

# Messines Ridge

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**The BEF in 1917** Bob Carruthers  
2015-06-30 This new volume in the long-running Images of War series features the actions of the British Army at Passchendaele. The book is comprised of rare photographs illustrating the years of fighting on the northern sector of the Ypres salient, which finally culminated in the

capture of the ridge at Passchendaele, accompanied by a powerful text written by Official War Correspondent Philip Gibbs, who was an eyewitness to the events. Photographs from the battlefield illustrate the terrible conditions, which the British forces on the battlefield endured in the notorious engagement, which has become synonymous with mud and squalor. This

book incorporates a wide range of images, encompassing the actions of the British infantry and their supporting artillery. Also featured are images which depict the almost incomprehensible state of the waterlogged trenches. Portraits of the British troops are contrasted with German prisoners of war and the endless battle to get the supply columns through to the front.

**The Attack of the British 9th Corps at Messines Ridge**

United States. Army war college, Washington D. C. 1917

Slaughter and Stalemate in 1917 Alan

Warren 2021-02-01 This book offers a fresh, critical history of the 1917 campaign in Flanders. Alan Warren traces the three major battles fought by the British Expeditionary Force in the final months of 1917, from the mines of Messines to the mud of Passchendaele and the tanks at Cambrai. Drawing on a rich array of

sources, Warren provides a vivid account of two tragically mismanaged battles, showing that Cambrai further underlined what went wrong for British forces at Passchendaele and thus more fully explains the course of events on the Western front. His compelling narrative history features first-hand accounts, little-known dramatic incidents, and portraits and assessments of the main generals. All readers interested in World War I and the tragic mistakes that led, in the words of Winston Churchill, to “a forlorn expenditure of valour and life without equal in futility” will find this an invaluable military history.

**The Great Events of the Great War**

Charles Francis Horne 1923

**Shellproof Mack** Arthur James Mack 1918  
*Munsey's Magazine* 1917

**The Battle of the Lys, 1918** Chris Baker  
2018-04-30 The second of two Battelground Europe titles covering this highly

significant battle of spring 1918. The German offensive in Flanders in April 1918 came close to catastrophe for the British Armies, but ultimately ended in strategic defeat for the Kaisers men. Following close on the heels of the devastating Operation Michael attack in March, which had been aimed against the British front on the Somme and Arras, this offensive, Operation Georgette, was aimed at strangling the vital railways and roads that supplied the British at Ypres and threatening the vital logistics links with the Channel Ports. Having assembled an overwhelming numerical advantage, the Germans attacked in thick fog on 9 April 1918. By days end, the Germans had succeeded in gaining a crossing of the River Lys and were well on their way to the railway junctions at Hazebrouck. Next day, they extended the attacked front northwards and advanced to the very gates of Ypres, forcing a British

retirement from the bloodily won advances during the Third Battle of Ypres. Messines Ridge, captured so spectacularly by the British in June 1917, was soon in German hands and fighting inched towards Mont Kemmel, which dominated the Ypres front. Once this fell, the way was open for the capture of the main supply roads into Ypres. To find sufficient reserves to counter the German attack, the British took the heart-breaking decision to abandon the ground won so dearly in the Passchendaele offensive in the summer and autumn of 1917. Gradually, fresher British and French reserves arrived and held their ground. With disappointing results, mounting casualties and a diminishing return for their efforts, the Germans paused to regroup. Late in the month they unleashed a rapid, unstoppable attack that captured Kemmel from the French forces that had been rushed north to reinforce the threatened

line and which had been holding the summit: one of the finest military feats of the Great War. Behind the scenes, however, the Germans were already calling off a continuation of the offensive and so, by a seeming miracle, the bastion that was Ypres remained in British hands. What the British call The Battle of the Lys 1918 is a fascinating yet curiously neglected period of military history. Chris Baker examines this major battle from the strategic down to the platoon level, highlighting the key events, characters and acts of enormous bravery on both sides, both in historical narrative and in a series of tours of the area. This volume concentrates on the northern half of the battlefield; nearly all of the actions described in this volume took place in Belgium.

