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Latest Moray's War open day

People are being encouraged to search attics and cupboards for First World War memorabilia ahead of an event at Keith library later this month.

The open day on Saturday, October 24 is the latest in a series marking the centenary of the conflict in which thousands of servicemen from those areas which now make up Moray fought and gave their lives.

It will feature displays of posters, artefacts, photographs and newspapers of the time, while locally based experts Derek Bird and Jill Stewart will be on hand to answer questions and give advice on tracing military ancestry.

There will also be a fascinating collection of World War One weapons for visitors to handle.

The event, which will run from 10am to 1pm, is part of the Moray's War initiative which aims to develop a comprehensive record of Moray and its people during the period 1914 to 1918.

Previous open days have seen medals, weapons, mustard gas jars and diaries brought along by people who have had them handed down or who have found them in cupboards or the back of a drawer.

Clare Russell, Lord Lieutenant of Banffshire, said the Keith event was an important opportunity to add to what was already known about the involvement in the Great War by the people of Morayshire and what was then part of Banffshire.

She said: “I would encourage everyone to give their support by attending the event on October 24 and by looking out material relevant to that time.

“Moray’s War already has a great deal of information but there is so much more to discover and collect.”

Moray Council’s libraries service is co-ordinating Moray’s War and all libraries will welcome inquiries or contributions to help build the Moray’s War resource, more information on which can be found at www.scotlandswar.ed.ac.uk/moray

Moray Council area stretches from Tomintoul in the south to the shores of the Moray Firth, from Keith in the east to Forres in the west. The council and its 4,500 employees respond to the needs of 92,500 residents in this beautiful part of Scotland, which nestles between Aberdeenshire and the Highlands.

Famous for its colony of dolphins, fabulous beaches and more malt whisky distilleries than any where else in Scotland, Moray is a thriving area and a great place to live.

Headquartered in Elgin, the administrative capital of Moray.

Contacts



Sharon Dunbar

Press Contact

Media and Communications Officer

sharon.dunbar@moray.gov.uk

01343 563046

07967 748826



Peter Jones

Press Contact

Communications manager

Press, public communications, social media, events, FOI, campaigns, crisis comms.

peter.jones@moray.gov.uk

01343 563601

07974 191318