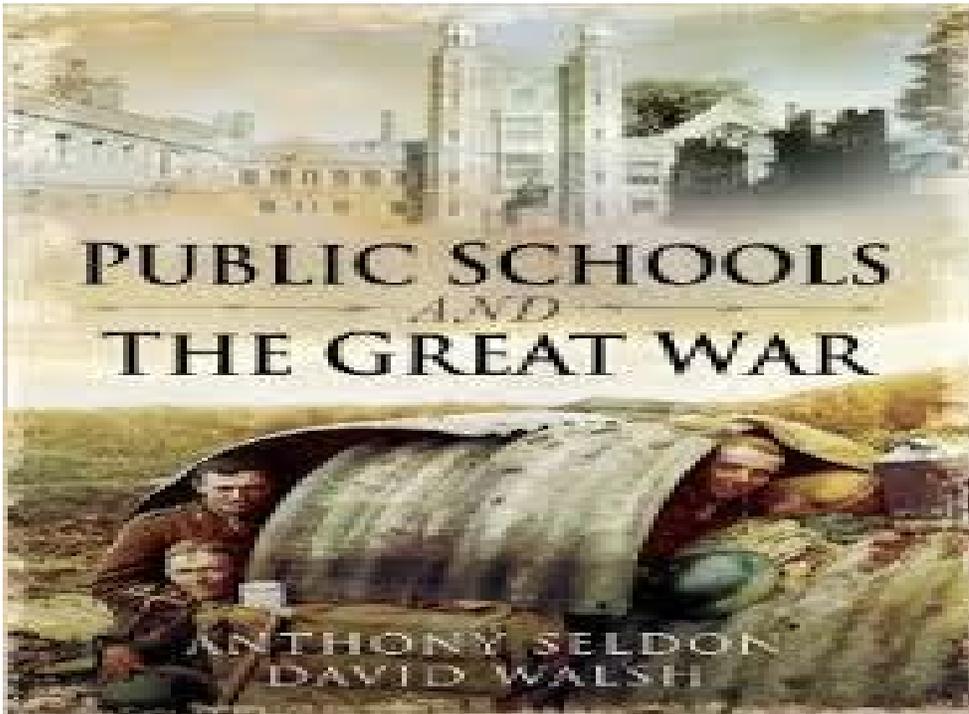




Quarter Four – November 2016



*Creeping  
Barrage*  
News & Notes  
from the Herts &  
Beds Branch

**NEXT PRESENTATION:**

**'PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND THE GREAT WAR' BY DAVID WALSH**

**VENUE: ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL, SUN LANE (SPORTS HALL ROOM SP101),  
HARPENDEN AL5 4TD**

**DATE AND TIME: FRIDAY, 11 NOVEMBER 2016 at 8:00PM**

**David Walsh** will analyse the contribution of British public schools and their alumni to the war effort and examine the effect of the war on those institutions during the war itself and subsequently. David Walsh taught history at Tonbridge School in Kent, retiring as Deputy Head in 2009. He has subsequently written two books - 'A Duty to Serve: Tonbridge School and the 1939-45 War' (TMI 2011) and 'Public Schools and the Great War: A Generation Lost' (Pen and Sword 2013) with Anthony Seldon. He is a member of the WFA and occasionally takes groups of friends on battlefield trips.

DONATION AT THE DOOR £3.50

[www.wfahertsandbeds.btck.co.uk](http://www.wfahertsandbeds.btck.co.uk)

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



## Zone Call - Notes from Geoff Cunnington, Chairman and Branch Secretary



A co-incidence of dates and events this month as we reflect on this 11 November about the sacrifice made by the generation of young junior officers who left school and went straight into the war. David Walsh, our speaker, will bring his own perspective to this particular aspect of the Great War at this time of remembrance. This will be an interesting and thought provoking evening and I look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

In a similar vein, I make no apologies for reproducing below an image of the latest venue for the 'Weeping Window' of poppies as that installation makes its way around the UK. A holiday last week in North Wales presented me with this opportunity to see these ceramic poppies at Caernarfon Castle; a simple idea executed in a moving and iconic way. Should you be in that part of the world, the museum of the Royal Welch Fusiliers, also at Caernarfon Castle, is also well worth a visit.