**Messines Ridge** Peter Oldham 1990-12-31  
The battle for the possession of the villages of Messines Ridge, Messines, Wytchaete,

St. Eloi, took place in 1914-17, and the final battle for Messines in 1918. The 1917 Battle of Messines was preceded by 19 giant mine explosions and was the biggest military mining effort in history. This book gives comprehensive details of what happened where and when, together with what can be seen today, including maps of all the remnants and sites.

*5 Minute History Great Battles* Scott Addington 2014-04-01  
How did the First World War start? Who were the main players? Where did the fighting begin? And why were there so many casualties? If the 100-year anniversary of this war to end all wars has left you feeling a little under-informed, Five Minute History is the perfect way to read up on this major conflict in short bursts and without pages of intricate detail. A perfect overview for the uninitiated, each book will inform and educate you of the ups and downs of the

First World War even if you have never read a history book in your life. 'Ours' Ian Ronayne 2009-08-03 For the first time, the story of Jersey in the First World War is revealed. Whilst the island's role in the Second World War is well documented, a generation earlier another devastating war had struck Jersey, jeopardising the lives and liberties of its people. In 1915, a band of 300 young men known as the Jersey Company volunteered to fight for king and country in a war beyond the comprehension of many. Feted as heroes, they proudly took their place in the trenches of the Western front. But the war was to have a devastating effect - both on the Jersey Company and their island. Soon the volunteers were not only fighting the enemy, but also waging a bitter struggle for continued recognition and support from home. Accompanied by some incredible rare photographs, this book tells the moving but

ultimately tragic story of one small and unique unit caught in the maelstrom of the Great War. This is an eye-opening account of one of the most important periods in Jersey's history and promises to fascinate anyone interested in the island's extraordinary past.

**Plumer** Geoffrey Powell 1990-12-31 Sir Herbert Plumer stood out as an archetypal Colonel Blimp - smart to a fault, white hair, white moustache, pot-belly. But his appearance belies the fact that he was one of the best-performing and best-regarded officers on the Allied side. Plumer's crowning glories were the attack on Messines Ridge in 1917 and his successful implementation of the 'bite and hold' strategy that contributed so much to final victory. Plumer destroyed all his papers, but the author has meticulously researched this biography, and has written a lucid account of this undeservedly neglected hero

which throws fresh light on generalship on the Western Front.

*1914 - First Blood* John Hughes-Wilson  
2019-01-01 Meet T.O.M. Gunn at the start of World War 1, a young infantry lieutenant in the Sherwood Foresters, just back on leave from India as Europe catches ablaze in the chaotic summer of 1914. The British Expeditionary Force is off to France and Gunn is determined to join the war before it's over. He joins a hastily formed mixed battalion of reservists, regular and territorial soldiers to find themselves pitchforked into the mayhem of the Battles of the Marne, the Aisne and then the drawn-out agony of Ypres as the high hopes of summer sink into the frozen trenches of the winter of 1914. But by the time of the Christmas Truce with the Germans, Thaddeus Gunn and his men begin to realise that this is going to be a long war? and they will be lucky to survive?

**Messines to Carrick Hill** Tom Burke (MBE) 2017 Told through the letters of a young Irish officer, this is the story of Irish soldiers in the First World War and the capture of the Flemish village of Wijtschate on the Messines ridge, just south of Ypres in June 1917.

*A Kitchener Man's Bit: An Account of the Great War 1914-18* Gerald Dennis  
2016-12-22 Long out of print, this new edition memoir by an intelligent and articulate "other rank", provides fascinating insights into the Great War infantryman's experience. In autumn 1915, twenty-year-old Gerald Dennis enlisted in Kitchener's Army. Assigned to the 21st (Service) Battalion of the King's Royal Rifle Corps, affectionately known as the "Yeoman Rifles", he experienced fierce fighting on the Somme 1916, during Messines Ridge and Third Ypres in 1917 before deployment to Italy in the immediate aftermath of the

Caporetto disaster. Re-assigned to a battalion of the Cameron Highlanders in summer 1918, Dennis took part in the advance to victory before demobilisation in 1919. A vivid and engaging record of wartime service and comradeship, his recollections are not those of the archetype disenchanted ex-soldier: "Whatever impressions the readers of this book draw, I would like to emphasise that I bear no resentment or bitterness. As far as I could, I have drawn a true and honest picture of my army life ... I realise that I did only the merest little bit for my King and Country, not that we gave either special thought. We had volunteered for them." M.S.L.

