

The Christmas Truce Education Resources Award Finalist Smsc Resource Poppy

Sixteen-year-old Sydney is overwhelmed by the excitement of the 1914 recruitment campaigns and the bravado of men leaving for the Great War. Bursting with enthusiasm, he runs away to join up, but soon finds himself a long way from home in a frontline trench where reality - and the rats - begin to bite. Told through Sydney's optimistic letters home and his journal, this is his honest portrayal of the disillusionment and degradation of life and death in the trenches of World War I. 'Find room for this indictment of the First World War' - Bookseller

The horrors of the First World War released a great outburst of emotional poetry from the soldiers who fought in it as well as many other giants of world literature. Wilfred Owen, Rupert Brooke and W B Yeats are just some of the poets whose work is featured in this anthology. The raw emotion unleashed in these poems still has the power to move readers today. As well as poems detailing the miseries of war there are poems on themes of bravery, friendship and loyalty, and this collection shows how even in the depths of despair the human spirit can still triumph.

In late December 1914, German and British soldiers on the western front initiated a series of impromptu, unofficial ceasefires. Enlisted men across No Man's Land abandoned their trenches and crossed enemy lines to sing carols, share food and cigarettes, and even play a little soccer. Collectively known as the Christmas Truce, these fleeting moments of peace occupy a mythical place in remembrances of World War I. Yet new accounts suggest that the heartwarming tale ingrained in the popular imagination bears little resemblance to the truth. In this detailed study, Terri Blom Crocker provides the first comprehensive analysis of both scholarly and popular portrayals of the Christmas Truce from 1914 to present. From books by influential historians to the Oscar-nominated French film Joyeux Noel (2006), this new examination shows how a variety of works have both explored and enshrined this outbreak of peace amid overwhelming violence. The vast majority of these accounts depict the soldiers as acting in defiance of their superiors. Crocker, however, analyzes official accounts as well as private letters that reveal widespread support among officers for the d tentes. Furthermore, she finds that truce participants describe the temporary ceasefires not as rebellions by disaffected troops but as acts of humanity and survival by professional soldiers deeply committed to their respective causes. The Christmas Truce studies these ceasefires within the wider war, demonstrating how generations of scholars have promoted interpretations that ignored the nuanced perspectives of the many soldiers who fought. Crocker's groundbreaking, meticulously researched work challenges conventional analyses and sheds new light on the history and popular mythology of the War to End All Wars.

Mercy dog, Flo, has more to contend with than racing across the dangerous battlefield of the Somme. Can she get her medical kit to the injured? Can she lead Ray, the stretcher-bearer, and his donkey to them in time? Depicting the key landmarks of the Somme, this story pays tribute to the remarkable bravery of the animals who played their part during World War One.

Myth, Memory, and the First World War

The World War I Battlefield Nurse

When the Guns Fall Silent

Boogie Bear

Peace Lily

It began 100 years ago. They said it would be over by Christmas. They were wrong! Read about the tanks and trenches, bombs and battlefields that make up the chilling story of World War One. Did you know that German Zeppelins were made from cow intestines, the same material as sausage skins, so sausages were banned in Germany? Or that the fighting was stopped on Christmas Day 1914, so that German and British soldiers could play football in no man's land? Discover these facts, and so much more, in this fascinating book. Richard Brassey, author of the successful THE STORY OF THE OLYMPICS, brings World War One to life in this unique take on the history and events of one of the 20th century's most important episodes. Full of wonderful, full-colour illustrations and interesting stories, this is a timely addition to existing books on the subject that will interest even the most reluctant readers.

December 1914. As families across Europe gather to celebrate Christmas, a generation of young men find themselves far away from their loved ones in the trenches of the Western Front. There they face a world seemingly devoid of any peace or goodwill. But on Christmas Eve 1914, as the men of the Warwickshire Regiment shelter in their trenches, something astonishing happens. Across no-man's land they hear music. The German soldiers are singing Christmas carols; the same carols their families are listening to, hundreds of miles away in Birmingham, Warwick and Stratford-upon-Avon. Leaving their trenches, carrying only their courage and their humanity, they go to meet their enemies; not to fight, but talk, to exchange gifts, to celebrate Christmas. And the next day, together, they play an unforgettable game of football.

