



December 2013

What's on at IWM in 2014

In 2014 IWM's five branches, **IWM London**, **IWM North**, **IWM Duxford**, **Churchill War Rooms** and **HMS Belfast** will be hosting a diverse programme of major new exhibitions, displays and family and adult events telling stories of conflict involving Britain and the Commonwealth from 1914 to the present day.

First World War Centenary

2014 - 2018 marks the centenary of the First World War, a landmark anniversary for Britain and the world. IWM will mark the centenary by leading a vibrant, four year programme of cultural activities across the country, including the unveiling of brand new First World War Galleries at IWM London and a major exhibition at IWM North.

**Permanent
Galleries**

First World War Galleries IWM London

**From 19 July
2014**

In the new First World War Galleries made up of 14 areas, visitors will discover the story of the First World War, how it started, why it continued, how it was won and its global impact, through the lives of those who experienced it on the front line and the home front.

Free

Drawing on our First World War collections – the richest and most comprehensive in the world – the Galleries will feature objects large and small, many of which have never been seen before from lucky charms made from shell fragments to iconic recruitment posters and huge ship models. Objects on show include weapons and uniforms through to diaries, letters and souvenirs, which will sit alongside photographs, art and film.

Many Interactive digital displays and immersive spaces will also feature in the Galleries allowing visitors to explore stories and wider themes further. Highlights include the *Life at the Front* area, with a Sopwith Camel plane and Mark V tank looming above, where visitors will be able to explore a recreated trench with a light and soundscape that will evoke what it was like and a sense of the conditions troops had to endure over the changing seasons. They'll be able to see and hear their daily life, with soldiers whispering, singing, even frying bacon. In *Feeding the Front*, one of the areas telling the stories of those on the home front, the Supply Line – an interactive table over 4 metres long, will allow visitors to discover in detail the unprecedented scale of production required to keep the troops fed and fighting.

There will also be two atmospheric reflection areas, featuring objects and our sound collections that will encourage visitors to explore and question some of the most difficult aspects of war – whether there should be rules to war, the fear of being killed and the act of killing.

Having considered some of the big questions and choices, ordinary and

extraordinary, that the people of Britain and its former Empire had to face in this first 'total war', visitors will leave the Galleries with a new perspective on this landmark conflict.

Major Art Exhibition

Truth and Memory
IWM London

From 19 July 2014 – 8 March 2015

Truth and Memory will be the largest exhibition and first major retrospective of British First World War art for almost 100 years and will include work by some of Britain's most important artists of the twentieth century. Using artworks drawn mainly from IWM's national collection this exhibition will assess the immediate impact and enduring legacy of British art of the First World War.

Free

Truth will explore how artists encountering the front lines experimented with new forms of art to capture the totally unfamiliar experience of the First World War. Through the work of CRW Nevinson, Paul Nash and William Orpen, amongst others, the exhibition will consider British artists' quest for an authentic or 'truthful' representation of modern war.

Memory will move on to look at works produced at the end of the war and in its immediate aftermath, exploring the ambitious plans of Lord Beaverbrook's British War Memorials Committee and the Imperial War Museum to build an artistic record of the nation's war. Key commissioned paintings, such as Wyndham Lewis's *A Battery Shelled*, will be displayed alongside important sculptural works like Jacob Epstein's *The Tin Hat* and Eric Kennington's studies for his *Soissons Memorial to the Missing*.

Major New Exhibition

From Street to Trench: A War That Shaped a Region
IWM North

5 April 2014 – May 2015

This is the largest exhibition ever created exploring the North West of England during the First World War. 100 years after the outbreak of the First World War, IWM North unveils extraordinary and surprising personal stories - with objects never before on public display - revealing the region's role in a global conflict.

Free Entry, Donations Welcome

In this first major IWM exhibition of 2014, discover how the society we live in today was born out of the rapid changes that resulted from the First World War. The exhibition illustrates how a region was shaped by the conflict and how the people of that region played a significant role in global events. Founded in 1917 to mark the sacrifices made by civilians and soldiers alike, IWM is a world leading authority on the First World War. This will be IWM's first major exhibition marking the centenary in 2014.

Series of Art Installations and Events

Reactions14
IWM North

From May 2014

IWM has been commissioning artists to create responses to conflict since the First World War. Now, commemorating the centenary of the First World War, IWM North, part of Imperial War Museums, presents *Reactions 14*.