3.11.2015

*The Passchendaele Campaign, 1917*

Andrew Rawson 2017-07-30 This is an account of the British Expeditionary Forces battles in the summer and autumn of 1917. It begins with the Allied plan to free up the

Flanders coast, to limit German naval and submarine attacks on British shipping. The opening offensive began with the detonation of nineteen mines on 7 June and ended with the capture of the Messines Ridge. The main offensive started with success on 31 July but was soon bogged down due to the August rains. Three huge attacks between 20 September and 4 October had the Germans reeling, but again the weather intervened and the campaign concluded with futile attacks across the muddy slopes of the Passchendaele Ridge. Each large battle and minor action is given equal treatment, giving a detailed insight into the most talked about side of the campaign, the British side. There are details on the planning of each offensive and the changing tactics used by both sides. There is discussion about how the infantry, the artillery, the cavalry, the engineers and Royal Flying Corps worked

together. Over sixty new maps chart the day-by-day progress of each battle and action. Together the narrative and maps provide an insight into the British Army's experience during this important campaign. The men who made a difference are mentioned; those who led the advances, those who stopped the counterattacks and those who were awarded the Victoria Cross. Discover the Passchendaele campaign and learn how the British Army's brave soldiers fought and died fighting for their objectives.

1917 Charles Francis Horne 1923

Pillars of Fire Ian Passingham 2012-02-29

Gentleman, we may not make history tomorrow, but we shall certainly change the geography.' So said General Plumer the day before 600 tons of explosives were detonated under the German position on Messines Ridge. The explosion was heard by Lloyd George in Downing Street, and as

far away as Dublin. Until 1918, Messines was the only clear cut Allied victory on the Western Front, coming at a time when Britain and her allies needed it most: boosting Allied morale and shattering that of the Germans. Precisely orchestrated, Messines was the first true all-arms modern battle which brought together artillery, engineers, infantry, tanks, aircraft and administrative units from a commonwealth of nations to defeat the common enemy. So why is its name not as familiar as the Somme, Passchendaele or Verdun? This book examines the battle for the Messines-Wytschaete Ridge from the British, ANZAC and German perspectives. Illustrated with archive photographs and maps, it is a major contribution to our understanding of one of the seminal battles of the First World War. Before Endeavours Fade Rose E Coombes 1976-08-30 From the Belgian coast, across the fields of Flanders, over the valley of the

Somme and down the line to the Argonne: all the major battlefields of the First World War — Ypres, Arras, Cambrai, Amiens, St? Quentin, Mons, Le Cateau, Reims, Verdun and St? Mihiel — are criss-crossed in this book over more than thirty different routes, each clearly shown on a Michelin map. Every significant feature is described in detail. Since her death in 1991,? After the Battle's Editor, Karel Margry, has traveled every route, checking and revising the text where necessary, as? well as re-photographing every memorial. Many new ones are included, yet we have striven to keep true to the flavor of Rose's original concept . . . before? endeavors fade. Indispensable for anyone contemplating a tour of the battlefields in Belgium and France, this book combines the years of knowledge, travel and research of its author, Rose? Coombs, who worked at the Imperial War Museum in London for nearly

forty years.

**Geology and Warfare** Edward P. F. Rose 2000 Records lessons learnt from military experience in World War I and II. It also contains perspectives from America which show how, in warfare, military geologists irrespective of nationality have pursued tactical and strategic terrain analysis, fortifications and tunnelling, and resource acquisition, defence installations, and field constructions and logistics. It shows how in peace-time military geologists train for wartime operations and may be involved in peace-keeping and nation-building deployments.

**The Attack of the British 9th Corps at Messines Ridge** Ninth 2018-02-22 This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important, and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it. This work was reproduced from the original artifact, and remains as true to the

original work as possible. Therefore, you will see the original copyright references, library stamps (as most of these works have been housed in our most important libraries around the world), and other notations in the work. This work is in the public domain in the United States of America, and possibly other nations. Within the United States, you may freely copy and distribute this work, as no entity (individual or corporate) has a copyright on the body of the work. As a reproduction of a historical artifact, this work may contain missing or blurred pages, poor pictures, errant marks, etc. Scholars believe, and we concur, that this work is important enough to be preserved, reproduced, and made generally available to the public. We appreciate your support of the preservation process, and thank you for being an important part of keeping this knowledge alive and relevant.

