

Where To Download The Welsh  
At Mametz Wood The Somme

1916

# ***The Welsh At Mametz Wood The Somme 1916***

"For years afterwards the farmers found them - the wasted young, turning up under their plough blades." So run the blunt, grimly beautiful opening lines of the Welsh poet Owen Sheers's elegy for the men, 4,000 of them from the 38th (Welsh) Division, who were killed or wounded in the Battle of Mametz Wood in July 1916. Sheers revisits that chapter of carnage in a stirring, sprawling promenade show. He draws on the writings of two survivors in particular. One is the poet David Jones whose fractured, enervated, modernist response to his war-time experiences, *In Parenthesis*, was hailed as a "work of genius" by TS

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Eliot. The other key influence is the writer Llewelyn Wyn Griffith. driven to wondering how the sun "could shine on this mad cruelty and on the quiet peace of an upland tarn near Snowdon"... We end up in dark woods and a place of numb desolation, bombarded by words that pierce the heart and vignettes that capture the stomach-churning sacrifice. The finest commemoration of the First World War centenary I've seen to-date, this deserves a much longer life.' Dominic Cavendish, Daily Telegraph Mametz by Owen Sheers was premiered by National Theatre Wales in June 2014. It is one of the set plays on WJEC's A level Drama specification. This dual edition combines the original English-language play with a Welsh-language translation by Ceri Wyn Jones, one of Wales's most eminent poets.

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The Battle for Mametz Wood is normally associated with the endeavors of the 38th Welsh Division and was the first of those great battles to secure possession of the woodlands of the Somme. The author looks at events after the 1st July, but also relates the story of the 17th Northern Division who attacked the quadrangle, a defensive system guarding the western approaches to the wood. Also related is the demise of both generals commanding these divisions who were sent home.

This work is a new interpretation of the First World War battle for Mametz Wood in July 1916, telling the story of those terrible days from the viewpoint of soldiers on both sides. It uses primary sources, including personal accounts and photographs which are published for the first time.

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A fascinating collection of stories from Welsh history collected from Phil Carradice's popular BBC Wales blog, gathered together for the first time in a book. Among the incredible stories are... The man from Clydach who invented a Death Ray The Welsh aristocrat whose parrot once bit Herman Goering on the nose The witch who cursed the launch of a warship at Pembroke Dockyard The battle that was won by a herd of cows These stories are part and parcel of Welsh heritage and make history interesting. Snapshots of Welsh History – without the boring bits covers a wide range of Welsh history topics. Written in Phil's unique easy-to-read yet elegant style, these stories are funny, tragic, sad and hilarious. Yet the one thing they all have in common is that they make compelling reading.

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The Western Front

The Somme and Arras

Somme 1916

The Welsh at War: The Grinding War

A Study of Lloyd George's "Welsh

Army" at the Battle of the Somme

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**Thomas Oscendale, a military policeman based in France, investigates the suicide of a corporal of the Welsh Regiment and two related murders in June 1916. His investigation reveals a map marking a spot in Mametz Wood which is also of interest to British and German Intelligence. Oscendale is determined to pursue his investigation despite being warned off by the authorities. The author had enlisted in 1901 in the Royal Welsh Fusiliers and was a reservist when the First World**

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War broke out. He rejoined his old, 2nd Battalion and landed in France with them on 11 August 1914. He went right through the war with the battalion, never missing a battle, winning the D.C.M. and M.M. Here is a typical soldier of the pre-1914 regular army, and this book is a delight, written in his own unpolished manner. Fighting, scrounging, gambling, drinking, dodging fatigues, stolidly enduring bombardment and the hardships of trench warfare, always getting his job done. This is one of the finest of all published memoirs of the Great War, truly a classic of its kind. A tribute to the army that died on the Western Front.

