



CHELTENHAM & GLOUCESTER BRANCH of THE WESTERN FRONT ASSOCIATION

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Welcome

As many of you will be aware in October this year we shall be celebrating our branch's tenth anniversary and one of the plans we have to help celebrate the event is to hold a social evening incorporating an auction. The notion of the auction is for branch members to offer for sale items pertaining to the Great War that they no longer want but which perhaps they would like to get some remuneration from. On the sale of these items we suggest a donation to branch funds of 10% of the sale price. Although this event is still six months away I thought I would mention our plans now so that perhaps you can have time to muster items together (we shall wish to receive all items well in advance of the auction in order to be catalogued). We would like this not to be seen as just a fundraiser for the branch, but ultimately an opportunity to have some 'out of hours' time together as a group and a celebration which has, at least for myself, been a rich and rewarding decade in terms of education and friendships formed. On a similar theme, Ken has asked once again for

book donations to sell on behalf of branch funds - all offerings are welcome!

The Great War magazine has been brought to my attention. It features personal accounts, stories and articles, and is aimed at those who enjoy a less formal account of the conflict and prefer to read the stories of those who served. You can find out more at their website: www.greatnorthernpublishing.co.uk/the-great-war.html

The 10th of February this year marked 100 years since the beginning of conscription for the First World War in Britain. The National Archives has a collection of conscription appeal records (MH 47) which you can download for free.

Finally, a reminder of a couple of websites that will keep you up to date with the latest news and events connected with the Great War Centenary: www.centenarynews.com and www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/first-world-war

Peter

Future meetings

Tuesday, 10 May 2016
Sea Power - Jutland 1916
Mike Shaw

National Star College at 7:30pm

The Battle of Jutland was the culmination of the Dreadnought Arms Race and was the only encounter in which the war could have been lost in a single engagement.

The battle was fought to a messy conclusion on the afternoon of 31 May 1916.



HMS Defence and Warrior, 31 May 1916
by W L Wyllie

Tuesday, 14 June 2016
Top Secret Boffins in World War One
Dr David Rogers
National Star College at 7:30pm

Many new and potentially ground-breaking technologies are developed during wartime, World War One being no exception; the introduction of aeroplanes, submarines and tanks being just three of them. Yet there were also issues needing resolution behind the scenes including the search for new foods and the need to introduce rationing - the list of issues to resolve must have been daunting.

Top Secret British Boffins in World War One examines some of these activities, concentrating on the activities of the Fellows of the Royal Society whose scientific acumen, knowledge and skills were vital to solving seemingly intractable problems. Drawing from previously unpublished documents there are some remarkable examples of co-operation and effort often to tight deadlines using the utmost discretion.

10564 Frederick Henry Tudor 8th Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment

Frederick Henry Tudor was the son of Henry and Alice Julia Tudor, nee Ball. He was born in Slimbridge in 1892, one of seven children and twinned with his sister Sarah Elizabeth.

The 1901 census records him living in Slimbridge, on Slimbridge Street (now Ryalls Lane), with his mother and six siblings. (His father was not recorded but he did not die until 1903.) By 1911 Frederick was still in Slimbridge with his mother and two brothers and working as a farm labourer. He worked for Ernest Cullimore of Cambridge who said he was "a model son and an ideal workman".



Frederick volunteered when war was declared and was sent to the Dardanelles as a member of the 7th Gloucesters. He was severely wounded at Suvla Bay on 27 September 1915.

On recovering from his wounds, Frederick was sent to France with the 8th Gloucesters in March 1916 where he would have been in action at the Battle of the Somme. Frederick was killed on 3 July in his 24th year; his body was never found.

Frederick has no known grave but is commemorated with 72,000 other men on the Thiepval Memorial.

(Taken from *Slimbridge Remembers*)

Events & Exhibitions

UNTIL 27 APRIL

The London Metropolitan Archives at 40 Northampton Road, London EC1R 0HB has a free exhibition which runs until 27 April called *War In London*. It reveals the effects of five conflicts on Londoners and their city, from the English Civil War to the Cold War. In the year of the 100th anniversary of the Zeppelin air raids of World War One, and the 75th anniversary of the London Blitz during World War Two, this exhibition uncovers historical manuscripts, maps, photographs and films showing the destruction of the city, the threat of imminent invasion and the heroism of ordinary Londoners. For further information and opening times: www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/lma

7 MAY

The WFA AGM will be held at the Fleet Air Arm Museum, Yeovilton, Somerset BA22 8HT.

10.15am: Welcome by the Chairman

10.20am: *Jutland and the meaning of Victory* - Andrew Lambert

11.20am: *Crucible of Innovation: Salisbury Plain during the Great War* - Simon Jones

12.20pm: Buffet lunch* and visit the museum

1.20pm: *Unseen photos and writings from the Somme* - Richard Van Emden

2.20pm: Tea/coffee

2.45pm: AGM

Full details are on the WFA website.

*The lunch needs to be pre-paid and the deadline is Friday 22 April. Also, tea and coffee will only be served to those notifying attendance to Steve Oram (Secretary) by the same date - secretary@westernfrontassociation.com

28-29 MAY

IWM Duxford celebrates the newly-transformed American Air Museum with *The American Air Show* on 28 and 29 May. The show tells the story of American and British collaboration over 100 years showing the impact of the American forces on Duxford and the eastern region in the First and Second World Wars. Full details are on: www.iwm.org.uk/events/iwm-duxford/airshows

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"When you go home, tell them of us and say, for your tomorrow, we gave our today."