the volunteer team. Drawing on the museum's own collections and with loans from local people, the exhibition will explore the role of merchant shipping and service in the Royal Navy. It will also relate the experiences of local seamen interned at Ruhleben camp, and the effects of war on life in Goole including a Zeppelin attack that resulted in many deaths.

Goole Museum, Carlisle Street, Goole DN14 5DS  
Tel: 01405 768963  
www.eastriding.gov.uk/museums, www.joiningupthehumber.co.uk



**Top:** Soldiers dressed in fancy dress to celebrate Armistice Day in 1919, on the steps of the garden entrance at Normanby Hall. Courtesy of North Lincolnshire Museum Service Image Archive.

**Above:** Seaplane at the Airbase at Killingholme during the First World War. Courtesy of North Lincolnshire Museum Service Image Archive.

**Right:** *Poppy 2* by Lee Karen Stow on show at Sewerby Hall. Courtesy of East Riding of Yorkshire Council Museum Service. © the artist.



**Top:** Munitions workers from Armstrong's factory in Beverley, 1915. Courtesy of East Riding of Yorkshire Council Museum Service. © Kirkby family and Beverley Guildhall.  
**Above:** East Riding Yeomanry Sergeants' mess in Palestine, 1917. Courtesy of East Riding of Yorkshire Council Museum Service.  
**Right:** Artwork by Martin Waters, from the exhibition *In Memoriam, Reflections on War* at Beverley Art Gallery. Courtesy of East Riding of Yorkshire Council Museum Service. © the artist.

## CAVALRY, CAMELS AND CAMARADERIE: THE EAST RIDING YEOMANRY IN THE GREAT WAR

12 July 2014 – 20 September 2014

The East Riding Yeomanry were involved in the Egypt and Palestine campaign during the First World War. This history is explored through a range of diaries, documents, photographs and artefacts selected from the collections of East Riding Museums and donated or borrowed from relatives and other museums.

To accompany the exhibition, learning activities for adults and children will include a lecture programme and a publication *100 Lives: The East Riding Yeomanry in the Great War*.

The Treasure House, Champney Road, Beverley, East Yorkshire HU17 8HE  
 Tel: 01482 392780  
[www.eastriding.gov.uk/museums](http://www.eastriding.gov.uk/museums), [www.joiningupthehumber.co.uk](http://www.joiningupthehumber.co.uk)

## KEEP THE HOMES FIRES BURNING – HOW THE FIRST WORLD WAR WAS FELT IN BEVERLEY

27 June 2014 – 28 November 2014

An exhibition in Beverley Guildhall examines how the war affected the people of Beverley. It is an opportunity to find out about munitions work, hospitals and returning casualties, the home front, the military in Beverley, the changing role of women and stories of Beverley men who served in the conflict.

Beverley Guildhall, Register Square, Beverley HU17 9XX  
 Tel: 01482 392783  
[www.eastriding.gov.uk/museums](http://www.eastriding.gov.uk/museums), [www.joiningupthehumber.co.uk](http://www.joiningupthehumber.co.uk)

## IN MEMORIAM, REFLECTIONS ON WAR BY MARTIN WATERS

27 September 2014 – 22 November 2014

The artist Martin Waters contemplates the theme of remembrance and reflects on past and present horrors of war through paintings, prints, assemblages and installation art. His exhibition will include a 'memory wall' where visitors are invited to share their own stories.

Beverley Art Gallery, Champney Road, Beverley HU17 8HE  
 Tel: 01482 392780  
[www.eastriding.gov.uk/museums](http://www.eastriding.gov.uk/museums), [www.joiningupthehumber.co.uk](http://www.joiningupthehumber.co.uk)

## THE GREAT WAR AND THE MODERN IMAGINATION

26 November 2014

This conference and study day presents a programme of speakers who will question the ways in which direct experience of conflict conditions affected the development of art and culture, with particular reference to the rise of Modernism in the early 20th century.

This event is organised by Beverley Town Council and will take place at the Memorial Hall in Beverley.

[www.beverley.gov.uk/events](http://www.beverley.gov.uk/events)

## ELEVEN ELEVEN ELEVEN

11 November 2014 – 11 January 2015

Grimsby Fishing Heritage Centre focuses on the First World War from the perspectives of the people of Grimsby and the surrounding areas. This exhibition pays tribute to the contribution made by local men who undertook the dangerous task of minesweeping the coast during the war.

Grimsby Fishing Heritage Centre, Alexandra Dock, Grimsby DN31 1UX

Tel: 01472 323345

[www.nelincs.gov.uk/resident/museums-and-heritage/fishing-heritage-centre](http://www.nelincs.gov.uk/resident/museums-and-heritage/fishing-heritage-centre)

## SOUTH CAVE DURING WORLD WAR I: HOW THE WAR AFFECTED THE VILLAGE AND ITS FAMILIES

From 2 August 2014

Staged at the Town Hall and Library, this small exhibition gives a unique insight into the Great War as it affected South Cave using original material such as newspapers, parish records, census material and photographs, with research carried out by members of the Caves U3A Local History Group. The exhibition will be changed several times a year.

