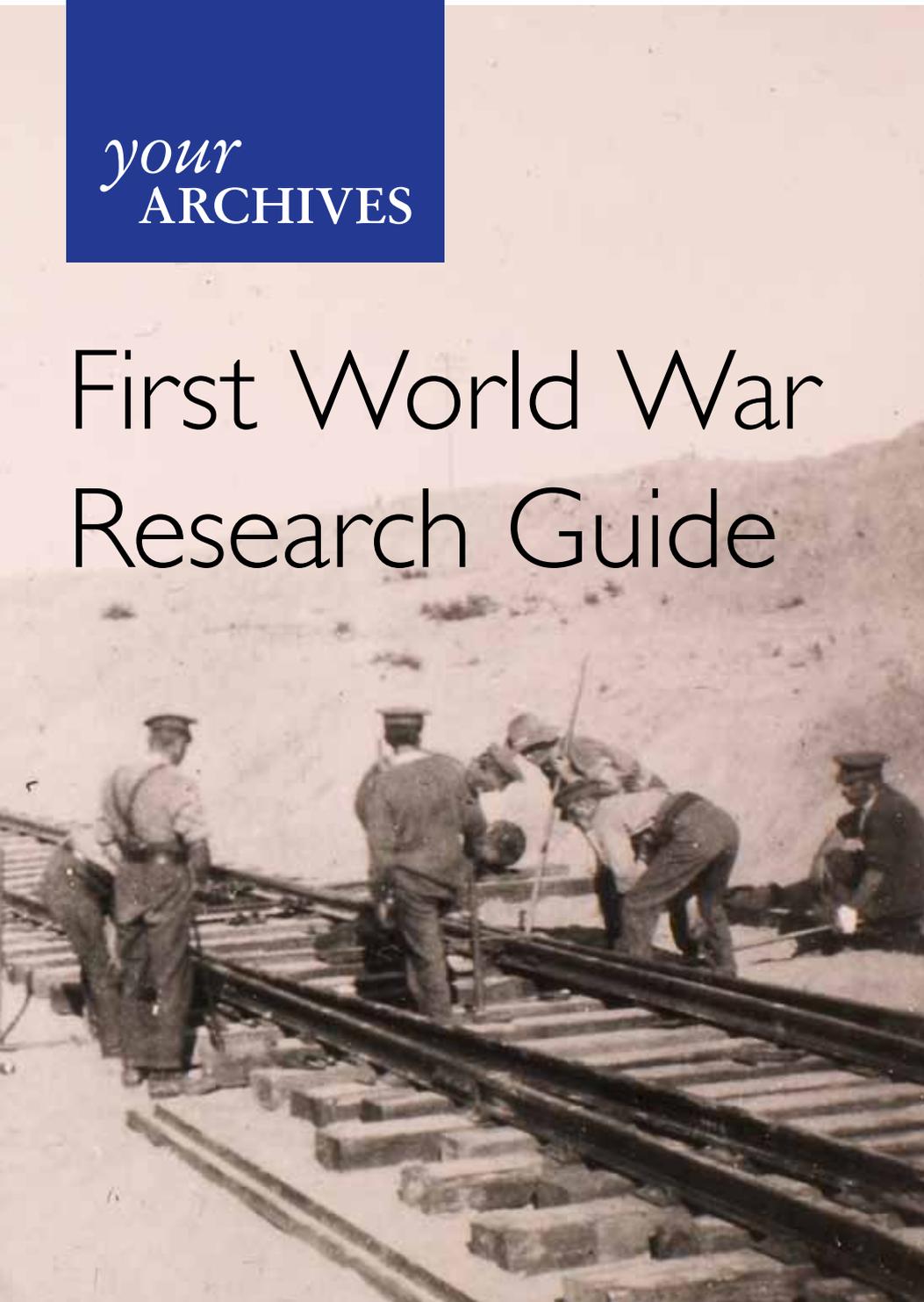


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ARCHIVES

First World War Research Guide



Treasure House

Resources for
your research



EAST RIDING
OF YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

First World War Research Guide

Treasure House Resources for your research

The First World War affected the lives of every person across the British Isles. In the East Riding many of these lives, experiences and events have never been researched. To commemorate the centenary of the war the Archives service is encouraging people to research the impact of the First World War on their village, town or community. The Archives hold many fascinating documents and books relevant to the First World War and this is an excellent opportunity to find out more about your village war memorial, an organisation or person.

