

May Half Term Activities at Imperial War Museums

Saturday 28 May – Sunday 5 June 2016

FREE or included in the admission price (for IWM Duxford and HMS *Belfast*)

This May Half Term, visitors to IWM can draw an animated flip book to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Battle of the Somme; create their own Second World War blackout accessories at IWM North's Open Studio; design a t-shirt based on traditional navy tattoos on board HMS *Belfast* and discover the legend of the Lancaster bomber at IWM Duxford.

Arts and Craft Activities

[Art Workshop: Draw a Somme Flipbook](#)

IWM London

28 May – 5 June; 11am – 4pm

To mark the 100th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme, join us for a special drawing workshop. Visitors can learn how to draw the silhouette of a British 'Tommy' soldier which will be added to an animated flipbook throughout half term. The whole flipbook will then be able to view online later in June, helping us to mark this important anniversary and remember those who served during the First World War.



[Open Studio: Blackout Bling](#)

IWM North

28 May – 5 June; 2 – 3.30pm

In this Open Studio session, you can learn more about what life was like living through the blackout in the Second World War as you handle real artefacts from IWM's collections. To tie in with our *Fashion on a Ration: 1940s Street Style* exhibition, come and make your own glow in the dark bracelet, bag charm or key fob inspired by the real luminous badges worn by British civilians of the day.



[Tattoo T-shirts: Davy Jones's Locker](#)

***HMS Belfast**

28 May – 5 June; 11am – 12.30pm and 2 – 4pm

Step on board HMS *Belfast* and design your own T-shirt inspired by traditional navy tattoos, nautical superstitions and the sailor legend of Davy Jones's Locker. You can learn more about the history of navy tattoos, including what the symbols mean and why as a sailor you wouldn't want to visit Davy Jones's Locker!



*Activity included in the general admission price.

Talks and Tours

[The Lancaster Experience](#)

***IWM Duxford**

30 May – 5 June; 11.20 – 3.30pm. Interpretative sessions at 11am; 12pm; 1pm

Come along to IWM Duxford this Easter and peer inside the legendary Second World War aircraft, the Lancaster bomber, to see what it was really like for the young men who fought and flew as part of a bomber crew. Hear from a historic interpreter, dressed as a member of Bomber Command, to find out everything from the role of each of the crew members to what they wore and the equipment and weapons they used. Visitors will also find out about the famous Dambusters Raids and the development of the bouncing bomb.



[Storytelling: Animals and War](#)

IWM North

28 May – 5 June; 10.30am

In this interactive storytelling session, puppets and pictures bring to life the heroic and heart-warming tales of wartime animal bravery. Visitors can hear the story of Stubby of the Trenches, the mascot of the First World War 102nd Infantry, 26th Yankee Division. He was the first dog to be given the rank of Sergeant after he caught a German soldier spying on Allied trenches.

[Family backpacks](#)

***IWM Duxford**

30 May – 5 June; 10am – 3pm (last entry at 2.30pm)

Borrow a family backpack, full of exciting challenges and activities which take you on a trail around key objects in the *AirSpace* exhibition. There are two backpacks on offer for children aged 6 and under and two for children aged 7 and above. The backpacks also include aviation-themed items to try on.



[Object Conversations: The Battle of the Somme](#)

IWM London

30 May – 3 June; 11am – 12.30pm and 2 – 4pm

In this special immersive object handling session linked to the 100th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme, families can encounter real First World War artefacts from our collections and learn how they connect with iconic objects on display in our atrium and terraced galleries.



– Ends –

For more information or images please contact:

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Notes to Editors:

Object Conversations at IWM London is Supported by the Clore Duffield Foundation.

Opening Times and Admissions:

- [IWM London](#): Open daily* 10am – 6pm. Free
- [IWM North](#): Open daily* 10am – 5pm. Free
- [IWM Duxford](#): Open daily* Summer 10am – 6pm;
 - Adult £18; Child (5 – 15) £9; Child (under 5) Free; Concession £14.40
 - Family Tickets (depending on size) £30 – 46; Group Rates available
- [HMS Belfast](#): Open daily* Jan – Feb, 10am – 5pm; March – October, 10am – 6pm
 - Adult £16; Child (5 – 15) £8; Child (under 5) Free; Concession £12.80
 - Family Tickets (depending on size), £28 - £42;. Group Rates available
- [Churchill War Rooms](#): Open daily* 9.30am – 6pm.
 - Adult £19; Child (5 – 15) £9.50; Child (under 5) Free; Concession £15.20.
 - Family Tickets (depending on family size), £33 - £49 Group rates available

*All of our branches are closed on 24, 25 and 26 December.

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 attract over 2 million visitors each year. [IWM London](#), our flagship branch, marks the Centenary of the First World War with new permanent First World War Galleries and a new Atrium with iconic large object displays. Our other branches are [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](#).

First World War Centenary

2014 - 2018 marks the centenary of the First World War, a landmark anniversary for Britain and the world. IWM is marking the centenary by leading a vibrant, four year programme of cultural activities across the world. 2016 is the centenary of the Battle of the Somme. www.1914.org.