The Carmarthenshire Battalion was one of the early units raised in 1914 as a result of Lord Kitcheners

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expansion of the regular army by 500,000 men for the duration of the Great War. Lloyd George, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, had a vision of a Welsh Army Group and massive efforts were made to recruit and form Welsh fighting units. The first 200 recruits for the Carmarthen Pals came from Bolton, strangely enough, but later they were mainly drawn from the County and wider Wales. Initial training was at Rhyl. In April 1915 the Battalion became part of 114 Brigade, 38 (Welsh) Division and after completing training and equipping it crossed to France in December 1915. From early 1916 until the Armistice the Carmarthen Pals fought with distinction. Initially at Givency, it moved to the Somme in May 1916 and attacked Mametz

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Wood in the early days of that most terrible July offensive. Thereafter the Battalion moved to the Ypres Salient and in July 1917 attacked Pilckem Ridge. Moves south to Armentieres district, then the Albert Sector followed. In the closing months of the War alone the Pals suffered 40 officer and 900 other rank killed and wounded as they pushed the Germans back capturing Ancre and crossing the Canal du Nord and Selle rivers. Through a selection of letters to friends and literary peers, Dai Greatcoat presents a rare insight into the life of the poet and artist David Jones and in so doing offers an autobiographical portrait of the author in his own words.

**Mametz Wood**  
**Dead of Mametz**



# Where To Download The Welsh At Mametz Wood The Somme

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In Parenthesis

The Dead of Mametz

The Welsh Fairy-book

The Somme, 1916

**Owen Thomas, farmer and land agent from Llanbadrig, Anglesey, was an enigmatic character throughout his life. Whilst never able, nor wishing, to break his ties with his birthplace, he carved a career for himself as a soldier and agricultural advisor in Africa, and as a pioneer rural Labour member of parliament, propelled by a vital and supportive local trade union movement. He is best remembered as the man**

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**responsible for the formation of Lloyd George's 'Welsh Army Corps', raised in response to Kitchener's appeal for volunteers at the outbreak of the Great War. He used his unique skills to persuade many thousands of his countrymen to join the colours. When his 'army' marched away from Wales to face its destiny, as the 38th (Welsh) Division, at Mametz Wood on the Somme, he was left behind, a frustrated and deeply hurt man. Public Sculpture of Greater Manchester is a complete catalog and illustrated**

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**guide to all of Greater Manchester's public sculptures and monuments. Manchester historian Terry Wyke provides detailed individual entries for each sculpture featured, including information about the artist and the commissioning agent, date of installation, and the sculpture's historical and artistic significance. More than 350 black-and-white photographs reveal the diversity and beauty of Manchester's many public monuments. The eighth volume in Liverpool University Press's highly**

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**acclaimed and prize-winning Public Sculpture of Britain series, Public Sculpture of Greater Manchester will be an incomparable resource for both armchair and actual travelers, as well as for English historians and art scholars alike. "These are excellent volumes in an outstanding and continuing series, one of the most original and important such projects under way. They set an international standard for the recording and publication of public sculpture."—Judging panel, 2003 William MB Berger**

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**Prize for British Art History,  
on the Public Sculpture of  
Britain series**

**The Welsh at War trilogy is  
the culmination of over  
twelve years of painstaking  
research by the author into  
the Welsh men and infantry  
units who fought in the  
Great War. These units  
included the four regular  
regiments the Royal Welsh  
Fusiliers, South Wales  
Borderers Welsh Regiment  
and Welsh Guards as well  
as the Territorial  
Monmouthshire Regiment,  
the Yeomanry regiments:  
the Denbighshire Hussars,  
Pembroke Yeomanry,**

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**Montgomeryshire  
Yeomanry, Glamorgan  
Yeomanry and Welsh Horse  
Yeomanry and their  
amalgamation into service  
battalions for the regular  
regiments during  
1917. Welsh troops fought  
with great courage in every  
theater of the war the  
Western Front, Aden,  
China, Gallipoli, Egypt,  
India, Italy, Salonika and in  
Palestine and in addition to  
the casualties suffered  
during these campaigns,  
many men gained  
recognition for acts of  
gallantry. The three  
volumes, split**

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**chronologically, cover all of the major actions and incidents in which each of the Welsh infantry regiments took part, as well as stories of Welsh airmen, Welshmen shot at dawn, Welsh rugby players who fell, Welsh gallantry winners and the Welshmen who died in non-Welsh units, such as the Dominion forces and other units of the British armed forces. The Welsh at War records the gallant work of Welsh units and servicemen during the period between the arrival of the 38th (Welsh) Division in France**

