



## Press Release – For Immediate Release

### Museum welcomes expert Historians to speak.

**Essex, October 23, 2024:** Stow Maries Great War Aerodrome in Essex, Europe's largest surviving First World War aerodrome, is inviting historical enthusiasts to yet another unique experience.

In recent months, the museum has revealed its battle for survival (<https://www.stowmaries.org.uk/news>) and it seems the historical community has come out in support.

CEO of the Charity, Ian Flint explains.

**“With the recent challenges we have been facing, we have seen some amazing offers of support. Not least of which when celebrated experts approach us and ask how they can help! We were overjoyed to have such distinguished historians offer to assist at this critical time.”**

On Saturday 23 November, the museum will close its doors to the public for the day, to enable a lucky few to enjoy a series of talks from authors Ian Castle, Stephen Nunn and Peter McGee on specific areas of the Great War. The event is called 'Frontline: England' and is already attracting a lot of attention.

Alongside the talks, hosted in the original 1917 Airmen's mess building, there will be handling sessions of rare objects from the museum's own collections, but also from a fourth author of national acclaim, in a surprise visit only available to delegates on site. All this, and the museum will include up-close tours of rare aircraft, book signings and an experts Q&A session with the authors. Delegates will also enjoy lunch with the authors, inclusive of the admission fee. To maintain the intimate nature of the event, numbers are carefully restricted, so tickets will need to be secured quickly to guarantee a place.

Esteemed author Ian Castle, the renowned expert on 'the First Blitz' and author of no less than five books on this subject alone, will be launching his latest work at the event:

**“Stow Maries is a key part of our nation's heritage and I have been following their work for some time. I am very pleased to be working with them on this event and am looking forward to talking to the delegates at what I am sure is going to be a fascinating day. My latest book, Gotha Terror, completes my Forgotten Blitz trilogy and I can't think of a better place to share it for the first time.”**

To grab the tickets for this event, or any upcoming events at the museum, visit [www.stowmaries.org.uk/events](http://www.stowmaries.org.uk/events)

The next event at the site is the Remembrance Parade on 10<sup>th</sup> November, which is also a ticket-only event (although there is no fee for these).

For details of how to visit the site, or to donate to their funds, go to [www.stowmaries.org.uk](http://www.stowmaries.org.uk)

Ends

**Notes for editors:**

- Stow Maries Great War Aerodrome, Hackman's Lane, Purleigh, CM3 6RN is open from 10am until 4pm, on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. To check out their packed events programme or to make a donation to their survival, visit [www.stowmaries.org.uk](http://www.stowmaries.org.uk)
- A campaign to save the site in 2012 led to its purchase, following a generous grant from the Heritage Memorial Fund. It was placed in the care of Stow Maries Great War Aerodrome, a registered Charity.
- Today the museum, still an operational airfield, is supported and maintained by over 100 volunteers.
- More information about Stow Maries Great War Aerodrome can be found at [www.stowmaries.org.uk](http://www.stowmaries.org.uk)
- Images Credit: SMGWA