When a letter is found in a secret drawer discussing a wonderful event that happened on Christmas during wartime in 1914, the finder of the letter returns it to the addressee who is living in a nursing home.

"The Christmas Truce of 1914 is one of the most extraordinary incidents not only of World War I but of all military history. Providing inspiration for songs, books, plays and movies, it has endured as an archetypal image of peace. Yet much about the historic event remains shrouded in myth and legend. In this fictional letter--illustrated in authentic detail by Wendy Edelson--award-winning author Aaron Shepard draws from firsthand accounts of soldiers at the front to portray the truce in its true nature and spirit"--Page 4 of cover.

A True Story of World War 1

The Christmas Truce

Village Green to No-man's-Land

Where the Poppies Now Grow

The Last Post

Postcards from the Trenches

• Includes revealing first-person accounts of how the truce unfolded and the amazing interaction between enemies • An exhaustive work of comprehensive research and study in various files and paperwork • Beautifully illustrated with many rare and unpublished photographs • A must-have for military historians, enthusiasts, academics, students, scholars and those interested in the First World War

The Christmas Truce of 1914 remains a moment of enduring fascination more than a century after the day the First World War guns fell silent. Now for the first time, hundreds of first-person accounts of this most extraordinary period of history have been gathered together telling the story in their own words of the soldiers who met in peace in No Man's Land. The stories of men from English, Irish, Scottish and Welsh regiments who played and joked, sang and danced, swapped gifts and shared food and drink with the enemy before returning to war on the Western Front. Christmas Truce by the Men Who Took Part: Letters from the 1914 Ceasefire on the Western Front is the largest collection ever drawn together of letters sent home by the officers and soldiers who laid down their guns and shook hands with their foes. The eye-opening accounts of the unofficial armistice between German and British forces capture the trepidation and exhilaration, the curiosity, anger, joy and despair of that first Christmas on the unforgiving battlegrounds of the Great War.

Shooting at the Stars is the moving story of a young British soldier on the front lines during World War I who experiences an unforgettable Christmas Eve. In a letter home to his mother, he describes how, despite fierce fighting earlier from both sides, Allied and German soldiers ceased firing and came together on the battlefield to celebrate the holiday. They sang carols, exchanged gifts, and even lit Christmas trees. But as the holiday came to a close, they returned to their separate trenches to await orders for the war to begin again.John Hendrix wonderfully brings this story to life, interweaving fact and fiction along with his detailed illustrations and hand-lettered text. His story celebrates the humanity and kindness that can persist even during the darkest periods of our history. Back matter includes a glossary, additional information about World War I and the Christmas Truce and its aftermath, and an archival photograph taken during the Truce. Also available by John Hendrix: Miracle Man Praise for Shooting at the Stars **STARRED REVIEWS** "Few titles at this level convey the futility of World War I as well as this one does. A first choice." --School Library Journal, starred review "Timed with the centenary of World War I but a lesson for always, Hendrix's tale pulls young readers close and shows the human side of war." --Kirkus Reviews, starred review

Written to mark the anniversary of the start of the First World War, this book is a touching tribute to honour all those who sacrificed so much for the sake of peace. The book is dedicated to the memory of the great uncles of Hilary and Martin who fell at the Somme in 1916. While the book is written for young children the artwork will have cross generational appeal.

Down at the Front, on a cold winter's night in 1914, amidst the worst war the world had ever seen, an inexplicable silence spread from man to man. Belief was in the air. Then the soldiers ceased fire and the magic of Christmas took hold . . .Carol Ann Duffy's brilliant new poem celebrates the miraculous truce between the trenches, when enemy shook hands with enemy, shared songs, swapped gifts, even played football, and peace found a place in No Man's Land.

