

# 1914 CHRISTMAS TRUCE Resource Pack for Teachers



We have worked with teachers to produce a free resource pack which includes lesson plans, hand-outs, worksheets and Power-Point slideshows for a range of lessons across a broad spectrum of subjects.

The resources are intended primarily for students aged 8-14, with some aimed at 15-18 year olds. As well as lesson plans, the pack contains material for assemblies and Christmas carol services.

To access the resource pack, please visit our website [www.mlkpc.org](http://www.mlkpc.org) or email [nick.megoran@newcastle.ac.uk](mailto:nick.megoran@newcastle.ac.uk)



Christmas Eve, 1914. Amidst the horror of the First World War, after months of vicious warfare bringing death and destruction to Europe on an unprecedented scale, British and German soldiers laid down their weapons and came out of their trenches to meet in no-man's land, where they sang Christmas carols, swapped names and addresses, exchanged gifts and souvenirs, shared food and drink, and in some cases, played football. These spontaneous acts of goodwill and kindness went directly against orders from high command, occurring right along the front from Switzerland to the North Sea, offering a hopeful moment of recognition of the soldiers' shared humanity, and an albeit brief rejection of the terrible violence of war.

Between 2014 and 2018 the UK will mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the First World War; a conflict in which more than 15 million people lost their lives. To help teachers engage pupils with the events of WW1, the Northumbria and Newcastle Universities Martin Luther King Peace Committee has developed a free resource pack for teachers, offering inspiration and ideas for their school's Christmas Programmes between 2014 and 2017. This resource pack covers a wide range of subjects including English/literacy, history, geography, art, cookery, PE, and RE/ethics. Either as stand-alone lessons or as part of an extended whole-school topic, the pack uses the remarkable events of the 1914 Christmas Truces to give teachers an original and highly evocative angle with which to engage pupils with the centenary of the Great War.

[www.mlkpc.org](http://www.mlkpc.org)

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COMMITTEE