

The World War 1 Roadshow at Trinity College Dublin

'Europe Goes to War, Ireland's Part'

Details: 9.30am-5.30pm, Saturday, July 12th, Trinity College Dublin

Historical photographic imagery is available. See contact details further below.

Dublin, July 3rd, 2014 – The World War 1 Roadshow www.rte.ie/worldwar1 and <http://www.tcd.ie/decade-commemoration/events/world-war-one-roadshow/> will be hosted by Trinity College Dublin in partnership with RTÉ Radio 1 and the National Library of Ireland on Saturday July 12th where Ireland's part in the war will be explored with a series of events taking place throughout the Trinity campus.

One of its main events, the Family History Collections Day of World War 1 memorabilia invites members of the public to bring in family items, letters and mementos related to the war for digitisation and archiving by a team of experts. The World War 1 Roadshow will also feature a series of pop up talks and lectures on the Great War, and Trinity College Dublin's own unique history during this period. There will be a range of other activities including history tours of the campus related to the Great War and the 'Last Cricket Match of Peace'. The day will conclude with the final Bugle call of the 'Last Post'.

Commenting on its significance for Trinity, Professor James Wickham said:

"The World War One Roadshow forms part of Trinity College Dublin's engagement with the Decade of Commemorations. With its programme of talks and lectures it will showcase research being conducted in Ireland on this period; it will also remember the over 450 Trinity College graduates who died in the Great War. We want it to be an informative and thought provoking day concerning Ireland's part in World War One. We want people to come away from it with a greater understanding of Ireland's role in what was one of the bloodiest conflicts of our time."

As part of the Family History Collections Day of World War 1 people from all over Ireland will be invited to bring their precious items and memories related to World War One to be catalogued, digitised, and uploaded to an online European archive. This archive is being developed by Europeana (Europe's digital library, museum and archive), in conjunction with Oxford University and with national partners across Europe, such as the National Library of Ireland, in time for the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the war in 1914. It will be the first ever online European archive of private stories and documents from World War 1. Experts from the National Library of Ireland and Trinity College Dublin will evaluate and digitise the memorabilia presented on the day for the purpose of the archive.

Commenting in advance, Katherine McSharry, Head of Services with the National Library of Ireland, said:

"The huge interest in the forthcoming 100-year anniversary of the outbreak of World War One reminds us how important it is to ensure physical memorabilia of key historical events, brought to life with people's stories and memories, are recorded for posterity. The National Library of Ireland will manage a team of cataloguers from TCD and NUIG, supported by NLI staff, for the World War One Roadshow, who will work to record and digitise the stories and items brought in by members of the public. We have been involved in similar events in the past, which have generated huge levels of interest. We know the Irish

public has a wealth of items and stories to share in relation to World War 1, and we look forward to discovering more fascinating material during this event.”

RTÉ Radio 1 is delighted to partner with The National Library of Ireland and Trinity College Dublin for this day of events. The Public Theatre will have soundproof booths where RTÉ Radio 1 will be recording family testimonies for broadcast in August. Pop up talks will take place every 15 minutes throughout the day in the Trinity Long Room Hub, Fellows’ Square covering different aspects of WW1. Over in the Edmund Burke Theatre, Arts Building there will be a special recording of *Sunday Miscellany* with new writing about WW1 for broadcast on Sunday 3rd August at 9am. *‘Echoes From the Front’* is a sequence of performed readings with musical interludes, charting various scenarios from WW1 and will take place in the Trinity College Chapel. Four actors will read from accounts, diary entries and love letters capturing a glimpse of the human side of battle as part of this unique event.

Lorelei Harris, RTÉ Radio 1 Editor of Arts, Factual & Drama said:

“RTÉ is honoured to be involved in this major cultural partnership which aims to bring World War 1 to the position of centrality in the Irish public imagination it so rightly merits. We are proud to present a range of talks, live programming, drama and literature in the beautiful setting of Trinity College Dublin, so closely associated with the huge loss of young Irish life that took place during the Great War.”

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For all details of the programme click on : <http://www.rte.ie/worldwar1> or www.tcd.ie/decade-commemoration/events/world-war-one-roadshow/

For media queries for Trinity College Dublin and for images contact:

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