The Truce

Images of the First World War

The Best Christmas Present in the World

Christmas in the Trenches

The Mercy Dogs of World War 1

Christmas Truce of 1914

A World War I veteran tells his grandson of his experiences in 1914, when British and German soldiers declared a truce from fighting to celebrate Christmas together. By the illustrator of The Yellow Star.

In the morning the people of the island found a man sitting on the shore, there where fate and the ocean currents had set him and his frail raft in the night. When he saw them coming towards him, he rose to his feet. He was not like them. This internationally acclaimed, award-winning picture book is astonishing, powerful and timely.

It was one of history's most powerful -- yet forgotten -- Christmas stories. It took place in the improbable setting of the mud, cold rain and senseless killing of the trenches of World War I. It happened in spite of orders to the contrary by superiors; it happened in spite of language barriers. And it still stands as the only time in history that peace spontaneously arose from the lower ranks in a major conflict, bubbling up to the officers and temporarily turning sworn enemies into friends. Silent Night, by renowned military historian Stanley Weintraub, magically restores the 1914 Christmas Truce to history. It had been lost in the tide of horror that filled the battlefields of Europe for months and years afterward. Yet in December 1914 the Great War was still young, and the men who suddenly threw down their arms and came together across the front lines -- to sing carols, exchange gifts and letters, eat and drink and even play friendly games of soccer -- naively hoped that the war would be short-lived, and that they were fraternizing with future friends. It began when German soldiers lit candles on small Christmas trees, and British, French, Belgian and German troops serenaded each other on Christmas Eve. Soon they were gathering and burying the dead, in an age-old custom of truces. But as the power of Christmas grew among them, they broke bread, exchanged addresses and letters and expressed deep admiration for one another. When angry superiors ordered them to recommence the shooting, many men aimed harmlessly high overhead. Sometimes the greatest beauty emerges from deep tragedy. Surely the forgotten Christmas Truce was one of history's most beautiful moments, made all the more beautiful in light of the carnage that followed it. Stanley Weintraub's moving re-creation demonstrates that peace can be more fragile than war, but also that ordinary men can bond with one another despite all efforts of politicians and generals to the contrary.

We were all just desperate men who wanted to be home for Christmas with the ones we loved; our hearts torn between the duty to our country and the warmth and shelter of our families. The Last Postis a story of love, hope and legacy set during WWI at Christmas. It tells a terrible, tragic story beautifully and makes the difficult connection between something that might seem a long time ago to today's children, to their own family's history - which hopefully they would be inspired to research. The story shows the increasing poignant correspondence between a father, struggling with life on the Front, and his son back home. William just wants his father back for Christmas. After all, everyone said the war would be over by then, didn't they? When William hears word of the Christmas truce, he believes all his prayers have been answered. A perfect book for children in upper key stage 2 of primary school, who like to be challenged in their reading, but can find long novels overwhelming. The book is also well-suited for teachers teaching a WWI topic and can be used as the inspiration for numerous writing tasks. It also has helpful guided/shared reading discussion questions, and WWI research ideas included.

Winner of the Telegraph Children's Sports Book of the Year 2020

A Christmas Collar

The Western Front December 1914

The True Story of the Christmas Truce

A Christmas Carol

Poppy Field

'Just you think,' wrote one soldier to his family, 'that while you were eating your turkey I was out talking with the very men I had been trying to kill a few hours before!' Christmas, 1914. The first winter of the First World War. In a conflict infamous for its horror and brutality, enemy shook hands with enemy. Soldiers shared rations, exchanged souvenirs, and even played football on a frost-covered No Man's Land. This Christmas truce was not just a brief interlude in one place. The ceasefire between the trenches extended over at least two-thirds of the British line and there were similar ceasefires in the French and Belgian sectors of the Western Front. In some areas the peaceable mood lingered well into 1915. But behind the festive cheer and acceptance of shared experience, the inevitable renewal of hostilities loomed large. Malcolm Brown and Shirley Seaton have combed war diaries, talked to participants and consulted a wide range of contemporary letters, diaries and newspapers to produce this unique account.

