The Bacup Townscape Heritage Initiative Communications & Engagement Group has put together a programme of events and activities to commemorate and highlight life in Bacup during World War One. The programme includes exhibitions, talks, genealogy, food tastings and a play that depicts life in the trenches. Many of the events are interactive and therefore the Group encourages you to bring your own stories, artifacts, recipes and documents with you. The journey promises to be a surprising and enlightening experience.

The Programme:

10th November, 4:30pm at Bacup Library: Your World War One Ancestor: where to Begin – there will be a talk by Fiona McIntyre from the Community Heritage Team on how you can research your family history from the wealth of freely accessible information available in libraries, museums and the Lancashire archives. Contact Bacup Library to book a place – in person, by phone 0300 123 6703 or email bacup.library@lancashire.gov.uk

11th November at The Boo Theatre- The Muddy Choir – there will be a special schools performance of the acclaimed play The Muddy Choir. The play aims to provide an insight into the experience of three boys in WW1.

12th November at Bacup Library WW1 Family History Drop-in – following on from the talk on by Fiona McIntyre, the Community Heritage Team is providing the facilities and support for you to research your own family members back to WW1 and beyond between 10am and 4pm in the Library. Contact Bacup Library to book a half hour session to look at the resources freely available with expert assistance from the Community Heritage Team – in person, by phone 0300 123 6703 or email bacup.library@lancashire.gov.uk

13th November on the streets of Bacup – Crime Walk PC Neil Gregson will be leading a crime walk around Bacup, and will be looking at the more famous cases. The walk will be happening on meeting at Bacup Police office, Union Square, Bacup at approximately 5:45pm to set off at 6pm. The walk should take about an hour to an hour and a half. The plan is to finish at the Nat on Todmorden Road for its opening at 7:30pm. Torch advisable.

1st December at Bacup Nat – there will be a travelling exhibition and talk entitled ‘World War One Shared Histories’ which looks at experiences of other countries during WW1 and focuses on the British Indian Army. This is an interactive event with opportunities to handle some of the exhibits, and wear uniform of the period. This event will run from 2pm to 5pm

13th December at Bacup Nat – there is an open day and an opportunity to experience Christmas in 1914 and a detailed reconstruction of a Fernhill Hospital ward from World War One

15th December at Bacup Library- 5pm-6:30pm- Steven Illingworth will present a talk on Conscientious Objectors in the First World War, highlighting the experiences of people in the local and regional contexts. Contact Bacup Library to book a place – in person, by phone 0300 123 6703 or email bacup.library@lancashire.gov.uk

November-December – there will be a display of photographs, facts and stories displayed in various venues throughout the event.

In 2015 we’ll be time-travelling to Bacup in the 1930s and 40s. What would you like to do on that journey?

Find out more at www.bacuptimetravel.org
Or www.bacupthi.org.uk
Or e-mail thi@rossendalebc.gov.uk for further information