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**during December 1915 until the aftermath of the Battle of Arras in the summer of 1917, covering: the campaigns in Mesopotamia, Salonika, Egypt and Palestine; the Battle of Jutland; the Somme offensive; the German Withdrawal to the Hindenburg Line; the Battle of Arras; the Battle of Messines Ridge; and the build up to the Third Battle of Ypres.**

**Description: 38th Welsh Division Memorial at Mametz Wood and view looking across to the wood. Wales and World War One**



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**Horne of the First Army : a  
Biography of Haig's Trusted  
Great War Comrade-in-arms  
A Thomas Oscendale Novel  
Lloyd George's Welsh Army,  
the Kaiser's Reichsheer and  
the Battle for Mametz  
Wood, 1914-1916**

**Drawings**

**A Self-Portrait of David  
Jones in his Letters**

A programme, 11 July 1987,  
of the service held to unveil  
the memorial at Vallée des  
Gallois, Mametz, to  
commemorate members of  
the 38th (Welsh) Division  
who lost their lives in battle.  
Rescuing from history the

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heroes on the front line whose bravery has been overlooked, and giving voice to their bereaved relatives at home, Hugh Sebag-Montefiore reveals the Battle of the Somme in all its glory and misery, helping us to realize that there are many meaningful ways to define a battle when seen through the eyes of those who lived it.

A play about one of the bloodiest conflicts on the Somme, the battle for Mametz Wood. Blood and poetry flow as night falls in the Monmouthshire woods,

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where National Theatre Wales offers audiences a glimpse of one of the bloodiest conflicts on the Somme: the battle for Mametz Wood. Four thousand of the 38th (Welsh) Division were killed or wounded during the taking of the wood, men and trees falling together. Birdsong was silenced by artillery fire; severed limbs hung from the branches like leaves. Space is a hell of a thing but you need to be sure that this is what you want. Like, what you really want. The idea of space exploration to further

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the frontiers of mankind is noble, but let's not kid ourselves - it's really all about furthering the profit margins. There's money to be made and out there is the place to make it, but you hear all kinds of stories... equipment malfunctions, strange discoveries, crewmembers going insane... You'll be out there in the reaches, alone, for months or years, breathing recycled air and drinking recycled water, with nothing but a few feet of metal and shielding between you and certain death. Are you sure

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this is what you want? -

Crew Orientation Briefing \*\*\*

Those Dark Places is a rules-light, story-focused roleplaying game about the darker side of space exploration and the people who travel the stars in claustrophobic, dangerous conditions. Starships, stations, and outposts aren't havens of safety with clean, brightly lit corridors - they're potential deathtraps, funded by budget-conscious corporate interests and running on stale, recycled air and water. The stars may be the future of humanity, but

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they are also home to horrors and terror the human mind cannot comprehend.

Pink Mist

The Radicalisation of Bradley Manning

A History of the 15th (Service) Battalion The Welsh Regiment, 1914-1919  
38th Welsh Division

Memorial at Mametz Wood

David Jones in the Great War  
Now it Can be Told

The Swansea Battalion was formed from local men by the Mayor of Swansea in the response to Lord Kitcheners famous appeal for volunteers. This, the first full history of the

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Battalion, covers early recruiting for the battalion in the Swansea area and its subsequent training in Swansea, Rhyl and Winchester, prior to departure, some 1,200 strong, in December 1915 for the Western Front. As part of the 38th Welsh Division it participated in the attack on Mametz Wood on the Somme where, in a single day, it suffered almost 100 men killed and 300 wounded out of an attacking contingent of less than 700. A further very successful raid on the German held High Command Redoubt was followed by front line service in the dreaded Ypres Salient. Here it took part in the bloody third Battle of Ypres,

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better known today as the Passchendaele Offensive. At Aveluy Wood it was accidentally shelled by its own artillery, suffering a number of fatalities. The Swansea Battalion then took an active part in the battles that finally broke the Hindenburg Line and the spirit of German resistance, one of its exploits being described as the high point of soldierly achievement by Douglas Haig. It was still advancing when the Armistice was signed in November 1918. It is July 1916, and as the Battle of the Somme rages, Mametz Wood echoes to the sounds of war as the 38th Welsh Regiment face the ferocity of the German



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Army. Dan and Billy, two young soldiers, forge a friendship in the heat of the build up to this infamous battle. Fifty years later, in a clearing in the middle of the wood, Dan has returned to lay a ghost to rest. 'The Wood' is a play commissioned by the Torch Theatre, Milford Haven to commemorate the centenary of World War One.

