

# Sunderland in the First World War



## George Maling

### A Sunderland First World War hero

George Maling was the only person from Sunderland to receive the Victoria Cross during the First World War.

George was born in Carlton House, Mowbray Road, Sunderland in 1888, the son of a general practitioner.

During the First World War, aged 26, Maling was a Lieutenant in the Royal Army Medical Corps, attached to the 12th Battalion, The Rifle Brigade (Prince Consort's Own). He was awarded the VC for his brave deeds on 25 September 1915 during the Battle of Loos.

Near Fauquissart, France, Lieutenant Maling worked for over 24 hours with untiring energy. Under heavy shell fire he collected and treat more than 300 men. During the morning he was temporarily stunned by the bursting of a large high explosive shell, which wounded his only assistant and killed several of his patients. A second shell covered him and his instruments with debris, but he continued his gallant work single-handed.

**To mark the centenary of his courageous act, a series of events and activities have been arranged, please see overleaf for full details.**



1914 - 1918



Sunderland  
City Council

## **Sunderland and the First World War city centre guided walk**

**Saturday 26 September, 10am**

Meet at Wear Street car park, SR1 1XD

Learn about how Sunderland was affected by the First World War in a guided walk through the city centre. The walk takes in various sites with connections to this devastating conflict, including George Maling's childhood home.

To book a free place please contact Anthony Hindmarch on 0191 561 4578.

## **Maling Trail and activities**

**Saturday 26 September, 11am - 1pm**

Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens, Burdon Road, Sunderland SR1 1PP

Find out about George Maling and his family with our specially created trail and join in our craft activities. 'Show and tell' sessions with the Time Bandits will reveal more about the medical equipment that First World War doctors and nurses used to treat the many casualties in the field.

For more information telephone 0191 561 8616 - Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens, Burdon Road, Sunderland SR1 1PP

## **Illustrated talk by John Sadler. 'Most Unsuitable Ground – the Battle of Loos 1915'**

**Saturday 26 September, 1.30pm**

Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens, Burdon Road, Sunderland SR1 1PP

September 2015 marks the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Loos. As the British Expeditionary Force attempted to break the deadlock on the Western Front, Rudyard Kipling's son Jack was lost and Wearside captain George Maling's gallantry saw him awarded the Victoria Cross. Maling's fascinating and heroic story will be explored.

## **Cpt. George Maling, VC, 'Strong for war, for helping tender'**

**Saturday 26 September, 3pm and 5pm**

Meet at Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens

Join us in Mowbray Park for a unique portrayal of Captain George Maling's valiant actions during the Battle of Loos. Award-winning theatre company, Theatre Space NE, will present an open air walkabout performance, suitable for all ages. The play has been written especially for the occasion by James Whitman, and features original spray-painted murals by street artist, Frank Styles.

## **Cpt. George Maling, VC, 'Strong for war, for helping tender'**

**Sunday 27 September, 1pm and 3pm**

Meet at Sunderland Museum & Winter Gardens

Join us in Mowbray Park for a unique portrayal of Captain George Maling's valiant actions during the Battle of Loos. Award-winning theatre company, Theatre Space NE, will present an open air walkabout performance, suitable for all ages. The play has been written especially for the occasion by James Whitman, and features original spray-painted murals by street artist, Frank Styles.

## **George Maling Football Festival**

**Sunday 27 September, 10am – 3pm**

Raich Carter Sports Centre

A football festival, in honour of George Maling and to celebrate his life, at Raich Carter Sports Centre. Football activities with groups for all children aged four and over. There'll be a mini football tournament too, with a trophy and medals for the winners.

For more information and to book a place email: [info@northeastsport.co.uk](mailto:info@northeastsport.co.uk)

Supported by  
East Sunderland Area  
Committee



**Sunderland**  
City Council

For more information on Sunderland in the First World War visit: [www.sunderlandfirstworldwar.co.uk](http://www.sunderlandfirstworldwar.co.uk)