

'90 Years On - County Clare and The Great War'



Thursday, 23 October 2008

Clare Museum has announced that it is to hold an exhibition marking the involvement of over 7,000 Clare men in the First World War.

'90 Years On - County Clare and The Great War' will feature artefacts relating to the county's participation in the 1914-1918 conflict.

Among the items being placed on display are a Bayonet and Scabbard, 1914-1918 War Service Medal, Ypres Banner, a British Army trenching tool used by a Clareman during the First World War and an Irish War Hospital Supply Depot Pin.

The exhibition would be launched on November 11 next, the 90th anniversary of the ending of the war.

Clare Museum Curator, Mr. John Rattigan explained that the majority of the 700 men from County Clare killed during the fighting were serving for the American, Canadian or British armies.

He added, *'Many Clare people are unaware of the considerable contribution made by their fellow county men to sign up and fight in the army of foreign country. It is widely accepted that a combination of unemployment, idealism and adventure probably accounted for most of the enlistment.'*

350,000 Irishmen volunteered for service during WW1 in addition to the 50,000 Irishmen already serving in the regular army and reserve at the outbreak of the war.

Most of the Clare men who enlisted to fight during the war served with Irish infantry regiments of the British Army, including The Royal Irish Regiment, The Connaught Rangers, The Prince of Wales's Leinster Regiment (Royal Canadians), The Royal Munster Fusiliers and The Royal Dublin Fusiliers. Others served in British Regiments including the Tyneside, Liverpool and London Irish Battalions.

Meanwhile, Clare Museum is appealing to members of the public possessing relevant artefacts to consider their inclusion in the upcoming exhibition.

According to Mr. Rattigan, *'Artefacts of interest can include documents, uniforms, insignia, souvenirs, memorabilia and photographs. Any donated artefacts will be returned to their owner at the conclusion of the six week long exhibition.'*

'90 Years On - County Clare and The Great War' will be launched on November 11th and will continue until Christmas. Clare Museum is open Tuesday to Saturday and admission is free of charge.

Persons wishing to donate artefacts to the upcoming exhibition should contact: John Rattigan at 065-6823382 or claremuseum@clarecoco.ie.

WWI Poetry Project (Summer)



This assignment has you creating a short photo montage to accompany a poem written by a WWI soldier.

Phase 1: Poem Selection

Review the following sites and pick a poem. You might want to copy and paste it into Word.

*** World War I Poetry**

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1914warpoets.html>

*** WWI Prose and Poetry**

<http://www.firstworldwar.com/poetsandprose/index.htm>

*** The Lost Poets of WWI**

<http://www.english.emory.edu/LostPoets/ThePoets.html>

Phase 2: *Visual Imagery*

Select at least 10 photographs that complement your poem. Download them to your computer.

Resources

Photos from the Great War - *an amazing site with over 1800 categorized photographs*
<http://www.gwpda.org/photos/greatwar.htm>

World War I Color Photographs - *WWI - a nice collection of colors pictures.*
<http://www.worldwaronecolorphotos.com/>

Children in WWI - *a collection that depicts kid soldiers.*
<http://www.greatwar.nl/frames/default-children.html>

Photos from About.com - *more photographs*
<http://history1900s.about.com/library/photos/blyindexwwi.htm>

France at War - *images from the French army*
http://www.richthofen.com/france_at_war/

More Photographs - *categorized images*
<http://www.worldwar1.com/pharc.htm>

World War I Posters - *propaganda posters from WWI*
http://www.boondocksnet.com/gallery/wwi_posters.html

Different Worlds - *more photographs from WWI*
<http://www.users.zetnet.co.uk/dms/past/ww1index.html>

Art of WWI - *paintings and sketches from WWI*
<http://www.art-ww1.com/gb/peintre.html>

War Artists - *click on each artist to see the paintings*
<http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/FWWart.htm>

Imperial War Museum - *search for topics (i.e. trenches)*
<http://www.iwmcollections.org.uk/qryPhotoImg.asp>

British Recruiting Posters - *more propaganda posters*
<http://gulib.lausun.georgetown.edu/dept/speccoll/britpost/posters.htm>

Source: <http://www.ahistoryteacher.com/wh/>
<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/us/>

First World War Poetry Digital Archive

Overview

Launched in April 2007 the First World War Poetry Digital Archive (based at the University of Oxford) will make available to the general public a wide array of archival resources relating to literature of the First World War. Building on the success of Oxford's **Wilfred Owen archive**, and the **Virtual Seminars for Teaching Literature** project this multimedia digital archive will contain archival resources from other major British poets of the First World War plus images, text, audio and video of primary contextual materials.

The Project

There can be no doubt about the widespread popularity of war poetry, and First World War poetry in particular, in literature and history courses across the country. It is taught in most universities, FE colleges and, of course, at school level. It also continues to attract considerable public attention due to the cultural importance of the period for modern day Britain, and the way it shaped attitudes to warfare. The original Wilfred Owen archive has attracted over 1.2 million hits and is referenced by teachers and researchers worldwide. This project will open up access to other major British poets and a wider array of contextual material to build on that interest.

The multimedia online database of primary source material (manuscripts of poems, letters, diaries, etc) plus contextual information (images, audio and film material from the Imperial War Museum) will be browseable and searchable, and freely available online. Among the 2,000 digital images and 200 multimedia objects to be opened up to the public are drafts of Robert Graves's poems for *Over the Brazier* and *Fairies and Fusiliers*, drafts of Edward Thomas's war poems and diary, correspondence between Vera Brittain and Roland Leighton, and the poetry drafts and letters of Isaac Rosenberg. Widening its remit the archive also aims to include archival resources focusing on the role that women played during the war, and writings from the Home Front.

Supporting Education

Fully aware of the educational significance of this archival collection, the project will also develop instructional tutorials for students to train them in editorial and research skills using primary source material, and resources to support the teaching of World War One literature and history at school level. Visitors to the archive will be able to create their own annotated trails through the archive for others to use, and to submit new digital material to the a community collection.

The Great War Archive: A Community Collection

The development of the Great War Archive will allow remote contributions of digital objects to the collection, thus releasing material which up to now has been stored by individuals inaccessible to scholars. Because of the chronological proximity of the first world war, many people hold personal items to do with the war that they would be interested in sharing via a straightforward licence. The focus will be primarily, but not exclusively, on the poetry from the war (eg poems written by soldiers hitherto unpublished) and all submissions will require basic metadata, copyright clearance, be limited in file size, and will be vetted before release. We will also invite users to submit digital objects to increase the contextual information (e.g. photographs from the period, postcards, letters, and typed memoirs). The project sees this as a powerful means of building the archive and making use of the Internet's ability to tap into amateur digitisation and bring together unknown collections.

Launch Date

The archive will be launched on the 90th anniversary of the Armistice, 11th November 2008. The First World War Poetry Digital Archive is funded by the Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC) **Digitisation Programme**

JISC - Digitisation programme

Spanning centuries, disciplines and sources, the JISC series of pioneering digitisation projects is unlocking a wealth of unique, hard-to-access material from the 16th century to the present day.

<http://www.jisc.ac.uk/whatwedo/programmes/digitisation>

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Virtual Seminars for Teaching Literature

<http://www.oucs.ox.ac.uk/ltg/projects/jtap/>

Wilfred Owen archive

<http://www.hcu.ox.ac.uk/jtap/>

War Poets Association

<http://www.warpoets.org/links/>

World War I project from eduScapes

<http://www.42explore2.com/ww1.htm>

