

## Brief Ypres/Somme Itinerary - 2023

### Day 1 Thursday 14 Sep 2023

0400 An executive coach arrives

0430 Depart school

**0920** Outbound crossing

1100 Arrive France – local time

1200 Arrive Ypres – may include:

Sandwich and bottle of water to be delivered to the first stand

#### **1230 Bayernwald trench system**

Creating the Western Front; the development of Trench warfare; use of ground; trench construction; daily routine; Health and hygiene - conditions in the trenches

#### **Hill 60**

The underground war - the use of mine warfare in the Great War; The use of poison gas and its effects; Testament of Youth - Vera Brittain's description of gas victims; Wilfred Owen's 'Dulce et Decorum Est'

#### **Railway Dugouts Burial Ground (Transport Farm)**

Ethos of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission; young soldiers; Empire troops; Rev. Edgar Noel Moore MC – the role of Padres on the Front Line

#### **Langemarck German Military Cemetery**

German cemetery ethos: the role of the Volksbund Deutsche Kriegsgräberfürsorge (VDK), Slaughter of the Innocents; links to the causes of WW2

#### **Tyne Cot CWGC**

3<sup>rd</sup> battle of Ypres; Battlefield conditions; Communication and logistics; Remembrance – option of wreath-laying

A chance for chocolate shopping should the school wish. - TBC

**1800** Dinner – Central Restaurant

**1930** Briefing for Menin Gate ceremony

**2000** Last Post Ceremony

**2030** Return to accommodation

Briefing for day 2 as appropriate

### Day 2 Friday 15 Sep 23

**0830** After breakfast check out and depart accommodation for the Somme

### **Lochnagar Crater**

Background to the battle of the Somme; Kitchener's Army; Outline of the plan for 1 July; use of mines; build-up to Zero Hour

### **Sunken Lane**

'The Battle of the Somme'. Attack of the 1st Lancashire Fusiliers; consideration of casualty rates and the differing nature of battlefield wounds; what medical treatment was available on the battlefield? How do you move casualties and where to?

### **Old Beaumont Road**

The chain of evacuation; following 1<sup>st</sup> Lancashire Fusiliers to the Regimental Aid Post (RAP) - what treatment is available. The role of Medical Officers and Stretcher Bearers; Infection, trauma and blood loss

### **1230 Lunch at Ocean Villas**

### **1315 Auchonvillers Show and Tell**

A demonstration of the triage process using period equipment and medical supplies; what treatment is available? The role of the RAMC; The use of x-rays; blood transfusions and the Thomas Splint

### **Auchonvillers Military Cemetery**

Site of a former Advanced Dressing Station (ADS); how are casualties transported from ADS to Casualty Clearing Stations (CCS) the role of Nursing Staff including FANY; the role of surgeons and the development of new medical techniques; treating gas casualties; abdominal wounds etc.

What happens to those who don't make it?; the role and ethos of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

### **Newfoundland Memorial Park**

Preserved trench system; comparison between battlefield casualties to illness prior to the Great War; in previous conflicts – what changes? Attack of the Newfoundland Regiment 1 July 1916

### **Thiepval Memorial to the Missing**

An opportunity for reflection and a chance to lay a Poppy wreath  
Formal end of tour.

### **1645 Depart the Somme for Calais**

Opportunity to purchase food under own cost and arrangements, time permitting

### **2050 Inbound crossing**

2030 Arrive UK (local time)

2330 Arrive School (approx. time only)