This guide will give you some suggestions on how to start your research and which sources will be useful. It doesn't contain everything we have that's relevant, just the major collections and some good examples. There will also be lots more information in local authority or church collections. To find out more, search our catalogue at www.eastriding.gov.uk or visit the Archives service at the Treasure House.

These resources include:

- **An online catalogue of the collection, including the archives and local studies books.**
- **Trained staff ready to assist you with your research.**
- **Microfilm and microfiche viewers for looking at copies of records such as church registers and newspapers that are available on film and fiche. (You should book a reader before you visit).**
- **Books from the local studies collection and family and local history reference books.**
- **Public access computers where you can search online resources, the internet or our online catalogues. (You also can print from these computers).**
- **A public access photocopier for copying from books on the open shelves.**
- **A public access copier for self service copying from microfilm and microfiche.**
- **A room for using film, sound and digital archives.**
- **An interview room for private conversations.**
- **The ability to order documents by completing an archives service request form.**

You can use your own laptop if it is run from the battery or if it has been tested by an electrician. You can use a camera in the research room. There is a charge but there is no limit to the number of images you can take.

Once your research is completed we'd love to have a copy of it deposited at the Treasure House to add to the collections. For more information on depositing archives or research please see the back page.

For further information please speak to a member of staff, visit www.eastriding.gov.uk or contact archives.service@eastriding.gov.uk / (01482) 392790.

Contents

Voices of War.....	p2
Back in Blighty.....	p4
In Pictures.....	p7
Lest We Forget.....	p9
Bibliography.....	p12
Your Archives Need You.....	p19



DDXI464/3/3 Photograph of unknown trench (Edwin Oliver records)

Voices of War

First-hand accounts by local people, whose lives were affected by the conflict.

The stories of ordinary people form some of the most poignant and dramatic insight that we have on this war. Within our archives you will find the experiences of local people at home and on the front line, recorded in letters written at the time, or as wartime memories logged for posterity.

DDX890 Doris Tomlinson, North Frodingham, First World War letters and family photographs 1915-1919

These are copies of files of letters from Doris' brothers Alec Tomlinson, Albert Tomlinson, Frederick Tomlinson, William Tomlinson, John Tomlinson, and Thomas Bielby Tomlinson written whilst on active service in the First World War 1915-1919.

Although they are photocopies of the originals, the information that they contain gives us an insight into what subjects were being written about by local soldiers to their loved ones back home. They relate mostly to news about family and friends but detail is also given about the treatment of the French by the Germans.

DDX952/2-8 England Family, Swine, records [1916]

Amongst this collection of documents are letters from Private Ernest England, of Swine, to his mother in which he gives brief remarks on how things were going during his active service. Lines such as: 'marching off up the line', 'everything seems to be going swimmingly out here, the Germans were pushed back heaps yesterday' help to provide us with a snapshot of one man's personal experience of the war. Other documents include his will, written in 1916 and finally the official letter and telegrams informing the family of Ernest's death that same year.

DDX1178/2/4 Oral history recording of the Misses Penson, 20 Marine Avenue, North Ferriby 7 Nov 1983

This is a recording of an interview of two elderly ladies who grew up in North Ferriby during the First World War. A short part of the interview covers their memories of this period, in which they recall soldiers being billeted in the village and giving concerts at the village hall. They also talk about the soldiers being trained to dig trenches. The recording was made almost 65 years after the end of the First World War, so the accuracy of these memories can't be completely assured. The relevant part of the interview begins at 24 minutes, 36 seconds into the recording.

DDX1215/1-3 George Knight, First World War records [1916]

Although a very small collection, these records give a brief glimpse of the kind of personal sentiments expressed by soldiers on both sides during this conflict. The first is a simple embroidered postcard with the words 'To My Dear Mother, From your loving son' and 'Love To All', whilst the other is a blank postcard showing an illustration of a German soldier and his sweetheart, with the words 'Dein auf ewig!' which roughly translates as 'Yours forever!' It would appear that this is a German postcard that may have fallen into George's possession through the capture of an enemy trench or some other engagement with the enemy.

A third document reveals how his family would have received news that George had been wounded in 1918 – 'Gas Shell severe'.