Town Hall, Market Place, South Cave HU15 2AT

Tel: 01430 421044

[www.southcavepc.gov.uk](http://www.southcavepc.gov.uk)

South Cave Library, Church Street, South Cave HU15 2EP

Tel: 01430 422901

Email: [email.caveslhg@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:email.caveslhg@yahoo.co.uk)

## HOME AND AWAY: HOLDERNESS IN THE GREAT WAR

26 July 2014 – 30 August 2014

This exhibition commemorates the events of 1914–18 with a focus on Hedon and South Holderness. It highlights the participation and sacrifice of local men serving both in home defences and overseas, paying particular attention to those whose names appear on the village war memorials. In addition the exhibition explores the role of civilians before, during and immediately after the war, and the changes in their everyday life as a result of the conflict. An informative booklet and two lectures will support the exhibition.

The Hedon Museum, Town Hall Complex, St Augustine's Gate, Hedon, Hull HU12 8EX  
Tel: 01482 890908

[www.hedonmuseum.org](http://www.hedonmuseum.org)

## THE TROLLEYBUS DURING THE FIRST WORLD WAR

23 August 2014 – November 2018

In 1914 the trolleybus represented the latest in new technology: the first British systems had opened as recently as 1911, in Leeds and Bradford. In its most ambitious exhibition to date the Trolleybus Museum reveals the development of the trolleybus in the Great War period through photographs, slide shows, maps, diagrams and models. It also investigates social factors such as the women recruited to conduct on public transport who had to give up these jobs at the end of the war.

The Trolleybus Museum at Sandtoft, Belton Road, Sandtoft DN8 5SX

Recorded Information Line: 01724 711391

[www.sandtoft.org.uk](http://www.sandtoft.org.uk)



Left: A Keighley trolleybus, which used the Austrian Cedes-Stoll current collection system making maintenance problematic during the war.  
© British Trolleybus Society, photograph R. B. Parr.

## A CHANGING WORLD FOR WOMEN

by Chris Titley

Factories, transport networks, workshops and offices, once staffed almost exclusively by men, were taken over by women for much of the war. They also worked round the clock to assemble munitions for the front – dangerous and sometimes deadly work. But with the sacrifices came a greater sense of independence.

For women the war created both opportunity and hardship. Some, bringing up a family alone with their husbands at the front, suffered years of drudgery which often ended in heartbreak. Others found their horizons widening, taking jobs previously reserved for men and winning greater independence.

Before the First World War, 'women's work' largely meant domestic service. But from the outbreak of hostilities – and particularly after the introduction of conscription in 1916 – it was recognised that women had a crucial role to play in the war effort.

The number of women employed in just one sector, transport, increased by more than 500 per cent during the course of the conflict. Nearly 900 Leeds Corporation workers joined up in 1914 alone, and many were tramway men. They were largely replaced by women.

In his 1923 history, *Leeds in the Great War*, William Herbert Scott commented that 'men everywhere were being released from industry and women were taking their places on the tramways and railways,

in offices and workshops.

'For the moment, indeed, there was almost a glut of female labour, so willingly did the women offer their services. Most of them were married and in receipt of Government allowances or disbursements from the War Relief Fund, and they were glad enough to have the chance of supplementing their slender weekly incomes.'

For some the additional income came at a high price. Many women in Yorkshire's industrial cities were employed in munitions factories. This was difficult and dangerous work.

The hours were long – sometimes disgracefully so. In 1915 Greenwood and Batley, a Leeds munitions firm, was prosecuted for making women work continuous shifts of 25 and 30 hours. The magistrate refused to convict, saying 'The most important thing in the world today is that ammunition shall be made.'

There was an undeniable sense of duty about the work. Minnie Seddon was a 'munitionette', one of 15,000 women employed at Thomas Firth and



Above: Workers at Templeborough National Projectile Factory. Museums Sheffield Collection.

**'The most important thing in the world today is that ammunition shall be made.'**

Son's National Projectile Factory at Templeborough. Her poem was published in the factory magazine, *The Bombshell*, in 1918 and contained the lines:

*Oh, no! We must not grumble, for each is on her oath,  
To do her very level best for King and Country both...  
So you will see that after all we are very glad to go,  
To do our precious little bit, and our patriotism show*

Some women made the ultimate sacrifice. In December 1915, the first national shell filling factory was opened on a 200 acre site at Crossgates, Leeds. It was a city within a city, and 16,000 women, from Leeds, Castleford, Wakefield and Harrogate operated the factory around the clock.

A year after the Barnbow Munitions Factory opened, disaster struck. Women in Room 42 were adding fuses to shells already filled with explosives, and screwing down the caps, when a massive blast shook the factory. →



**Above:** Munitions workers from the Sheffield Simplex Motor Works. Courtesy of Sheffield Industrial Museums Trust.

Thirty-five women were killed. Many more were maimed and injured. Yet within a few hours of the disaster, with the bodies recovered and a hasty clean up completed, women volunteers were working again in Room 42.

They weren't the only deaths in Yorkshire armaments factories. Some died in smaller accidents, others from TNT poisoning. Barnbow only stopped at the Armistice on 11 November 1918, having delivered more than 500,000 tons of ammunition to the fighting forces.

Other women died on active service overseas. One was Betty Stevenson, a volunteer with the Women's Auxilliary

of the YMCA (Young Men's Christian Association).

