

Gallipoli Centenary Education Project

The Gallipoli campaign of 1915-16 was a pivotal moment in world history. While it was a significant defeat for the British and Allied forces, it came to symbolise the start of the new Turkish Republic under Atatürk, and also the birth of Australia and New Zealand as independent nations. As part of the First World War centenary commemorations, and with funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Gallipoli Association, we are running an exciting two year educational project, until spring 2016. For this we have brought together cultural heritage organisations (museums, historic houses, archive services, arts centres) and schools in Britain, Turkey, Ireland, France, Germany, Australia and New Zealand.

Britain

Gallipoli Association (lead partner)	British Army & Navy
Fusilier Museum, Bury	Lancashire Fusiliers
Touchstones Museum, Rochdale	Lancashire Fusiliers
North Devon Museum, Barnstaple.....	Devon Yeomanry
National Museum of the Royal Navy.....	HMS Monitor 33
Royal Marines Museum	Royal Marines
Scottish Borders Council	King's Own Scottish Borderers
Cumbria's Military Museum.....	Border Regiment
South Lanarkshire Leisure & Culture	The Cameronians and Lanarkshire Yeomanry
Islington Museum.....	London Regiment
Institute of Education, London.....	First World War Battlefields Tour Programme
UK Punjab Heritage Association	Indian Army

Military connections

Ireland

National Museum of Ireland	Royal Dublin Fusiliers
Kerry County Museum	Royal Munster Fusiliers

Australia

National Trust, Western Australia	10 th Light Horse
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New Zealand

Toitū: Otago Settlers Museum, Dunedin	Otago Battalion
Whanganui Regional Museum	First Maori Battalion

France

L'Association Nationale Pour le Souvenir des Dardanelles

Turkey

Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University
Çanakkale Provincial Directorate of National Education

Partnerships

- **Local.** At the centre of the project are local partnerships between cultural heritage organisations and local schools. British and Commonwealth regiments have a long tradition of recruitment from localities, so schools will be working with regimental museums and associations, and with serving regiments, to explore local stories of Gallipoli. In other countries, such as France and Turkey, military recruitment was more centralised so we will be working directly with schools.
- **National.** In addition to the local activities, a range of national events are planned in the UK. These include training for project staff, the development of a website and educational resources, a travelling exhibition, a schools conference and a tour programme. We are also integrating our activities with other centenary projects in the UK, and are helping to support similar projects in the other combatant countries.
- **International.** A steering group of national partners from participating countries are working together to coordinate international activities. The international programme will start in 2015 and run for two years, with the 2016-17 activities exploring the lasting legacy of Gallipoli, especially its impact on different national identities.

Activities

Activities are being developed by participating organisations and include the following:

- Supported research by schools using museum and archive collections to discover personal stories of individual soldiers and families involved in the campaign.
- Sharing of research stories through a dedicated website, which all participating organisations can use to display findings and explore international links: <http://gallipoli100education.org.uk/>.
- Development of regional arts activities such as exhibitions (ideally curated by participating schools); performances (drama, music) and videos.
- Online communication events such as seminars and video conferences to explore the Gallipoli story from different national perspectives.
- Visits to Gallipoli in 2014 and 2015 to commemorate the involvement of individuals from many different countries. Our pilot visit took place in November 2014.
- Visits to attend exhibition openings and performances in participating countries.

Timetable

The UK project runs from spring 2014 to spring 2016

April – July 2014	develop local and national partnerships
June 2014-June 2015.....	link with regional, national and international FWW projects
November 2014	pilot battlefield tour
March 2015.....	launch project website
March-December 2015	run centenary activities and travelling exhibition
October-November 2015	battlefield tours
February 2016.....	schools conference
December 2015-March 2016.....	project evaluation and planning for sustainability

Subject to successful funding applications, the international project will start in May 2015 and continue until May 2017.

Outcomes

Winston Churchill said 'it's better to jaw-jaw than to war-war', so it is ironic that the deaths at Gallipoli were partly due to his policies. The educational purpose of this project is 'jaw-jaw' – promoting better understanding through dialogue. Gallipoli also allows us to reflect on the truly global significance of the First World War: as the German General Hans Kannengiesser who commanded a Turkish Division at Gallipoli wryly remarked, "seldom have so many countries of the world, races and nations sent their representatives to so small a place with the praiseworthy intention of killing one another". Starting from personal stories of the campaign, the project will give children opportunities to study different national perspectives and to consider the legacy of Gallipoli for us all today.

Practical outcomes include:

- Enhanced links between cultural heritage organisations and educational institutions.
- Improved heritage learning skills in cultural heritage organisations.
- Contribution by cultural heritage organisations to curriculum development, e.g. use of historical evidence, historical interpretations.
- International cooperation through shared knowledge and understanding.

Gallipoli Association

For further information about the Gallipoli Association, and its Gallipoli 100 centenary work:

www.gallipoli-association.org

www.gallipoli100.co.uk

www.gallipoli100education.org.uk

Twitter:

@GallipoliEd – education project

@Gallipoli100 – general centenary activities