**Dark Terror** John Wilson 2015-08-25 Alec

Shorecross is 14 and has already left school to work in the local mine. He's paid 13 cents an hour to toil in the underground darkness. When war breaks out, Alec ships overseas in search of a different life and a way to contribute. He dreams of doing something heroic but soon Alec finds himself underground again. While soldiers and aircraft engage in battles on the ground and in the sky, down, deep below the surface Alec joins the invisible crew of combatants who risk their lives building tunnels so that they can place mines beneath enemy territory. This dramatic and realistic story shows us a little-known side of war and the role of one brave and determined young man.

Passchendaele 1917 Robert J. Parker  
2017-06-15 A new centenary history of the infamous Western Front campaign for the Belgian village of Passchendaele fought from 31 July - 10 November 1917.

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Ypres 1914: Messines Nigel Cave  
2016-01-19 These three Battleground Europe books on Ypres 1914 mark the centenary of the final major battle of the 1914 campaign on the Western Front. Although fought over a relatively small area and short time span, the fighting was even more than usually chaotic and the stakes were extremely high. Authors Nigel Cave and Jack Sheldon combine their respective expertise to tell the story of the men British, French, Indian and German - who fought over the unremarkable undulating ground that was to become firmly placed in British national conscience ever afterwards. At the end of October 1914 an increasingly desperate Falkenhayn, aware that his offensive in Flanders had stalled, decided to make one final effort to break through the Allied lines south of Ypres. Pulling together a large strike force, the so-called Army Group Fabeck, he launched a

violent offensive designed to capture the Messines Ridge and to use this dominating terrain as a springboard for a further advance. Inadequately resourced, assembled in a rush, this thrust was soon in trouble. Confused fighting in the wooded areas to the south of the Menin Road slowed the advance and initial attempts to gain a foothold on the ridge failed. A supreme effort by the men of the 26th Infantry Division ultimately brought about the capture of the town of Messines and similar heroics by the Bavarian 6th Reserve Division led to the fall of Wytschaete, but it was all in vain. Yet again a valiant Allied defence had buckled, but not broken.

**The Garden of the Badhbh (Black and White Edition)** Giles Watson 2016-01-09  
88 feet below Messines Ridge, an enormous charge of explosives lurks in the darkness, waiting to be detonated under the German trenches, whilst members of the Royal Irish

Rifles prepare for the attack. Sapper John McCreesh entertains himself and his fellow miners with stories of the Morrigan, the war-goddess of the ancient Irish: stories which hold up a disturbing mirror to the lives of the men around him. Corry-Burnett, a young Lance-Corporal, must lead a trench raid in order to ascertain whether German miners are aware of the imminent danger, but one of his men is already a shell-shock victim whose conviction has been shaken by violence. Meanwhile, Siobhan O'Flaherty, a nursing sister, copes on a daily basis with the horrific injuries and psychological traumas of the victims of war. Her brooding, enigmatic presence and her strange connection with a pair of ravens will intrigue and mystify readers, as her feminine strength is mustered in a world dominated and traumatised by masculine power.

*Messines 1917* Alexander Turner

2010-08-24 At 0310 hours on 7 June 1917, the pre-dawn gloom on the Western Front was shattered by the 'pillars of fire' - the rapid detonation of 19 huge mines, secreted in tunnels under the German lines and containing 450 tonnes of explosives. Admitted by the Germans to be a 'masterstroke', the devastating blasts caused 10,000 soldiers to later be posted simply as 'missing'. Launching a pre-planned attack into the carnage, supported by tanks and a devastating artillery barrage, the British took the strategic objective of Messines Ridge within hours. A rare example of innovation and success in the First World War (1914-1918), this book is a fresh and timely examination of a fascinating campaign.