DDX1464 Letters to Evelyn Boyce from Edwin Oliver whilst on war service in the First World War 1916-1919

These letters mainly refer to military life, comrades and family, giving an insight into an East Riding soldier's personal experience of the conflict. They are full of fascinating remarks about his life as an officer, such as comments he made about living quarters in a letter dated 8th September 1917: "You would be amused to see the furniture of my tent, bedstead table, stool, towel rail and cupboard all made out of old boxes by my servant, and further I have a lovely pile carpet of sandbags."

The letters also cover the time when he was gassed in the last month of fighting, and are among the most detailed personal accounts from the First World War that we currently hold.

DDX1733/1-3 Sidney Taylor Boyce First World War letters 1915-1918

As with the Edwin Oliver letters, these also reveal personal experiences, including life in the village where he was billeted, and being away from the front line. He also refers to a period of leave and the gassing of a friend, but it is equally interesting to note how he writes about life back home, which helps to demonstrate the importance that maintaining a connection with 'home' played in soldiers' lives.



DDX1824/3 Sarah Betts letters 1918

These letters tell the story of Private James Betts who went missing in action in 1918, and the efforts of his sister to try and find out what happened to him.

DDX1824/3 James and Sarah Betts circa 1918

Back in Blighty

The War at Home - private and official records.

The affectionate term given for Great Britain by soldiers in the First World War was 'Blighty'. Back home, the British war machine was in full swing, galvanising the people in a common effort to win the Great War. Evidence of the impact this had on life in the East Riding can be found in various personal writings and official documents.

DDST/1/8/4/1 Scrapbook of presscuttings (mainly from national media)
[circa 1914]

A collection of newscuttings taken mainly from national newspapers, which give an insight into the kind of information that was given public exposure during the war. This includes details of logistics, expenditure, correspondence and advertisements relating to the war effort.

DDYC/1/6/1 Notebook of bandsman Arthur Brocklesby, Bridlington Signal Troop
1918-1919

This notebook includes photographs, programmes and newspaper cuttings collected towards the end of the conflict and just afterwards. They provide small glimpses of Arthur's personal experiences as a member of the Bridlington Signal Troop.

DDST/1/8 Diaries and letters of Margaret Elizabeth Strickland Constable
27 Nov 1915-9 Oct 1917

Margaret Strickland Constable's diaries and letters give a vivid and detailed account of her experiences as a wife, mother and nurse during the First World War at Wassand Hall, Hull and London. She also lends a personal perspective to the zeppelin raids which took place along the East Yorkshire coast, and kept a poignant list of friends and family involved in active service, with details of their postings and eventual fate.

DDX473/1 Group Captain Gordon Hyams papers 1917-1981

Group Captain Gordon Hyams joined the Royal Naval Air Service in 1917 and was attached to the aircraft station at Hornsea Mere. He piloted early flying boats and sea-planes including the 'Sopwith Baby'. Copies of his log book and letters record the activities and experiences of a local pilot in the formative years of aerial warfare.

DDX1270 First World War Posters, Leaflets 1914-1918

A superb example of the British propaganda machine, these posters demonstrate the kinds of initiatives that the Government spearheaded to encourage people at home in their contribution to the war effort. They bring the wartime experience of local people to life as they show us the type of messages they would have read and been inspired by when walking the streets of this region.

DDX1534/1 East Riding of Yorkshire military and civilian road map Jan 1916

Produced in January 1916, this regional map indicates the classification of roads during wartime to assist with military logistics and civil defence. This includes roads designated for heavy transport, fast traffic, military, and civilian traffic. The map also shows the location of bridges that may have been highlighted as strategic points of defence.

DDX1826/1/18-19 Geoffrey Simmons local aviation research records 1915-1918

Part of a wider collection of research into local aviation, these particular files concentrate on aviation in the East Riding during the First World War. Although not a primary source the information within is useful.

DDX1857 Hull and District Munitions of War Committee (Beverley Branch) records 1916-1919

Financial statements and correspondence, providing information on the production of artillery shells in this area as part of the war effort. They particularly record the involvement of Beverley business, J Cherry & Sons, in the manufacture of copper bands, base plates and forgings, but also give production and revenue figures for other businesses including Amos & Smith, C D Holmes & Co, and Hellyer Bros.

BOBE/13/1/1 Letter book 1915-1918

This book is an indexed record of carbon copy 'out' letters sent to the Clerk to the Local Tribunal in connection with Beverley men who claimed exemption from military service. A rare and valuable document that can provide useful statistics on those people in the town who avoided being called up to fight.

