



01376 574131 info@angliatours.co.uk angliatours.co.uk

**ANGLIA
TOURS**

1-Day Tour

Footsteps of Wilfred Owen



Sheffield Park.

The old lie

In the copses from where the Pals Battalions went over the top, we establish the necessary military, historical and literary contexts vital to any appreciation of Owen.

What expectations and attitudes constitute "The old lie"?

- What did the soldier poet volunteers of 1914-15 imagine war would be like?
- What are the typical characteristics of their poetry?
- How is this view encouraged by the popular media?
- Owen strikes back in "Dulce et Decorum Est" Reference to "Arms and the Boy" and "Insensibility".

Serre 2 Cemetery.

We'd found an old Boche dugout

In sight of where Owen first saw action in January 1917, we read the letter to his Mother describing the experience and hear "The Sentry".

- What are the characteristics of this poetry of experience?
- In what ways have diction, imagery and structure changed and to what effect?
- Shell shock, Craiglockhart Military Hospital and the crucial meeting with Sassoon.

Newfoundland Park. Beaumont Hamel.

All a poet can do is warn

- Battlefield 'walk and talk'.
- Owen's description of No man's Land.
- First hand experience and experimental technique combine to evoke the reality of battlefield conditions. "Exposure" and "The Show".

Thiepval.

What passing bells for those who die like cattle?

- Ethos and layout of CWGC and memorial to the missing.
- Owen returns to the Western Front, fights "Like an Angel". Military Cross and death in November 1918.
- "Anthem for Doomed Youth", "Strange Meeting".
- Overview of Owen's achievement and different critical perspectives in the 90+ years after his death.