*The Western Front 1917-1918: The History of World War I* Andrew Wiest 2012-03-15  
After the first few months of World War I, the Western Front consisted of a relatively

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static line of trench systems which stretched from the coast of the North Sea southwards to the Swiss border. To try to break through the opposing lines of trenches and barbed wire entanglements, both sides employed huge artillery bombardments followed by attacks by tens of thousands of soldiers. Battles could last for months and led to casualties measured in hundreds of thousands for attacker and defender alike. After most of these attacks, only a short section of the front would have moved and only by a kilometer or two. After Gallipoli, Australians were moved to fight in France on the western Front, in battles including the Battle of the Somme. On the first day of the 1916 Battle of the Somme, 60,000 Allies were casualties, including 20,000 deaths. The principal adversaries on the Western Front, who fielded armies of millions of men, were Germany to the East against a western alliance to the West

consisting of France and the United Kingdom with sizable contingents from the British Empire, especially the Dominions. The United States entered the war in 1917 and by the summer of 1918 had an army of around half a million men which rose to a million by the time the Armistice was signed on November 11, 1918. For most of World War I, Allied Forces, predominantly those of France and the British Empire, were stalled at trenches on the Western Front. With the aid of numerous black and white and color photographs, many previously unpublished, the World War I series recreates the battles and campaigns that raged across the surface of the globe, on land, at sea and in the air. The text is complemented by full-color maps that guide the reader through specific actions and campaigns.

*Pill Boxes on the Western Front* Peter Oldham 2011-02-28 When the First World

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War froze into a static line of trenches stretching from the North Sea to the Swiss border, the most obvious means of protection against the murderous machine-gun fire which both sides inflicted upon each other was some form of shell-proof shelter which from which fire could be returned in safety, hence the development of the pill box. The idea was certainly not new but the technology required to build them under the prevailing circumstances presented problems hitherto undreamed of. In this remarkably absorbing study of what at first seems a somewhat arcane study of what at first seems a somewhat arcane subject, Peter Oldham, himself a concrete technologist, examines the problems of the design and construction of the pill boxes of the Western Front. He describes how the innumerable difficulties involved in what might to the untrained eye seem to be a fairly simple structure, were gradually

overcome. Containing as it does, a gazetteer of the remaining pill boxes and bunkers still to be found in Flanders and Picardy, this book will prove an invaluable guide to the members of many clubs and societies which annually make pilgrimages to the battlefields of the First World War and certainly add a new dimension and interest to their visits to the Western Front.

**Plumer of Messines** Sir Charles Harington 1935

**Passchendaele in Perspective** Peter Liddle 2017-01-30 Passchendaele In Perspective explores the context and real nature of the participants experience, evaluates British and German High Command, the aerial and maritime dimensions of the battle, the politicians and manpower debates on the home front and it looks at the tactics employed, the weapons and equipment used, the experience of the British; German and indeed French

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soldiers. It looks thoroughly into the Commonwealth soldiers contribution and makes an unparalleled attempt to examine together in one volume specialist facets of the battle, the weather, field survey and cartography, discipline and morale, and the cultural and social legacy of the battle, in art, literature and commemoration. Each one of its thirty chapters presents a thought-provoking angle on the subject. They add up to a unique analysis of the battle from Commonwealth, American, German, French, Belgian and United Kingdom historians. This book will undoubtedly become a valued work of reference for all those with an interest in World War One.

VCs Arras & Messines 1917 Gerald Gliddon  
2011-11-30 For much of the First World War, the opposing armies on the Western Front were at a stalemate, with an unbroken line of fortified trenches

stretching from the Belgian coast to the Swiss border. The Allied objective after the bloody Battle of the Somme drew to a close in November 1916 was to decisively break through the German 'Hindenburg Line' and engage the numerically inferior German forces in a war of movement. The Arras offensive was conceived to achieve this breakthrough and was planned for early 1917 after considerable pressure from the French High Command. Commonwealth Forces advanced on a broad front between Vimy in the northwest and Bullecourt in the southeast, with the French Army attacking 80km further south in the Aisne area. Initial successes, albeit costly, were followed by a reversion to the previous stalemate and led to a change of focus, with an assault on the Messines Ridge, near Ypres, beginning in June 1917. By the end of July, on the eve of the Third Battle of Ypres, a total of fifty Victoria Crosses had been