The Joint Branch Seminar with Milton Keynes took place last month. It promised a full and interesting programme on subjects as diverse as the role of surgery in the Great War and the experiences of prisoners of the Japanese following their capture of the German colony of Tsingtao in 1914. Branch Seminar Organiser, Andrew Gould writes, "The seminar held jointly with the Milton Keynes branch on Sunday 23rd October went well. Over 50 people heard four good talks on various subjects, and a report will be in a forthcoming issue of the Bulletin. Although the number of tickets sold was not as high as we had hoped, it still produced a profit for both branches. Discussions will begin shortly about a 2018 event, and you can be assured of something special!"

A very big thank you to Andrew and to his fellow organisers for making this event a successful one. And we shall all be looking forward to the 2018 programme as we near the end of the Great War centenary commemorations. ]"

Best wishes,

**Geoff Cunnington**  
**November 2016**

## Previously at Herts & Beds 16 September 2016 'The Man from the Bottom of My Garden'



Roger Yapp

## Simon Goodwin reports from the September Members' Evening



Roger is part of the "Back To The Front" Research Group from Abbots Langley. With no WW1 casualties in his own family he decided one day to write down the names of all those mentioned on his local War Memorial. He soon began researching one of these men, Walter John Edward Owen, who, by coincidence, died 100 years ago this week. Walter's Military records survive and we know that he was 5' 3" and had blond hair. He became a "surrogate" family member for Roger when he discovered that Walter had actually lived in a wooden house at Mainspring Farm – literally at the bottom of Roger's garden.

Walter Owen's family came from Rickmansworth and he was one of six children. In 1898 his Father died and this meant that the family lost their house – hence the move to live in a wooden house in Abbots Langley. Before the War, Walter worked at a Chocolate Factory in Watford, but in August 1914 he enlisted in the 15<sup>th</sup> Hussars, stating his occupation to be a Groom.

By March 1915 he was in hospital with Tonsillitis and it was following his release from there that he transferred to join the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion the Yorkshire and Lancashire Regiment. In June 1915 he was sent to Ypres and he then spent the next two months in the area until, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1916, his unit was sent to the Somme area.

The Battalion was sent to Chimpanzee Alley, via Wedge Wood, on the 14<sup>th</sup> September to act as a Reserve for an attack on the Quadrilateral German Strongpoint to support the 8<sup>th</sup> Bedfordshires and accompanying tanks the following day. At 5.50am the following morning, one of the three tanks that were to take part in the attack arrived half an hour early. Things rapidly went wrong when the tank (C22) misidentified their own men and opened fire on troops from the 9<sup>th</sup> Norfolks, killing twenty five men in the process. At 6.20am the

Bedfords went over the top and soon became stuck so Walter and his Battalion were sent in to support the advance. By lunchtime the first tank had retreated and had been replaced by a second tank (C20) which was also forced to retreat in the face of heavy fire. (Note : The story of these two tanks and their crews is told in various other places and can be found online by searching under the names of the two Tank Commanders 2/Lt Basil Henriques (C22) and Lt George Macpherson (C20).)

Many of the Yorks & Lancs troops were forced to take cover in a nearby wood after they were deployed but, by 7.30pm, further orders were received and an attack on the Quadrilateral was carried out. In the space of just quarter of an hour three to four hundred men, out of a Battalion strength of just seven hundred, became casualties.

Walter was one of these men and, with no known burial; his name is recorded on the Thiepval Memorial.

Roger finished his excellent talk, which was a trimmed down version of one he had already presented in Abbots Langley, by discussing the possible reasons for the failure of the attack and the high casualty numbers. It is clear that the Germans knew that an attack was coming and that it would most likely involve Tanks. This is suggested by the fact that they had supplies of armour piercing bullets in supply to the troops. Trench maps were also subsequently found to be wrong and the main consequence of this was that British artillery shelling fell in the wrong places.

All in all an excellent talk and a real example of the art of creating a whole narrative around the war time experiences of just one name taken, almost at random, from a village War Memorial.

## And from the October Meeting

### 'From Roxeth to the Royal Fusiliers - The War Time Service of Walter Thomas Kirby' - Doug Kirby

Unfortunately, at short notice, our planned speaker was not able to join us at the WFA Branch Meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> October 2016. So, our previously advertised talk, on "The Angels Of Pervyse : Elsie Knocker and Mairi Chisholm" was rapidly replaced with one on the War Time experiences of the Great Uncle of one of our Branch Members, Doug Kirby.

