

Subject Cyngor Sir Powys County Council: The Battle of the Somme to be screen in Builth Wells

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The Battle of the Somme to be screen in Builth Wells

A historical film depicting the Battle of the Somme will be screened in Builth Wells in March.

Two free screenings of the 1916 film 'The Battle of the Somme' will be held at the Wyeside Arts Centre in Builth Wells on Wednesday 15 March. The screenings will be at 2pm and 7pm.

The screening has been organised by Powys County Council's Powys War Memorials Project, which commemorates the centenary of World War One.

The council, which is also a member of the First World War Centenary Partnership, has worked in partnership with the Wyeside Arts Centre to bring the film back to the big screen.

The Imperial War Museums (IWM) and members of the First World War Centenary Partnership are working together to show the UNESCO listed film The Battle of the Somme, to audiences across the world.

Shot and screened in 1916, it was the first feature length documentary about war and changed the way both cinema and film was perceived by the public. In the year of its release around 20 million people, almost half the population of Britain at the time, watched The Battle of the Somme many hoping to see the image of a loved-one, or friend captured on film.

A soundtrack that was commissioned to mark the 90th anniversary of The Battle of The Somme will be played while the film is being screened. The music was composed by Laura Rossie and performed by the Philharmonia Orchestra

Cllr Tony Thomas, Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Planning, said: "This is a unique opportunity to see one of the defining battles of the war as people saw it over 100 years ago.

"It is also an appropriate way to commemorate the role of those individuals who left Builth Wells and Powys, sacrificing their lives."

For more information about the First World War Centenary Partnership's plans to commemorate the Battle of the Somme visit www.1914.org

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