From the turn of the century the YMCA had run summer camps in Yorkshire, providing recreational facilities and refreshments to boost the morale of troops. This work intensified with the outbreak of war, and the YMCA also followed soldiers to the frontline.

Born in York, Betty Stevenson moved to Harrogate when she was a teenager, joining the spa town's branch of the YMCA.

In 1916 she went out to France for the first time, working in a hut providing all manner of support for men on the front – help with letter writing, taking photographs, providing a library and just offering cheerful company.

After a short period of leave, Betty returned to France as a driver, ferrying relatives to see their injured loved ones, transporting concert parties, YMCA staff and others.

By 1918 she was working at Etaples, which was under heavy bombardment by the German forces. She volunteered to go to the railway station each evening to provide food for the fleeing refugees. On one of these trips, her party was caught in a bombing raid and Betty was killed. She was 21, and given a full military funeral.

Back home, women were taking advantage of their new independence. Women members of groups like the Bradford Scientific Association rose steadily through the First World War. The Leeds Women Citizens' League was one of a number of organisations campaigning for women's interests.

Most radical among them was The Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU), whose members were better



**Left:** Great War memorabilia, courtesy of Bradford YMCA.  
© Rachel Rickards.

known as suffragettes. One of the best known was a Huddersfield weaver, Dora Thewlis.

During a protest in London in 1907, Dora was pictured on the front page of a national newspaper being restrained by two policemen. The image was made into a postcard distributed across the country and, as she was only 16, Dora became known as the 'Baby Suffragette'.

Debate continues about the extent to which the First World War changed women's lives. When it ended, many women had to relinquish their jobs as they were employed on contracts that lasted only for the duration of the war.

But the campaign of the suffragettes did help to achieve one undeniable legacy: in 1918 women over the age of 30 were granted the vote for the first time. ■

### Explore further

- The Trolleybus During the First World War*, The Trolleybus Museum, Sandtoft (p63)
- Bradford's War: 1914 – 18, Local Experiences of War on the Home Front*, Bradford Industrial Museum (p28)
- Legacies Of War – Untold Otley Stories*, Otley Museum (p19)
- Keep the Home Fires Burning – How the First World War was Felt in Beverley*, Beverley Guildhall (p61)
- Tea and Remembrance: Bradford YMCA's WW1 'Tea Hut' Project* (p30)
- War Work – Sheffield Industry and the First World War*, Kelham Island Museum (p71)
- Poppies and Postcards*, Sewerby Hall (p58)

# SOUTH YORKSHIRE

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In South Yorkshire, new exhibitions, research resources and community history projects show the impact of the Great War on the industrial might of this region and its people, and uncover powerful individual stories from the battlefield and the home front. Explore the region's contributions to the First World War Centenary commemorations on the individual websites listed here and on [1914.org/Yorkshire](http://1914.org/Yorkshire).

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## FIRST WORLD WAR COMMEMORATION ACTIVITIES IN SHEFFIELD

Throughout 2014 – 2018

A wide range of commemoration activities will be taking place across Sheffield. Sheffield City Council is listing activities on the Welcome to Sheffield website as a central reference point for people seeking up to date information.

[www.welcometosheffield.co.uk](http://www.welcometosheffield.co.uk)

## SHEFFIELD & THE FIRST WORLD WAR

19 February 2014 – 1 March 2015

*Sheffield & the First World War* draws on the first hand experiences of Sheffield's people and tells their stories through objects and documents from the city's collections.

Despite difficult and distressing wartime experiences, the people of Sheffield remained resilient and made important contributions to the war effort; this exhibition explores the crucial role the city played in munitions production and how local people worked to raise funds to support their troops in Europe.

It chronicles the stories of the city's soldiers, from training at Redmires Camp to serving on the front line with the Sheffield City Battalion, the Royal Navy, Royal Flying Corps and Royal Air Force. The exhibition also offers an insight into the lives of local men interned in Prisoner of War camps, as well as those of the German soldiers who were imprisoned in Sheffield.

Weston Park Museum, Western Bank, Sheffield S10 2TP

Tel: 0114 278 2600

[www.museums-sheffield.org.uk](http://www.museums-sheffield.org.uk)



**Top:** *Portrait of Charles Jagger*, 1917, by David Jagger (1891 – 1958). Courtesy of Weston Park Museum, Sheffield. © the artist's estate.

**Above:** Women shell workers (or munitionettes), Cammell Laird and Co. Ltd., Sheffield, 1916. Courtesy of Sheffield Archives and Local Studies Library [www.picturesheffield.com](http://www.picturesheffield.com).

## WAR WORK – SHEFFIELD INDUSTRY AND THE FIRST WORLD WAR

4 August 2014 – 31 July 2015

*War Work* is a special exhibition that tells the story of the impact of war upon the companies, manufacturing and workers of Sheffield's industry.

Through the display, explore the factories and products that fed the nation's war machine. Discover the personal stories of the workers, from women to those in protected professions, and find out how the world's first global conflict impacted on the lives and work of the Steel City.

