

World War One News



Monthly News from Home & Abroad



August - September 1914

- ❖ **1st August:** Germany declares war on Russia. Italy declares its neutrality. Germany and the Ottoman Empire sign a secret alliance treaty.
- ❖ **4th August:** Germany declares war on Belgium. United States declares neutrality. Great Britain gives Austria-Hungary ultimatum to stand down from hostilities. When Austria-Hungary doesn't comply a state of war is declared at 11.00pm
- ❖ **6th August:** Royal Navy cruiser HMS Amphion is sunk by German mines in the North Sea, causing the death of 150 men and the first British casualties of war.
- ❖ **7th August:** First members of the British Expeditionary Force (BEF) land in France.
- ❖ **11th August:** 'Your King and Country Need You' slogan is published, calling for the first 100,000 men to enlist for Kitchener's New Army. The call is answered within two weeks.
- ❖ **13th August:** The first squadrons of the Royal Flying Corps arrive in France.
- ❖ **20th August:** Brussels is evacuated as Germans occupy the city.
- ❖ **25th August:** The Royal Flying Corps claim their first 'kill' as three aircraft from 2nd Squadron force down a German reconnaissance plane.
- ❖ **26th August:** The Battle of Le Cateau. BEF suffers 7,812 casualties and is forced to retreat.
- ❖ **6th September:** The First Battle of Marne checks German advance at the cost of 13,000 British, 250,000 French and 250,000 German casualties.
- ❖ **11th September:** Australian forces occupy German New Guinea.
- ❖ **13th September:** Troops from South Africa begin invading German South-West Africa.
- ❖ **24th September:** The Siege of Przemyśl begins.