

Remembering The Real World War 1 presents...

Resisting the War

October-December 2016

Deserters, Conchies and Mutineers

Saturday 15th October, 2016 Time: 2:30pm to 5:30pm

Central Friends Meeting House, Champion Square, St Judes, Bristol BS2 9DB Price: Donation

The stereotype of World War 1 soldiers dutifully marching to their deaths was always a conservative mirage. Only a handful of books have drawn attention to the hundreds of thousands of British soldiers and military auxiliaries who rebelled, mutinied and challenged their commanders and political masters during the war.

Among the most notable historians of soldiers' opposition to the war is **Julian Putkowski**, author of several works including *British Army Mutineers* 1914-1922 (1998). Julian will consider the ringleaders and 'reds in khaki' who organised these revolts inviting debate about the social interpretation, political significance and leadership of these mutinous outbreaks.

Resistance was also very much evident on the home front. **Professor Lois Bibbings** will talk about her long-standing work on conscientious objectors (*Telling Tales About Men: Conceptions of Conscientious Objectors to Military Service During the First World War* (2009)), focusing on the different motivations of COs and on the legal-military machine which they opposed.

Returning to mutiny, the Nottingham based **People's Histreh** group will present their research into members of the Sherwood Foresters regiment who were sentenced to death or charged with mutiny. Come along and hear stories you won't hear in the official WW1 commemorations.

Victims of the Somme

Tuesday 1st November, 2016, 12.00 noon Dings Park, Oxford St, Bristol BS2 0QU

A commemoration and wreath-laying to remember Arthur and Alfred Jefferies, both of whom were born in St Philips and lived in the Dings. Both fell as victims of the Battle of the Somme in 1916. Arthur was killed in action in Geuedecourt on September 16th 1916. Alfred was shot at dawn for desertion on November 1st 1916. With Geoff Woolfe.





Bristol - Opposition to the First World War

Sunday 13th November, 2016, 7:00pm to 9:00pm

Venue: Kingfisher Cafe, 99 Burley Grove

Fishponds BS16 2LE Price: £2 advance/on door

'Canting humbugs' was the way some in Bristol characterised opponents of the 'Great War'. But it is now clear that men like local councillor Walter Ayles, prepared to go to prison for their beliefs, had considerable local support. A talk by Colin Thomas with video extracts.

Sylvia Pankhurst, The Dreadnought and the 'Great War'

Thursday 24th November, 2016, 7:30pm to 9:30pm

Venue: Hydra Bookshop, 34 Old Market St,

Bristol, BS2 0EZ Price: Donation

During the First World War Sylvia Pankhurst's newspaper, *The Dreadnought* was the most consistently anti-war publication. It not only opposed the global conflict but condemned the crushing



of the 1916 Easter Rising in Ireland, supported the 1917 Russian Revolution and campaigned for a revolution in Britain.

Professor John Newsinger is the author of numerous books including The Blood Never Dried: A People's History of the British Empire (2006), Fighting Back: The American Working Class in the 1930s (2012) and most recently The Revolutionary Journalism of Big Bill Haywood: On the Picket Line with the IWW (2016).

Slaughter No Remedy

Monday 5th December, 2016, 8:00pm

Venue: Cube Cinema, 4 Princess Row, Kingsdown, Bristol BS2 8NQ

Price: £4/£3

The premier of *Slaughter No Remedy* a short film that studies the life of Walter Ayles a leading member of the Independent Labour Party in Bristol who was jailed in 1916 for his refusal to fight in World War One. This is followed by *Watford's Quiet Heroes* a documentary telling the dramatic and largely forgotten stories of WW1 war resisters. Finally, *The Unseen March* exposes the contemporary policies that are increasing military involvement in schools across Britain. From the expansion of cadet forces to academies sponsored by the arms industry, the armed forces are playing a growing role in education without public debate.



A panel discussion follows, featuring historian of conscientious objectors **Professor Lois Bibbings**, **Ben Griffin** of Veterans for Peace and documentary film makers **Colin Thomas** and **Ben Pike**.



For more details about these events email remembering real ww1@gmail.com

www.network23.org/realww1/ www.brh.org.uk