

Voices of the Home Fronts: Reflections and Legacies of the First World War

The National Archives

19 and 20 October 2018

Contribute to a lively exchange of ideas at this two-day conference which, through the use of unusual and under-used sources, such as material culture, will illuminate the histories of post-war societies, examine the impact of the Armistice on everyday life, and explore life and society in the immediate aftermath of the war from national and international perspectives.

The conference will bring together independent researchers, community groups, museum curators and academics to showcase recent research, generate dynamic discussion, and foster new collaborations both nationally and internationally.

The conference is organised by The National Archives, *Gateways to the First World War* and the *Everyday Lives in War* Engagement Centres, on behalf of the five national World War One Engagement Centres funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council.

We are delighted to announce that our keynote speakers are Prof Sophie de Schaepdrijver and Richard Van Emden.

Themes

The conference will explore four major themes:

- **Reconciliation - the new normal?** We are looking for contributions examining domestic and public life, across the world, as society adjusted to men and women returning from war. We are also interested in the impact on and experience of children during this period.
- **Revolution** As well as conscientious objection and political agitation, we want the conference to explore the subtleties of dissent socially, religiously, and culturally in those first months and years after the war. We are interested in contributions from the new nations forged from the First World War, and the impact of nation building on everyday life throughout the world.
- **Remembrance** We want to explore issues such as cultural memory, as well as immediate matters such as post-war riots, gender relations, food, and housing. We are interested in the material culture of the First World War and welcome its inclusion in proposals.
- **Rebuilding** We want to examine the long-term impact of the war on the built environment and the rural landscape, and how that shaped everyday lives from agriculture to community formation, from local industries to the natural world.

Interested in participating?

No affiliation to an academic institution is required to submit a proposal. We particularly welcome independent and early career researchers, and community groups who are working on research which matches the themes listed above.

Contributions from international organisations/ speakers are welcomed, but please note that all presentations must be given in English.

If successful, applicants will be able to apply for travel bursaries. Information will be given in the proposal acceptance email.

Format

We invite proposals for twenty minute presentations, discussion panels, roundtables and workshops.

Presentations – Each proposal will be grouped with two other papers on a similar subject. Each speaker will be given twenty minutes to present their paper and ten minutes to field questions.

Discussion Panels - Each panel proposal should include three twenty minute papers and a named panel chair. Thirty minutes will be allowed for open discussion.

Workshops - All workshops should involve a high level of interactivity which should be clearly demonstrated in the abstract.

Roundtables - Each roundtable session should be hosted by a professional network or society, and include no more than five speakers speaking for five minutes each.

Both workshops and roundtables should be open to all conference delegates and require no prior knowledge or preparation.

Posters

The conference organisers welcome posters that summarise work done by an organisation, community group or individual researcher on a topic that fits with the conference themes.

- Posters should be A1 (594mm x 841mm) in size and contain text no smaller than 24pt

Guidelines and a webinar on creating an effective poster will be offered in advance for those considering this format.

Submission format

All submissions should be presented in the following format as a word document:

- Name and organisation of speaker
(If not linked to an organisation, use 'Independent Researcher')
- Title of presentation/panel
- A summary of no more than 100 words (to be printed in the conference programme)
- A more detailed abstract of no more than 300 words

Proposals should be emailed to: FirstWorldWar100@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

Enquiries can be directed to:

Jessamy Carlson, The National Archives
Owen Davies, University of Hertfordshire

Closing Date: 30 April 2018

Places are limited and, unfortunately, proposals submitted after the deadline date will not be accepted.

Interested in attending?

Tickets will be on sale from mid-2018