Doug's Great Uncle, Walter Thomas Kirby, was born in January 1897 and lived in Stanley Road, South Harrow. At home, everyone would have had to get on well as, by the time of the 1911, census there was Walter, five of his brothers, his Parents and a Lodger all living in one three bedroom house.

Walter attended Roxeth School, in South Harrow, and by 1911 was working as an Errand Boy for a local Fishmongers. Doug illustrated his talk well with the use of a collection of period, and more modern day, photographs of the places he was describing amongst which would have been many views familiar to Walter as he was growing up.

At the outbreak of the War, Walter was aged just 17 and he was not going to be 18 until January of the following year. So, in October 1915, he joined the 32<sup>nd</sup> Battalion the Royal Fusiliers, a unit originally raised by the Mayor of East Ham. He did his basic training in Aldershot. On the 4<sup>th</sup> May 1916 the Battalion left Farnborough Station to travel to Southampton Docks to sail on a small flotilla of three Steamships to Le Havre, France.

Doug was then able to explain where and what the Battalion was doing in France and Belgium using transcripts of the Battalion War Diaries that he had been to view at the National Archives in Kew during his research. This included the fact that the Battalion went, for the first time, in to the Front Line at Ploegsteert Woods on the 4<sup>th</sup> June 1916. The Ploegsteert Woods section of the line had a reputation for being a relatively "quiet" sector and the British Army often used it to "blood" new troops and to give them their first experience of Trench Warfare. Having said that, the Wood did have a reputation for being full of German Snipers and this was an everyday hazard that the men in the front line had to quickly learn the lessons from.

During their second spell in the Front Line, on the 18<sup>th</sup> June, the Battalion lost its first man, an NCO. Sadly, Walter's war ended very soon after this, on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June, when he, and another soldier, lost their lives in what the Battalion War Diary describes as a "heavy artillery bombardment". This was only Walter's 49<sup>th</sup> day on the Western Front and his 14<sup>th</sup> day in the Front Line. As Doug highlighted, what a tragically short time for a military service to last. Walter was aged just 19 years of age. The Battalion was relieved a few days later and the War Diary tells us that casualties were 1 NCO and 2 men killed and 5 NCOs and 4 men wounded during their time in the lines.

Walter is buried in the Berkshire Road Extension, Ploegsteert, in a grave on the front row, demonstrating the fact that he was one of the first casualties interred there. His gravestone bears the simple line "Gone But Not Forgotten". To demonstrate that promise Doug shared with us the fact that his Father, who was born in 1930, was given a middle name of Walter in memory of his Uncle.

Seventy six men from Roxeth were to lose their lives during the War, including a staggering eleven from the same street as Walter had lived on, Stanley Road.

Doug also shared with us the fact that he, his Mother and his Sister all travelled out to Ploegsteert to visit Walter's grave on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the date of his death. They laid a wreath, read some poetry by the grave and also put a small laminated sheet of paper describing Walter's life story and his photograph on the grave. They also put a wreath on the grave next to Walters, containing the body of the other soldier to die the same day as Walter and, next to that, the grave of the Sergeant from their Battalion who died just a few days earlier.

We are extremely grateful to Doug for having stepped "in to the breach" at such short notice and for giving us such an excellent talk about one casualty whose story, so sadly, probably represents the stories of so many other men who lost their lives soon after arriving in the front line. This was a very personal story and we thank Doug for sharing it with us. The evening ended with the nineteen members in attendance thanking Doug with a warm round of applause at the end of his presentation.

Simon Goodwin, October 2016

#### BRANCH CONTACTS

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## Coming-Up at Herts & Beds - Remaining Presentation for 2016

16 December

### 'The Great War - Rothamsted's Contribution' Professor Roger Plumb

**Professor Roger Plumb** will describe the impact of the Great War on the work and the staff of Rothamsted Experimental Station in Harpenden. Rothamsted was well-positioned in 1914 to progress its research activities with the Board of Agriculture when war broke out and changed the dynamics of the organization as staff volunteered to serve and to adapt to changing wartime requirements. Professor Plumb will take us through all these events in some detail culminating in the notable Zeppelin raid of September 1916.



