

First World War family history

2014 marks the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of WW1. But what did it mean to the people of Ireland? The men who served with the Allied Forces? The families whose loved-ones were killed? Or the communities who were completely opposed to Irish involvement in the conflict?

The Europeana 1914-1918 archive will provide some answers, preserve generations of stories and bring people closer to those who witnessed that period of history first hand.

More than 200,000 men served in the British forces from all over the island – despite there being no conscription. Many nationalists volunteered in response to the call by John Redmond, leader of the Irish Parliamentary Party, to assist in the fight for the freedom of small nations. Unionists joined up out of loyalty to Britain, while others went for adventure and economic reasons. By the time the war ended, some 35,000 Irish soldiers had died. And those who survived returned to Ireland to find a much-changed political climate.

Europeana is Europe's digital library, archive and museum. It launched its 1914-1918 family history project in Germany in 2011 to collect memorabilia and family stories from combat and the home front. Nine family history roadshows were held in major cities across Germany and so far we've recorded over 25,000 digital images. These include: unpublished diaries, hand-drawn maps, portraits, sketches and photographs recording life under fire and on the home front. The project is being rolled-out across 10 countries in Europe to create a unique pan-European virtual archive of WW1.

Contact

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For more information

www.europeana1914-1918.eu

World War One 1914-1918

Digitising pictures, letters, memories
for the 100th anniversary



Do you have memorabilia from WW1?

Letters, photographs, diaries, sound recordings or films?

Share them on the web!

www.europeana1914-1918.eu



How you can get involved

Do you have a box hidden deep in the attic, or under the bed, that holds your great grandfather's war diary? Maybe a letter from the front line? A photo taken at the time? Or a recording? Is there a special story behind it?

Then show us!

You can also take digital photos or scans of your letters, photos, diaries and memorabilia, or digitise your film and audio material.

What you need

To digitise your WW1 family history, you will require:

- A digital camera with a resolution of 2 megapixels and/ or a scanner with a minimum resolution of 300 dpi
- A computer with an internet connection on which you can store the digital image before uploading it to the project website

What to do next

Once you've digitised your keepsakes and securely stored them on your computer, you can go to www.europeana1914-1918.eu. There you can register for free and contribute to the online archive. There's a form you need to use to describe your object in greater detail, then you upload your file as a jpg image, PDF or an audio-video file.

Once the information has been reviewed by the editorial team, it will be available to all users of the website. Personal email addresses will not be published.

We only collect the digital version of your memorabilia – not the object itself. You can only submit objects you have the rights to and agree that the digital version will be freely available on the internet for use by others.

Roadshows

Bring your WW1 artefacts along to one of our roadshows.

Experts will be on hand to digitise your material and add your details to the online archive. Project staff will also be available to record your oral stories.

We look forward to seeing you at:

Europeana National Library roadshow
National Library of Ireland
Kildare Street, Dublin 2
21 March 2012, 10am - 7pm
Tel: 01 6030200
Email: europeana1914-1918@nli.ie

Other Irish roadshows will follow.



NO CONSCRIPTION
NOW! or AFTER the Harvest
No Economic Pressure!
LÁ NA mBán.
The Woman's Day,
SUNDAY, JUNE 9th.
FOR HOME & COUNTRY.
IRISHWOMEN,
STAND BY YOUR COUNTRYMEN
IN RESISTING CONSCRIPTION.
SIGN THIS PLEDGE AT THE CITY HALL
ST. COLMCILLE'S DAY

"We will not fill the places of men deprived"

