

Classics and Classicists in the First World War

University of Leeds

April 8th-10th 2014

CALL FOR PAPERS

This conference is organised as part of the University of Leeds' Legacies of War project commemorating the centenary of the First World War (1914-18). The conference has two broad themes: the influence of WWI on Classics and Classicists and, conversely, the influence of Classics and Classicists on WWI. The programme will explore how wartime experiences impacted on Classicists' lives and the discipline itself, including WWI's continuing legacy in Classical scholarship, and how Classical ideals, archetypes and forms influenced public discourses of the war period, in politics, civic life, culture and the arts.

Issues that papers might address include but are not limited to:

- What is the legacy of WWI on the way we recall the ancient world?
- How did WWI impact on international communities of scholarship, in trauma and readjustment?
- How did scholars, on the front lines and elsewhere, marshal their relationships with the ancient world to cope, or not cope, with the horrors and dislocations of the war?
- When the familiar world is falling apart around you, does the ancient world become more or less of an ideal, more or less to be cared for or cared about?
- How were the voices and images of antiquity present in the public discourses of civic and cultural life during the war and its aftermath?
- How influential were Classical models of heroism and anti-heroism in WWI poetry, sculpture and the arts?

Confirmed speakers include: Professor Lorna Hardwick, Professor Angie Hobbs, Professor David Scourfield, Dr Christopher Stray, and Professor Elizabeth Vandiver.

Abstracts of 300 words (for papers of 45 minutes) or expressions of interest should be sent to e.e.pender@leeds.ac.uk by Friday November 22nd.

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