Kelham Island Museum, Alma Street, Sheffield S3 8RY

Tel: 0114 272 2106

[www.simt.co.uk](http://www.simt.co.uk)

## SHEFFIELD REMEMBERS – WAR MEMORIALS FROM THE FIRST WORLD WAR

From 9 November 2014

Sheffield Industrial Museums Trust will exhibit its collection of war memorials that honour the men from Sheffield's industrial companies who served or lost their lives during the 1914–1918 conflict. Visitors can learn about the symbolism of memorials as well as discovering the personal stories of soldiers from the city.

Alongside the displays, Sheffield Industrial Museums Trust offers a First World War learning programme for families and schools – visit [www.simt.co.uk/education](http://www.simt.co.uk/education).

Kelham Island Museum, Alma Street, Sheffield S3 8RY

Tel: 0114 272 2106

[www.simt.co.uk](http://www.simt.co.uk)

## ONLINE FIRST WORLD WAR RESOURCES: SHEFFIELD

Online throughout 2014 – 2018

Sheffield Archives and Local Studies have published material about Sheffield and the Great War online at [www.sheffield.gov.uk/1914-1918](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/1914-1918). Included are links to oral histories of the Sheffield Pals and the Zeppelin raids, the official roll of honour, a guide to tracing First World War ancestors and many more specialised research tools.



**Top:** Lizzie the elephant pulling a cart of ingots for T. W. Ward, 1915. Courtesy of Sheffield Industrial Museums Trust.

**Above left:** James Craven, one of the Walkley Reform Club members who lost their lives during the First World War. Courtesy of Walkley Community Centre. © Bridget Osborn.

**Above right:** Detail from the Hadfields Ltd. war memorial plaque. Courtesy of Sheffield Industrial Museums Trust.

## NINE MEN, NINE STORIES, ONE GREAT WAR

22 June 2014 – 6 July 2014

This exhibition is part of a community history project researching the lives and service of Walkley Reform Club's First World War servicemen. Discover who these Walkley men were and what they did before enlisting in the armed forces, their service careers and the circumstances of their deaths.

Beeches of Walkley, South Road, Walkley, Sheffield S6 3TE  
[www.walkleyhistory.wordpress.com](http://www.walkleyhistory.wordpress.com)

## A TOUCH OF GLASS

3 August 2014

Open viewing of the stained-glass memorial windows dedicated to the nine men of the Walkley Reform Club who died during the Great War. Restored in 2014, photographs of the men have been traced and reinstated in the windows.

Walkley Community Centre, 7a Fir St, Walkley, Sheffield S6 3TG  
Tel: 0114 251 7171  
[walkleyhistory.wordpress.com](http://walkleyhistory.wordpress.com)

## WAR MEMORIALS IN SHEFFIELD

Sheffield City Council is responsible for twenty eight war memorials around the city from the cenotaph in Barkers Pool to those memorials in communities from Stocksbridge to Totley. All the memorials are now listed on the City Council's website which is linked to the War Memorial Trust website.

[www.sheffield.gov.uk/out--about/tourist-information/war-memorials.html](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/out--about/tourist-information/war-memorials.html)

## SHEFFIELD AND WORLD WAR ONE – A LIVING HISTORY HERITAGE DAY

12 July 2014

From the Sheffield Pals to the nurses on the front line, from the home front to the Battle of the Somme and the unlikely animals that helped Sheffield's war effort, discover intriguing stories from Sheffield's war at this one-day event at Sheffield Cathedral, with living history costumed characters and a scratch choir singing songs from the trenches.

In addition *Touched by the Past* is a heritage learning programme for schools visiting the home of the Sheffield Pals, the Regimental Chapel of the York and Lancaster Regiment, in Sheffield Cathedral.

The Cathedral Church of St Peter and St Paul, Church Street, Sheffield S1 1HA  
Tel: 0114 263 6951  
[www.sheffieldcathedral.org](http://www.sheffieldcathedral.org)

## SHEFFIELD 1914: LIVES AND HEADLINES

Throughout 2014 – 2018

A research project at Sheffield University commemorates the outbreak of the First World War from a local perspective, making use of newspaper archives to document the impact of national and international politics on lives, communities and industries in Sheffield. A team of postdoctoral researchers and MA students are identifying, selecting and re-telling local stories – the ordinary alongside the extraordinary – in a series of monthly postings for the Saturday 'Retro' column in the *Sheffield Star*.

Twitter: @Sheffield1914  
[www.sheffield.ac.uk/artsenterprise/projects#LivesandHeadlines](http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/artsenterprise/projects#LivesandHeadlines)

## WORLD WAR ONE: HOW SHEFFIELD CARED FOR THE WOUNDED

26 June 2014 – 28 November 2014

The University of Sheffield's Medical School curates an exhibition to highlight the role of Sheffield's medical profession in the First World War. It tells the story of the doctors, supported by nurses, orderlies, stretcher bearers and chaplains, who formed the 3rd West Riding Field Ambulance, a mobile front line medical unit, which served in France. The 3rd Northern General Hospital, which cared for the wounded returning to Sheffield, is also illustrated. A fascinating picture is revealed of surgeons rotating between service at the front and civilian practice, and the conspicuous bravery of newly qualified doctors, one of whom, William Barnsley Allen, was awarded the Victoria Cross. Sheffield's first female medical graduate, Lydia Henry, worked with the Scottish Women's Hospital in France and was awarded the Croix de Guerre.