From Number One bestselling author David Walliams comes a hilarious and heartwarming picture book, brilliantly illustrated by the artistic genius, Tony Ross. Up at the North Pole, a big furry polar bear is swimming, fishing and eating. But when she nods off and finds herself far from home, she thinks things can't get any worse. But they can ... Much worse! An outrageously funny picture book with an incredibly heartwarming message about celebrating difference - in all its forms.

'One of them shouted "A Merry Christmas English. We're not shooting tonight." . . . [then] they stuck up a light. Not to be outdone, so did we. Then up went another. So, we shoved up another. Soon the lines looked like an illuminated fete.' Rifleman Leslie Walkington On Christmas Eve 1914, a group of German soldiers laid down their arms, lit lanterns and started to sing Christmas carols. The British troops in nearby trenches responded by singing songs of their own. The next day, men from both sides met in No Man's Land. They shook hands, took photos and exchanged food and souvenirs. Some even played improvised football games, kicking around empty bully-beef cans and using helmets for goalposts. Both sides also saw the lull in fighting as a chance to bury the bodies of their comrades. In some parts of the front, the truce lasted a few hours. In others, it continued to the New Year. But everywhere, sooner or later, the fighting resumed. Today, the Christmas Truce is seen as a poignant symbol of hope in a war that many people regard as unnecessary and futile. But what was the real story of those remarkable few days? In this fascinating new book, historian Anthony Richards has brought together hundreds of first-hand reminiscences from those who were there -- including previously unpublished German accounts -- to cast fresh light on this extraordinary episode.

This Graphic Novel Series features classic tales retold with attractive color illustrations. Educators using the Dale-Chall vocabulary system adapted each title. Each 70 page, softcover book retains key phrases and quotations from the original classics. Introduce literature to reluctant readers and motivate struggling readers. Students build confidence through reading practice. Motivation makes all the difference. What's more motivation then the expectation of success?

Another 366 Days: More Stories From This Day in History

The Real Story of the 1914 Christmas Truce

Christmas Truce

Silent Night

War Horse

The Story of World War One

On Christmas Eve, Mila and Lumi find something special sparkling in the snow. "Mila popped the collar around Lumi's neck to keep it safe until they could find the owner." But is there more to the Christmas collar than meets the eye? Will Lumi find the real owner on her magical Christmas adventure? Download the full eBook and explore supporting teaching materials at www.twinkl.com/originals Join Twinkl Book Club to receive printed story books every half-term at www.twinkl.co.uk/book-club (UK only).

"Mum says it's for our own protection. London's just getting too dangerous." It's 1941. Hitler's ruthless Luftwaffe has already started its deadly bombing raids across London. So, when cousins Sam and Lily are evacuated north to a sleepy seaside hamlet, they hope that they'll find safety. Instead, the two children encounter local hostility, a shifty character sending messages in a secretive code, and a treacherous plot. Can Sam, Lily and their new friends crack the code before hundreds are killed? Download the full eBook and explore supporting teaching materials at www.twinkl.com/originals Join Twinkl Book Club to receive printed story books every half-term at www.twinkl.co.uk/book-club (UK only).

This moving story, based on the novel by National Curriculum recommended author Michael Morpurgo and adapted for the stage by Nick Stafford, is an incredibly moving portrayal of the bond between a soldier and his horse in the deadly chaos of the First World War. Sold to the army in 1914 and separated from his beloved young master Albert, farm horse Joey is thrust into the midst of the Western Front. Albert vows to follow Joey to war and to be reunited with his friend, but will they find one another?

Jack, standing among the war graves, sees a face he recognizes. Suddenly, it's 1914 again and he's a young lad back in the trenches. Visions of killing and misery come to him with horrible clarity. But then Jack remembers too the incredible moment when the guns fell silent for a short time, and fighting gave way to football on the frozen ground of No-Man's-Land. This amazing story, based on true facts from the First World War, will transport readers back to the war fields of France and show that even in times of conflict and extreme sadness, there is always hope.