"This impressive debut includes poems on a wide range of themes: from recollections of a return to Fiji, to sharper memories of an adolescence in a rural town in Wales; from dark ruminations on farm life to tender and unconventional love poems. Owen Sheers has a talent

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for visual imagery, a flair for narrative and a grasp of the personal as acute as his awareness of the wider world. His astute portraits of relatives and contemporaries entice us into other lives. The Blue Book is a startlingly good first collection by a young writer of considerable ability and promise."

The Battle for Mametz Wood is normally associated with the endeavours of the 38th Welsh Division and was the first of those great battles to secure possession of the woodlands of the Somme. The author looks at events after the 1st July, but also relates the story of the 17th

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Northern Division who attacked the quadrangle, a defensive system guarding the western approaches to the wood. Also related is the demise of both generals commanding these divisions who were sent home.

Snapshots of Welsh History

Ceremony of Dedication

History of the 38th Welsh  
Division

Old Soldiers Never Die

The Wood

Welsh on the Somme

July 1916. The Battle of Mametz

Wood comes to a pyrrhic end, shells and liquid fire having torn

apart the French landscape. Of the four thousand dead or maimed, the great majority are Welsh. Among

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them is Private Ellis Williams, a Trawsfynydd farmhand. He grasps for life, his face devastated by shrapnel.

"Mametz Wood" is the centrepiece of three short stories that give us fascinating glimpses into the life of Gwilym Jones, known in his hometown as "Gwilym Champion." Captain of the Rugby team, Miner, Bare-knuckle boxer, Family man and member, from aged 17, of the 19th Battalion of the Welsh Regiment who fought so hard at Mametz Wood on the Somme in 1916. We see him in old age through the eyes of his young grandson, in middle age in a warm and funny story about a miners outing and as a young man caught

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up in one of the most vicious battles of the Great War, an experience shared by Siegfried Sassoon; written about by Robert Graves in "A Dead Boche" and also by David Jones in his epic poem, "In Parenthesis." It is a small part of the story of a far from ordinary man born into the tumultuous events of the first half of the twentieth century as recounted by him to his son and observed, as the generations passed each other, by his grandson, me.

"This writing has to do with some things I saw, felt, and was part of": with quiet modesty, David Jones begins a work that is among the most powerful imaginative efforts to grapple with the carnage of the

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First World War, a book celebrated by W.B. Yeats and T.S. Eliot as one of the masterpieces of modern literature. Fusing poetry and prose, gutter talk and high music, wartime terror and ancient myth, Jones, who served as an infantryman on the Western Front, presents a picture at once panoramic and intimate of a world of interminable waiting and unforeseen death. And yet throughout he remains alert to the flashes of humanity that light up the wasteland of war.

There are numerous personal memoirs of the fighting in Mametz Wood, Regimental Histories and battlefield guides. There are also a number of fictional accounts. There is however no complete scholarly

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but readable account of the Welsh Division's preparations for war, its early apprenticeship in the line, and its part in the fight for Mametz as seen f

Somme

Faced with Mametz

Swansea Pals

with a Welsh-language translation

Ghosts of Old Companions

Dai Greatcoat

The first book aimed at the general reader that deals comprehensively with Wales and the First World War in English and includes extracts from diaries and letters not previously published.

Ideas of separation and divorce—the geographical divides of borders, the

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separation of the dead and the living, the movement from childhood to adulthood, and the end of relationships—drive this poetry collection from one of Great Britain's rising young talents. The collection revolves around the poems "Y Gaer" and "The Hillfort," the titles themselves suggesting the linguistic divide in Wales, from poems concerned with childhood, a Welsh landscape, and family to an outward-looking vision that is both geographic and historic.

