

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, YOUTH, FAMILIES AND CULTURE

FIRST WORLD WAR CENTENARY COMMEMORATION UPDATE

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide an update to the report to the Culture Committee on 8 October 2013 on activity led and supported by the County Council to commemorate the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War.
2. To seek approval for activity to progress.

Information and Advice

Background

3. 2014 marks 100 years since the outbreak of the First World War. National acts of remembrance will include the centenary of Britain entering the war on 4 August 1914, the battle of Jutland on 31 May/1 June 1916, the battle of the Somme on 1 July 2016 and Armistice Day on 11 November 1918.
4. The Imperial War Museum is providing a national lead, encouraging cultural, historic, volunteer and local authorities to contribute to a fitting commemoration to such a significant historical event and providing access to some of their resources such as images and podcasts.
5. Nottinghamshire people and places are connected to the First World War, either through family history, heritage of local communities or its long term impact on society and the world we live in today.
6. The establishment of a grant fund to support community projects related to commemoration of the First World War was approved at Policy Committee on 7 May 2014.

Current position

7. A co-ordination group led by the Group Manager, Libraries, Archives and Information, has been established to ensure the County Council co-ordinates its own activity and co-ordinates its contribution to commemorative activity across Nottinghamshire.
8. A number of events, activities and projects are scheduled over the coming months. The following list highlights the areas of work and the lead County Council services:

Area of work	Date	Lead Service
<p>Trent to Trenches – The Great War 1914-18 Nottingham City and County Remembers</p> <p>This is a volunteer led partnership project supported by the County Council and Nottingham City Council. The Team Manager, Archives and Local Studies, represents the County Council on this partnership.</p> <p>Trent to Trenches includes a major exhibition at Nottingham Castle, tours, war memorial talks and work with schools.</p> <p>Volunteer researchers are using resources at Nottinghamshire Libraries and Archives to carry out research for the exhibition and the roll of honour.</p> <p>Items from Nottinghamshire Archives will be loaned for the exhibition.</p> <p>A Great War Hidden Treasures object appeal was held at Mansfield Library as part of the Local History Fair on 19 May 2013 and held at County Hall on 9 Nov 2013 and at the Newark Showground on 16 Nov 2013. These were supported by staff from Archives.</p> <p>All County Council events and activities will be marketed under the Trent to Trenches banner, promoted by Experience Nottinghamshire and fed into the Imperial War Museum's national calendar of events being organised by Culture 24. A logo competition was won by a pupil at Awsorth Primary School.</p>	August – November 2014	Nottingham City Council and Nottinghamshire County Council
<p>Roll of Honour of Nottinghamshire War Memorials</p> <p>A roll of honour has been created by County Council IT following research by Trent to Trenches volunteers into memorials across both the County and City.</p> <p>Phase 1 complete - roll was made live August 2013</p> <p>Phase 2 commenced allowing the submission of additional information by members of the public.</p> <p>http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/rollofhonour</p>	Ongoing	IT Services Digital Team Supporting Local Communities

Area of work	Date	Lead Service
<p>Commemoration of local Victoria Cross recipients in the First World War</p> <p>On 4 Aug 2013 the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government announced a project for local authorities to commemorate local recipients of the Victoria Cross in the First World War by laying down commemorative paving stones.</p> <p>2 recipients were born in Nottinghamshire (DCLG criteria)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Lance Corporal Fuller – East Kirkby, Ashfield – 15 March 1915 – Sergeant Johnson – Worksop, Bassetlaw – 3 October 1918 <p>Specially designed paving slabs will be positioned within the associated village/town/neighbourhood.</p>	Ongoing	<p>Highways</p> <p>Supporting Local Communities</p> <p>CVS Team</p>
<p>From Home to Battlefields of World War 1: Nottinghamshire Memorials Project</p> <p>The Heritage Lottery Fund has awarded Nottinghamshire Archives a grant of £22,300 to catalogue and preserve the Wakefield Memorials collection. This collection was compiled by Mrs Patricia Wakefield of Bulwell and deposited with the Archives. It comprises her research into graves and memorials in the UK, France and Belgium of East Midlands soldiers who died in the First World War.</p> <p>The project is being undertaken by a group of home educated young people working under the supervision of a Project Archivist and assisted by some adult volunteers. It will enable the collection to be made more widely available to researchers in the run up to the commemoration of the centenary of the outbreak of the war in 2014.</p>	May 2013 onwards	Archives
<p>Future Fields - Exhibition</p> <p>Working with communities in Nottinghamshire, artists have been inspired by performances, archive film, poppy meadows and the WW1 commemoration to create amazing artwork for this exhibition. The commissions will be complemented by work created by the community through The Big Draw.</p>	7 October – November 2014 at Rufford Craft Centre Gallery	Arts Development Service