awarded, including many troops from the Australian, Canadian and New Zealand Forces. This includes Captain Robert Greive, who single-handedly silenced two enemy machine-gun nests at Messines, and L/Cpl James Welch, who captured four prisoners with an empty revolver. The courage, determination and sacrifice of their generation should never be forgotten. Messines 1917 Craig Deayton 2018-06-30 The enemy must not get the Messines Ridge at any price So read the orders to German troops defending the vital high ground south of Ypres. On 7 June 1917, the British Second Army launched its attack with an opening like no other. In the largest secret operation of the First World War, British and Commonwealth mining companies placed over a million pounds of explosive beneath the German front-line positions in 19 giant mines which erupted like a volcano. This was just the beginning.

By the end of that brilliant summers day, one of the strongest positions on the Western Front had fallen in the greatest British victory in three long years of war. For the Anzacs, who comprised one third of the triumphant Second Army, it was their most significant achievement to that point; for the men of the New Zealand Division, it would be their finest hour. It is difficult to overstate the importance of Messines for the Australians, whose first two years of war had represented an almost unending catalogue of disaster. This was both the first real victory for the AIF and the first test in senior command for Major General John Monash, who commanded the newly formed 3rd Division. Messines was a baptism of fire for the 3rd Division which came into the line alongside the battle-scarred 4th Australian Division, badly mauled at Bullecourt just six weeks earlier. The fighting at Messines would descend

into unimaginable savagery, a lethal and sometimes hand-to-hand affair of bayonets, clubs, bombs and incessant machine-gun fire, described by one Australian as 72 hours of Hell. After their string of bloody defeats over 1915 and 1916, Messines would prove the ultimate test for the Australians

The Union of South Africa and the Great War, 1914-1918 South Africa. General Staff 1924

*The Young Gunner* David Hutchison 2016-10-07 The Young Gunner describes the history of the Royal Field Artillery in France and Flanders in the Great War, including the Battle of the Somme in 1916. The book is based on the letters and journals of Second Lieutenant Colin Hutchison who joined the army aged 19 just before the war started. He found himself in command of a single gun in battle in 1914, a section of guns in 1915, a battery of six

guns in 1916, and a brigade of 24 guns by the end of the war. He tells the story of front line action in thirteen battles on the Western Front, including Mons 1914, Ypres 1915, The Somme 1916, Passchendaele 1917 and Ypres 1918. His personal stories are inspiring, but more importantly his letters and journals describe, in a consistent style, not only life on the front line with the artillery, but also the details of his tactical deployment in battle. David explains, from his perspective, why so many men died unnecessarily in that war, and why the changes in tactical thinking he saw as necessary to achieve success and to prevent casualties were so slow to be adopted. One cannot understand the battles of the First World War without understanding the artillery. This book, with copious factual footnotes and helpful maps, gives new insights into many of the battles, and also covers all aspects of the field

artillery at war on the Western Front, with the final chapter drawing together the tactical developments year on year. The Young Gunner will appeal to readers of military history, and in particular to those interested in the stresses and experiences of any one of the 140,000 men who served in the Royal Field Artillery in the First World War.

**Father Browne's First World War** E E O'Donnell 2021-04-01 Best known for his remarkable photographs, few people are aware of Francis Browne's astonishing war record. Joining the British Army as a Chaplain in 1916, he served for most of the war with the Irish Guards, ministering to the troops at the Somme, Messines Ridge, Paschendaele, Ypres, Amiens, and Arras. Determined to stay at the front with his men, he was wounded five times, starting with a broken jaw in 1916, and was gassed in 1918. Each time he returned to war as

soon as his senior officers would let him. His commanding officer described Fr Browne as "the bravest man I ever met". He was awarded the Military Cross with Bar, the Belgian Croix de Guerre (First Class), and the French Croix de Guerre (with Palm). Eddie O'Donnell SJ has written a fascinating account of Father Browne's war experiences, brought vividly to life with extracts from his letters, and illustrated throughout with photographs taken by Father Browne during the war.