This biography assesses Henry Horne's relationship with Haig and the Canadian Corps. It also evaluates his contribution to the technical advances of the artillery



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during the war and describes the battles which he conducted. It attempts to accord to Henry Horne the recognition and credit that he deserves but which has been withheld. Whether or not Henry Sinclair Horne was the 'silent' General he might lay claim to being the 'forgotten' General of the Western Front. His self-effacement in a profession not renowned for shrinking violets undoubtedly made its contribution to his relative anonymity-- he wrote no memoirs nor kept anything more than sketchy diaries.

Gerald Gliddon's classic survey of the Somme battlefield in 1916, first published in 1987 to great acclaim,

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has been greatly expanded and updated to include the latest research and analysis. Supported by a wide selection of archive photographs and drawing on the testimony of those who took part, this new edition covers both the famous battle sites, such as High Wood and Mametz Wood and lesser known villages on the outlying flanks. It includes a day-by-day account of the British build-up on the Somme and the ensuing struggle, British and German orders of battle and a full history of the cemeteries and memorials, both 'lost' and current, that sprang up in the years following the First World War. The author also provides thumbnail

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biographies of all the senior officers to fall, as well as the winners of the Victoria Cross and those who were 'shot at dawn'. In addition, Somme 'personalities' such as George Butterworth are covered in far greater detail than before.

The Capture of Mametz Wood  
Up to Mametz and Beyond  
Silent General

A Battlefield Companion

Three Stories: Tales of Wales

Mametz Wood Memorial

**The Welsh at Mametz**

**WoodThe Welsh at Mametz**

**WoodThe Somme, 1916**

**Llewelyn Wyn Griffiths Up to  
Mametz, published in 1931,  
is now firmly established as**

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**one of the finest accounts of soldiering on the Western Front. It tells the story of the creation of a famous Welsh wartime battalion (The Royal Welch Fusiliers), its training, its apprenticeship in the trenches, through to its ordeal of Mametz Wood on the Somme as part of 38 Division. But there it stopped. General Jonathon Riley has discovered Wyn Griffiths unpublished diaries and letters which pick up where Up to Mametz left off through to the end of the War. With careful editing and annotation, the events**

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**of these missing years are now available alongside the original work. They tell of an officers life on the derided staff and provide fascinating glimpses of senior officers, some who attract high praise and others who the author obviously despised. The result is an enthralling complete read and a major addition to the bibliography of the period. Llewelyn Wyn Griffiths was born into a Welsh speaking family in Llandrillo yn Rhos, North Wales. He joined the Civil Service as a Tax Surveyor. Aged 24 on the outbreak of**

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**War, he was accepted for a commission in the 15th (1st London Welsh) Battalion of the Royal Welch Fusiliers and served in the Battalion or on the staff for the rest of the War. Returning to the Inland Revenue he was responsible for the pay-As-You-Earn tax system, retiring in 1952. He filled many distinguished appointments, such as the Arts Council, and was a regular broadcaster.**

**Awarded an Honorary DLitt by the University of Wales, he was holder of the CBE, OBE, Croix de Guerre and an**

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**MID. He died in 1977.  
Bradley Manning is the  
24-year-old US soldier  
accused of the release of  
thousands of US embassy  
emails to Wikileaks. On  
Friday 16th December 2011,  
his pre-trial hearing opened  
in Fort Meade in Maryland.  
Manning faces a maximum  
sentence of life in custody  
with no chance of parole.  
But just a few years ago, he  
was a teenager in west  
Wales. How does his story  
impact on the people he left  
behind, and who is  
responsible for his  
'radicalisation'? The**

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**Radicalisation of Bradley Manning aims to place him in the pantheon of great Welsh radicals, from the Chartists to Aneurin Beva. This young soldier, who names the president of the United States as a defence witness, knows bus timetables around Haverfordwest. This young man who played a part in the Arab spring, knows the trials of schoolboy rugby. This young soldier who apparently chose his moral code over his military one, speaks rudimentary Welsh. Tim Price's trademark**



