

## Ramsgate Trail Green Trail - 3km 1.8 miles

Please respect the privacy of residents and use the trails in a considerate manner to others.

Walking Advice - Health and Safety for full advice please see our website: [kentww1.com](http://kentww1.com)

**1 East Cliff Lodge**

Dame Janet Stancomb-Wills, who inherited this house from her uncle, served on many local relief and fund-raising committees during WW1 and was a very generous benefactor. In March 1918 she gave £5,000 to Aeroplane Week out of the total of £27,000 raised locally. She was conferred the Star of the Order of the British Empire by King George V.



**2 Montague House: the Channing-Pearce family**

Wilfred was a qualified Doctor when he enlisted in the RAMC in October 1914. He served in various locations and in 1917 his sister Lois volunteered for overseas service in France as a VAD nurse. Wilfred was killed in October 1917 whilst treating wounded men in the trenches.



**3 11 Penschur Rd. - Miss Hacker and the Brownies**

This was the home of Miss Hacker; the Brown Owl for the 1st Ramsgate Brownies. Under her guidance the Brownies aged 7-11 adopted and cared for 8 war graves of servicemen who had no local family. They also sent comfort bags to the troops and raised funds salvaging paper.



**4 Thanet Road for St John Ambulance equipment**

Residents were advised in the local paper in October 1914 that Private Afrigan was in charge of splints, a stretcher and rope and wire cutters. These were kept at his home 21 Thanet Road for use in an emergency. This was one of several St John ambulance stations in Ramsgate.



**5 WW Martin**

WW Martin is a prominent construction company in Ramsgate. Mr W Martin and his wife had 2 sons who served; Charles a corporal in the RE and 'Arch' Martin with the RNAS from late 1916. 'Arch' was a well known local sportsman who played cricket for his division. Charles lost an eye in battle overseas serving for his country.



**6 Hereson Road School and the Dug Outs**

By 1918 the attacks from air and sea on Ramsgate were so heavy that dug-outs for civilians to shelter in were made by tunneling into the chalk. One of these was at Hereson School for use by the infants and girls, with the boys using a shelter on Honeysuckle Hill.



**7 No. 7 Cecilia Road, the home of Private Lawbuary**

Private Lawbuary of the ASC (MT) who was given 28 days leave in March 1918, having served in Salonika for nearly 2 years- reminding us that men from Ramsgate served in all the theatres of the War, not just the Western Front.




**8 Ramsgate Cemetery**

There are over 100 WW1 graves in Ramsgate Cemetery for soldiers, sailors and airmen; of all nationalities. Most of the graves are marked by a Commonwealth War Graves headstone but some are family memorials.



Our maps and points of interest are provided for historical information only. If you are not familiar with the area, always walk with an appropriate OS map.

Kent in WW1 and its associates does not attempt to provide advice on safety aspects of walking. There are inherent risks in any outdoor activity and these trails are followed at your own risk.

**9 St Luke's Church Memorial**

Sunday 19th March 1916, 5 seaplanes raided Ramsgate. Because of the thick mist the attack was very sudden. 5 children were killed on their way to St. Luke's Sunday school. Another casualty was a driver of a motor car. 9 people were injured. It was the saddest week Ramsgate had known for many years.



**10 53 Denmark Rd. Mr Porter**

The home of Mr Henry Porter, a civilian electrician, who was awarded an O.B.E. in 1918 for his bravery and devotion to duty. On one occasion he was restoring Naval circuits during a raid with explosions happening 50 yards from where he was working.



**11 Boundary Park**

It was dug up for allotments February 1917 due to the shortage of food caused by the loss of merchant shipping to U boats. Other waste ground around the town was utilised and an allotment association set up.



**12 49 Hereson Road**

Mr W D Jenkins ran a shop here but for the War effort he bred homing pigeons for the Forces. Pigeons played a very important role carrying messages.



**13 3 Hereson Road**

Mr and Mrs Ebbett of 3 Hereson Road (CT11 7DP) had 5 sons and 2 son in laws serving in the forces in December 1914 and received a letter of congratulations from King George. By the end of the War all 6 sons had served and two, Henry and Frederick, died in 1917.




