

PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY THE MUSEUM OF NORTH CRAVEN LIFE, SETTLE

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Exhibitions 22 March to 30 October, 2016: '1916: Chronicles of Courage' AND 22 March to 5 June: 'Back in Settle'

The new season at The Folly opens on 22 March with two hugely contrasting exhibitions. '1916: Chronicles of Courage' is the third in our series of World War I exhibitions in association with the Heritage Lottery-funded Craven and the First World War project. 1916 was a momentous year, in which the people of Craven played their part with great courage. It was the year in which Conscriptio was introduced and Conscientious Objectors stood up for their beliefs; it was the year in which terrible battles were fought off Jutland and best-known of all on the Somme. Our displays tell the stories of local men and women who served their country in many different ways: in the medical services and ambulance units as well as fighting in the trenches and at sea. We have followed the progress of many individuals and revealed acts of great bravery and humanity. Visitors can experience graphic reconstructions of life on the battlefield through installations of a section of trench and a regimental first-aid post fitted out with medical and surgical equipment of the period.

Our companion exhibition 'Back in Settle' has been inspired by a remarkable Facebook group set up around three years ago by local man, Mick Harrison to share stories and old photographs from the Settle area. There are now almost 1,600 people involved from all over the world and the stories and photographs are ones most people will never have seen before, because up till now they have lain hidden in family albums and scrapbooks. Mick quickly realised how many wonderful memories were disappearing into a skip as families moved away and was determined to do something about it. Thanks to his enthusiasm some amazing pictures are seeing the light of day. The best thing about our exhibition is that it has been curated by a team from the group who add in their own memories and stories; it's about people: old friends, workmates, local characters – maybe even a photo of you you haven't seen before! It's also about places and how they've changed or maybe even disappeared. We want people to come in and enjoy the results and then go away and dig out their own photos to share. That way we'll get to know more and more about our area.

With so much of interest to local people, our newly-launched annual tickets, priced at £7 are a great bargain, giving unlimited access to all Folly exhibitions for a calendar year. There is so much to see and we make sure that our younger visitors are not forgotten, with special activities provided throughout the building and the chance to dress up.

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Images at: picasaweb.google.com;

For more information, please contact:

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