A Festive Feast

Christmas Truce by the Men Who Took Part

Unbelievable Football

The Birds of Flanders Fields

World War I Poetry

The Island

One Christmas, things don ' t quite go to plan for Orla and her family. ' The screen went blank, the lights on the tree went out and the oven stopped humming. ' Will Orla get the special Christmas that she has been hoping for? Download the full eBook and explore supporting teaching materials at www.twinkl.com/originals Join Twinkl Book Club to receive printed story books every half-term at www.twinkl.co.uk/book-club (UK only).

The perfect read for the football-mad kid in your life *WINNER of the Telegraph Children's Sports Book of the Year, 2020* Do you think you know everything there is to know about football? Have you heard of ... * The psychic octopus who could predict the winner? * The Lancashire Lassies who became football's best kept secret? * The dog detective who saved the World Cup trophy? * The superstar footballer who never actually played football? Discover the most incredible, sometimes ridiculous, and always completely unbelievable football stories you never knew. From bestselling author Matt Oldfield, this is Unbelievable Football - true tales from the world's favourite game where there's everything to play for and anything can happen.

This title examines the Christmas Truce of 1914, focusing on how the informal truces came to be and exploring the experiences of the soldiers of both sides. Compelling narrative text and well-chosen historical photographs and primary sources make this book perfect for report writing. Features include a glossary, a selected bibliography, websites, source notes, and an index, plus a timeline and essential facts. Aligned to Common Core Standards and correlated to state standards. Essential Library is an imprint of Abdo Publishing, a division of ABDO.

Ranging from the start of the ancient Mesoamerican calendar to the collapse of the dot-com bubble, Another 366 Days tells the engaging story of a significant event from every day of the year. This second volume provides a fascinating chronicle of the highs and lows of world history drawn from the worlds of politics, economics, science, and culture.

British and German Eyewitness Accounts from World War I

The Day the War Stopped

Flo of the Somme

Truce

The Story of the World War I Christmas Truce

The Remarkable Christmas Truce Of 1914

The Christmas Truce:The Place Where Peace Was Found

A special lavishly illustrated new edition of Michael Foreman's classic story. It's 1914 when everything changes for a group of boys growing up and playing football in the Suffolk countryside. Far away, in a place called Sarajevo, an Archduke has been killed and a web of global events results in a call for all British men to do their duty 'for King and Country' and join the army to fight the Germans overseas. The boys sign up for what sounds like an adventure and a chance to see the world. After basic training the boys sail to France where they find themselves fighting on the front line. Living in the trenches in constant fear for their lives is nothing like they expected and only a bombed-out wasteland, no-man's-land, separates their trenches from those of their German enemies. Then, on Christmas Day, something remarkable happens as the German and British armies stop fighting and meet in the middle of no-man's-land. The enemies talk, play football and become friends. But the war isn't over, the two sides resume

fighting and the group of Suffolk lads are ordered to charge across no-man's-land...

On July 29th 1914, the world's peace was shattered as the artillery of the Austria-Hungary Empire began shelling the troops of the country to its south. What followed was like a row of falling dominoes as one European country after another rushed into war. Soon most of Europe was fighting in this calamitous war that could have been avoided. This was, of course, the First World War. But who could have guessed that on December 25 the troops would openly defy their commanding officers by stopping the fighting and having a spontaneous celebration of Christmas with their "enemies"?

A new wartime classic from two legends of children's literature! Michael Morpurgo and Michael Foreman have teamed up with the British Legion to tell a new story inspired by the history of the poppy. When John McCrae wrote his famous poem "In Flanders Field" among the trenches of war-torn Belgium, neither he nor a local village girl who saves a discarded draft of it could know what enormous power that poem would have on generations to come.