## Programme of Presentations for 2017

20 January 2017

**Emily Mayhew**

### **Unsung Heroes – The Stretcher Bearers of World War One**

An essential part of medical treatment in World War I was the teams of stretcher-bearers who were, for the first time, given basic first aid training and endorsement to give care to the injured. **Dr. Emily Mayhew** writes, that "the really important story was the idea of pushing medicine forward, towards the battle, so that you started to treat people as close to the front line, and as soon as they were wounded, as possible. Once I'd worked out that was happening it's very easy to see how that relates to the way that we treat casualties today." Emily argues that these stretcher bearers are direct ancestors of modern Combat Medical Technicians. Where once there would have been a team of stretcher bearers approaching a shell crater, there is now a Medical Emergency Response Team (MERT) flying out in helicopters to marines injured by IEDs or wounded in gunfire. The basic strategy remains the same.

**Dr. Mayhew** is a military medical historian specialising in the study of severe casualty, its infliction, treatment and long-term outcomes in 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century warfare. She is historian in residence in the Department of Bioengineering, working primarily with the researchers and staff of The Royal British Legion Centre for Blast Injury Studies, and a Research Fellow in the Division of Surgery within the Department of Surgery and Cancer. She is based jointly in the Department of Bioengineering and at the Chelsea and Westminster campus.



24 February 2017

Nigel Crompton

**Munitions Factories in the Great War and Rather a Big Bang**

This presentation includes an introduction to Ministry of Munitions and details of local factories local and the role of women in the factories. The second half of the talk covers munitions factory explosions and matters of health and safety.

**Nigel Crompton** is a past chairman of Oxfordshire & Buckinghamshire WFA, and spent much of his working life in the Fire Service.



24 March 2017

Bill Fulton

**Captain Albert Ball VC, RFC**

Albert Ball was Britain's first air ace of the Great War. His loss in May 1917 was a huge blow to public morale.

Captain Albert Ball VC, DSO & two Bars, MC (14 August 1896 to 7 May 1917), was at the time of his death the UK's leading flying ace with 44 victories. Ball was raised in Nottingham and he joined the Sherwood Foresters on the outbreak of the First World War, being commissioned as a 2nd lieutenant in October 1914. In 1915 he transferred to the RFC, joining No 13 Squadron in 1916. He was the first flying ace to become a British popular hero. In his relatively short fighting career he shot down 44 enemy aircraft. Ball died during the evening of 7 May 1917 during a dogfight in failing visibility; some mystery surrounds his death. Cecil Arthur Lewis was a participant in the action and describes it in his memoir 'Sagittarius Rising'.

**Bill Fulton** considers the service career of the 'baby faced killer' and will explain why there is some controversy and mystery surrounding his death.

28 April 2017

Dr. Jonathan Black

Charles Sargeant Jagger

**Dr. Jonathan Black** will relate the career of Charles Sargeant Jagger MC (1885-1934) including his Western Front experiences and those related to war memorials (including the one for Bedford in 1922). He was a First Lieutenant with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Worcesters, October 1917-April 1918 and took part in Third Ypres and Battle of Neuve Eglise (12-14 April 1918); it was for commanding a company during later that he was later awarded the MC and in the battle he was hit by a German machine gun bullet in the chest. In early autumn 1918 the Ministry of Info commissioned him to make low-relief *The First Battle of Ypres – The Worcesters at Gheluvelt* (ref to the battle in October 1914). In 1919 on his own initiative he made low-relief *No-Man's-Land* inspired by his memories of Passchendaele. 1919-30: he made sculpture for a dozen war memorials in the UK and abroad for the Imperial War Graves Commission and nearly all reference the Western Front in some way.

**Jonathan Black** read History with History of Art at the University of Cambridge. Between 1997 and 2003, he obtained an MA and Ph.D. in History of Art from University College, London. His MA focused on the English Futurism of CRW Nevinson (1913-1916) while his Ph.D. explored the image of the British soldier, or 'Tommy', in the First World War Art of C.R.W. Nevinson, Eric Kennington, and Charles Sargeant Jagger.c 1915-1925. Jonathan has curated several exhibitions and his 2011 monograph, *The Face of Courage: Eric Kennington, Portraiture and the Second World War*, coincided with the opening of an exhibition with the same title at the Royal Air Force Museum. This exhibition comprised of 40 of Kennington's Second World War pastel drawings and lithographic prints. He is currently Senior Research Fellow in History of Art at Kingston University.

