

Christmas 1914 - a poem.

Temple Sheen Press - Christmas 1914



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-Christmas 1914 - a poem.
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The Night Before Christmas, 1914 by Richard J. Davis

The liquid mud had hardened at last in the freeze. .

The Night Before Christmas, 1914 by Richard J. Davis

Here, the poem was read out in English, Flemish, French and German, marking the international friendships that the Premier League and its European counterparts hope to foster in the young footballers on the centenary of such a remarkable occasion.

The Christmas Truce, 1914

It came to nothing, as the brigade commander threatened repercussions for lack of discipline and insisted on a resumption of firing in the afternoon.
Catastrophe 1914: Europe Goes To War.

The Game: Christmas Day, 1914

Before Christmas 1914, there were several peace initiatives. In the Comines sector of the front there was an early fraternization between German and French soldiers in December 1914, during a short truce and there are at least two other testimonials from French soldiers, of similar behaviours in sectors where German and French companies opposed each other. The activities recognised the sacrifices made during the First World War, and honoured the spirit shown in the unofficial truces that broke out across the Western Front during the Christmas of 1914.

The Night Before Christmas, 1914 by Richard J. Davis

I am telling you this but don't speak of it to anyone. Just a kickabout With nothing to be won Except respect. Yes a live German soldier from his own trench.

The Christmas Truce, 1914

A ball flies in the air like a moon Kicked through the morning mist. In some sectors, there were occasional ceasefires to allow soldiers to go

between the lines and recover wounded or dead comrades; in others, there was a tacit agreement not to shoot while men rested, exercised or worked in view of the enemy.

Carol Ann Duffy: The Christmas Truce

Anzac troops were slaughtered at Gallipoli, Sikhs were blown to pieces on the Somme, Canadians were massacred at Verdun, Americans shot to bits at Passchendaele, volunteers from both the north and south of Ireland were killed in their thousands. He then played Father Christmas, inviting his company commander to light the tree candles and wish peace to comrades, to the German people and the world.

Christmas Eve, 1914: a poem by Jay Wenk

UK Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy wrote this poem in remembrance of the soldiers in the German and British trenches in World War 1, who declared a momentary unilateral truce in the slaughter at Christmas 1914, in recognition of what united them as human beings, rather than the war that divided them as killing machines. A century on from the day the 1914 Christmas Truce took place, the football family has united to record a poignant commemorative message.

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