Area of work	Date	Lead Service
<p>Future Fields – The Big Draw</p> <p>Using the idea of poppy seed balls thousands of future fields of poppies will be created by mixing clay, soil and seeds with water and embellishing them with drawings and marks with tools, stamps and found objects, turning the materials into mini seed head sculptures.</p> <p>The work created will be part of the exhibition in the Gallery and then returned to the participants to scatter across their local area – creating future fields of poppies.</p> <p>Seed heads and poppies will also provide the inspiration to explore a range of drawing techniques in public workshops in community settings, creating work which will tour libraries from December 2014 to February 2015.</p>	<p>September & October</p> <p>A programme of public workshops across the County</p>	<p>Arts Development Service</p>
<p>The Second Minute – by Andy Barrett</p> <p>Drama performance touring village halls.</p> <p>A play based on the First World War letter collection from the Archive of the Sherwood Foresters. The piece focuses on the stories of three men and is produced by Nottingham Playhouse.</p> <p>“The second minute is a simply told and moving meditation of the experiences of the First World War, the lost art of letter writing and how hundreds of thousands of small scraps of paper survived the mud and slaughter to return to the homes of those that did not.”</p>	<p>7 May 2014 at Thrumpton Village Hall</p> <p>8 May 2014 at Thoresby Riding Hall Theatre</p> <p>9 May 2014 at Chilwell Arts Theatre</p> <p>10 May 2014 at St Mary’s Hall, Radcliffe on Trent</p> <p>11 May 2014 at Harworth & Bircotes Town Hall</p>	<p>Arts Development Service</p>
<p>Standing in Line - by Lester Simpson & Blaize</p> <p>Music/drama performance touring to village halls</p> <p>Lester Simpson and the musical duo Blaize present the story of Lester’s Uncle, Albert Scrimshaw, who was born in Eastwell on the Leics/Notts border, and died at Passendale.</p>	<p>6 June 2014 at Rolleston Village Hall</p> <p>7 June 2014 at Rempstone Village Hall</p>	<p>Arts Development Service</p>

Area of work	Date	Lead Service
<p>The show features Lester's songs and songs from the period, alongside projected images and the poems of Wilfred Owen, Siegfried Sassoon and Rudyard Kipling.</p>	<p>8 June at Thomas Cranmer Centre, Aslockton</p> <p>15 June 2014 at Harworth and Bircotes Town Hall</p>	
<p>The Thankful Village - by Badapple Theatre Company</p> <p>Drama performance touring village halls.</p> <p>Set against the backdrop of World War I, the quiet village backwater of Bottledale is changed forever by the advent of the conflict. But the plaque and the roll of honour stone in the village square remain empty and un-etched as the years pass, and folk start to wonder ...</p> <p>The story is of hope, humour and humanity, about the men who went away, the women left behind and the eccentric twists and turns of daily life that led to their re-uniting, for better or worse, in the winter of 1918.</p>	<p>7 June 2014 at South Clifton Coronation Hall</p>	<p>Arts Development Service</p>
<p>War Memorials – Survey and Restoration</p> <p>A survey of all free-standing externally located war memorials in Nottinghamshire has been completed. An intergenerational project around awareness, rededication and cleaning is being considered.</p>	<p>2014</p>	<p>Conservation</p> <p>Supporting Local Communities</p>
<p>Britain in the Great War, 1914-1918</p> <p>This living history weekend will include period music show, dancing, cooking and military drill demonstrations, harvesting by Land Army Girls and heavy horses, troop manoeuvres, period vehicles, artillery firing and for children a junior boot camp, battle interactivities and a puppet show. 11th Hussars – Old Pals Groups and Fair ground rides.</p> <p><i>28 June 2014 is the centenary of the date on which the Archduke Ferdinand of Austria was assassinated: an act which initiated a chain of events which brought about the start of the First World War a month later.</i></p>	<p>28 - 29 June 2014</p>	<p>Country Parks – Rufford</p>

