

PRESS RELEASE

‘BARRY AND THE TWO WORLD WARS’

Saturday 22nd November 2008 10.30 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

BARRY MEMORIAL HALL AND THEATRE

Following on from last November’s hugely successful ‘Barry and the Great War’ exhibition, which attracted 2,300 visitors in six hours, Barry-born military historian Dr Jonathan Hicks is organising an expanded, one-day fundraising exhibition in the Main Hall of Barry Memorial Hall and Theatre on 22nd November 2008, covering Barry and the surrounding area’s role in the First and Second World Wars.

Last year’s event attracted national interest and visitors travelled from as far afield as Yorkshire to be part of a special event. ‘We were overwhelmed by the public’s response to our last exhibition,’ said Dr Hicks, ‘so much so that all the exhibitors and re-enactors agreed that we had to do something again next year. It occurred to me that if we had a larger venue then we could cover Barry’s role in the Great War and also expand the displays to encompass the Second World War, as well as raise some funds for the upkeep of the Roll of Honour and Cenotaph.’

Thirty members of the South Wales Branch of the Western Front Association and the South Wales Militaria Society will be exhibiting items from their personal collections from the two World Wars of the last century. These will include weapons, uniforms and equipment, memorabilia, artefacts and medals.

Teams of re-enactors dressed in uniforms of the First and Second World Wars, including the WW2 South Wales Borderers, the 5th Duke of Cornwall’s Regiment, the Home Guard, the Lovat Scouts and the American 101st Airborne, will be attending to talk to visitors about the lives of the men serving at this time. Military vehicles will also be on display outside the Hall.

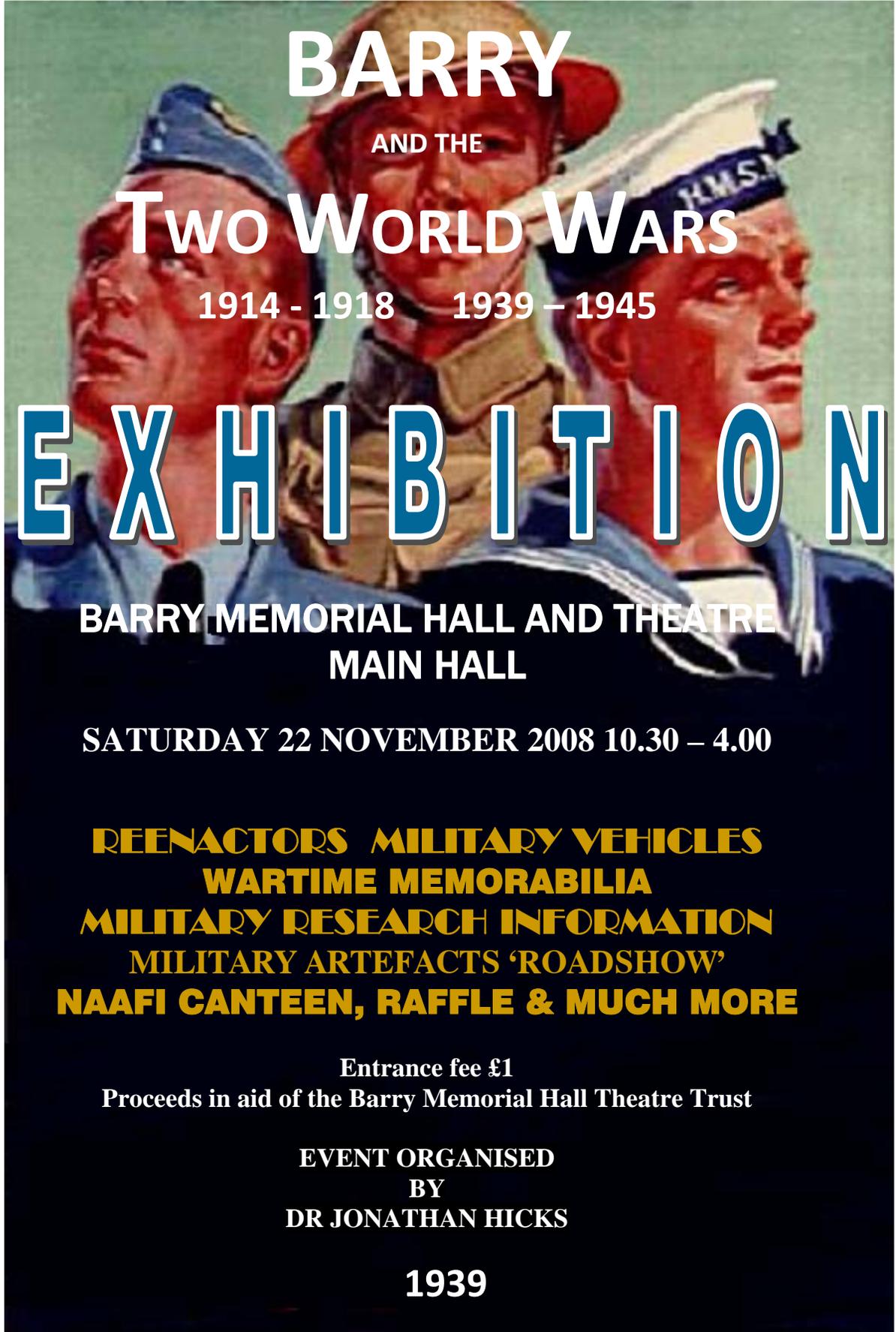
There will be displays on the men commemorated on Barry’s Roll of Honour, the American Army in Barry, the Island Farm Prisoner of War Camp and the Barry men who served with the Merchant Navy. Penarth Wargames Society will also be present to show how battles were fought during the two wars. A ‘Militaria Roadshow’ will enable visitors to bring along items of Militaria to learn more about them.

Experts in military service genealogy will be on hand to assist visitors in finding out more about their relatives who served in the First or Second World Wars. They will provide advice and guidance on where to find the right information. Dr Hicks will also have available his database on the men and women on Barry’s Roll of Honour for both wars.

A programme of illustrated talks on the battles of the Great War, including the Somme and Passchendaele, will take place during the day. Period music, video displays and a WW2 NAAFI Café will complete what should be a memorable day.

All proceeds will go to the Memorial Hall Theatre Trust to ensure the sustainability of the work completed last year on Barry’s Roll of Honour and Cenotaph.

7th May 2008



BARRY

AND THE

TWO WORLD WARS

1914 - 1918 1939 - 1945

EXHIBITION

**BARRY MEMORIAL HALL AND THEATRE
MAIN HALL**

SATURDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2008 10.30 – 4.00

**REENACTORS MILITARY VEHICLES
WARTIME MEMORABILIA
MILITARY RESEARCH INFORMATION
MILITARY ARTEFACTS 'ROADSHOW'
NAAFI CANTEEN, RAFFLE & MUCH MORE**

Entrance fee £1

Proceeds in aid of the Barry Memorial Hall Theatre Trust

**EVENT ORGANISED
BY
DR JONATHAN HICKS**

1939