



LED BY IWM

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First World War Centenary

Last chance to see 2014's major First World War Exhibitions and 2015 Centenary Highlights

The First World War Centenary Partnership – made up of over 3,337 members in 52 countries – will continue to mark the centenary of the First World War with events, exhibitions and projects across the globe.

Diane Lees, Director-General of Imperial War Museums said: “2015 marks the centenary of many events that changed the course of the First World War making it a truly global conflict. In April we will remember those from Britain, the Commonwealth and former empire who fought at Gallipoli. This year will also mark the centenary of many major changes on the British home front including the founding of munitions factories”.

Last Chance to See

London Transport Museum [*Goodbye Piccadilly: From Home Front to Western Front*](#)

This exhibition explores the untold story of London's Home Front during the First World War; how drivers took their buses to the Front to support the war effort, women advanced into the transport workforce for the first time and how Londoners came under deadly attack from the air as total war came to the Capital. (Until 8 March 2015, £16)

IWM London [*Truth and Memory: British Art from the First World War*](#)

The largest exhibition of British First World War art for almost 100 years, this major retrospective reveals how artists helped commemorate the First World War and shape a memory of the conflict that endures to this day. (Until 8 March 2015, Free)

IWM North [*From Street to Trench: A World War That Shaped A Region*](#)

This is the largest exhibition ever created exploring the lives and experiences of people from the North West of England during the First World War and reveals more than 200 personal objects, films, sound recordings, photographs, artworks and letters - many on public display for the first time. (Until 31 May 2015, Free)

2015

Major Gallipoli Events

Government plans to mark the Centenary of the Gallipoli Campaign (24– 25 April 2015) include 3 key events;

- A UK-led Commonwealth and Ireland ceremony at the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Hells Memorial in Turkey on the eve of the anniversary of the Gallipoli landings (24 April)
- A National Service of Commemoration at the Cenotaph in London on Anzac Day (25 April) arranged in co-operation with the Governments of Australia and New Zealand, who have held a ceremony there on that date for the last 98 years
- An event at the National Museum of the Royal Navy, Portsmouth, on 6 August 2015 centred on HMS M33, the last surviving ship from the campaign which is currently being refurbished thanks to funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF)

Imperial War Museums, will launch its first touring exhibition – [The WW1 Centenary Exhibition](#) – premiering at the Melbourne Museum in Australia on 17 April ahead of the centenary of the Gallipoli landings and ANZAC day. Tickets: premier.ticketek.com.au/.

Members of **Gallipoli and Dardanelles International** are planning an extensive programme such as a student exchange programme with young people from Turkey. www.gallipolidardanelles.com

Exhibitions for 2015 and beyond

- **Royal Albert Memorial Museum and Art Gallery in Exeter, [Faces of Conflict: The impact of the First World War](#)**
The exhibition explores the influence on artists and surgeons of the facial injuries suffered during the First World War. The exhibition brings together collections of historical objects and artworks from the last hundred years, including works by the artist Wyndham Lewis and specially commissioned works. (17 Jan – 5 April 2015, Free)
- **Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, [Faith & Action: Quakers & the First World War](#)**
Using original photographs, film, interviews and artefacts, 'Faith & Action' tells the compelling stories of Quaker men and women during the 1914-1918 conflict and its aftermath. The exhibition examines the impact of the war on Quaker artists, businesses, families and communities in Birmingham, central England and beyond. (17 Jan – 7 Jun 2015, Free).
- **Museum of Science and Industry [The Innovation Race: Manchester's Makers Join the First World War](#)**
This major new exhibition features over 30 unique and original artefacts, images and documents - bringing to life the largely untold stories of how Mancunian innovation helped to turn around the outcome of the First World War. The exhibition will mark the centenary of David Lloyd George's visit to Manchester where his rally call for the city's makers to step up their war effort resulted in the overwhelming support from the ordinary worker to the most eminent scientists and engineers. (28 March 2015 – April 2016, Free)
- **[The Kent and Sharpshooters Yeomanry museum](#)** is reopening after a £275,000 refurbishment on the 6 September 2015. The new museum located at Hever Castle, will cover life at war and on the Home Front, with medals, uniforms, film clips, oral histories, and a First World War Gallipoli trench experience.

Performances

- **[The Unicorn Theatre](#)** will present a new play which focuses on the **life and influence of Vesta Tilly**, 'Britain's best recruiting Sergeant'. (13 – 15 March 2015, Tickets £10 - £16)
- [Finborough Theatre, London](#)** will commemorate the centenary of the deportations that began the Armenian Genocide with new play ***I Wish To Die Singing - Voices From the Armenian Genocide*** This controversial documentary drama uncovers the forgotten secrets and atrocities of a denied genocide – featuring eye-witness reportage, images, music, poetry from Armenia's greatest poets, and verbatim survivors testimonies from one of the greatest historical injustices of all time. (Tuesday – Saturday, 21 April – 16 May, 7.30pm, Sunday Matinee 3pm. Tickets: £16, £14 concessions)

Events

- **[Internment during the First World War: A Mass Global Phenomenon](#)** is a pioneering international Conference will bring together experts from across the world to investigate the importance of the First World War for the history of civilian incarceration. Organised by the History Research Group at De Montfort University in conjunction with the IWM North. (IWM North, 13 May – 14 May 2015, £40 for one day)
- **[The Royal Norfolk Regimental Museum](#)** is holding research workshops throughout 2015 to help researchers with their First World War family history research. The museum is also holding a temporary exhibition entitled 'Letters home', a moving display of personal letters and diaries which reveal what life was like for both soldiers and their families at home during the First World War.

– Ends –

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Related Content from IWM:

Gallipoli Podcast, www.iwm.org.uk/history/podcasts/voices-of-the-first-world-war/podcast-14-gallipoli

Gallipoli Learning Resources, www.iwm.org.uk/learning/resources/the-gallipoli-campaign

Notes to editors

Context to the First World War Centenary Partnership

IWM established the First World War Centenary Partnership in 2010 to encourage a programme of activities and events to mark the centenary, developed at grass roots levels. The founding ambition for the Partnership was that its members would collectively organise and present a vibrant, diverse and far-reaching programme to reflect how people want to remember, commemorate and debate the conflict in their own communities, in a way that is meaningful for them.

About the First World War Centenary

2014 - 2018 marks the centenary of the First World War, a landmark anniversary for Britain and the world. IWM is mark the centenary by leading a vibrant, four year programme of cultural activities across the world including The WW1 Centenary Exhibition a new touring exhibition opening at Melbourne Museum from 17 April. For more information visit www.1914.org

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 recently transformed with new, permanent and free First World War Galleries alongside new displays across the iconic Atrium 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**.