

CAN YOU HELP?

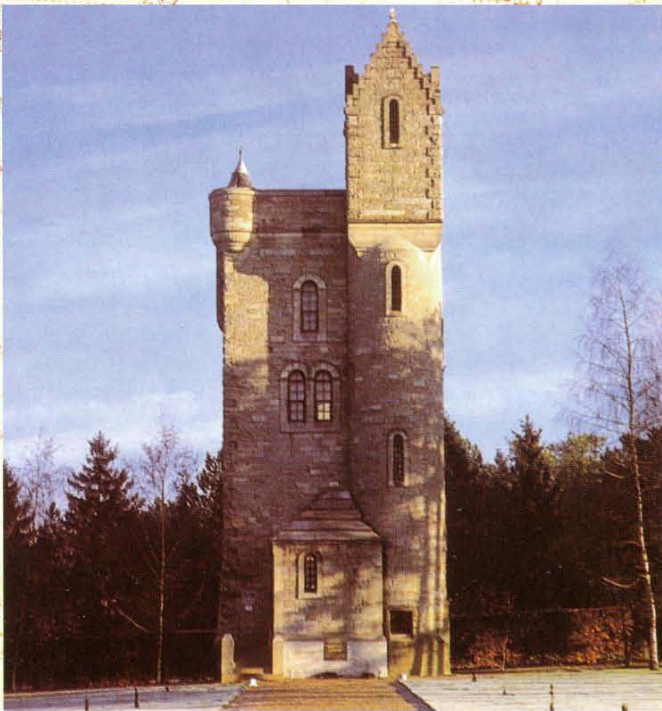
The Somme Heritage Centre is self-supporting, and if you feel you can help in any way, for example through the gift or loan of artefacts, or support for exhibitions or displays, any of our staff members will be delighted to give more details. Alternatively, contact the Director at the address and telephone number given.

THE SOMME ASSOCIATION

The Somme Association, established under Royal patronage, coordinates research into Ireland's part in the first World War, providing a basis for the two traditions in Northern Ireland to come together to learn of their common heritage.

A number of services are provided, including support and liaison with Great War veterans, research programmes and publications, organisation of anniversary commemorations and battlefield tours.

Based at Craigavon House in Belfast, the former home of Sir James Craig, where the 36th (Ulster) Division originated, the Association is also responsible for the management of The Ulster Memorial Tower and adjoining visitor centre at Thiepval on the Somme battlefields in France.



The Somme Heritage Centre is grateful to Ards Borough Council and to North Down Borough Council for their sponsorship of this leaflet.

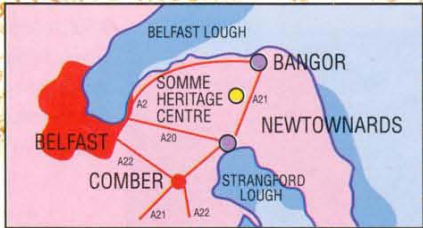
FRIENDS OF THE SOMME

The 'Friends of the Somme' organisation supports the work being carried out by the Association. Many members worldwide have helped financially the research and promotional work carried on by the association.

Members receive regular publications and have access to the Association's facilities, including research and casualties information and assistance in visiting battlefield sites and cemeteries.

If you would like more information about how to become a 'Friend of the Somme', or require information on casualties please contact:

Development Manager
The Somme Association
Craigavon House, Circular Road, Belfast, Northern Ireland, BT4 2NA.
Telephone (01232) 761600



THE SOMME HERITAGE CENTRE
233 Bangor Road, Newtownards, County down, BT23 7PH
Tel (01247) 823202

**THE
SOMME
HERITAGE CENTRE**



THE SOMME HERITAGE CENTRE

THE FIRST WORLD WAR shaped the world we live in today and nowhere more than in Ireland. Nearly a quarter of a million Irish men and women served in the armed forces and in the factories.

Old differences were laid aside as Protestant and Catholic, Unionist and Nationalist fought alongside each other in a common cause. The Somme Heritage Centre enables you to share their experiences and remember their sacrifices and achievements.

Tours start every 20 minutes with our trained attendants who are available to answer any queries.