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**humanity, warmth and wit depicts a complex portrait of Manning as a modern-day, troubled and flawed martyr, but a martyr nonetheless.**

**From the author of I Saw a Man comes a powerful drama in verse that captures both the trauma of modern warfare and the difficulty of transitioning back to normal life after combat. In early 2008, three young friends from Bristol decide to join the army and are deployed to the conflict in Afghanistan. Within a short space of time the three men return to the women in their lives—a wife,**

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**a mother, a girlfriend—all of whom must now share the psychological and physical aftershocks of military service. Written from the points of view of each soldier, Sheers explores not only their experiences in the field of battle, but also the grueling process of recovery following a debilitating injury, the strain of PTSD on a new marriage, and the emotional toll of survivor's guilt among soldiers and their loved ones at home. Drawing on interviews with soldiers and their families, Pink Mist illuminates the**

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**enduring human cost of war  
and its all too often  
devastating effect upon the  
young lives pulled into its  
orbit. A work of great  
dramatic power,  
documentary integrity, and  
emotional intensity.**

**Skirrid Hill**

**The Blue Book**

**Without the Boring Bits**

**Mametz**

**Those Dark Places**

**The Welsh at Mametz Wood**

*The great modernist artist and poet  
David Jones grew up in Brockley,  
London. He finished art school in the  
summer of 1913, ready to pursue a  
career as an artist. But then Britain*

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*declared war on Germany, and Jones joined the army. He was sent to France in 1915, serving in the same regiment as Siegfried Sassoon and Wilfred Owen; unlike them, however, he was a private, a rank he kept throughout the war. He fought in and survived the Somme, Ypres, and Passchendaele, experiencing the war of the common soldier - the camaraderie, the humor, the grief, and above all the senseless, mechanized brutality - all under the stress of years of relentless artillery fire. "As Professor Dilworth makes the background of these writings clearer and more comprehensible he confirms the power, depth, and relevance of the work as a whole."--W.S. Merwin.*

*In September 1914 a proposal was put forward by Lloyd George to form*

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*a Welsh Army Corps consisting of two divisions. The base on which to build this corps was no more than the three Welsh regiments - Royal Welsh Fusiliers, South Wales Borderers and the Welsh Regiment, and although permission was at first given to go ahead with the proposal it was eventually dropped in April 1915 and just the one division took the field, the 38th (there was already a Welsh Territorial Division, the 53rd). All the discussions concerning the formation of the corps are contained in the publication Welsh Army Corps 1914-1919 described elsewhere in this book list. The division was raised as the 43rd in December 1914 but following the break up of the Fourth New Army in April 1915 to supply reinforcements to the first three New Armies, the division was renumbered*

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38 and went to France in December 1915 and served on the Western Front for the rest of the war. Its divisional sign was the Red Dragon of Wales and its first GOC was Ivor Philipps, something of a political appointment, who was given the heave-ho in July 1916 during the division's fight for Mametz Wood. In all it suffered 29,380 killed, wounded and missing - the dead numbered 4419. Honours and Awards amounted to 2,664 including five VCs. Its first major battle was for Mametz Wood in July 1916 in which the casualty figures reached 4,000 but there was some criticism of the division's performance, reflected in the commander's removal in the middle of the battle. But whatever the merits of that criticism the division went on to prove its fighting abilities,

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*acknowledged by Haig in the introduction to this History in which he highlights two outstanding examples of soldierly achievement: Pilckem Ridge on 31 July 1917 when the Welsh met and broke to pieces a German Guard Division, and the operation against Pozieres in August 1918 which he describes as a most brilliant operation. Although this is the shortest divisional history after that of the 30th it does provide a picture of the division's part in the fighting during the three years it was on the Western Front. It is particularly good in the Order of Battle particulars including the roll of commanders (down to battalion COs) and staff (down to BM and G3) with dates and changes.*

*Farmer, Soldier and Politician  
Carmarthen Pals*

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*The Life of Brigadier-General Sir  
Owen Thomas, MP, Father of the  
'Welsh Army Corps'*

*Industrial Science Fiction Roleplaying  
Public Sculpture of Greater  
Manchester*