

ON THE BRINK

The Politics of Conflict 1914-1916 Project

WORKSHEET 6

COMMEMORATION: DISCUSSION EXERCISE

The centenaries of the Easter Rising and the Battle of the Somme were commemorated across Ireland in 2016. Events of one hundred years ago continue to shape our culture, identities and politics today. It is important to remember that these events may have happened elsewhere, but they still impacted the local area. Throughout the Mid-Antrim and Causeway areas, there are a number of local commemorative sites that you can visit which are detailed within the focus stories. Plus, there are many more that you can visit and do your own research into!

However, in groups, discuss how you would commemorate the Easter Rising, or the Battle of the Somme. Your ideas could include an original piece of art, a new progressive and innovative centre based within the local area, or even a wooded area or park.

The photographs on the next page show examples of how public buildings such as places of worship, as well as the natural landscape can be used for imaginative and different acts of commemoration.

Your group should discuss:

- A suitable title for your commemorative idea
- Local people and groups involved in the Easter Rising or the Battle of the Somme
- Why is local commemoration so important today?
- Why do you think your idea is a suitable approach for commemoration?

PRESENTATION EXERCISE!

Once you have discussed the idea of local commemoration among members of your group, collectively share your ideas with your classmates through a PowerPoint presentation, or any other form of presentation. Openly evaluate and comment on the group presentations. How successful would each commemoration idea be in attracting participation from all sections of the community? Is there anything you agree or disagree with, or that could be changed and improved upon?



Poppies: Weeping Windows St Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall, Scotland 14-18 NOW



Ox-eye daisies with scatterings of poppy and Yorkshire fog at Brackfield Wood, Northern Ireland. Woodland Trust