Area of work	Date	Lead Service
Warhorse – Film showings Film screening of the 2011 film adaptation of author Michael Morpurgo's 1982 children's book. Directed by Steven Spielberg.	September 2014	Libraries - Mansfield, West Bridgford and Worksop Libraries
War Poetry at The Southwell Poetry Festival 2014. A variety of workshops, exhibitions, plays and talks around Nottinghamshire's Libraries to commemorate the war. Children's event at West Bridgford Library with the poet and author Brian Moses around the Christmas Truce.	19 July 2014 June to December 2014 22 November 2014	Libraries
Library displays Displays will be mounted in Mansfield, West Bridgford and Worksop Libraries.	August/ September 2014	Libraries
Ancestry training Training material has been developed to introduce library and archive users to the Ancestry website to trace military ancestors.	Ongoing	Libraries
Turning Back the Pages on Nottinghamshire in World War One A special pictorial publication utilising photographs, memorabilia and manuscripts from Nottinghamshire Libraries and Archives. Images from the publication will also be used in digital screen presentations across Libraries and Archives.	July 2014	Libraries and Archives
Act of Remembrance 2014 -2018 Wreath Laying at Shire Hall (Galleries of Justice) previous headquarters of the County Council - 45 KIA. Wreath Laying at County Hall names of the dead read out – 21 are former Police Officers.	Tuesday 11 November 2014 Shire Hall County Hall	Civic Office CVS Team
Community Commemoration Fund £10,000 per year 2014 - 2018 to support community activities to commemorate war. Community Groups can	Launch 5 June 2014 Mansfield Museum	CVS Team

Area of work	Date	Lead Service
apply for up to £300.		

9. There are also many community led projects that have made contact with the County Council and have had some element of support from a number of services.

Community led projects (not an exhaustive listing)	Approximate date
The Great March – Farndon History group A re-enactment of the mobilisation of the 8 th Battalion Sherwood Foresters. Volunteers will be asked to walk the 17 miles from Newark-on-Trent to Radcliffe-on-Trent 100 years on from the original date.	10 August 2014
Flintham Museum – The Home Front An exhibition of life in a Nottinghamshire village, including food before, rationing during and food shortages after the war. Newspaper clippings and clothes of the day.	July – Nov 2014
Radcliffe U3A Community fête; to coincide with the Great March, locals will be encouraged to wear early 20 th Century dress. There will be a concert and a memorial service.	August 2014
Queens Royal Lancers - Life in the Trenches Visitors will be able to experience life in a trench at The QRL museum, Thoresby.	August 2014 November 2018
Mansfield Woodhouse History Society Planned garden of remembrance, exhibitions and events.	August 2014 November 2018
Clipstone Camp Led by a District & Parish Councillor, volunteers are looking to map Clipstone camp (3 rd largest camp in England) and mark the area with a memorial stone and information boards. 5 known groups are looking into a Clipstone Camp project: Mansfield Museum, Forestry Commission, Mansfield Woodhouse History Society, Forest Town History Society and Clipstone Parish Council.	March 2013 November 2018

Christmas Football Match Members of Newark Town FC have invited a German Football Team and propose to hold a festive football match. This is being funded by Heritage Lottery Fund.	Winter 2014
Cotgrave and District Royal British Legion Commemoration service and site visits to Flanders Fields.	August 2014
Southwell Minister Exhibition marking the outbreak of the First World War.	17 May – 15 June 2014
The Southwell Lecture General The Lord Dannat speaks on the outbreak of WW1.	22 May 2014
Newark Air Museum Display of WW1 Aircraft and associated memorability.	2014 - 2018
Misterton Area Partnership (MAP) Lest we Forget - in the First World War; this is a re-application from MAP for a project to train and enable volunteers to research the history of individuals recorded on the War Memorial.	2014 - 2018 September 2013: £9,000 HLF
Bassetlaw Museum Different exhibitions - including focus on Somme in 2016.	2014 - 2018
Mansfield Museum Clipstone Camp and WW1 in Mansfield.	2014 - 2018
Newark Town Hall Museum Role of Mayors during WW1.	2014 – 2018
Coddington Parish Council Book of remembrance.	2014 – 2018
Collingham Remembering the war dead – gone but not forgotten project.	2014 - 2018

Other Options Considered

10. None.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

11. The range of activity planned and the support of the Trent to Trenches project is within the capacity and resources of the County Council.
12. In keeping with a commemorative approach, the range of activity enables the County Council to acknowledge the importance of the First World War and highlight the role of Nottinghamshire and its people.

Statutory and Policy Implications

13. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, public sector equality duty, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial implications

14. Activity identified within this report is allowed for in service budgets, therefore there are no direct additional financial resources required.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That:

- 1) the work of the coordination group continues to ensure the County Council contributes to a fitting commemoration
- 2) the outline listing of County Council activity and support be agreed and progressed
- 3) a regular progress report continues to be provided to the Culture Committee as the programme develops.

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Constitutional Comments (LM 09/05/14)

15. The Culture Committee has delegated responsibility within the Constitution for the development of cultural and heritage activities and may approve the recommendations in the report

Financial Comments (KLA 08/05/14)

16. The financial implications of this report are set out in paragraph 14 above.

Background Papers and Published Documents

World War One Centenary Commemoration update - report to Culture Committee on 8 October 2013

First World War Centenary Commemorations 2014 – 2018 Community Fund – report to Policy Committee on 7 May 2014

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C0431