

DEVON IN THE GREAT WAR

REPRINT

Gerald Wasley

The devastating effects of the First World War were to change forever the face of rural England. *Devon in the Great War* is the first substantial work to explore both the military and social aspects of the greatest and bloodiest of World Wars, charting the changes that this conflict wrought upon Devon and its people.

The Devonshire Regiment was among the first forces of regular troops to leave for the Western Front, whilst conscription later saw thousands of Devon men called to the colours. Thousands more served at sea with both Royal Navy and the merchant force, whilst some of the earliest experiments in aerial warfare were conducted from air stations in the South West. On the Home Front, women for the first time took on roles traditionally occupied by men, both on farm and in factory, while many others joined the newly formed women's forces.

The names of the fallen appear on memorials in every town and village throughout Devon. This book bears witness to their valour and to the lives of those who were left to mourn them.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Gerald Wasley was formerly a Clinical Immunologist based at St Thomas' Hospital, London. He is the author of several books on medical laboratory science and scientific papers, including 'Naval Medicine and Surgery at the time of the Armada'.

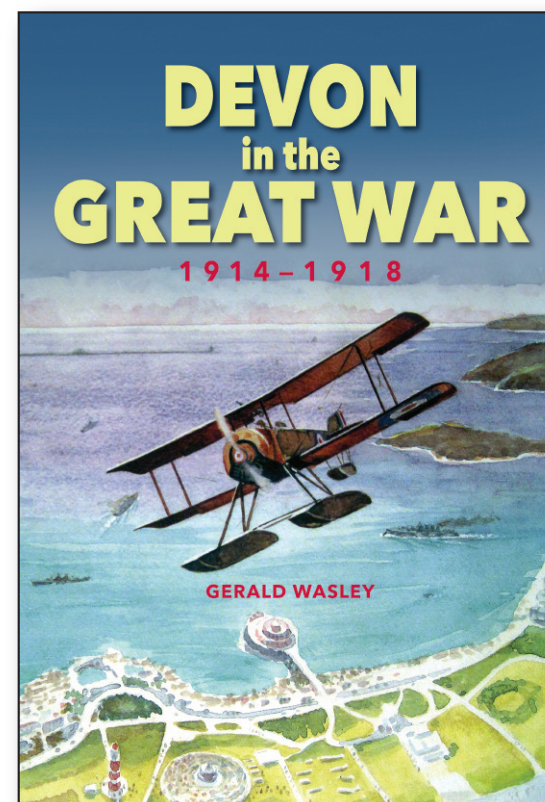
As a schoolboy, evacuated from Acton in Middlesex to Dartmouth, he can remember looking at the red glow in the sky as Plymouth burned under the German bombers in the spring of 1941. This inspired him many years later to write *Devon At War*, a companion volume to the present book. He has written articles for the Western Morning News newspaper and also collaborated on the production of a documentary 'City Under Fire'. Also published by Halsgrove is *The Way We Were – Devon in the 1930s*. He is currently compiling an comprehensive study of Exercise Tiger; otherwise known as the Slapton Disaster; an event that took place in South Devon leading up to D-Day.

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A soldier on guard at the gates of the Citadel, Plymouth c.1914.



Soldiers convalescing at Elm Park Hospital, Totnes, 1915.



Troops marching through Torquay c.1917.

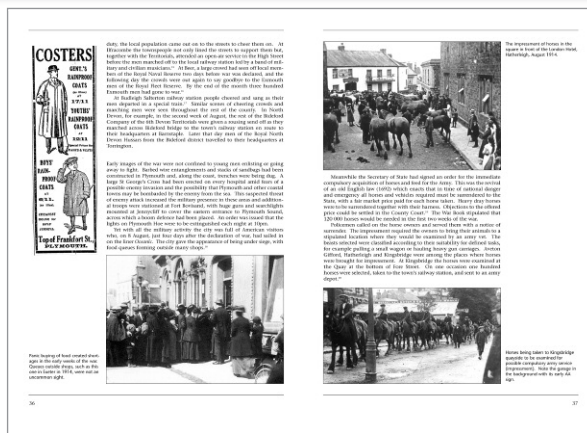
Right: Red Cross nurses in a makeshift hospital ward in a church at Barnstaple, 1914.



Below: 8 August 1914, crowds at Ilfracombe cheer the 1st Heavy Battery of the Devonshire Royal Garrison Artillery



Example of a double-page spread.



Curious Plymouthians crane forward as a stretcher is unloaded from an ambulance (a converted London bus) outside the Salisbury Road Hospital, 1914.