

Britain at War

What is war?

War is a period of intentional actions, including armed fighting, between two or more countries or groups to force the enemy to adhere to their will.

First World War 1914–1918

Timeline of events

August 1914	Britain declares war on Germany
October 1914	First Battle of Ypres
Jan–Feb 1915	Ottoman Empire attacks Suez Canal
February 1915	Gallipoli Campaign begins
May 1915	Italy joins the Allied Powers
Feb–Dec 1916	Battle of Verdun
June–Sept 1916	Brusilov Offensive
July–Nov 1916	Battle of the Somme
April 1917	United States joins the Allied Powers
November 1918	Germany surrenders, and the war ends

Remembrance

Remembrance is the act of remembering and honouring the people who died as a result of the conflict. The poppy is a symbol of remembrance after poppies grew in the Western Front battlefields. Memorials, monuments and war cemeteries all serve to remind us of the sacrifice made by millions of people.



Main Participating Countries			
Allied Countries		Central Powers	
Country	Flag	Country	Flag
France		Germany	
United Kingdom		Austria-Hungary	
Italy		Ottoman Empire (Modern Turkey)	
Russia		Bulgaria	
U.S.A			

Conflict, Resolution and Remembrance



Vocabulary/Glossary	
Alliance	When countries join forces or work together to achieve a certain goal
Treaty	A written agreement between two or more countries
Armistice	A formal agreement of warring parties to stop fighting
Triple Entente	The military understanding reached by UK, France and Russia to fight
Triple Alliance	The military understanding reached by Germany, Austria-Hungary and Italy
Conscription	The requirement by law to join the armed forces
Front Line	The area where the armies are engaged in fighting
No Man's Land	The area of land between two enemy trench systems
Trench	Long ditches dug into the ground where soldiers lived and fought
Trench Warfare	A type of fighting where both sides build deep trenches as a defence. The trenches stretched for miles
Trench foot	A painful condition of the feet caused by long exposure in cold water or mud; some cases were so bad, feet were amputated
Western Front	The area of fighting in Western Europe: the majority took place in north-eastern France and Belgium
Artillery	Large guns that fire explosive shells over long distances
Infantry	A branch of the army that engages in military combat on foot; known as 'foot soldiers'