



World War 1 Timeline



As 100 years passes since the start of Britain's involvement in the First World War let's take a look at the key dates of this Great War



June 28, 1914: Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife Sophie, the night before their 14th wedding anniversary, are killed in Bosnia and as a result Austria-Hungary declare war on Serbia.

August 3, 1914: Germany declares war on France, and invades neutral Belgium. Britain then sends an ultimatum to withdraw from Belgium but this is ejected by the Germans.

November 1914: Many months were spent in 'Trench Warfare'. Opposing armies conducted battle, at relatively close range, from a series of ditches dug into the ground to prevent the opposition from gaining any more territory.



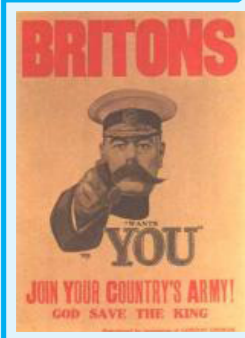
July 1, 1916: The Battle of the Somme, troops fought at the Somme in France for over four and half months where over 1 million men were wounded or killed, making it one of the bloodiest battles in human history.



April 6, 1918: The USA joined the allied forces along with Britain and declared war on Germany.

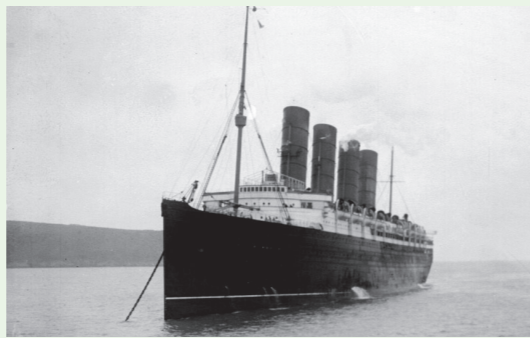


July 30, 1914: France and Germany who are already fighting over land ownership begin to rally their troops along with Russia in defence, fearing the fighting may spread further.



August 4, 1914: Great Britain declares war on Germany believing like many of the allies that it would over by Christmas 1914. Field Marshal Earl Kitchener did not and introduced the need for a volunteer army. A now very famous poster with a picture of Mr Kitchener was created to encourage the men in Britain to enlist in the British army and be prepared to go to war saying 'Your King and Country need you: a call to arms'.

May 7, 1915: RMS Lusitania, a British ocean liner full of civilians was sunk by the German army on its journey from New York, US to Liverpool, UK and over 1000 people died. This incident played a significant role in turning people opinion against Germany, both in the United States and abroad.



Late 1916: Peace talks began but were refused and millions of people in Germany, due to lack of supplies, were starving to death.

November 11, 1918: Four and half years later and the end of the War is finally announced (also referred to as Armistice Day). 16 million people had been killed and over 50 million injured; people's lives would never be the same again.