The Medical School – C Floor Social Space, The University of Sheffield, Beech Hill Road, Sheffield S10 2RX  
Tel: 0114 222 5530  
[www.sheffield.ac.uk/medicine/medicsinthegreatwar](http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/medicine/medicsinthegreatwar)



Left: Soldiers in a convalescent ward in Greystones School, Sheffield. Courtesy of Sheffield University Medical School.

## THE ROAD TO WAR

22 September 2014 – 11 January 2015

This is the first of three major exhibitions at Experience Barnsley that tell the story of the First World War through the eyes of local people. The exhibitions will follow their journey from call up to Armistice and discover how the war affected their lives. Stories are shared using objects, documents, photographs and films from Barnsley Museum and Archives collections, as well as donations from local people.

Alongside the exhibition, a series of talks and activities will be taking place in Barnsley. Find out more via [www.experience-barnsley.com](http://www.experience-barnsley.com).

Experience Barnsley Museum and Discovery Centre, Barnsley Town Hall,  
Church Street, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S70 2TA

Tel: 01226 772500

[www.experience-barnsley.com](http://www.experience-barnsley.com)

## THE LAST FULL MEASURE OF DEVOTION

23 August 2014 – 25 September 2014

The Cooper Gallery presents an art exhibition that contemplates war and loss. The artist Kate Wilson creates a ceramic installation consisting of 444 loving cups, one for each of the armed service personnel killed in Afghanistan. Each vessel is individually made from 300 grams of porcelain (the average weight of the human heart).

The Cooper Gallery, Church Street, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S70 2AH

Tel: 01226 242905

[www.cooper-gallery.com](http://www.cooper-gallery.com)

## DUTY CALLS: BRODSWORTH HALL IN TIME OF WAR

Until November 2014

This exhibition explores life on the estate in both world wars, for those leaving to serve abroad and those at home supporting the war efforts. It shows a wide range of materials, from estate and personal archives to oral histories, including letters from men in the trenches thanking a local schoolgirl who had knitted garments for them. Look online for details of the programme of related activities and events.

Brodsworth Hall and Gardens, Brodsworth, Doncaster DN5 7XJ

Tel: 01302 722598

[www.english-heritage.org.uk/Brodsworth](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/Brodsworth)



**Top:** *The Last Full Measure of Devotion* is a ceramic installation commemorating the fallen in Afghanistan by Kate Wilson. Courtesy of Barnsley Arts, Museums and Archives.

**Above:** A German bugle collected by Harry Naylor, who served with the East Yorkshire Regiment. Courtesy of Weston Park Museum, Sheffield.

**Right:** 'Captain' Smalley from *A Souvenir from Munition Works* by W. Watts. Courtesy of Sheffield Industrial Museums Trust.

## DISSENTING VOICES

by Chris Titley

As pride and patriotism grew, opponents of the war found themselves increasingly isolated. Meetings discussing how to negotiate a political end to the war were broken up by soldiers on leave, while conscientious objectors were bullied, jailed, tormented and even sentenced to death. It was a difficult time to exercise the sort of free speech Britain was supposedly fighting for.

‘This will be the greatest war the world has ever seen, and I hope Great Britain will not be drawn into such a crime against civilisation...

‘It is all very well for those who make their money producing armaments – that filthy gang which makes profits by creating jealousies and bad blood between nations. The high prices which will

The trade union movement, which grew from 750,000 members to 6.5 million in the 30 years to 1918, was strongly anti-war before its outbreak. For the duration of the conflict, the Labour Party and the Trades Union Congress declared an industrial truce.

But the Independent Labour Party maintained its opposition. In York, he

**‘The working classes have to pay now, and I wonder how long it is going to continue.’**

immediately follow will not cause any hardship to the capitalists.

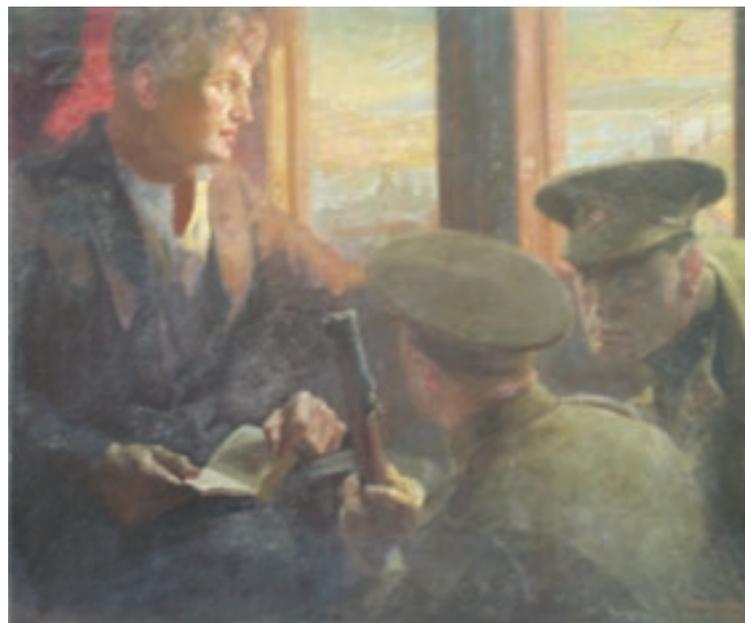
‘The working classes have to pay now, and I wonder how long it is going to continue.’