BOBR/2/15/3/91 Registration of aliens in Bridlington during First World War 1916

Bridlington was part of a prohibited area during the war and foreign visitors had to apply for permission to travel into the area, and by 1916 all such persons were prohibited. This local government file includes a copy of the statutory rules and orders on Alien Restriction in 1916, and correspondence from the superintendent's office, East Riding Constabulary, relating to the regulation of Bridlington as a restricted area.

CCER/1/4/24 & CCER/1/5/24 War Agricultural Executive minutes 1915-1919

The East Riding War Agricultural Executive Committee was tasked with raising the agricultural productivity of the county. These minute books record key decisions made relating to the cultivation of land to aid the war effort, and the organisation and deployment of additional labour, including women and soldiers, to boost productivity. A hugely significant influence on life in wartime East Riding; the activities of this committee are comprehensively recorded here.

DDCH/3/1/1-2 Castle Howard Regional Community Home admission registers 1894-1913

Castle Howard Reformatory School, as it was known at the time of the war, was founded in 1855 and aimed to rehabilitate juvenile offenders from East and North Yorkshire, as well as Hull and its environs. Upon discharge from the school, a substantial number joined the Army, so these admission registers are useful for studying the school's contribution to recruitment, the backgrounds of the individuals who joined, and to which regiment they were despatched.



DDX1270 First World War posters and leaflets 1914-1918

In Pictures

Photographs & Illustrations from the First World War period.

The Great War is brought to life through the images captured and created by local people at the forefront of wartime activity. A picture can speak a thousand words, and these photographs and illustrations add a vivid local perspective to the conflict.

DDX1206/6/8 Trench photographs [circa 1916]

Taken from Lieutenant Edward Moore Robson's collection of records; these miniature items are one of the very few photographic examples of First World War trenches that we have in our holdings.

DDX1206/6/9 Postcards and photographs of soldiers in the First World War [circa 1916]

A superb example of military portrait and group photographs from Lieutenant Edward Moore Robson's papers. Robson himself is pictured in these photographs, along with his pals from the 16 Platoon, and also his brother Lieutenant Colonel Frederick William Robson of the Green Howards.

DDX1206/6/10 Cartoons & caricatures of Edward Moore Robson of Pocklington [circa 1916]

Whilst on the front line Lieutenant Edward Moore Robson of Pocklington drew an assortment of cartoons and sketches, presumably to pass the time and give some amusement to his pals. These remarkable drawings help to portray the humour that existed amongst the soldiers and is often forgotten amidst the tragedy of the conflict. Unique in our collections and rare amongst First World War records in general.



DDX1206/6/10 Caricature circa 1916

DDX1270 First World War Posters, Leaflets 1914-1916

The colour and design of these images help to lend a different perspective from the usual dark, gritty images of trench warfare that have become synonymous with the First World War. Here, we are shown a glimpse of Government propaganda, recruitment and domestic economy, that captures the mood of the local people during wartime.

DDX1215/2 Postcard (blank) of a German soldier and his sweetheart [1916]

A solitary, yet intriguing image that was formerly in the possession of an East Yorkshire private, George Knight. It has a romantic connotation, depicting a German soldier returning to his sweetheart, with the words 'Dein auf ewig!' at the bottom, which roughly translates as 'Yours forever'. It seems quite plausible that this postcard was at some point recovered as a souvenir from an enemy trench or the body of an enemy soldier.

DDX1464/11/1-7 Portrait photographs of Edwin Oliver, other servicemen, and nurse Evelyn Boyce 1915-1918.

Edwin Oliver was a member of the 4th East Yorkshire Territorials and was called up at the beginning of the First World War. He was declared missing in action in 1915, wounded in January 1916, and was gassed in October 1918. He is pictured in military uniform in these photographs, as are some of his comrades. Portrait photographs are also included of his future wife, Nurse Evelyn Boyce, who is shown in nurse's attire.

DDX1698/1 East Riding Yeomanry in Egypt photograph album 1914-1918.

A fascinating group of snapshots taken by Robert Spence Stephenson whilst serving with D Squadron of the East Riding Yeomanry in Alexandria, Egypt. They provide an informal glimpse at military life away from front line combat, and show aspects of the interaction between soldiers and the local people.

