

The Remembrance Image Project

An introduction for schools

What is the project?

The Remembrance Image Project is a photography project which has been set up as part of the centenary commemorations for the First World War; and is working within the Imperial War Museum's Centenary Partnership. It aims to use modern-day photographs to help people, and in particular school students, to engage with this important period of history.

The main objectives of the project are:

- to photograph a selection of WW1 sites at or close to their 100th anniversary. Such sites may be battlefields or memorials abroad, or locations in the UK with a WW1 connection. The aim is to create images which are not just a record of a site at its centenary, but which capture something of the emotion or spirit of the location.
- to share these images through interactive workshops, talks, exhibitions and other media; and in so doing to promote awareness and debate about the war and about the role of remembrance.
- to encourage others to create their own photographic images of remembrance, and to share these with the project as a means of opening up and spreading the discussion about the centenary.

Who is running the project, and how is it funded?

The project is being run by Simon Gregor, a freelance photographer who lives in central London. It is currently self-funded.

For the talks, workshops and other outreach parts of the project, groups receiving a presentation are asked to cover the costs (usually just travel); and to make a contribution of whatever they can afford towards the costs of running the project.

Working with schools

The overarching ambition of the project is to use photos taken today as a way of helping people to engage with the history of WW1, and to reflect on the role of remembrance.

Simon is therefore very keen to work with schools and other organisations in making that happen. The aim is to work individually with each school to tailor project input to the school's specific learning objectives, rather than to deliver a single "off the shelf"

product. By way of illustration, though, possible areas where support can be offered to schools include:

- provision of talks, seminars, lessons or interactive workshops for your students, tailored to the appropriate age group and desired learning outcomes
- using photography to complement your own WW1 centenary plans, for example fitting in alongside projects about the war which relate to your own locality
- mounting an exhibition of images in your school
- running an ongoing project with your staff & students so that your school can create its own images of remembrance
- collaborating on publications, for example if you need images for illustrative purposes, or to accompany your own exhibition for the centenary
- developing or collaborating on battlefield visits/tours, for example by including a creative photographic dimension

This list is designed simply to provide some examples, and is by no means exhaustive – each school usually requires its own customised approach.

If you would like to explore how the project might support or complement your own activities for the First World War centenary, then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Contact details

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