So said Fred Jowett, Labour MP for Bradford West, two days before Britain declared war on Germany. With the outbreak of hostilities, and the patriotic fervour this generated, it became increasingly controversial to take an openly anti-war stance.

party passed its first anti-conscription manifesto in June 1915, and by 1917, it had 12 members who were conscientious objectors.

Because of its active Quaker community, York was home to a number of prominent war dissenters. Perhaps the most high profile of these was Arnold Rowntree.

A former director of the Cocoa Works and the Liberal MP for York, Rowntree championed the cause of the ‘conchies’, as objectors became known. In 1914 he



Left: *The Conchie*, 1931, by Arthur W. Gay. Courtesy of Peace Museum UK.

established the Friends’ Ambulance Unit, to provide opportunities for service for Quakers. The unit served alongside the British Red Cross on the Western Front, as well as presiding over a makeshift hospital at the Rowntree factory.

His pacifist stance infuriated many in York and beyond, who saw Rowntree and his ilk as ‘pro German’. Branch meetings of the Union of Democratic Control – set up with the aim of halting the war by negotiation – were often broken up by soldiers on leave.

Rowntree was an outspoken critic of the idea of conscription. When his vote against the Military Service Bill failed to prevent its becoming law, he came under sustained attack by letter writers to the *Yorkshire Evening Press*. It was time pressure was put upon the likes of

Rowntree, one wrote, ‘either to intern them or to let them have a press pass to the land they love’.

To enforce conscription, police could demand to see the papers of civilian men of fighting age. William Herbert Scott, in his Leeds history of the war written five years after the Armistice, recalled a scene in the city centre from September 1916.

‘The main central thoroughfares were crowded. Queues were waiting at the doors of the theatres and music halls. Hotels, restaurants, cafés, were all busy.

‘Suddenly a strong contingent of police, accompanied by a stronger force of military, drew a cordon round, and all men who looked younger than 40 years were accosted and asked to produce for examination their registration cards, exemption or rejection certificates.’ →

Tribunals were set up to hear the cases of conscientious objectors. It wasn't easy to prove your objections to the war however, as this extract from a Leeds tribunal in 1916 suggests.

ALDERMAN WILSON (*to applicant*): "You have no conscientious objection to earning your living in this country?"

APPLICANT: "I have the same right as anybody else."

"Don't you think that the country is worth fighting for?" — "My conscience will not allow me to do it."

THE CHAIRMAN: "Supposing the Germans were going to molest your mother and sister, and you had a pistol in your hand, what would you do?"

APPLICANT: "The only thing I would do would be to put myself in front of them."

ALDERMAN WILSON: "That would not save them."

APPLICANT: "No, but it would save me from killing the Germans."

In Sheffield, 22-year-old colliery worker Charles Stanley Ball was charged 'with being an absentee from the Reserve forces'. He was a member of the Christian movement the 'Christadelphian Society' and in 1916 he appeared before the tribunal in Woodhouse and claimed he was a conscientious objector on grounds of his faith.

His application was refused initially but the appeal tribunal exempted him from combatant service. The military authorities took this decision to the central tribunal which ruled that he should undertake non-combatant service.

Ball's request to be permitted to undertake 'work of national importance' instead was rejected.

He was fined 40 shillings which he refused to pay and was taken into military custody. What happened to him next isn't known.

COs who didn't abide by the tribunal verdicts were jailed, stripped naked and given a military uniform – which many refused to wear. Some were beaten, others deported to Australia.

In one shocking case, 16 Yorkshire absolutists – who refused to do any kind of alternative war work – were jailed in Richmond Castle. Their graffiti is still visible. One message reads: 'I, Percy F. Goldsbrough of Mirfield, was brought up from Pontefract on Friday 11 August 1916 and put in to this cell for refusing to be made a soldier.'

The British government smuggled the men over to France to try to force them into service. All but one continued to refuse and they were sentenced to death. Although the sentence was commuted to hard labour, it was a harsh penalty for the 16. Alfred Martlew, previously a clerk at Rowntree's factory, was among them. He killed himself in 1917. ■

### Explore further

*For King and Country*, Bankfield Museum, Halifax (p31)

*Choices Then and Now*, Peace Museum UK (p28)

*1914: When the World Changed Forever*, York Castle Museum (p39)

*Voices of Conflict*, The Workers' Educational Association (p81)

## CROSS-REGION AND ONLINE PROJECTS

This section highlights projects which take place across the Yorkshire region or are accessible online. *Duty Calls*, for instance, unites eight country houses to explore their wartime roles. New resources have been developed to help people carry out their own research into aspects of the Great War, with opportunities to learn and reflect on this conflict and its continuing legacy. There is more information on individual websites and on [1914.org/Yorkshire](http://1914.org/Yorkshire).

### DUTY CALLS: THE COUNTRY HOUSE IN TIME OF WAR

Throughout 2014

A series of exhibitions and activities at eight of Yorkshire's major country houses explores the important, and sometimes unexpected, wartime roles played by country houses, and their diverse communities, from the points of view of owners, servants, tenants and estate workers.

