

WWI Commemorations Scrutiny Review

Summary of Consultation Feedback

Events planned in York

- York peace Bells (York City Centre Churches)
- Beacons being lit (various Parish Councils)
- Project to get people to make poppies (York City Centre Churches)
- Research into names of people commemorated at their churches, to be able to view (York City Centre Churches)
- HLF Funded Project (York Army Museum)
- Church Musical recitals Remembrance Day Services (numerous)
- Video and musical event (similar to The Christmas Truce) (York Latter-Day Saints)
- Commemorative Trail (Make it York), including one aimed at children
- A number of Parish Councils (notable Askham Richard, Bishopthorpe and Copmanthorpe) said they were planning an array of events, mainly very much around 11th November. These included singing songs from WW I, readings and street parties.
- Commemorative Concert (Bishophill History Group)
- Great War Centenary Commemorations Project Play (Joao De Villar)
- Exhibition (Rowntree Society)
- Various Evening Lectures (Mansion House)
- Sculptures in ST Helens Square (York Bid)
- Peace and Reconciliation Lecture (York City Centre Churches)

Things people were keen to see

- Leaflet consolidating what is on
- Memorabilia Roadshow (The Army Museum said they held one before with Explore)
- Use of words of Flanders Fields, which has been marked out with poppies across the UK
- More about local people who went to war (notable the Civic Archive offered their services, many churches were also doing/planning research into local people)

- Need to encourage schools to get involved
- Check on the condition of memorials and war graves and improve them where appropriate.
- Have a theme – for example more public seats, dedicated to people.
- Mention was made by a number of the 'Battle's Over a Nation's Tribute'.
- A desire to see poetry play a part
- Something on the role of animals (Yorkshire Museum of Farming offered to help)

To Note

The respondents also listed other groups who they thought could sensibly be contacted.

There was significant enthusiasm from groups that would add real expertise and enthusiasm.

Understandably given time pressures there was no real comment from schools but some made efforts to say how children could be involved and it was clear people thought they should be.

Not for this year, but relevant for comments

This year Poppy banners on Micklegate (York City Centre Churches)

York St John did a posthumous award to one of their past students at their last Graduation Ceremony.