



0. War Horse - Story Preface

1. THE NARRACOTT FAMILY
2. SCARS from a PRIOR WAR
3. JOEY BECOMES A WAR HORSE
4. HORSES in WORLD WAR I
5. TRENCHES and NO MAN'S LAND
6. JOEY and ALBERT at WAR'S END

Castle Combe, in Wiltshire, has been called "The Prettiest Village in England." It was the setting for some of the scenes of "War Horse" (the film). Image of Castle Combe, a Wiltshire village, online courtesy [Wiltshire Web](#).

*...when praise and honours and medals are being lavished
among the armies of the victorious nations,
will a thought be spared, one wonders,
for the horse and the mule
in their tens and hundreds of thousands
... how indispensable they have been to victory,
how vital to the Allies' successful prosecution of the war.*

The Horse and the War
Captain Sidney Galtrey
1918

On the day Gavrilo Princep shot Franz Ferdinand, the Archduke of Austria, people in Britain were going about their daily business. It was a sad event, to be sure, but who could fault anyone in the UK for paying scant attention to the death of another country's heir-to-the-throne?

Two months later, in August of 1914, the lads of [Devonshire](#) - like those in other parts of the country - were volunteering for war. It turns out the death of Franz Ferdinand mattered, after all, even to Brits.

Would-be fighters - many of them barely out of their teens - were about to endure extraordinary hardship. Stunning numbers of people - and animals - would die.

Who were these British men (young and old)? What were they fighting for? What were they hoping to accomplish?

Visual Vocabulary Builder for this Story

See [Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:](#)

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/War-Horse>

See [Learning Tasks for this story online at:](#)

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/War-Horse>

Questions 2 Ponder

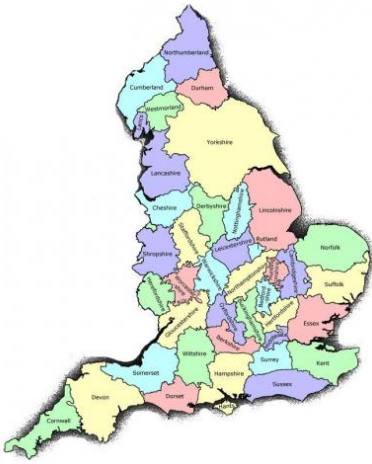
How Do the Times in Which We Live Impact Our View of Events?

In 1914, an eighteen-year-old—Gavrilo Princip—shot and killed the heir to the Austro-Hungarian Empire. That event was a precipitating cause of World War One when countries, who were aligned with other, banded together to wage war against other countries who were aligned with each other.

How likely would it be, today, that such an action—against one soon-to-be head of state—would plunge the world into a major war that could kill millions of people?

If your answer is "not likely," why would the result—between then and now—be so different?

Do the times in which we live, and the technology available in those different time frames, impact our view of events and the actions we are willing to take to address them?



Devonshire - Location in England

Image online, courtesy Wikimedia Commons.

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<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Devonshire-Location-in-England>



War Horse

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