# Ramsgate First World War Walking Trails

Revealing the history of local people, places and events

These trails were developed in partnership with **Laura Probert**

To discover more and take part in the quiz visit: [www.kentww1.com](http://www.kentww1.com)

The QR code below takes you to the 100 miles for 100 years app, alternatively visit the website for a direct link.



Leaflet design by **Laura Haines**

# 1 Sailor's Church and the Smack Boys Home

Some 3,300 survivors of the First World War are known to have been fed, clothed, sheltered and medically treated at the home. There was a searchlight on the roof of the Smack Boys Home and a machine gun guarding Jacob's Ladder. It was also used as a hostel for fishermen who were not local.



# 8 The Granville Hotel

- gained local notoriety in September 1915 when it was reported that the empty hotel was being used by German spies; a search by armed police found no evidence. In October 1915 it became a Canadian Hospital with 300 rooms.



# 9 Artillery Road

In the Thanet Advertiser in July 1915 it was reported that Private Johnston R.A.M.C. of Artillery Road ; who had been a Prisoner of War since September 1914; had been released from captivity and was returning home.



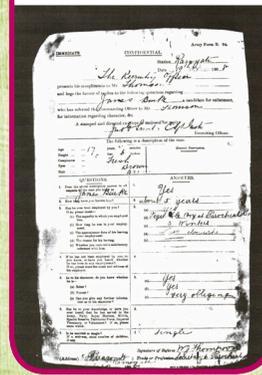
# 2 Ramsgate Fishermen

Throughout the war Ramsgate's fishermen played a vital role as part of the Dover Patrol sweeping mines or rescuing shipwrecked sailors. Losses in the fishing fleet from U boats and restrictions on night fishing meant some boats relocated to Brixham. The harbour is where some of the Belgian refugees landed in Autumn 1914.



# 10 James Burke of 4 Newcastle Hill

was born in 1890; and went to St Paul's School. He joined the East Kent's as a Territorial when he was 18. When war was declared he was mobilised and went to France in November 1914. He was killed in action 7th June 1915.



- 1) 884RAM; 2) 901RAM; 3) 139RAM Courtesy of James Brazier; 4) 697RAM Courtesy Janet and Richards Genealogy; 5) 887RAM; 6) 902RAM Courtesy Red Cross; 7) 875RAM Janet and Richards Genealogy; 8) 701RAM Courtesy Janet and Richards Genealogy; 9) 908RAM; 10) 860RAM In memory of James Burke; 11) 911RAM; 12) 897RAM; 13) 913RAM; 14) The Ramsgate Collection 15RAM; 15) 898RAM; 16) 899RAM; 17) 914RAM.

Please note most of the terrain is hilly. Toilets and car parking can be found at Cavendish Street Car Park, Ramsgate CT11 9AL.

# 3 Royal Sailor's Rest - The Bethel

During the First World War the Sailors' Rest was fitted out as a temporary hospital to receive the first batch of wounded Belgian soldiers in October 1914. It was then used for wounded British servicemen, but was very small so the hospital was moved to Nethercourt.