19 May 2017

Dr. Viv Newman

**Nursing through shot, shell and shell-shock: medical women at the Front**

Seeking to correct the myth that those who nursed overseas were all well-bred VADs, 'Nursing through Shot, Shell and Shell-shock' looks instead at the dedicated service of professional nurses and doctors as well as the volunteers. Historian and author, **Dr. Viv Newman** will focus on women who worked in some of the most horrific conditions in all theatres to succour the wounded and in so doing put their own lives, health and indeed mental health at significant risk. The first evacuation of a traumatised QAIMNS Staff Nurse occurred in early 1915; in the 1920s a TFNS matron was diagnosed as suffering from 'war nerves', yet few people today are aware that both professional and volunteer nurses also cracked under the strain of their service and that, to quote terminology used in one nurse's papers, 'the cause of her transport was shell-shock'. This talk focuses on a few of the War's many unsung nursing and medical heroines and explores the physical and emotional cost of their service.

**Dr. Newman** has taught women's war poetry in both academic and non-academic settings and speaks widely at history conferences (both national and international). She gives talks to a variety of audiences ranging from First World War devotees of organisations such as the Western Front Association as well as to Rotarians, Women's Institutes and U3A. Her work at the University of Essex includes supporting Humanities students with their academic writing.

23 June 2017

Julie Moore and Maggy Douglas

**The St. Albans City Military Service Tribunal: Conscription, Conscience and Commerce**

At more than 100 sittings, the city's tribunal considered applications for exemption from conscription from 1,050 men. Using the tribunal minute books and registers together with extensive reports in the local newspaper, this talk assesses how the tribunal dealt with the controversy of the city's 23 conscientious objectors as well as the hundreds of applications made by the city's large businesses. In particular it investigates the effect of the tribunal's decisions on the staple trades of the straw hat manufacturers, boot and shoe makers as well as the large printing companies.

**Julie Moore** and **Maggy Douglas** are both members of the Home Front Research Group of the St Albans and Hertfordshire Architectural and Archaeological Society. The 21-strong group was formed in 2013 to consider the effects of the First World War on the social and economic development of St Albans. Their findings were published in 2016 by Hertfordshire Publications in [\*St Albans: Life on the Home Front, 1914-1918\*](#).

Julie is a member of the University of Hertfordshire's History Department and their 'Everyday Lives in War' First World War Engagement Centre. The Centre supports individuals, schools, community groups and local history societies uncover some of the less well-known stories from the First World War. She has a particular interest in the areas of food and farming, and has recently begun to research the experiences of conscientious objectors working on farms in Hertfordshire. Maggy was born and brought up in St Albans. She graduated in Business Studies and spent most of her working life in the City. She currently works part-time for the Hertfordshire library service in Harpenden and volunteers for other local organisations, such as the

Abbey Theatre and Health Walks. Having served in the Territorial Army in her younger days, Maggy has enjoyed in particular investigating the development of the St Albans Volunteer Training Corps and its relationship with the City Tribunal.

**22 September 2017**

**Members' Evening and Annual General Meeting**

**20 October 2017**

**Gary Haines**

**John Singer Sargent's 'Gassed' and Popular Perceptions of Blinded Veterans**

This talk investigates the representation of blinded veterans of the First World War in England. Two key works of literature - DH Lawrence's 'The Blind Man' and Vera Brittain's 'Testament of Youth' - will be discussed in relation to John Singer Sargent's famous oil painting 'Gassed', 1919.

Sargent's depiction of the sightless soldier shaped popular perceptions of those blinded in battle. 'Gassed' is a painting that has evolved into more than oil on canvas. It has become an icon of suffering. The work of St Dunstan's, now Blind Veterans UK, forms the conclusion of this discussion. They fought against misconceptions surrounding those blinded in war and enabled the blind to lead more self-sufficient lives.

**Gary Haines** is a freelance archivist, teacher, writer and curator. For the last three years, he has been performing research at Birkbeck College into cultural perceptions of the blinded British soldier.