Photographs, paintings, military memorabilia and a rich selection of letters, journals, and estate papers form the basis of the displays and trails telling poignant stories of immense courage, loss, bereavement, support and dedication. Some houses focus on personal experiences of military combat, some on how war affected the use of the house itself and the running of the estate, or the lives of those left at home, community initiatives and war work, as well as the economic and social consequences of war in the aftermath.

The participating houses are Beningbrough Hall, Brodsworth Hall, Castle Howard, Kiplin Hall, Lotherton Hall, Newby Hall, Nostell Priory and Sewerby Hall. Find more information online at [www.ychp.org.uk](http://www.ychp.org.uk)



Above right: The Tyreman children showing the medals they received for knitting garments for soldiers in the trenches. Courtesy English Heritage/Brodsworth Hall © English Heritage.



**Top:** Sewerby Hall servants, staff and soldiers. Courtesy of Sewerby Hall, East Riding of Yorkshire Council Museums Service.  
**Above Left:** Geoffrey Talbot of the Royal Naval Air Service in flying gear. He was later killed in action. Courtesy of Kiplin Hall.  
**Above Right:** An example of the First World War resources on the My Learning website. © My Learning.

### MY LEARNING: ONLINE RESOURCES

The My Learning team has created a special collection of online resources to commemorate the First World War Centenary. They feature a wide variety of objects submitted by arts, heritage and cultural organisations throughout the UK – from trench art, medals and military items to letters home, animal memorials and prison graffiti – and provide a fascinating insight into how the war affected ordinary people's lives.

For teachers and learners, ideas are provided on how the objects can be used for classroom discussion or activities across different subjects and key stages.

[www.mylearning.org/firstworldwarcentenary](http://www.mylearning.org/firstworldwarcentenary)

### FILMED AND NOT FORGOTTEN

This is a project from the Yorkshire Film Archive (YFA) to preserve, research and provide public access to a rare and important collection of films showing the people and places of Yorkshire during the Great War.

Thanks to an award from the Heritage Lottery Fund, YFA has been able to carry out vital conservation work on these fragile historical documents and digitise the footage in order to make it accessible for future generations.

Research is underway to identify individual soldiers and civilians in these films, with the aim of bringing their personal stories to life in an online exhibition and in a series of screenings and public events.

[www.filmedandnotforgotten.com](http://www.filmedandnotforgotten.com)

### YORKSHIRE ARCHIVES LEARNING NETWORK: A GUIDE TO FIRST WORLD WAR ARCHIVES IN YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER

Repositories in Yorkshire and the Humber hold an exceptionally rich variety of archives documenting the region's experience of the First World War. This guide helps people discover these resources, with archive holdings listed by repository, and contact details.

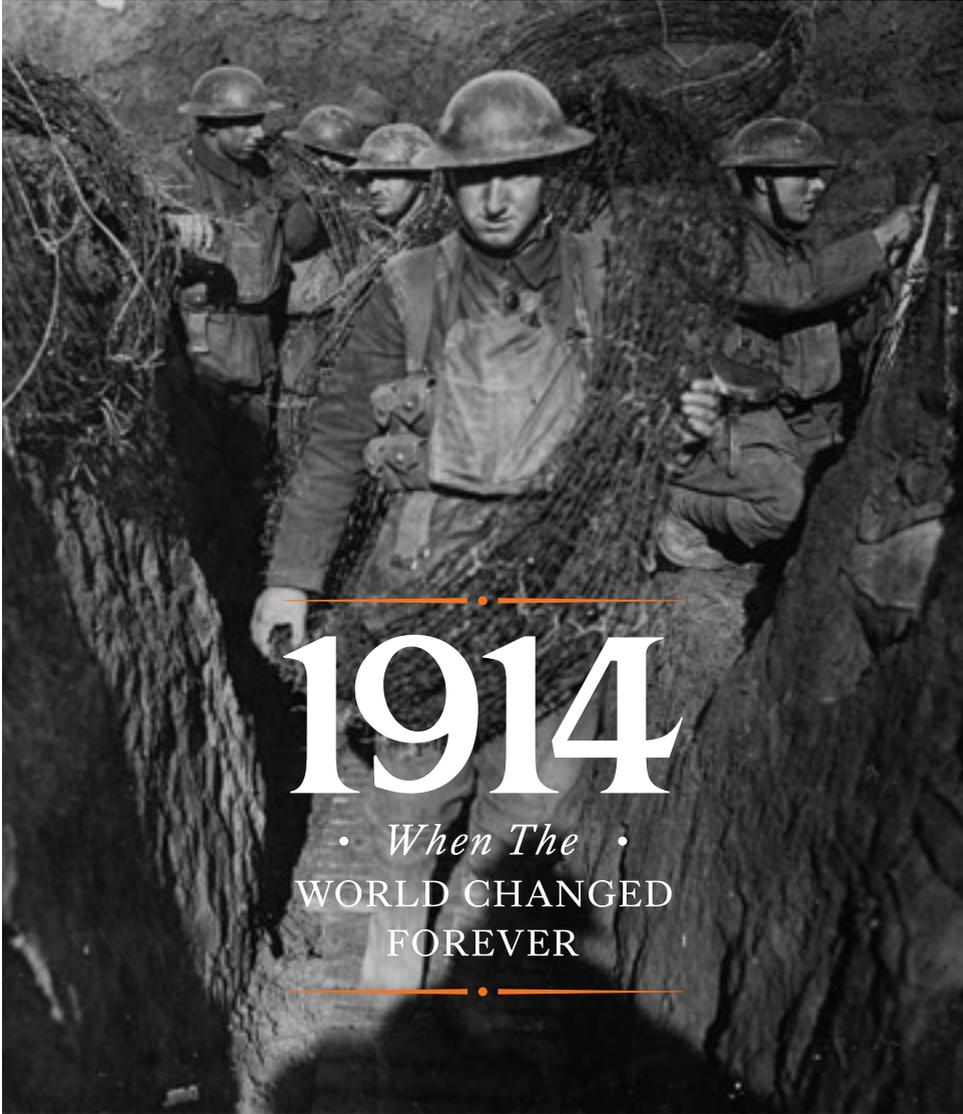
[www.yorkshirearchiveslearningnetwork.blogspot.co.uk/](http://www.yorkshirearchiveslearningnetwork.blogspot.co.uk/)

