



## PRESS RELEASE BATTLE OF JUTLAND

### Commemorative events mark the Jutland centenary

31 May 2016 marks the centenary of The Battle of Jutland, where over 8,000 British and German men lost their lives at sea. The Battle lasted just 36 hours but its impact on the First World War was significant.

The Centenary is an opportunity for people in the UK to come together to remember those, on both sides, who lost their lives at Jutland and to recognise the pivotal role of the Royal Navy in the First World War.

The First World War Centenary Partnership, led by Imperial War Museums (IWM) is presenting a series of exhibitions, events and concerts throughout May and June to commemorate the Jutland centenary. For further details visit: [www.1914.org](http://www.1914.org)

#### Exhibitions

To commemorate the centenary of the Battle of Jutland the **National Museum of the Royal Navy** at Portsmouth Historic Dockyard, in partnership with Imperial War Museums, will open a new major exhibition **36 Hours: Jutland 1916, The Battle that won the War** (opens **19 May 2016**, £10 adults, £5 children). The display will feature objects including guns from British and German ships, battle ensigns stained with smoke and will tell the stories of the men and women involved in the battle. **HMS Caroline**, the last surviving ship from the Battle of Jutland, currently moored in Belfast, will also open to visitors following a restoration funded by a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

**Jutland – The Unfinished Battle** is a new exhibition at the **Deutsches Marinemuseum** in **Wilhelmshaven, Germany** that explores the Battle of Jutland through an animation developed with Nicholas Jellicoe, grandson of Admiral Jellicoe, Commander of the British Fleet. The exhibition explores the personal stories of both British and German seamen who took part in the battle (**29 May** - 31 October 2016, free).

**Kidology Arts** are hosting **Disruptive Pattern**, an art and music installation that commemorates the men from Derbyshire's pit villages who served as stokers on board the Royal Navy's Dazzle ships during the First World War. The temporary exhibition is on display at **Workshop, Nottinghamshire** (**30 April** - 10 July 2016, free).

The **Museum of Kivik** in **Sweden** has a temporary exhibition **The 1916 exhibition at the Museum of Kivik** which explores Sweden's role in the First World War. Although officially a neutral state, more than 800 Swedish sailors lost their lives at sea and the Swedish Navy engaged in action in the Baltic Sea. The exhibition focuses on the events of 1916 including the Battle of Jutland, the Battle of Verdun and the Battle of the Somme. (**18 May** - 20 November 2016, €5 per person).

**The Forth at War** is a new exhibition from the **Scottish Fisheries Museum** in **Fife** which explores the contribution of the Firth of Forth to the war at sea through paintings, models and memorabilia from the Battle of Jutland. (**20 May** - 28 August 2016, Adults £8, Concessions £6, Children free)

The **Museum of Hartlepool** is hosting **Jutland 1916: Remembering the Forgotten Battle** in partnership with the National Museum of the Royal Navy. The exhibition explores the role communities in the North East of England played in the Battle of Jutland using artefacts, models and interactive family activities (**21 May** until 18 September 2016, free).

## Events

Organised by the **Department for Culture Media and Sport** the [official commemorations](#) take place in **Orkney on 31 May 2016** and include a service at St. Magnus Cathedral in Kirkwall, followed by a wreath-laying ceremony at sea on Jutland Bank by British and German ships. The event is invite only but large screens will be provided in Kirkwall for members of the public.

HMS *Hampshire*, which sank near Orkney in June 1915 after hitting a mine, killing more than 730 men including Lord Kitchener, is the focus of the [Orkney Heritage Society's commemorations](#). The society is restoring Orkney's Kitchener Memorial and creating a commemorative wall inscribed with the names of the men who died in the sinking of HMS *Hampshire*. The memorial will be officially unveiled on the evening of **5 June** at the Kitchener Memorial, Birsay, Orkney (free).

At the **Barbican Centre, London** [The Jutland Concert](#) organised by the London Concert Choir on behalf of **Seafarers UK** will feature performances of Vaughan Williams' *A Sea Symphony*, accompanied by Britten's *Four Sea Interludes*. (7.30pm on **15 June**. Ticket prices from £12 - £35).

In commemoration of the 115 pupils and staff members killed in the First World War, [Gresham's School](#) will commemorate Old Gresamian Cuthbert Hill who died on board *HMS Invincible* on 31 May 1916. Each person is commemorated with an illustrated talk and a lantern lit in their memory (Gresham's School, Norfolk, **25 May**, free).

In association with **14-18 NOW**, [Dazzle Ship Scotland](#) will take place at **Edinburgh Art Festival** to mark the centenary of the Battle of Jutland. Dazzle is a form of camouflage for ships characterised by geometric patterns that was widely used in the First and Second World Wars. Dazzling a ship made it difficult for other ships to accurately gauge a ship's distance, speed and direction of travel. Artist Ciara Phillips will "dazzle" an iconic vessel MV *Fingal* in the port of Leith which will be unveiled at the festival in May (**28 May** - 28 August, Free).

As part of the national Jutland commemorations, [The National Archives](#) are displaying original documents relating to the battle including service records, ships logs, and naval maps. On **31 May** the First World War collection is going to be opened up from 2pm until 5pm for visitors to explore the story of Jutland (Free).

[The Woodland Trust](#) is creating a Jutland memorial woodland at **Langley Vale, Surrey** which will become a poignant living memorial to the Battle of Jutland. Saplings will be planted, each representing one of the lives lost in the battle, and 14 semi mature oaks will be planted to represent the 14 ships sunk.

- Ends -

**For further information, images or to interview an IWM historian about the Battle of Jutland, please contact Faye Jackson in the IWM press office on [fjackson@iwm.org.uk](mailto:fjackson@iwm.org.uk) or 020 7416 5420.**

### Notes to Editors:

#### About the Battle of Jutland

The Battle of Jutland was the biggest naval battle of the First World War. Over 8,000 men lost their lives and its impact on the rest of the war was significant. Jutland ensured that Britain's naval blockade of Germany remained in place, forcing Germany to fight on in the face of hunger and raw material shortages.

Both sides claimed victory at Jutland, but whilst the Germans lost fewer ships, after the battle the British could put as many as 24 dreadnoughts to sea, in comparison to Germany's ten ships fit to fight. The Germans failed to significantly challenge the British again at sea throughout the rest of the war.

## 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](#).

### 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 marking the centenary by leading a vibrant, five year programme of cultural activities across the world. This year is the centenary of the Battle of the Somme, for information on commemorations, vigils and events visit [www.1914.org/Somme](http://www.1914.org/Somme)