**17 November 2017**

**Steve Head**

**The Work of the Shorncliffe Trust: A Light in the Darkest Hour, WW1 Commemorations 2014-2018 and Beyond**

The old training grounds at Shorncliffe in Kent encompass over 200 years of military, social and cultural history. The Shorncliffe Trust intends to tell the story of Shorncliffe (and the men and women who trained and lived there) from its earliest days defending Britain against invasion, to its role in the birth of the modern army through the role of Sir John Moore, its extension through the Victorian period to the Edwardian and the First and Second World War and beyond to the modern day role of The Brigade of Gurkhas. They aim to mark the centenary of the First World War, by securing the Shorncliffe Redoubt and begin the task of regenerating the site into a world class heritage and education centre. **Steve Head** will tell the story so far with particular emphasis on the Great War period and the special programme of remembrance which took place in 2016.

<http://shorncliffe-trust.org.uk/trust.html>

Steve Head's role within the Shorncliffe Trust, as both Lead for Education and a Trustee, is to develop, promote and deliver the educational objectives of the charity which involves work closely with national and international education establishments, societies, charities, museums, historians and other interested parties. He has a particular interest in World War One having extensively researched several ancestors. During the day he teaches in the offender learning environment having gained his CertEd in 2011 and is currently studying part time for a BA in History at Birkbeck University of London.

**15 December 2017**

**Professor Mark Connelly**

**'Very Like England' – The 1920s and 1930s Commemorations of the Battle of the Somme**

This talk will explore the key themes associated with the memory of the Battle of the Somme in the inter-war period, the controversy over the Thiepval memorial and how it came to have particular resonances for certain communities in Britain and the Empire.

**Professor Mark Connelly** was drawn into his History anorak lifestyle when, as a small boy, he became fascinated by ladybird history books. For him, the subject of History was all about castles, knights, Airfix kits (constructed with incredibly little skill and amazing amounts of glue) and Action Man Scorpion tanks. This obsession has been taken into adulthood and he now combines his interest in films, television and visual images with his interest in military history, this is reflected in many of his publications. Not content with keeping his interests to himself he now shares his passion for history with others, most notably his students and his family. As a result, he claims that his wife is now adept at spotting a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone or a war memorial in a misty churchyard from quite some distance away.

## Tail Spin

Have a look at.....



**Change of venue:** We move to the 'large lecture theatre' (*next to Weston Auditorium*) de Havilland Campus, University of Hertfordshire, Hatfield, AL10 9EU. Please make a special effort to support us at the first few talks there to get us off to a good start. Details of the forthcoming talks (*with amended location link*) is attached, as is a location map, but this can also be found at [www.herts.ac.uk/uhbow/your-visit/venues/the-weston-auditorium](http://www.herts.ac.uk/uhbow/your-visit/venues/the-weston-auditorium) - please remember we are **next to** this auditorium.

### IMPORTANT REMINDER:

- Check the locations against the tickets before travelling to avoid mistakes.
- FREE to attend, but there are costs so please donate to enable us to continue.
- All talks will commence at 7.30pm with arrival from 7pm.

For a 'quick link' to the tickets, Google "Eventbrite tickets xxx" (*xxx = surname of speaker*).



Wed 16th November 2016 - Andy Robertshaw - *The attack on Beaumont Hamel*

Andy was lead historical consultant for Spielberg's film adaptation of *War Horse*, which he also starred in. He is a regular consultant and on-screen expert for a host of TV and radio shows, including 'Time Team', 'The Trench Detectives' and 'Who Do You Think You Are?'

He has spearheaded numerous archaeological investigations along the Western Front and is currently leading a new archaeological project, focusing on the Somme area ahead of the 2016 centenary. He is an Honorary Lecturer at University College London and regularly consults the British Army on historical matters, as well as serving as Forensic Trauma specialist for the Norwegian Army, and regularly lecturing in North America and Canada.

