



Craven and the First World War Project

Newsletter



Summer 2017

"Building a greater understanding of life in Craven during the First World War"

Skipton's own Buckingham Palace!

The Bradford Pals whilst in training at Raikeswood Camp in early 1915 quickly personalised the huts that were to become their Skipton home with names such as 'Buckingham Palace' and 'Hun Cottage.'



Photo courtesy of David Row

Love Transcribathon

People across Europe have been invited to transcribe love letters sent during the First World War as part of an online crowdsourcing campaign.



The Love Transcribathon, launched by Europeana – a digital platform for cultural heritage – features more than 40 love stories depicted in handwritten letters and documents donated by the public. They uncover stories of romance, betrayal and heartbreak, and can be transcribed at www.transcribathon.eu

Craven News

CFWW project successful with funding

The Craven and the First World War project has been successful in its bid for additional funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund to continue with its First World War centenary project.



The 'Craven at War: Home Front Legacy' project will cover the final two years of the centenary commemorations, focussing on the impact that the war had on the people of Craven.

As well as continuing to host exhibitions and organise WW1-related events, the next phase of the project will centre around the centenary of the arrival of German prisoners to Skipton's Raikeswood POW camp. Plans include further archaeological excavations of the site and a website where visitors can get a look at what life would have been like in the camp through an interactive 3D virtual model of the camp.

This newsletter will continue to provide updates on the project as it progresses over the next two years, but if you would like more information, do not hesitate to contact the Project Officer, Rob Freeman, on RFreeman@cravenc.gov.uk.

The Battle of the Somme live orchestral film screenings



© IWM

Following the successful screenings last year of the iconic 1916 film *The Battle of the Somme* to mark 100 years since the battle, there will be another chance to see the film, but this time with live orchestral accompaniment, when Sedbergh orchestra perform two special screenings of the film in Sedbergh and Skipton this July. See overleaf for more details.

Raikeswood Camp update

New discoveries about what life was like for soldiers and prisoners inside Skipton's WW1 training and POW camp are being made on an almost weekly basis and with another archaeological dig on the site of the camp planned for this summer, an information evening at Skipton Town Hall on Wednesday 12th July will give an insight into the latest research being carried out. There will also be a chance to see some of the objects unearthed at last year's archaeological dig and to hear plans for another dig this summer, as well as an update on the translation of the memoirs written by the German prisoners interned at the camp.



Courtesy of Peter Barry & Charles M Whittaker





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Craven Events

'1917: Mud & Misery' exhibition

4 July - 29 October - The Museum of North Craven Life (The Folly)

The fourth in a series of exhibitions at The Folly in Settle following the people of North Craven throughout the Great War who struggled through the mud and misery of 1917, but showed fortitude and courage when faced with hell on earth. Admission: £2.70 (Concessions: £2.20. 16 and Under: Free)

The Battle of the Somme live orchestral film screenings

Saturday 8th July, 7.30pm - St Andrews Church, Sedbergh

Sunday 9th July, 3.30pm - Skipton Town Hall

See the iconic 1916 film *The Battle of the Somme* by Geoffrey Malins and John McDowell, with Laura Rossi's acclaimed music performed live by Sedbergh Orchestra. Running time approximately 2 hours.

Tickets: £8 in advance (Under 18s Free). Call 01539 620125 (Sedbergh performance) or 01756 792809 (Skipton performance).

Raikeswood camp information evening

Wednesday 12th July - Skipton Town Hall, 7pm - 8pm

Come and find out about the latest research that is helping us to discover more about Skipton's WW1 training and POW camp. Free to attend.

'To Encourage the Others, Military Executions of WW1' talk

Friday 28th July, 7.30pm - The Museum of North Craven Life (The Folly)

Alan Hemsworth will give a talk about the soldiers who were executed for cowardice or desertion during WW1.

Admission (in advance): £7. Call 01729 822893 to book.

Raikeswood camp dig open day

Sunday 5th August, 10am—4pm

Get hands on with a behind the scenes look at the most recent archaeological dig taking place on the site of Skipton's WW1 training and POW camp. Guided tours and archaeology sessions on the hour. Location of dig site at top of Raikeswood drive (BD23 1NA). Free to attend.

Regional events

'Recovery? From Flanders to Afghanistan' exhibition

Thackray Medical Museum
Until 31 Dec 2018 — £7 adults

A thought-provoking look at the medical advances that emerged from the First World War, drawing in parallels from modern day conflicts.

www.thackraymedicalmuseum.co.uk

Ambulance Trains exhibition

National Railway Museum
From 7th July 2016 — FREE

An exhibition telling the forgotten story of the ambulance trains used to evacuate sick and injured troops on an unprecedented scale during the First World War.

www.firstworldwar.nrm.org.uk

'Huddersfield's Great War Stories' exhibition

Tolson Museum, Huddersfield
Until 31 Dec 2018 —FREE

An exhibition which explores people's lives at home and away in Huddersfield during the First World War.

www.kirklees.gov.uk/museums

If you have any events coming up that you would like to be included in the next issue, please contact Rob Freeman at Craven Museum & Gallery on RFreeman@cravencdc.gov.uk

