

Find eight stories of the First World War

From shells to medals this trail will lead you to surprising objects. Look around the museum to find out how the First World War affected people at home and on the fronts.



 Use this map to find each object. Look closely and talk together about the stories you discover. You'll find the first object in Silo 1.

People in war

Artists created images and slogans to encourage young men to fight in the navy and army.



Find the posters from these close-ups.



Talk about the messages each poster is communicating.



Find these items and match them to where in the world they are from.



Global war

The First World War became a conflict involving millions of people from across the globe.

Why do you think India, New Zealand and the West Indies became involved in the First World War?



At home and the fronts

Find the photograph of Ada Rodgers.

What was her job in the war?



Opposite
the Harrier



Discuss why the work of women like Ada on the home front was so important.



Opposite
Silo 1

This gun is on display round the corner from Ada's story. On 22 August 1914 it fired the very first shells of the British army in the First World War. The war would go on until 11 November 1918.

Thank you for seeking out shells made by women, paintings and medals! Each object had a story to tell. What other objects and stories will you find and talk about on the rest of your visit?



Why is it important that artists make art about war?

What did artists see?



Works of art were amongst the first items to be collected when the Imperial War Museum was founded.



Explore this part of the museum further. Talk about other examples that show how people were affected by the war, even after it had ended.

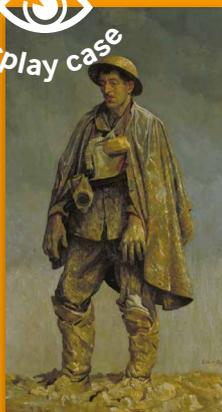


Find this painting by the artist Gilbert Rogers.

What title did he give his painting? Discuss other titles he could have chosen for it.

Can you find some of the soldier's clothes in the display case below?

Western Front
display case



Silo 6

Each one was engraved with the name of the man or woman killed; look beneath the wreath held by Britannia, who does this plaque commemorate?

Legacy of war

Every family who lost someone in the war received a plaque like this. Even if they died after 1918 of war related causes.

