

Hampshire County Council

2014 Commemorations Programme

100th Anniversary of Outbreak of World War I & 70th Anniversary of D-Day

PROGRAMME DELIVERY

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PROGRAMME OUTLINE PLANS

Arts & Museums Service

The Hampshire Solent partnership (Hampshire County Council, Southampton City Council and Winchester City Council) has secured £625,000 from Arts Council England (ACE) to deliver 'The Big Theme', which in 2014 will focus on the Centenary of the First World War. Strong connections will also be made into the D-Day story. The programme will show Hampshire's unique story through three core exhibitions:

- **The Soldiers' Journey** – exhibition across Community Museums showing the movement of soldiers and equipment through Hampshire in WWI including loading and departure from Southampton and the effect this had on the lives of people living in Hampshire at the time. The exhibition will share core content but will be modified to include local material and stories at each site. It will also have slightly different versions in Winchester City Space and Southampton Sea City Museums.
- **The Trench Coat** – two venue exhibition to tell the story of the trench coat, invented in Basingstoke by Thomas Burberry, and inspired by the farmers working in Hampshire's fields. The exhibition will chart its historical relevance in international military (Milestones Living History Museum), to its modern day status in fashion (Winchester Discovery Centre Gallery).
- **The Artist Rifles** - exhibition aiming to introduce the Artists Rifles, a volunteer regiment founded in the mid-nineteenth century, and explore the impact of war on the creative process. Beginning with the early members; artists including Lord Fredrick Leighton, Southampton-born artist John Everett Millais, William Morris, Edward Coley Burne-Jones and Holman Hunt, through the First World War; Paul Nash and John Nash, into the post war period. Exhibition to tour Southampton City Art Gallery, Willis Museum (Basingstoke) and Gosport Discovery Centre, accompanied by a community programme.

The ACE funding will also be used to develop a 2014 themed website that will provide access to WWI and D-Day related digital content developed by Hampshire Solent Arts and Museums, as well as market the events programmes and link to other relevant sites.

HMS Monitor M33 - HCC Arts and Museums is working in partnership with the National Museum of the Royal Navy to develop public access to and enhanced interpretation of this rare WWI naval survivor, which served at Gallipoli. A bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund will be submitted for funding to help deliver this project in time for the Gallipoli anniversary in 2015-16.

Hampshire Archives & Local Studies

- Development of an exhibition (Royal Green Jackets VC and Hampshire Regiment 'shot at dawn') to be displayed at Hampshire Record Office and circulating to other venues.
- A series of workshops to be held at Hampshire Record Office on how to trace military ancestors and introducing the military resources available.
- Development of an online resource based on personal archives (e.g. diaries, letters).
- Research completed for HCC War Memorial plaque for the entrance to Council Chamber.
- Involvement in a range of partnership projects, including:
 - Digitisation of the Rolls of Honour for Hampshire Regiment, Rifle Brigade and King's Royal Rifle Corps, to be displayed on touch screens at Winchester Cathedral.
 - Development of a trail around Royal Victoria Country Park/Netley using burial registers and other sources.
 - Workshops and resources for volunteers developing a trail around Aldershot.
 - Workshops for sources for the South East Grid for Learning war memorials project.
 - Facilitating archives research by Kings School for the Morn Hill Memorial Project.
 - Commemoration project with the University of Southampton (Hartley Library).

Libraries & Information Service

- Display and promotion of the special collections of WWI related books including the Military Collection at Aldershot, the Aviation Collection at Farnborough, the Naval Collection at Gosport and the Railway Collection at Winchester.
- Talks and at least one major event each year at libraries in Aldershot, Gosport and Farnborough based around key anniversaries in the 2014-18 period.
- Events based around war poetry, art and music in a variety of libraries across Hampshire.
- Development of display stands, in partnership with the Royal Hampshire Regiment Museum, for each year of the war, describing the Hampshire Regiments role.

Countryside Service

- Poppies to be planted in Country Parks with a WWI connection.
- Royal Victoria Country Park, site of the famous Royal Victoria Military Hospital, will be hosting an exhibition in the Chapel, a military band concert and talks from local historian (Philip Hoare). WWI themed children's activities will also be arranged during the school holidays.
- Lepe Country Park is to hold a D-Day event, in partnership with the National Park Authority, to include a parade along the sea front, memorial service on the cliff top with wreath laying at the D-Day memorial, a large re-enactor camp, a beach landing living history re-enactment, bands playing wartime music, guided walks to the D-Day remains, exhibitions of artefacts, information and photos and recordings of veterans stories.

Economic Development

The Defence of the Realm military heritage site marketing programme, which consists of 30 military attractions in Hampshire and surrounding counties, will be re-focused towards commemorating WWI 100th and D-Day 70th anniversaries. This will include a printed brochure and web-based promotion that will promote both linked attractions and events to the visitor market.

Hampshire Music Service

- Participation in an event at Winchester Cathedral in June 2014 including the County Youth Orchestra and a German youth orchestra from a town twinned with Winchester.
- In partnership with the University of Winchester, potential involvement in Winchester events, including the flag raising ceremony.
- Performance of the 'Armed Man' by Karl Jenkins as part of the D-Day events in Gosport.

The Great Hall

- Lord Lieutenant's flag raising ceremony to be held outside the Great Hall on 23rd June. This Ceremony is expected to be larger and more focussed in 2014.
- Hosting an exhibition about the Morn Hill Memorial Project.