The Salient Alan Palmer 2013-08-15 Ypres today is an international 'Town of Peace', but in 1914 the town, and the Salient, the 35-mile bulge in the Western Front, of which it is part, saw a 1500-day military campaign of mud and blood at the heart of the First World War that turned it into the devil's nursery. Distinguished biographer and historian of modern Europe Alan Palmer tells the story of the war in Flanders

as a conflict that has left a deep social and political mark on the history of Europe. Denying Germany possession of the historic town of Ypres and access to the Channel coast was crucial to Britain's victory in 1918. But though Flanders battlefields are the closest on the continent to English shores, this was always much more than a narrowly British conflict. Passchendaele, the Menin Road, Hill 60 and the Messines Ridge remain names etched in folk memory. Militarily and tactically the four-year long campaign was innovative and a grim testing ground with constantly changing ideas of strategy and disputes between politicians and generals. Alan Palmer details all its aspects in an illuminating history of the place as much as the fighting man's experience.

**Salient Points One** Tony Spagnoly  
1990-12-31 A collection of stories of men, their units and the actions they took part in

during the conflict of 1914-1918, together with stories other points of interest along the old Western Front. Each story is supported with photographs and maps showing the area of the action as it was then, and is today. The content feature-titles are: Larch Wood (Railway Cuttings) Cemetery; Second Lieutenant Keith Rae; Bellewaarde Farm; Major William Redmond; H. H. Prince Maurice of Battenberg; Major Cropper's Craters; Sergeant Harry Combes D.C.M., R.G.A.; A Cemetery Lost; A Scottish Soldier; Along the Messines Ridge; Halloween Night 1914; A Bloodless Victory; Old Bill is Born; The Yanks are Coming; The Lost Mines of Messines; Hospitalization South of Poperinghe and Canada at Ypres.

**Ypres** Jon Cooksey 2013-03-19 Battle Lines Ypres, the first volume in Pen & Swords new series of walking, cycling and driving guides to the Western Front, is the

essential companion for every visitor to the Ypres Salient and the battlefields of Belgium. Many of the most famous - and most memorable - Great War sites are featured here. Expert guides Jon Cooksey and Jerry Murland take visitors over a series of routes that can be walked, biked, or driven, explaining the fighting that occurred in each place in vivid detail. They describe what happened, where it happened, and why, and who was involved, and point out the sights that remain there for the visitor to see. Their accounts give a fascinating insight into the landscape of the front line and the acts of war that took place there a century ago.

**Dangerous Work** Alan Weeks 2014-10-06  
British military labour during the First World War developed from an ad hoc arrangement in 1914 into a corps some 400,000 strong, supported by as many as a million dominion and foreign workers by

1918. Records of this contribution to victory are extremely rare. George Weeks wrote down his experience on squares of wallpaper - always a practical man. And what a record it is. The Somme, Passchendaele and the Messines Ridge all feature in George's calm description of his extraordinary experiences. He camped in 'the vast graveyard of Cambrai', he cut down an entire forest for duckboards, and he mended the aircraft of Captain Ball VC with dope and linen! With the corps working on the front lines and often under fire, this truly was 'dangerous work'.

**Military Operations, France and Belgium, 1917** Sir James Edward Edmonds 1948

*British Artillery on the Western Front in the First World War* Sanders Marble 2016-12-05  
In the popular imagination, the battle fields of the Western Front were dominated by the machine gun. Yet soldiers

at the time were clear that artillery - not machine guns - dictated the nature, tactics and strategy of the conflict. Only in the last months of the war when the Allies had amassed sufficient numbers of artillery and learned how to use it in an integrated and coherent manner was the stalemate broken and war ended. In this lucid and prize-winning study, the steady development of artillery, and the growing realisation of its primacy within the British Expeditionary Force is charted and analysed. Through an examination of British and Dominion forces operating on the Western Front, the book

looks at how tactical and operational changes affected the overall strategy. Chapters cover the role of artillery in supporting infantry attacks, counter-battery work, artillery in defence, training and command and staff arrangements. In line with the 'learning curve' thesis, the work concludes that despite many setbacks and missed opportunities, by 1918 the Royal Artillery had developed effective and coordinated tactics to overcome the defensive advantages of trench warfare that had mired the Western Front in bloody stalemate for the previous three years.