DDX1826/2/11-15 First World War aerodromes and aeroplanes slides and photographs 1915-1920

Assembled as part of local historian Geoffrey Simmons' research, these images are mostly modern reproductions of originals, but the information they contain make them essential documents for anyone researching aviation in this area. Amongst others they include airfields at Howden, Brough, Beverley, Owthorne, Barmby Moor and South Cave, as well as aircraft images relating to Hornsea Mere Marine Operations (Seaplane) Station and Eastburn (Driffield) Training Depot Station.

DDX1344/4/304 Photographs of Beverley Church Lads' Brigade relating to the early years, early 20th century

A snapshot of home life with the Church Lads' Brigade, these photographs show a boxing match, refreshments being served to soldiers, parades and group photographs of the Brigade, out of which was formed the East Riding Pals Battalion.

Lest We Forget

Memorials, Remembrance and the post-War period

The process of remembrance and of erecting memorials to those who served or died in the war began early in the war and continued for many years afterwards as society came to terms with such enormous losses and changes.

War Memorials

Village and town War Memorials were set up by local councils or churches. If you are interested in the history of a village war memorial you should start by looking at websites such as The UK War Memorials Archive at <http://www.ukniwm.org.uk/> and <https://www.warmemorialsonline.org.uk>

Other information about the funding, commissioning and building of war memorials will appear in the record of parish councils, churches and local authorities. Some good examples are:

PE101/47 Minutes of the War Memorial Committee, 1919-1921

Minutes of the Elloughton cum Brough War Memorial Committee from establishment in 1919- until 1921. The committee minutes deal with the recruitment of the committee members, the decisions on the type of memorial and the fundraising and practical elements of setting up a memorial.

PE48/22 Faculty for war memorial, 1920

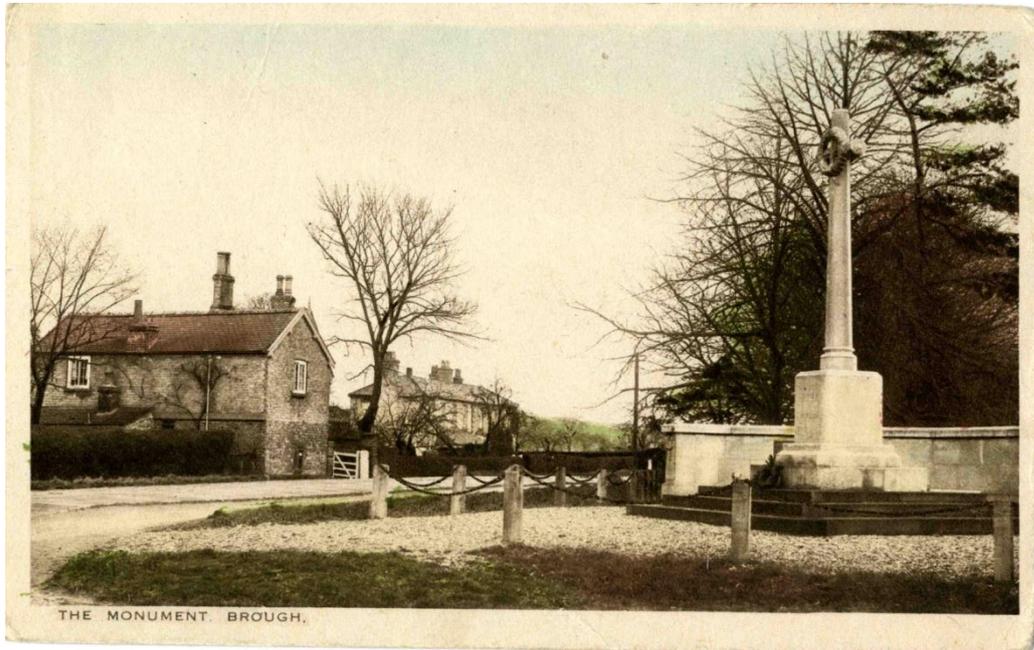
This document is a faculty or permission from the Archbishop of York to erect a War Memorial at the parish church in Wetwang. It gives permission for a “*cross of stone 11’ 6” high...bearing the following Inscription on the front stone of the Cross thereof:- “In honoured memory of the Men of Wetwang who fell in the Great War 1914-1918”*”.

PE105/44 Design for Churchyard Cross (1914-1918 War Memorial), Nov 1920

This is the design for the Anlaby War Memorial by John Bilson, architect from Hull, to be built in the Churchyard. It gives a details scale drawing of the memorial to be built.

