

PRESS RELEASE



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West Somerset College Students Exhibit at the Museum of Somerset

Students from West Somerset College are working with the Museum of Somerset on a new exhibition to mark one hundred years since the end of the First World War.

With local film maker Richard Tomlinson the history students are helping to create an audio-visual installation exploring how the conflict affected Somerset people. The installation will be part of the Museum's exhibition 'Faces of Conflict: Somerset and the First World War.' Victoria Crosses awarded to soldiers from Somerset during the war will also be displayed. The exhibition opens on Saturday 10 November.

Sam Astill, Principal Museum's Officer for the South West Heritage Trust, said: "The project will provide an opportunity for students to explore the impact of the First World War and its legacy in Somerset. We look forward to sharing their work at the forthcoming exhibition."

Nicola Wainwright, History Teacher at West Somerset College, said: "Our history students feel incredibly privileged to be involved in this unique and exciting project with the South West Heritage Trust. They have learnt a huge amount about the research and work that is necessary to curate a museum exhibition as well as gaining a real insight into the role that Somerset played in the First World War. A truly memorable and invaluable experience for all involved."

The South West Heritage Trust is a charity supported by Somerset and Devon County Councils and other generous funders

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Company number: 09053532 Charity Number: 1158791 VAT Registration Number: 197221592

The participation of the students is part of a new initiative from the South West Heritage Trust called 'Adventures in Time'. Supported by Arts Council England and the British Museum, 'Adventures in Time' is part of the national 'Museums and Schools' programme, funded by the Department of Education, which is seeking to increase school pupils' engagement with museums and culture.

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For further information please contact Beth Jerrett, PR & Communications Lead Officer, beth.jerrett@swheritage.org.uk or 01823 347418.

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As part of the project the students visited the Imperial War Museum in London on October

3. Image courtesy of Richard Tomlinson

Notes to editors

1. **The South West Heritage Trust** is an independent charity committed to protecting and celebrating Somerset and Devon's rich heritage. As well as the widely-praised Museum of Somerset and the redeveloped Somerset Rural Life Museum, in Glastonbury, the Trust manages state-of-the-art facilities in Taunton and Exeter to care for the extraordinary archive collections of the two counties. The Trust also provides essential advice about the historic environment and manages historic sites. Individuals and businesses are invited to support the charity through its Supporters' scheme. Visit swheritage.org.uk #SWHTdiscovery
2. **Arts Council England** is the national development body for arts and culture across England, working to enrich people's lives. We support a range of activities across the arts, museums and libraries – from theatre to visual art, reading to dance, music to literature, and crafts to collections. Great art and culture inspires us, brings us together and teaches us about ourselves and the world around us. In short, it makes life better. Between 2018 and 2022, we will invest £1.45 billion of public money from government and an estimated £860 million from the National Lottery to help create these experiences for as many people as possible across the country.

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