This major season of high-quality artworks and live performances - commissioned by IWM North - will unveil new and unique ways to explore the impact of the conflict on everyone involved. Throughout 2014, a mix of emerging and established artists from a range of artistic disciplines will reveal new and original

creations.

Renowned artist Mark Anstee will explore his take on the futility of conflict during a 30 day live drawing throughout August - projected dramatically around the IWM North Main Exhibition Space. A new contemporary music score by BBC Philharmonic will be performed at IWM North, based on a story from IWM's collections of a Salford family during the First World War. Also inspired by conversations with contemporary veterans from Fleetwood, the story draws parallels with conflict experiences today. 100 years on, Reactions14 will inspire and encourage new debate, enriching public understanding of the impact of the First World War.

Photographic Display

**Women in Industry
IWM North**

**18 January
2014**

Free

Images from IWM's unrivalled Photography Collection, blown up into huge 5 metre high frames outside IWM North, explore the role of women in the north of England during the First World War. Marking the start of the First World War Centenary at IWM North, images by official war office photographer GP Lewis reflect one of the most significant changes to society which resulted from the First World War. Scenes range from heavy labour in a glass factory in Lancashire to skilled tyre manufacturing in Manchester.

New Atrium at IWM London

In summer 2014, after 4 years of planning and over a year and a half of redevelopment works the new atrium space designed by Foster + Partners will be revealed at IWM London.

On entering the museum, visitors will be presented with nine iconic objects including a Harrier, Spitfire and V2 rocket suspended from above as well as a T34 tank and a rocket damaged Landrover used by press to name a few. As visitors walk through the space, new objects will be revealed to them between large architectural fins lining the space, showing the breadth of collections on the new terraces above.

Level 1 presents stories from the key turning points of the Second World War such as the role of strategic bombing, the fronts in Russia and Africa and the D-Day landings through curated displays focusing on both our large objects alongside other materials from our collections including film and artworks.

Moving up the building, on Level 2 visitors will be able to explore more contemporary conflicts from 1945 through to today, from how Britain and Europe re-built itself after the Second World War through to the way conflicts have been fought and communities have been divided in the Cold War and places such as Ireland, Iraq and Afghanistan.



IWM London Atrium (architects impression) © Foster+ Partners

The transformation will also see three new shops with bespoke gifts and souvenirs, a new museum café which opens out onto the Geraldine Mary Harmsworth Park, as well as new and improved facilities such as a central stairway off the atrium, two new lifts and new toilets.

D-Day 70th Anniversary

May - June 2014 **70th Anniversary of D-Day** **HMS Belfast**

Free activities included in admission price

HMS *Belfast*, the last surviving Second World War Royal Navy Cruiser of her type in the world, played a significant role in supporting the Normandy landings and reportedly fired one of the first shots on D-Day itself.

In May 2014 HMS *Belfast* will play a major role in marking the 70th anniversary of D-Day, presenting a major commemorative event as well as a series of engaging educational activities, for visitors of all ages.

24 – 25 May 2014 **D-Day Anniversary Air Show** **IWM Duxford**

Tickets available at iwm.org.uk

The D-Day Anniversary Air Show commemorates the 70th anniversary of this decisive military campaign, demonstrating the vital role that aerial warfare played in the invasion of Normandy.

The air show will feature fighter, bomber and transport aircraft types that would have been seen over the beaches of France, together with thrilling ground content, including a march past by Normandy veterans and serving personnel from the Parachute Regiment. This special D-Day anniversary air show is not to be missed.

April 5, April 30, May 3, May 21 June 6 **The D-Day Landings Tour** **IWM Duxford**

Tickets on sale soon – iwm.org.uk

IWM Duxford has one of the best collections of military vehicles, including types that were used in the D-Day Landings. These are housed in our dedicated Land Warfare exhibition which will be the location for the tour.

The tour will look at some of the vehicles in the collection and will explain how they would have been used. There will also be reference to some of the unique film stock that is shown in the exhibition.

This tour will cover: D-Day planning, the work of the resistance, deceit and misinformation, what we were up against, specialist armoured vehicles both British and American and how they were used, the little-known heroines.