PC27/9 Minutes of the North Cave War Memorial Committee 1919-1924

Minutes from the North Cave War Memorial Committee. The minutes include accounts and correspondence from the setting up of the committee in 1919. They include a copy of the programme for the War Memorial Service of Dedication from 1921.



PO/1/22/5 War Memorial in Brough

Churches

Many Church records from all denominations will contain references to memorials for individual soldiers or for all the men of the parish. There will also be books and services of remembrance, as well references to remembrance in minutes and correspondence. Some examples are:

PE152/30 Faculty for tablet on west wall in remembrance of the men of the parish who died in 1914-1918 war, 1921

Any amendment to the fabric of a church requires a faculty from the diocese. This example from Christ Church in Bridlington gives permission for a tablet of alabaster and mosaic to be put up with the inscription '*To the Glory of God and in grateful remembrance of the men of this Parish who gave their lives for us in the Great War 1914-1918*'

PE5/T42 Book of Remembrance for the Great War, 1923

This beautifully illuminated book was kept by Bainton Parish Church and recorded information on each of the men from Bainton who served or died in the war. It still has attached the chain which was used to attach it to a table in the church. A page at the

back of the book indicates that book was produced by the famous calligrapher Edward Johnston in Ditchling, Sussex.

PE158/135 Citation and faculty for oak memorial tablet relating to choristers, 16 June 1925

This is a citation and faculty for Holy Trinity Church in Hull to place a carved Oak Memorial tablet in the South Aisle in remembrance of *'the Choristers and Scholars of the Choirs School who fell in the Great War 1914-1918. So they passed over and all the trumpets sound for them on the other side'*.

PE129/60 East Riding Regimental Memorial Chapel plans, elevations and detail drawings, circa 1920.

These are a series of very detailed plans for the East Riding Regimental Memorial Chapel in Beverley Minster from about 1920.

National events

The war was a national and global event. In the United Kingdom remembrance occurred at both a local and a national level and this is reflected in the records.

PE125/22/35 Notice from Board of Education giving the text of King George V's letter to his people, 7 November 1919

This proclamation from King George V was to be read out in every school. It introduced a 2 minute silence on the first anniversary of the armistice. In it the King writes: *"All locomotion should cease, so that, in perfect stillness, the thoughts of everyone may be concentrated on reverent remembrance of the glorious dead."*

Demobilization

DDX988 Records of the Hull and District Employment Committee

The Hull and District Employment Committee was originally set up to assist in finding employment for ex-servicemen. It also assisted the Labour Exchanges in finding suitable employment for discharged and disabled sailors and soldiers.

Bibliography

Local studies books, reference texts, newspapers, publications and family history guides.

Many books have been written about the local history of the First World War across the UK. There is a huge amount of information available in printed sources of which this is a sample.

Reference texts and family history

The National Archives

Army Records – A guide for family historians.

William Spencer

A guide to the collections held by the National Archives and the British Library that can be used to research those who served in the Army. It includes an explanation of the organization and structure of the Army.

The National Archives

First World War Army Service Records – A guide for family historians

William Spencer

This book details the types of records available in the National Archives for researching your First World War ancestor. Records available include officers' and other ranks' records of service, nurses, Indian Army records of service, the Royal Flying Corp and Royal Air Force, Unit War diaries and operational records, trench maps, campaign medals, awards, courts martial, prisoners of war, casualties and other Dominion forces.

The Great War handbook – a guide for family historians and students of the conflict

Geoff Bridger

Geoff Bridger describes what the Great War was like for the ordinary soldiers who were caught up in it. He details their daily routines, the roles played in the overall military scheme and the risks they ran. Every aspect of the soldiers life from recruitment and training to battle and its aftermath.

Tracing your First World War Ancestors

Simon Fowler

This book is designed to help you start your research, it covers all the services, the Merchant Navy and women's work at home. It provides information to help trace soldiers from the Commonwealth, America, France and Germany. A comprehensive bibliography is provided as well as details of all major archives and museums.

Tracing your Prisoner of War Ancestors – The First World War – a guide for family historians

Sarah Paterson

A guide to research resources for family historians covering camps run by the Germans and the Turks, as well as camps in Britain, including the experience of civilian internees. The course of the campaigns where British servicemen were captured are outlined, their treatment and the conditions they endured. Information on how to find out about POWS who survived and those who died in captivity is also provided.