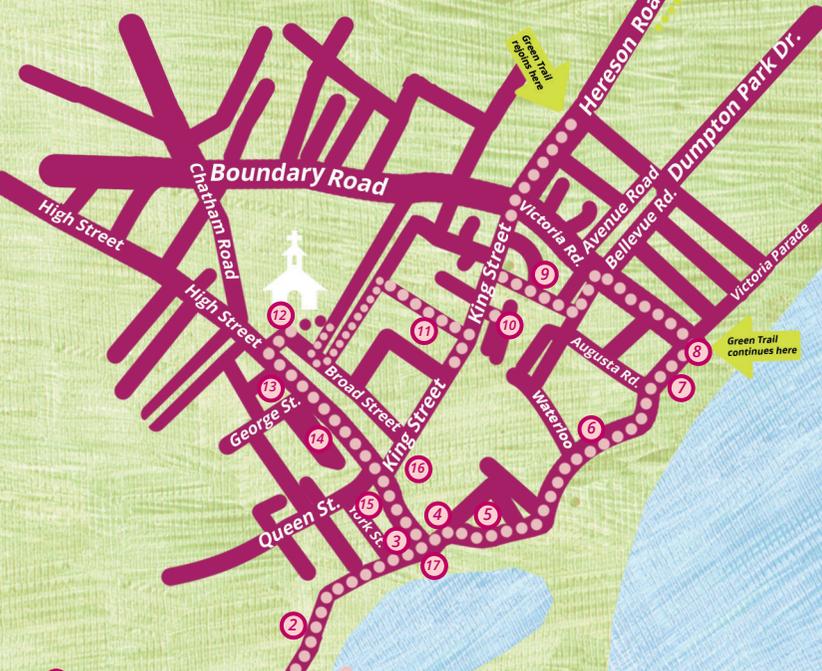


# 4 Bomb Damage at 6 Albion Hill

There was a significant air raid from a Zeppelin on the 17th May 1915, the image shows the damage done to the Imperial Bazaar at 6 Albion Hill, but the damage at the rear of the property was said to have been big enough to put a fire engine into.



# Ramsgate Trail Distance: 3 Km 1.8 miles



1 Main Trail (this page)  
1 Green Trail (overleaf)  
Please turn over to follow Green Trail (extended trail).

# 14 Site of the Bull and George

The first Zeppelin raid was in May 1915 when incendiary bombs were dropped on the town. The Bull and George Hotel in Ramsgate High Street was badly damaged. As a result of this raid Dame Janet Stancomb- Wills presented the first motorised fire engine to Ramsgate in October 1915.



# 5 Destiny

On 17th December 1920 a sculpture called Destiny, by the sculptor Gilbert Bayes, was unveiled in Albion Gardens as the Ramsgate Peace Memorial. It was presented to the town by Dame Janet Stancomb-Wills.



# 11 Number 7 Belmont Street

The home of Albert Andrews ,the skipper of the fishing smack Erena which was lost with a crew of three in February 1915- Mr Andrews left a widow and 6 children the eldest aged 8. Whether this was a result of enemy action is unclear.



# 15 Site of Town Hall

At the outbreak of War 600 local men volunteered to be Special Constables at the Town Hall. Many recruiting meetings were held, including one in September 1915 by Sgt Niemeyer; a wounded Canadian recovering in Ramsgate. Ramsgate people meet here every year to observe two minutes silence at 11 am on 11th November.



# 6 Wellington Crescent

Mr Frederick Taylor Blackburn lived in 7 Wellington Crescent. He served as a stretcher bearer at Ramsgate Station and Thanet Group of Hospitals. His role involved meeting the ambulance trains as they arrived at the Ramsgate Stations at any time of the day or night to assist moving the patients.



# 12 St George's Shelled and Memorial

On Friday April 27th 1917 Ramsgate was bombarded from the sea by enemy destroyers, the tower at St George's suffered minor damage. The Vicar kept the shell and piece of stonework in his study. In 1919 plans were made for a War memorial and Memorial Chapel.



# 16 Old King's Cinema

It was here in August 1916 where the film of The Battle of the Somme was first shown in Ramsgate. It was the first time that civilians had seen actual footage of the conditions of the trenches and battlefield. The graphic footage shocked many.



# 7 Ramsgate Harbour or Sands Station

Much used during the War despite the steepness of the gradient and lack of room it was the closest to the harbour, wounded soldiers were brought here by ambulance train and to the Town Station (where Chatham Court flats are now).



# 13 70 High Street The Post Office

The site of the Post Office telephone exchange and call office which was seen of such importance that it was guarded either by special constables or the Army for much of the War.



# 17 Explosion in the Harbour

On Saturday May 26th 1917 a terrific explosion shook the town of Ramsgate when No 4 torpedo boat blew up in the harbour. Some 400 homes were damaged and 14 crew members from the boat perished but 3 survived.