April- December 2014 **D-Day: The Last of the Liberators** **IWM Duxford**

Photographic exhibition

Included in general admission

D-Day: The Last of the Liberators is a collection of photographic portraits of some of the last surviving British Normandy veterans. It records in a unique way the stories of these remarkable individuals and their emotional but dignified return to the locations, in many cases the exact spot, which are tied to their most profound personal memories of the campaign; places where they saw action or were wounded, where they experienced instances of miraculous chance or where they witnessed their friends being taken away from them through the horror of battle. The photographs, taken during the 68th and 69th anniversaries by photographer Robin Savage, are a record of some of the final visits these brave and dignified men and women made to the places that imprinted themselves indelibly on their lives.

Exhibition Highlights

From 8 February
2014

Free

Syria: Photographs by the British Red Cross Water Way Gallery, IWM North

Created in partnership with the British Red Cross, this small but powerful photographic display explores the experiences of civilians in Syria since the outbreak of conflict, three years since the start of the Arab Spring in early 2011.

Opening
September-
November 2014

Asian Triennial Manchester IWM North

The UK's only Asian Art Triennial festival of visual culture with a series of powerful exhibitions, commissions, and creative interventions by international and UK artists, opens in Manchester with a vibrant showcase of the foremost contemporary visual art from across the globe.

Sited at multiple venues across the city including IWM North, the festival explores the theme of Conflict & Compassion, presenting new site-specific work alongside existing work not seen before in the UK, and challenging stereotypical viewpoints of contemporary Asian artistic practice.

Major Events

25 February 2014

7 – 9pm
(doors open
6.30pm)

Adults £17.50;
Concession £14

Churchill Lecture Series : Churchill's First War Churchill War Rooms

In this first instalment of the three-part series, author and foreign correspondent, Con Coughlin, will tell the story of Churchill's first war against the Afghans and the forefathers of the modern Taliban movement in the 1890s. This campaign led to Churchill's first book, which a hundred years later, is read by British and American military commanders today.

Coughlin will provide a rare insight into Churchill's first campaign and the parallels it holds with conflict in Afghanistan today. Included in the ticket price will be the opportunity to view Churchill War Rooms after the event.

26 March 2014

7 – 9pm
(doors open
6.30pm)

Adults £17.50;
Concession £14

Churchill Lecture Series : Churchill and The Kaiser's Pirate Churchill War Rooms

Broadcaster and historian, Nick Hewitt, will explore in the second instalment of the three-part series how in 1914 Germany's new Imperial Navy unleashed a series of raids that threatened Britain's war effort and challenged the power and prestige of the Royal Navy.

As First Lord of the Admiralty, Churchill led the Royal Navy against the German Navy in a year-long battle of wits which stretched across the globe, drawing in ships and men from six empires until the 'Kaiser's Pirates' had been defeated.

Looking ahead to 2015

Fashion on the Ration

In 2015 IWM London will launch a major exhibition showcasing fashion, uniforms and textiles from wartime Britain (1939–1945). Details to follow in 2014, please visit iwm.org.uk for up to date information.

Ends

For more information or images please contact:

- **IWM London, Churchill War Rooms and HMS *Belfast*:**
Nina Dellow – 0207 091 3069 / ndellow@iwm.org.uk
Kate Crowther – 0207 416 5497 kcrowther@iwm.org.uk
Bryony Phillips – 0207 416 5316 / bphillips@iwm.org.uk
- **IWM North** – Alex Knight on aknight@iwm.org.uk / 0161 836 4040
- **IWM Duxford** – Esther Blaine on eblaine@iwm.org.uk / 01223 499 320

Notes to Editors:

IWM London

IWM London is **temporarily closed 6 January – 19 July 2014** as we Transform IWM London.

IWM

IWM (Imperial War Museums) tells the story of people who have lived, fought and died in conflicts involving Britain and the Commonwealth since the First World War.

Our unique Collections, made up of the everyday and the exceptional, reveal stories of people, places, ideas and events. Using these, we tell vivid personal stories and create powerful physical experiences across our five museums that reflect the realities of war as both a destructive and creative force. We challenge people to look at conflict from different perspectives, enriching their understanding of the causes, course and consequences of war and its impact on people's lives.

IWM's five branches which attract over 2 million visitors each year are [IWM London](#), IWM's flagship branch that is transforming with new First World War Galleries and Atrium space opening in 2014 to mark the Centenary of the First World War; [IWM North](#), housed in an iconic award-winning building designed by Daniel Libeskind; [IWM Duxford](#), a world renowned aviation museum and Britain's best preserved wartime airfield; [Churchill War Rooms](#), housed in Churchill's secret headquarters below Whitehall; and the Second World War cruiser [HMS *Belfast*](#).

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