

Hawick's German Prisoners

Stobs Internment Camp in Global Context, 1914-1919



Free study weekend for the general public.

18 & 19 June 2016
Heart of Hawick

During the First World War, the Stobs military training ground near Hawick was used as a mass internment facility for 4,500 prisoners. These consisted of German civilian 'enemy aliens' from across Britain and its Empire, and military Prisoners of War taken from European battlefields. Stobs was one of the biggest camps in the British Empire and parent camp for a network of further facilities across Scotland and Northern England. Although currently in disrepair and usually not publicly accessible, the site gives a unique insight into the workings of an internment camp. Come along and learn about the local, national and global significance of Stobs and Hawick during World War I.

- Listen and talk to experts who have conducted extensive research on Stobs and other camps around the world.
- Join up with the experts to interpret camp artefacts and texts on display. If you have any items in your possession, please bring these along.
- Join an excursion to the site with the Scottish Borders Council archaeology officer. Current plans include excavation, improved accessibility, and information.

Programme

Saturday 18 June 2016

09.00 – 09.30	Arrival and Registration, Heart of Hawick cultural centre
09.30	Dr Stefan Manz (Aston University, Birmingham) Welcome and Introductory Lecture: Stobs in Global Context
10.00	Dr Catriona M. M. Macdonald (University of Glasgow) Anti-German Riots in Scotland during World War I
10.20	Dr Terry McBride (University of the West of Scotland) The State and 'Enemy Aliens' in Scotland, 1914-1919

10.40	Coffee Break
11.00	Dr Gordon Barclay (Former Principal Inspector, Historic Scotland) Camp History and Topography, 1914-1919
11.20	Shona Sinclair (Hawick Museum) Making the Most of Local Knowledge
11.40	Yvonne Cresswell (Manx National Heritage) Internment on the Isle of Man
12.00	Colin Chapman (Northamptonshire Record Society) The Eastcote/Pattishall Camp in Northamptonshire
12.20-13.20	Buffet lunch in Heart of Hawick
13.20	Tom French (County Meath Library) Commemorating Oldcastle Camp in County Meath
13.40	Prof Panikos Panayi (de Montfort University, Leicester) The Ahmednagar Camp in India
14.00	Prof Matthew Stibbe (Sheffield Hallam University) British Internees in Germany. The Ruhleben Camp
14.30 – 18.00	Heritage Hub Chat to the experts about artefacts and texts from camps
19.00	Dinner [place tbc]

Sunday 19 June 2016

9.30	Meet in front of Heritage Hub, arrange car transport [tbc]
10.00 – 12.30	Tour of the Stobs site with Dr Christopher Bowles, Scottish Borders Council Archaeology Officer
13.00	Final Lunch & Drinks in Hawick [place tbc]

Registration:

To secure a place, please email archives@scotborders.gov.uk or phone 01450 360 699.

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The event is jointly organised by Aston University and Scottish Borders Council. It is funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council – Gateways to the First World War.