One Boy's War

Shooting at the Stars

Code-Cracking for Beginners

War Game

The Pity

The Place Where Peace Was Found

The Christmas Truce of 1914 was a remarkable episode during World War I; a single fleeting moment of man's humanity, amidst the horrors of war. This book takes a detailed look at the Christmas Truce, within the context of the social and political landscape at the time. It also considers the part that football may or may not have played during the truce and why it is that a football match has become the overriding symbol of the Christmas Truce in modern times. What topics does this book on the WW1 Christmas Truce cover? The book begins with a look at a number of the factors that ultimately led to the First World War and then describes in turn the early months of WWI, the phenomenon that was trench warfare, some of the other unofficial armistices throughout history and also early attempts at a truce, in the December of 1914. The Christmas Truce itself is then discussed, looking at the events that took place on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and Boxing Day, before examining the part that football may have played within the truce. Finally, the legacy of the Christmas Truce is considered, especially in the context of the Centenary celebrations of 2014.

A fascinating new study of the events leading up to and during one of the most poignant events of the First World War, the Christmas Truce 1914.

"The postcards in this book give a unique insight into the soldiers' daily lives. We see wounded men smiling obligingly for the camera, snatching a meal while standing in the trenches, and setting up 'home' in a newly captured enemy trench."--Back cover.

Stubby was a brave soldier, a loyal friend... and a dog. From an army training camp to the trenches in France, this is the incredible true story of Sergeant Stubby, the dog who served bravely in the First World War, sniffing out gas attacks, catching spies and winning the hearts of his fellow soldiers. 'A wonderful story of courage, bravery, loyalty and friendship.' Early Years Educator '...a moving insight into the horrors of the war as seen through the story of the exceptional contribution of a stray dog.' LoveReading4Kids '...its lessons are important for each new generation' Evening Echo

Stubby: A True Story of Friendship

Letters from the 1914 Ceasefire on the Western Front

The Christmas Truce of 1914

SILENT NIGHT brings to life one of the most unlikely and touching events in the annals of war. In the early months of WWI, on Christmas Eve, men on both sides left their trenches, laid down their arms, and joined in a spontaneous celebration with their new friends, the enemy. For a brief, blissful time, remembered since in song and story, a world war stopped. Even the participants found what they were doing incredible. Germans placed candle-lit Christmas trees on trench parapets and warring soldiers sang carols. In the spirit of the season they ventured out beyond their barbed wire to meet in No Man's Land, where they buried the dead in moving ceremonies, exchanged gifts, ate and drank together, and joyously played football, often with improvised balls. The truce spread as men defied orders and fired harmlessly into the air. But, reluctantly, they were forced to re-start history's most bloody war. **SILENT NIGHT** vividly recovers a dreamlike event, one of the most extraordinary of Christmas stories.

"It's Christmas Eve 1914. A group of tired soldiers start singing Stille Nacht. Soldiers the other side of the divide on No Man's Land respond with Silent Night. The following day, soldiers on both sides put down their weapons and celebrate the spirit of Christmas with a friendly football match. In the sequel to the hugely popular 'Where The Poppies Now Grow', 'The Christmas Truce' finds soldiers Ben and Ray shaking hands in friendship with Karl and Lars, a tribute to that remarkable moment in history when, for one day, peace found a place."--Publisher's description.

Bang goes another deafening explosion. Though they are young, the birds are used to it and do not flinch. It is 1916. A spindly tree stands in No Man's Land during the First World War amid wooden stumps and razor-sharp wire. Two birds sit in the tree. Hatched into the horrors of war, they try to figure out why the constant danger occurs. Humans live in trenches on either side - but are they friends or enemies? As the war rages on, glimmers of hope and colour appear. Can the birds' plan to sing for peace finally see an end to the years of danger? 'The Birds of Flanders Fields' is a work of fiction set on the front lines of the First World War. Download the full eBook and explore supporting teaching materials at www.twinkl.com/originals Join Twinkl Book Club to receive printed story books every half-term at www.twinkl.co.uk/book-club (UK only).