### THE WORKERS' EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION: VOICES OF CONFLICT

Through a wide-ranging programme of courses and activities over the centenary period, the WEA will explore the experiences of those millions of ordinary people across the world whose lives were affected by the Great War. This programme will also look at contemporary conflicts, many of which have their roots in the politics of the First World War and its aftermath.

Tel: 0114 232 2714

[www.wea.org.uk/yh/](http://www.wea.org.uk/yh/)

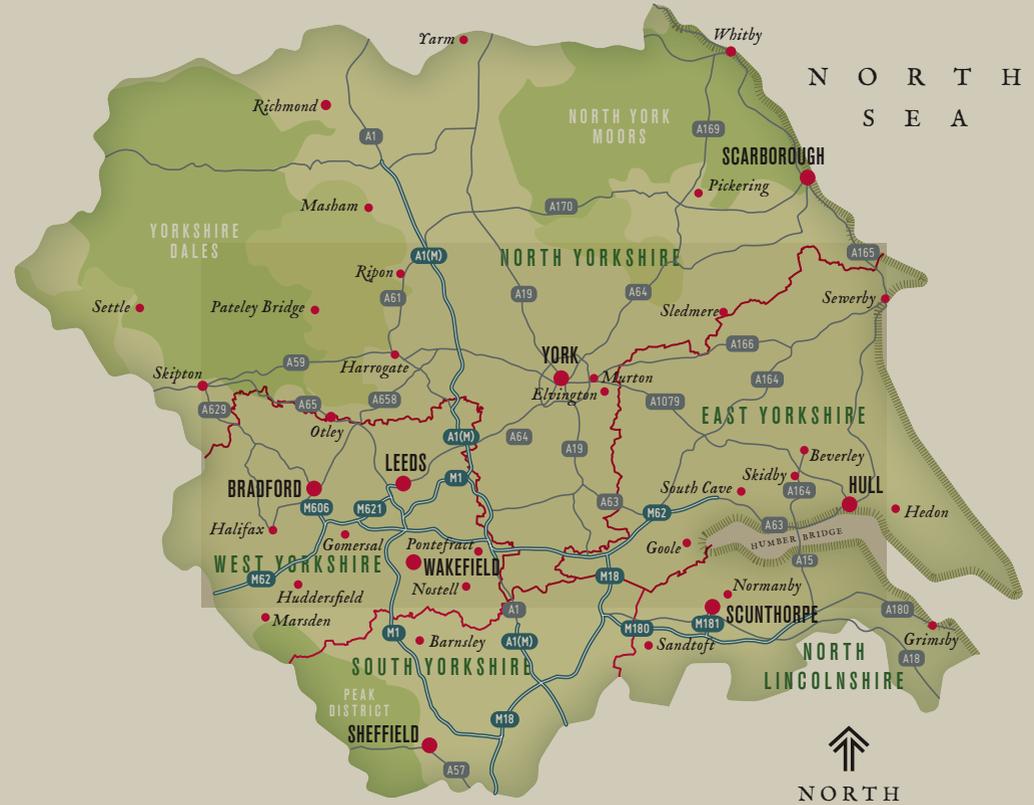


# 1914

• When The •  
WORLD CHANGED  
FOREVER

EXHIBITION OPENS **28 JUNE 2014** | **MORE THAN A WAR** | **YORK CASTLE MUSEUM**  
[yorkcastlemuseum.org.uk](http://yorkcastlemuseum.org.uk) | EYE OF YORK, YORK Y01 9RY

## MAP OF YORKSHIRE



### York Museums Trust

York Museums Trust is an independent charity which manages York Castle Museum, Yorkshire Museum, York Museum Gardens, York Art Gallery and York St Mary's. Charity number 1092466. Printed on environmentally friendly paper. [www.yorkmuseumstrust.org.uk](http://www.yorkmuseumstrust.org.uk)

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**ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND**

Designed by HBA Graphic Design, York



And how he did it now.  
1916.