



'Meeting of the Minds II'

*Remembering the Legacy of Indian Soldiers Contribution
In World Wars and its impact in modern times*



Wednesday 19th October 2016

Thistle The Royal Trafalgar Hotel

Whitcomb Street, Trafalgar Square London WC2H 7HG

Partners:

Golden Tours Foundation: The Golden Tours Foundation is a charitable organisation established in 2013 to offer life-changing opportunities for people to help fulfil their aspirational goals. It has a broad spectrum of charitable aims nurturing on the philosophy of personal, social and economic growth. The Foundation, in particular, pays emphasis to projects related to the ‘younger generation’. Its ethos is to secure opportunities for the future generations by working for and with them. Only by such inclusive partnerships, is there hope for future social and economic wealth for us all.

Imperial War Museums: IWM is unique in its coverage of conflicts, especially those involving Britain and the Commonwealth, from the First World War to the present day. IWM seeks to provide for and to encourage, the study and understanding of the history of modern war and 'wartime experience'.

United Service Institution of India: USI is a national security and defence services think tank based in New Delhi. It aims to further the interest and knowledge in the art, science and literature of the Defence Services of India.

Royal Pavilion & Museums, Brighton & Hove: During the First World War, the Pavilion, along with other sites in Brighton, was transformed into a military hospital. From December 1914 to January 1916, sick and wounded soldiers from the Indian Army were treated in the former palace. The Pavilion Hospital also incorporated the adjacent Dome and Corn Exchange—buildings which had formerly been part of the stable complex that accompanied the palace.

Purpose:

At the symposium a key message resulting from discussions was to create a collective remembrance of the contribution of soldiers in WW1 and WW2. Working towards this aim the outline ideas for the day agenda are;

1. Continuation of discussions from Brighton around accuracy and relevancy of exhibitions. How do we work with other Museums and societies to help them to improve their DISPLAY of India and commonwealth history?
2. Creation of an education resource hub
3. Further development of the double decker outreach project
4. Do we need to improve awareness/interpretation of War Memorials?
5. Plans on how to build on WW1 initiatives to continue collaboration and build awareness leading up to the centenary of the outbreak of WW2
6. To establish an All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) to focus on the contribution of Indian Soldiers
7. Creation of a Remembrance Day for Indian Soldiers. First commemoration in 2018.

10.15	Registration and Refreshments
10.40	WELCOME: Mr Rana Chhina , USI – opening remarks
10.45	Jane Roemer , GTF – setting the scene and feedback on Brighton Symposium
11.00	Education and Community - 5 minute presentation by Virginia Crompton (Big Ideas Company) on education resource for the Football Remembers project. Followed by a group discussion ; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth and School engagement • Adaptation of existing resources to be more accessible • How to bring these ideas and resources into one place eg an education hub on India1914?
11.45	Networks! – Bus Project - 5 minute presentation by Jane Roemer (GTF) Followed by short discussion around concept and collaboration
12.00	Break
12.10	Legacy – 10 minute presentation by Glyn Pryor (CWGC) on new Basra Memorial project. Followed by group discussion; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevancy of War Memorials • Interpretation of War Memorials • Developing tourism/education opportunities
12.50	LUNCH
13.30	2018 and beyond – 10 minute presentation by Rana Chhina and Bhanu Ghalot (USI) on the India Remembers pilot. Followed by group discussion; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunities to develop India Remembers UK • How to adapt • Collaboration ideas from partners • Using an extended timeline similar to the India Remembers pilot to bridge the gap between WW1 and WW2? • Creation of a Remembrance Event for Indian Soldiers in 2018 at Neasden Temple
14.15	Break
14.30	Remembering Indian Soldiers in WW1 – Presentation by Manu Khajuria (GTF) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on project • Diwali • Youth Engagement Programme 2017
14.45	Accuracy and Relevancy. A roundtable discussion on how Museums develop their indian content for their exhibitions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lessons Learnt • Information resources/gaps • Hidden stories • Collaboration
16.30	Closing Remarks
16.45	Transfer to House of Commons
18.30	Meeting with Members of Parliament – To discuss progress so far following the Brighton Symposium and also explain future initiatives
20.30	Close

