



£10,000 National Lottery money helping Criccieth commemorate its contribution to the First World War

Criccieth Town Council has received a grant from the National Lottery (World War One: Yesterday and Today) for an exciting project Commemorating Criccieth's Contribution in partnership with Ysgol Trefferthyr, Coleg Meirion-Dwyfor and Criccieth Memorial Hall.

Over the next few months the children of Ysgol Trefferthyr and a group of students at Coleg Meirion-Dwyfor will be researching and learning about Criccieth's contribution to the First World War and the effect it had on the town, the area and its people.

They have already had very successful visits to Criccieth's Memorial Hall, Robert Cadwalader's studio and the National Library of Wales at Aberystwyth. Visits to the Lloyd George Museum and Caernarfon Castle are in the pipeline. They will also take part in workshops by specialists on heritage including Dan Snow and Professor Merfyn Jones.

The children and students will also work with poets, musicians and local artists Twm Morys, Gwyneth Glyn and Ffion Gwyn to create exhibitions, displays and memorials to be unveiled and displayed in a series of community events in November 2018 to note the centenary of the end of the First World War.

The project will provide opportunities for everyone to come together to remember and commemorate Criccieth's contribution and that of the area to that war, with the emphasis on peace and reflection on the effect it had on the area and how the area's children and young people have learnt about and interpreted this today.

Criccieth has a unique heritage in regards to the First World War. The Memorial Hall is a testament to 49 local individuals who fought and died, and many of the families and descendants of these individuals still live in or near Criccieth today and have many stories

and records. Criccieth was also home to David Lloyd George, Prime Minister during the First World War, and during his time in No 10 Downing Street many Welsh speakers from Criccieth worked there and many of their families and descendants still live in Criccieth and the area today and have stories and unique memories which are not to be seen in the usual history books.

The children of Ysgol Treferythyr and students from Coleg Meirion-Dwyfor are holding an open day at Ysgol Treferythyr on Wednesday 7th March from 1.30 until 6.00 pm. The doors are open to everyone to bring any records and stories they have to share and to provide the students with an opportunity to create a digital record of them for a digital exhibition and to ensure that they are not lost.

Councillor Sian Williams Chair of Criccieth Town Council said: "Criccieth Town Council is thrilled to have received support from the Heritage Lottery Fund. This gives an opportunity to the area's children and young people to research into the history and the effect the First World War had on the area, with an emphasis on peace and reflection. This grant provides an opportunity to collaborate with partners and well-known specialists in a broad range of areas to realise the aims of this exciting project, which would not otherwise be possible."

Richard Bellamy, Head of the Heritage Lottery Fund in Wales, said: "The impact of the First World War was far reaching, touching every corner of the UK. Through our dedicated grants programme, created to commemorate the Centenary, we are helping communities remember and pay tribute to those involved. It is particularly important that young people know about the key role Wales played in the war, and I hope this project in Criccieth will put more people in touch with the town's past and the valuable contribution its residents made 100 years ago."