

REMEMBERING THE HOLOCAUST

As part of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council's Holocaust Memorial Day programme for 2018, Remembering the Holocaust invites visitors to meaningfully engage with the history and legacy of the Holocaust through the diverse collections of Conflict Textiles, Millisle Farm and Causeway Coast and Glens Museum Services.

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

Holocaust Memorial Day, 27th January, commemorates the suffering and loss of over 6 million members of the European Jewish community who fell victim to Nazi persecution during World War II. Since 2005, the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust has facilitated HMD activities across the UK, designed to explore and reflect on the Nazi regime's persecution and murder of Jews, the mentally and physically disabled, Romani gypsies, POWs and other groups, 1933 to 1945. Through programmes of education, discussion and engagement, it is the Trust's aim to ensure that such events will never be forgotten or repeated.



This photograph shows young children emancipated from Terezin concentration camp, at Castle Olesovice in the Czech Republic, 1945. Courtesy of Conflict Textiles.

CONFLICT TEXTILES

Arpilleras (pronounced 'ar-pee-air-ahs') are three dimensional appliqué textiles, which originated in Chile in the 1960s. Conflict Textiles uses arpilleras, alongside memorabilia, photos and books, to explore conflicts and human rights abuses and to deepen understanding of the complex issues surrounding them, through education and artistic expression.

On display is a selection of pieces from the Conflict Textiles collection which have been inspired by narratives of the Holocaust and conflict, during World War II and beyond.



Rescue of Jewish Children, by Argentinian textile artist Ana Zlatkes, was inspired by the real stories of those who helped to rescue Jewish children during World War II. Courtesy of Conflict Textiles.

MILLISLE FARM CO. DOWN

From 1938 to 1948, the Belfast Jewish community leased Millisle Farm to provide a home and living for Jewish refugees who had fled Nazi terror. With the help of the local communities of Millisle and Donaghadee, Millisle Farm successfully provided shelter for many children who had been rescued in the Kindertransports of the late 1930s and emancipated from Nazi camps across Europe in 1945.

Millisle's collection includes a wide selection of materials relating to the Nazi persecution of the Jewish community and other groups, alongside materials concerning their displacement and resettlement.



The Nazi party's 'SS' paramilitary organisation was heavily involved in the persecution and genocide perpetrated during the Holocaust. Courtesy of Millisle Farm collection.

COLERAINE BATTERY

In late 1939, around 200 volunteers from Coleraine and Mid Ulster were enlisted into the Coleraine Battery. This group of local soldiers served in Egypt, France, Belgium, Italy, and other areas, before making a final advance into Germany in 1945. The Battery were given security duties at the Belsen and Sandbostel concentration camps which housed Jews, Russian POWs and other victims of Nazi persecution. Here, these local men witnessed first-hand the devastation and horror of the Holocaust.



Coleraine Battery men guarding the Sandbostel concentration camp, 1945. Watercolour by a POW. Coleraine Museum.

'To see a couple of thousand skeletons being thrown heads to tails into a hole in the ground... The only way to cope...was to leave it behind when we returned home'

A Battery member reflects on the horrors he witnessed at the Belsen and Sandbostel concentration camps. Courtesy of The Coleraine Battery by Ronnie Gamble.