

Their story is your history

Experience your ancestors



Initial enquiry

Olly had been searching the internet in the hope of finding information about graves and trenches in the First World War. This led him to the National Library of Scotland's interactive mapping website.

“Thank you for the absolutely magnificent interactive mapping web site. I was able to overlay the appropriate trench map onto a modern map, to locate the exact scene of action where my grandfather died in WW1.”

Olly N., England

How the National Library of Scotland helped

Olly used the Library's extensive online resources to discover crucial information about where his grandfather had died in the First World War. Our map website helped him find the answer to a question after months of searching elsewhere. He wanted to find a map showing the location of a WW1 grave in the Somme together with the location of the trench complex where his grandfather died in 1916.

Using our collection of 300 trench maps with an interactive overlay facility, enabled Olly to find exactly what he was looking for. This service allows users to compare the past and present by overlaying modern maps and satellite images on top of older material such as trench maps.

Olly carried out all his own research online and was delighted with being able to access such a useful mapping resource – and all for free. He visited the following websites: maps.nls.uk and maps.nls.uk/ww1/trenches.

Talks and workshops

The National Library of Scotland holds regular workshops and tours in both Edinburgh and Glasgow that can aid your genealogy research.

- Discovering family history
- Maps for family and local history
- Getting started at the Library

For dates and further information, please call us on 0131 623 3734 or visit: www.nls.uk/events

External resources

National Records of Scotland:
www.nrscotland.gov.uk
ScotlandsPeople:
www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk

Donate to the Library today to help us preserve the rich memories of Scottish ancestry. Visit www.nls.uk/support-nls. Call 0131 623 3733. Text BUIK33 + donation amount (eg. BUIK33 £5) to 70070.

Contact us:

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