**Talk Location:** The large lecture theatre (*next to Weston Auditorium*) de Havilland Campus, University of Hertfordshire, Hatfield, AL10 9EU. The talk will start at 7.30pm with doors open from 7pm. Book your FREE tickets/check details at:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-attack-on-beaumont-hamel-by-andy-robertshaw-tickets-27215155262>

# Everyday Lives in War: experience and memory of the First World War

*Dear Friends and Colleagues*

*On Saturday 19 November the University of Hertfordshire's 'Everyday Lives in War' Engagement Centre ([www.everydaylivesinwar.herts.ac.uk](http://www.everydaylivesinwar.herts.ac.uk)) will be hosting an event to support community groups and heritage organisations wishing to find out more about the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and how it can support local projects exploring stories from the First World War (<https://www.hlf.org.uk/looking-funding/our-grant-programmes/first-world-war-then-and-now>).*

*Representatives from the Eastern Region of the Heritage Lottery Fund are supporting the event and will talk about the various funding streams available and the application process; there will also be an opportunity to ask questions of the HLF staff and to have help with completing an initial enquiry form.*

*Groups which have already received funding will be showcasing their projects and demonstrating the variety of approaches that HLF supports. We will also be considering the various ways that you can create a permanent record of your project, and how to negotiate the worlds of twitter and social media.*

*Further details of the programme will be released in October, but for now we wanted to give you the opportunity to save the date in your diaries.*

*If you think that this is an event which might be of interest, then please email [firstworldwar@herts.ac.uk](mailto:firstworldwar@herts.ac.uk) and we will contact you once the programme and booking details are finalised.*

*Best wishes*

*Julie Moore*

*Deputy Director of the Heritage Hub*

ECR AHRC First World War Centre 'Everyday Lives in War'

<http://www.herts.ac.uk/heritage-hub>

<https://everydaylivesinwar.herts.ac.uk/>



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**PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Monday, 10 October 2016

**BRITANNIC 100**

***Commemorating the Centenary of the Sinking of HMHS Britannic***

November 2016 marks the centenary of the sinking of His Majesty's Hospital Ship *Britannic* – the biggest single ship sunk in World War One. Striking a mine off Greece while acting as a hospital ship, she sank in 55 minutes with the loss of 30 lives. Aside from this sad statistic, *Britannic* holds another place in history: sister of RMS *Titanic* and last of the iconic Olympic Class liners.

To mark the centenary the **British Titanic Society** is honoured to be holding a wreath-laying in cooperation with the Red Cross and Commonwealth War Graves Commission at the Tower Hill Mariners Memorial, London, where many of those lost are recorded. Commencing at 11:00 on Sunday 20th November 2016, the day before the centenary itself, there will be a short presentation and a reading of names before the laying a wreath in their memory.

As this is a notable moment in both WWI and wider maritime history, we invite all who wish to attend to join us in remembering *Britannic* and all those who were lost.

**DATE:** Sunday 20th November

**TIME:** 11:00-11:30

**LOCATION:** Tower Hill Mariners' Memorial - <http://www.cwgc.org/find-a-cemetery/cemetery/90002/TOWER%20HILL%20MEMORIAL>

The **British Titanic Society** was formed in 1987, and in addition to a large following in the United Kingdom now has significant members from around the world. The Society's Annual Conventions have been held in Southampton, Liverpool, and Halifax (Nova Scotia).

**If you should require any more information regarding the above, or would like to discuss photo opportunities, interviews, etc. please contact:-**

Rudi Newman. (Hon. Secretary) Tel: +44(0) 1923 247510

Email: [secretary@britishtitanicsociety.com](mailto:secretary@britishtitanicsociety.com) Society email address, [info@britishtitanicsociety.com](mailto:info@britishtitanicsociety.com)

Website: [www.britishtitanicsociety.com](http://www.britishtitanicsociety.com)

Social Media: <https://www.facebook.com/BritishTitanicSociety> <https://twitter.com/BritTitanicSoc>

# The Herts at War Project Needs You



## CAN YOU HELP Commemorate Our Men?

We need help to:

- To find & photograph Hertfordshire war memorials?
- Research names provided, then copy & paste information into our Profile sheets? \*1
- Research & add information from other sources such as databases or the census? \*1

*Help with any or all!*

Lots of help available to get you started.

For more information & details see

[www.hertsatwar.co.uk/researchoverview](http://www.hertsatwar.co.uk/researchoverview)

& contact:

[jontywild@hertsatwar.co.uk](mailto:jontywild@hertsatwar.co.uk)

\*1 Needs Internet access