



Veterans and historic objects will be brought together with expert talks by curators and leading authors as Imperial War Museums launches first ever IWM Live event in 2022

Tickets are now available for *IWM Live*, a new all-day event on Saturday 11 June bringing together IWM's collection; the expertise of the museum's curators; book signings from leading historical authors; and the opportunity for visitors to engage with veterans of conflict.

Events will take place at IWM Duxford and range from talks about iconic aircraft, such as the Lancaster, Vulcan, Spitfire and Mosquito, to demonstrations and presentations of some of the most compelling objects from the IWM collection, offering the chance to handle objects some of which will be presented to the public for the very first time.

We are thrilled to be joined by expert writers including **Professor Richard Overy** (*The Dictators; Blood and Ruins: The Great Imperial War 1931-1945*), **Clare Mulley** (*The Women Who Flew For Hitler*), **Dr Helen Fry** (*Spymaster; The Walls Have Ears*), **Katja Hoyer** (*Blood and Iron*), and **Damien Lewis**, who will be discussing and signing copies of his latest book published just weeks before *IWM Live* takes place.

Alongside them, IWM's own expert curators will be leading talks on topics including HMS Belfast and the Arctic Convoys which was described as "the worst journey in the world"; Black Americans in Britain during the Second World War; and stories of how IWM was founded in the midst of the First World War. There will also be the chance to hear about how IWM London's recently opened new Second World War Galleries were designed. The full line-up of *IWM Live* will be announced early in 2022.

Emily Charles, Curator at IWM and speaker at *IWM Live*, said, 'We are so excited to showcase everything special about experiencing IWM live and in person with this event. In particular I'm looking forward to introducing audiences to stories of some of the real people who shaped life and culture in the UK when American forces came to Britain in the Second World War. *IWM Live* is a really exciting venture for us and there really is nowhere better to see history come to life than at this site which has seen some of the most dramatic days in twentieth century conflict.'

Katja Hoyer, author of *Blood and Iron: The Rise and Fall of the German Empire*, said, 'There couldn't be a more apt place to meet existing and future readers. The historical significance of Duxford makes it a fascinating venue to visit. I'm delighted to be part of this exciting programme at IWM Live and share the stage with not just my fellow historians but with some of the museum's fantastic collections.'

Ends

Listings Information

[IWM Live](#)

Saturday 11 June 2022

10:00am – 18:30pm

IWM Duxford, Cambridgeshire, CB22 4QR

Tickets: £45

[A selection of images are available to download here.](#) For further press information, images and interview requests please contact:

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IWM Duxford

IWM Duxford is Europe's largest air museum, with a fascinating history that dates back to the First World War. Duxford has been a witness to world-changing events over the past 100 years where ordinary people have had extraordinary experiences. Exploring state of the art exhibition halls and historic buildings, visitors can walk in the footsteps of the men and women who served at RAF Duxford. Through the powerful stories of the individuals involved and the rich displays of aircraft, we tell the story of the impact of aviation on the nature of war and on people's lives. Historic aircraft can regularly be seen taking to the skies from the historic airfield and IWM Duxford also holds annual Air Shows and Flying Days with entertaining ground content and signature flying displays.

IWM Duxford, Cambridgeshire, CB22 4QR

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iwm.org.uk / [@IWM Duxford](https://www.facebook.com/iwm.duxford) / www.facebook.com/iwm.duxford

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 2.5 million visitors each year are IWM London, IWM's flagship branch that has recently transformed with new, permanent and free Second World War and The Holocaust Galleries; 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.