Village histories

If you are interested in researching the experience of a village or community in the war, then it is also worth looking at general histories of the village which may have a chapter on the war. Some good examples are:

The History of Hornsea, East Yorkshire – from earliest times to the year 2005

Stephen Harrison

Includes details of Hornsea life during the war and the use of Hornsea Mere by the Royal Naval Air Service to operate a flying boat.

Life in the Caves 1790-1940

John Branch

A history of the two villages of North Cave and South Cave, includes a chapter on the war and how it affected village life, its people and those returning after the war.

Fimber – a little village with a big history

Fimber Millenium Book Group

A section on the First World War detailing those from the village who served, with mentions of the Wagoners and the Wolds Rangers.

Regimental histories

There are published guides on many Army regiments. Local ones that are of interest are:

The Wolds Wagoners, the story of the Wagoners' Special Reserve

Ian Sumner

Includes a brief biography of Sir Mark Sykes, who created the Wolds Wagoners, the formation of The Wagoners, their part in the First World War, The Wagoners' Monument at Sledmere, and a list of those men who did not return from the war. Also includes the Yorkshire Wagoners' Special Reserve, Army Service Corps nominal roll taken from Army Book 303, with details of rank, name, age, height, weight, eye and hair colour, occupation, parish of birth, date and place of attestation.

The East Yorkshire Regiment in the Great War 1914-1918

Everard Wyrall

A history of the Regiment from sailing to France, the battles and through to victory. The appendices include Rolls of Honour, Lists of Rewards, Mentions in Despatches, Victory Cross Citations and Subscribers.

Yeomanry of the East Riding

Ian Sumner

Roy Wilson

Includes the development of the yeomanry from the Jacobite Rebellion and Napoleonic Wars of the 18th and 19th centuries, covering the influence of the Sykes family of Sledmere and the Grimston family of Holderness through to service in two world wars and incorporation in 'A' Squadron of the Queen's Own Yeomanry. It also contains the rolls of honour for 1914-1918 and 1939-1945. The text is complemented by approximately 150 photographs, including a colour section on the uniform of the yeomanry.

Hull Pals, 10th, 11th, 12th & 13th (Service) Battalions of the East Yorkshire Regiment

David Bilton

A history of 92 Infantry Brigade 31st Division or Hull Pals. In response to Kitchener's call for a million volunteers, local communities raised entire battalions for service on the western front. This book tells the story of the Hull Pals, a story similar to many other Pals battalions from the Great War.

One Hundred Lives – The East Riding Yeomanry in the Great War

Dr David Marchant

This booklet details the service of one hundred men from the East Riding Yeomanry who went on active service in Egypt and Palestine and subsequently on the Western Front. Information is taken from service records, pension records and medal cards, as well as censuses and birth, death and marriage records.

Personal biographies and letters

Biographies can be a very useful resource, providing personal insights of the experience of war and its effects on those who took part.

Arthur Williamson 1896-1975 – a scrapbook

By Simon Williamson

A brief autobiography of Arthur Williamson, who was born on the 6th February 1896 in Beverley. Arthur attended Beverley Minster Boys School, and enlisted in the 5th Battalion Alexandra Princess of Wales' Own, the Yorkshire Regiment, in 1912. It gives a description of Arthur's war service and his later police career, with copies of his service record and medals.

Destiny – the War letters of Captain Jack Oughtred MC, 1915-1918

Edited by Alan Wilkinson

The letters of Captain John Alwyn Oughtred MC, written from the Western Front to his sweetheart Phyllis Bentham, over the period of his service with the East Yorkshire Regiment from 1915 to 1918. The letters describe the trials and tribulations of trench warfare and show the change in attitude of Jack as the war became harder and his views more cynical and fatalistic.

Nothing more to say...letters from Second Lieutenant Topham Becher Dabridgecourt Hough

Edited by Mike Wilson

The letters to the parents of Second Lieutenant Topham Becher Dabridgecourt Hough, covering his entire army career, from his enlistment while still at school in Bridlington in 1915, through his training in Buckinghamshire, action on the Western Front, and his death by a sniper on 18 January 1916, aged 18 years. He served in the 8th Battalion East Yorkshire Regiment. Includes a brief biography, index of surnames found in the letters, and the war diary of late 1915 for the 8th East Yorkshire Regiment.

