



PRESS RELEASE

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‘Her diary details with compassion all the horrors of the “war to end all wars”’

BRITAIN AT WAR

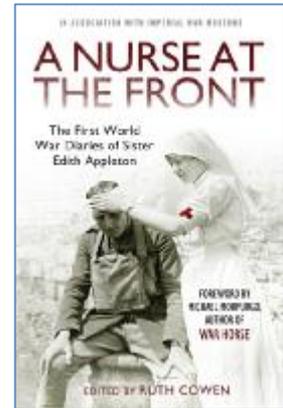
WAR DIARIES: A NURSE AT THE FRONT

The First World War Diaries of Sister Edith Appleton

Edited by Ruth Cowen

With an introduction by Michael Morpurgo

Published by Simon & Schuster on 7th February 2013 in paperback, £7:99



A Nurse at the Front is the second book in the Simon & Schuster 'War Diaries' series produced in conjunction with London's Imperial War Museum.

This extraordinary book tells a story that is rarely heard: the experiences of a nurse working close to the Western Front in the First World War. Incredibly, Edith Appleton served in France for the whole of the conflict. Her bravery and dedication won her the Military OBE, the Royal Red Cross and the Belgian Queen Elisabeth medal among others.

Her diary details with compassion all the horrors of the 'war to end wars', including the first use of poison gas and the terrible cost of battles such as Ypres, but she also records what life was like for nurses and how she spent her time off-duty. There are moments of humour amongst the tragedy, and even lyrical accounts of the natural beauty that still existed amidst all the destruction.

Ruth Cowen is a social historian who has been specially selected by the Imperial War Museum to work on this project.

IWM

IWM (Imperial War Museums) tells the story of people who have lived, fought and died in conflicts involving Britain and the Commonwealth since the First World War.

Their unique Collections, made up of the everyday and the exceptional, reveal stories of people, places, ideas and events. Using these, they are able to tell vivid personal stories and create powerful physical experiences across their five museums that reflect the realities of war as both a destructive and creative force.

First World War Centenary

2014 - 2018 marks the centenary of the First World War, a landmark anniversary for Britain and the world. IWM will mark the centenary by leading a vibrant, four year programme of cultural activities across the country, including the opening of brand new First World War galleries at IWM London in 2014. For more information visit: www.1914.org.

Dick Robinson (Edie's great nephew) is available for events and interviews. Please direct all requests to Emma Harrow: Emma.Harrow@simonandschuster.co.uk/02073161991

For further information please visit: www.edithappleton.org.uk