There are public toilets in Park Street (just off Coronation Square). Car parking is available around the Ryde free of charge.

1. Gladstone Villas, 73-77 Manor Road
   - Rype free of charge.

2. Picturedrome site in West Ryde
   - The Picturedrome featured films and the music, advertising its high class establishment. The manager was Mr. Bertam during the War and he entertained for lady musicians to play the piano, violin and cello.

3. Ketchley House - Home of Harry Mittell
   - Harry was a native of Ryde, being born in mid 1876. He had been engaged in several occupations but by 1911 was a farmer but still living with his parents. Harry was one of a number of local men who signed up to be a special constable and received a certificate at the end of the War in recognition of his service.

4. The Dolphin Inn, 11 South Street
   - An old established inn, one of several public houses in Ryde all of which had their trade in intoxicating liquor very restricted during the War - especially as Ryde was a garrison town. They were only allowed to sell intoxicating liquor between 12-2.30 pm and 6pm - 8 pm and were not allowed to sell spirits for consumption off the premises at the week end.

5. 2 New Street - Raymond Turner
   - Raymond Turner was the son of Horace the local ship repairers and Caroline and lived at 2 New Street. Raymond was a Private in the 7th Battalion the Buffs (East Kent Regiment) and fell during the Battle of the Somme on 13th July 1916, aged 22. He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial.

6. William Chesterman - Lydd Methodist Church
   - William Chesterman attended the Lydd Wesleyan Sunday School and was a choir member. Although William was working in Africa when War broke out he returned to enlist in the Queen's West Surrey Regiment. He was an acting Sergeant Major when he was killed in action on the 30th April 1917 in France.

7. Poplar House William Marshall Navy
   - William John Marshall's home address was Poplar House, Ryde. He had joined the Royal Navy in 1906 aged 18. He served on several ships during the War including HMS Hibernia at the Dardanelles during the War. He transferred to the Queen's West Surrey Regiment in 1917 as soon as he was 18, he died of illness in 1917. His home was used to billet soldiers during the War.

8. All Saints Church and the Wooden Crosses
   - Inside All Saints Church you will discover 3 battlefields crosses. These are the actual wooden crosses used to mark the burial sites of Harry Baldock and William Chesterman on the Western Front.

9. Former Post Office
   - The post office was run by the widow of Mr. J Butler, a WW1 it was run by the manager was Mr Bertram during the War.

10. The Beehive
    - George Harry Patna whose family lived at the Beehive during WW1, served in the Indian Submarine Force. He was wounded several times and finally demobilised in 1920. He was well known in local pubs and his final pub being The Star.

11. The Soldiers Home and Percival Moles
    - Percival Ritz - Percival Moles (b 1899), whose parents ran the Soldiers' Home joined the Royal Flying Corps in October 1917 as soon as he was 16, he died of illness in 1918. The home was used to billet soldiers during the War.

12. War Memorial
    - The Memorial Garden was laid out early in 1937. It commemorates the sacrifice of the two World Wars. The Cross of Sacrifice was designed specially by the late Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A. for the Imperial War Graves Commission. On the Memorial there are names of 66 men from Ryde who gave their lives in WW1.

13. Lydd Town Museum
    - During the First World War this was the Fire Station. It now houses Lydd Town Museum which has a number of interesting WW1 displays. Open daily from July 23rd until September 24th, 2.30pm till 5pm, then weekends in October, 2.30pm till 5pm.

14. Hardy Hall
    - Is where the Scouts meet, including Henry (Harry) G Baldock. He transferred to the Yorkshire Light Infantry after being stationed in Yorkshire in the Service Corps. Sent to France he was killed in action on 13th November 1917 aged 19 and his battlefield cross is in the Church.

15. Former School
    - How the site of the Library site was the village school attended by most of the village children. During the War a special dispensation was given to children in rural areas allowing them to miss school from June to October in order to help on the fields and with harvesting.
Lydd is the most southerly village in Kent and corporate member of the Cinque Ports as a limb of New Romney with a rich heritage as an established village on the Romney Marsh. Men from Lydd were traditionally employed on the land and also as fishermen.

Lydd was known as a military town prior to the First World War, housing an established Army Training Camp. The Royal Garrison Artillery was a military barracks, and the School of Siege Artillery served as an important training facility. As well as this, as a sister to the Hythe Ranges, the Lydd Ranges were a part of the Cinque Ports Firing Ranges, which also contained a military hospital. The Lydd Ranges had been used for trials of techniques and munitions, with the explosive Lyddite taking its name from the place where it was developed.

The First World War saw the expansion of Lydd as a military garrison, and the Camp was extended through the building of metal huts which were known to the locals as Tin Town. Men from Lydd served in all theatres of the War, and those who trained at the Camp were joined by regiments from all over Britain and further afield including men from Canada and Australia.

The High Street and various entertainment places would have been full of noise and bustle.

For the locals, another visible aspect of the military within the town would have been patrols carried out by the Kent Cyclist Battalion, and in 1918 Lydd became a home base to the 2/1st Cyclist Battalion.

We hope you enjoy the trail and walk back in history - imagining.

Our thanks to Alice Boxall MBE
Helen Ransley
Val Hughes
Jim Hughes
Gerald Heath
Shirley Lewis
Pauline Cave

From top left: 1911 postcard from Lydd Military Training Garrison 2 - Courtesy of Chris Richardson Child (grandson) 357LYD; Lydd Camp - From the collection of D Price 7LYD; Lydd Camp Main Gate Postcard (Front and Back) - From the collection of D Price 11LYD; R.G.A. at Lydd - Courtesy of D Price 284LYD.