The Air war

The German raids on Great Britain 1914-1918

Captain Joseph Morris

During the war almost 9,000 bombs were dropped by the Germans on British soil as a result of 51 airship and 52 aeroplane attacks. Morris describes the raids by the Zeppelins along the east coast hitting targets in Hull and dropping bombs in other areas of the East Riding, with aeroplanes from No. 33 Squadron at Beverley being sent up to try and prevent the bombing.

RFC Beverley East Yorkshire

M. G. Simmons

This article examines the Royal Flying Corps Beverley Aerodrome during the First World War. The aerodrome on Beverley Westwood was opened in March 1916 and was the home of the Home Defence Squadrons, established to provide protection against the Zeppelins. The aerodrome was later intermittently used for training up to the end of the war. A memorial to the 18 airmen killed whilst serving at RAF/RFC Beverley hangs in the parish church at Bishop Burton

Balloons to buccaneers, Yorkshire's role in aviation since 1785-1992

Brian Catchpole

This book refers to the zeppelins over Yorkshire 1914-1918 and covers bombing at Beverley, Driffild, Hedon and Hull and the setting up of 33 Squadron's headquarters at Beverley race course. It also contains information on aircraft and airships on anti-submarine patrols and convoy duties that flew from Atwick, Hornsea and Owthorne, and RNAS airships at Howden and Yorkshire that played a strategic role.

General topics

The impact of World War One on the East Riding of Yorkshire

Simon Drysdale

Includes the impact of the war based on the three diverse locations of Beverley, Bridlington and Sledmere. Chapter one is a snapshot of pre-war East Riding in 1911 focusing on population, local industry and a brief history of the locations. Chapter two set during the war years 1914-1918 focuses on the loss of men for agriculture with the Wolds Wagoners; the effect of the bombardment at Scarborough on the resort of Bridlington and the loss of tourism and the fishing industry. Chapter three is concerned with the impact of war on rural life especially the need for agricultural labour.

East Yorkshire Curiosities

Robert Woodhouse

Included in this volume is a section relating to the Kilnsea Sound Mirror, one of several erected along the east coast during the First World War to pick up sound waves from enemy airships.

Defending Holderness in wartime – a guide to the military history of south east Holderness

Hidden Holderness

The outbreak of the First World War led to changes to the defence of Holderness, new fortifications were built at Spurn and Kilnsea, batteries were built, a railway was built for transporting supplies and army camps were set up at Easington and Kilnsea. An airfield at Owthorne ran anti-U-boat and reconnaissance patrols.

Greens Household Almanac

Greens Household Almanac from 1916-1920 contains a local roll of honour, which consists of photographs and a brief note with name, rank, unit, family and home address. The photographs are of those who have joined up, then later those who have been killed, wounded or awarded a medal.

Newspapers

Newspapers are an excellent source for local First World War history. Not only do they contain news from the front but also photographs of those who joined up, letters from those serving at the front and notices of casualties and medal awards.

The East Riding Archives hold the following newspapers on microfilm which cover the period of the First World War:

Beverley Guardian

Beverley Weekly Recorder

Driffield Times

East Riding Chronicle and Driffield Express

Howdenshire Chronicle and Pocklington Weekly

Journals

The Snapper - the monthly journal of the East Yorkshire Regiment.

The East Riding Archives hold copies for the period 1914-1916, they contains letters from the front, lists of officers who have fallen, awards and photographs.



Your Archives Need You!

Donating your research to the Archives

Once your research is complete we'd love to have a copy of it deposited at the Treasure House to add to the collections.

East Riding Archives looks after archives and local studies materials in secure and environmentally controlled storage for records in a modern purpose-built repository. Our staff includes a number of professionally qualified archivists and conservators.

Archives and books held by us are made available for public consultation under staff supervision in our Research Room. Information about catalogued records is added to our Online Catalogue, available at www.eastriding.gov.uk, so that researchers around the world can find out about the sources here.

We collect research relating to anywhere in the East Riding of Yorkshire and about individuals, families and organizations that have an association with the East Riding. This can include research on places, people, communities, organisations and businesses. If you are unsure whether your research will fit in our collections then please ask us for advice.

Before you bring your research in it is useful to have a check through and weed out any duplicates or unrelated information. If you supply your research as loose sheets we will normally comb bind it for use by researchers. Please contact us if you want any further information about the format of your research or any aspect of the process of donating information.

If your research has identified archives which you think should be preserved for future generations and made available for research then please contact us for more information on depositing or gifting archive material.