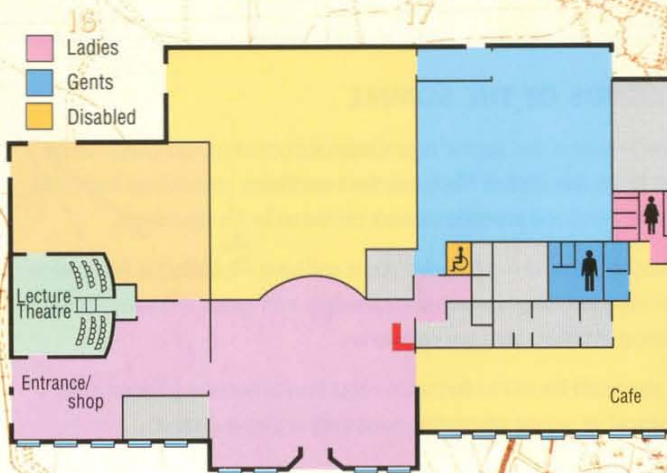
ARTEFACTS

Artefacts of the time are on display including uniforms, weapons, and personal items. The exhibition hall has a changing programme of exhibitions looking at aspects of the conflict.

10TH (IRISH) DIVISION



The 10th (Irish) Division was the first unit raised in Ireland in response to Lord Kitchener's famous call for men. Recruits came from all parts of Ireland and from all walks of life. It initially saw action at Suvla Bay in the Gallipoli campaign of 1915, and later in the Balkans and in the Middle East.



36TH (ULSTER) DIVISION

The 36th (Ulster) Division was formed largely from the Protestant and Unionist Ulster Volunteer Force, raised to oppose the imposition of Home Rule. The division played a leading part in The Battle of the Somme, and lost 5,500 men in the first two days of July 1916 in capturing the supposedly impregnable Schwaben Redoubt at Thiepval.



THE FRONT LINE EXPERIENCE

The Front Line is shaking with the noise of the tremendous artillery barrage of The Battle of the Somme. Make your way along the trenches in the early light of 1 July 1916. Look out across no man's land with the troops, before they go over the top.

Experience the events of the battle through the eyes of the soldiers who took part.

CASUALTIES DATABASE

Casualties information on Irish regiments is available on a computer database with details on individuals who fell at the Somme and will be expanded to cover other battles.



16TH (IRISH) DIVISION

The 16th (Irish) Division drew many recruits from the National Volunteers, raised to fight for Irish self-government. Its volunteers mainly Roman

Catholics from all over Ireland, and included many MPs. The division distinguished itself in the capture of the villages of Guillemont and Ginchy in the later stages of the Somme battle, losing 4,000 men.



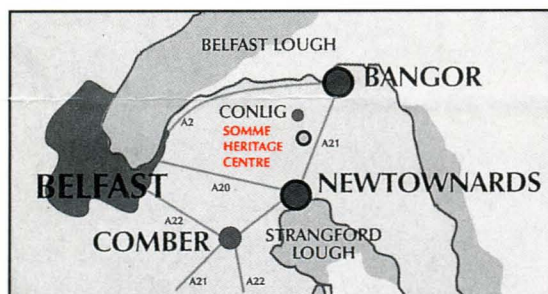
SOMME HERITAGE CENTRE

**£1.00 OFF ADULT
TICKET WITH
THIS VOUCHER**

Visit the Somme Heritage Centre and experience life as a soldier with the 36th (Ulster) Division! Walk through the trenches to the front line, find out where the 10th and 16th (Irish) Divisions fought!

- * *Reconstructed Trenches.*
- * *First World War Museum.*
- * *Casualty Database.*
- * *Audio-Visual Recreation of the Battle of the Somme.*
- * *Restaurant and Car Parking.*
- * *Gift Shop specialising in Military Books and Badges*

THE SOMME HERITAGE CENTRE - AN EXPERIENCE TO REMEMBER
(situated off the A21 Bangor to Newtownards Road)



Opening:-
Tuesday to Sunday from
12 noon - 5 pm

July and August:-
Monday to Saturday
11 am - 6 pm
Sunday 12 noon - 6 pm

Telephone:- (01247) 823202

Are you interested in helping the work of the Somme Association?

- * *Research your family involvement in the Great War?*
- * *Help maintain the Ulster Memorial Tower at Thiepval?*
- * *Help promote the Somme Heritage Centre?*
- * *Help restore and open Craigavon House, Belfast?*

If so, please consider enlisting as a 'Friend of the Somme'

For information contact:

The Somme Association, Craigavon House,
Circular Road, Belfast BT4 2NA.
Telephone: (01232) 761600

