

Craven and the First World War Project

Newsletter



Winter 17/18

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

Skipton POW warned of Cambrai offensive

Local soldiers from the West Riding regiment played their part on the first day of the Battle of Cambrai (20 Nov 1917) in capturing 73 of the German Officers who would end up at Skipton's Raikeswood Camp, the largest number of Skipton prisoners to be captured on any one day. Amongst them was Lieutenant Hegemann who, two days before the battle, learned of the offensive after taking six British prisoners, but was not believed by his superior officers who would not give him the necessary support. Read the full Craven Herald article [here](#)

WomensWork100

In Spring 2018 the First World War Centenary Partnership, led by IWM, will present 'WomensWork100'. This international programme of exhibitions, events, activities, creative responses, personal stories and digital resources will recognise and celebrate the working lives of women during the First World War and beyond.

If you have stories to share of the working lives of women in the First World War, register [online](#) to get involved, and tell IWM about your WomensWork100 connection.

Craven News

Students take over museum

Year 6 students from Water Street Primary School in Skipton took over the running of Craven museum on Friday 18th November as part of Takeover Day.



Students joined almost 4000 young people in organisations across England who were taking part in the event, which is run by Kids in Museums, and celebrates children and young people's contributions to museums, galleries, arts organisations, archives and heritage sites by giving them an opportunity to work alongside staff and volunteers to participate in the life of the organisation.

Students led a number of activities for visitors, including a First World War object handling session and craft activities for young children. They also got the chance to be the curators of the museum for the day by learning about the museum's collection and curating their own First World War exhibition using previous unseen artefacts from the museum's collection.



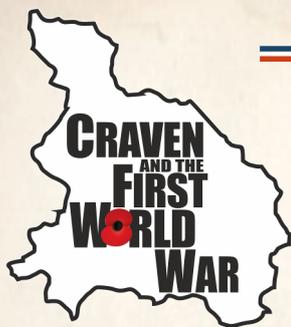
Raikeswood Camp cartoon project



Young cartoon enthusiasts from Skipton Library's comic collective, Team Ketchup, spent a day delving through the archives at the University of Leeds during half term looking at cartoon drawings from WW1. They also got the chance to work with a professional cartoon illustrator who specialises in creating drawings depicting trench life to hone their own technique of drawing characters from WW1.

The day was organised as part of a project which will see the group create comic strip drawings depicting life inside Skipton's Raikeswood Camp using material from the book that the German POWs wrote whilst inside the camp.





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Craven News continued...

Raikeswood Camp website launch

A new website about Skipton's WW1 military training and POW camp will launch in January to coincide with the centenary of when the first German prisoners arrived in Skipton in January 2018.



The website will include a 3D interactive virtual model of the camp allowing visitors to explore what the camp would have looked like 100 years ago. More details to follow.

Craven Events

'Over by Christmas?' Art exhibition

13 Dec - 20 Dec - Holy Trinity Church, Skipton

An Art Exhibition by three Students on the Fine Art BA (Hons) Degree course at Craven College exploring the impact the Great War had on the lives of people in the Craven area.

The exhibition is a study of war memorials, daily life in the trenches and the emergence of the poppy as a symbol of remembrance expressed in the form of drawing, painting, collage and 3D work. Free entry.

'Raikeswood Camp: German POWs' experiences 1918 - 1919' U3A course

Every Monday, 1.30-3.30pm, from 15 Jan - 19 March - Swadford centre, Skipton

Learn in some detail about the bleakness and routines of camp life from the POWs' arrival to departure, their attitudes to their captivity and their captors, their ingenious ways of relieving the tedium, their reaction to the Armistice as well as their impressions of the Skipton and Yorkshire of 100 years ago.

A few places still available. Contact course leader, Nigel Holden, on 01756 793593 or Nigelholden123@aol.co.uk

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
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