

PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY THE MUSEUM OF NORTH CRAVEN LIFE, SETTLE

On the Home Front: North Craven in wartime

19 June 2005

A major new exhibition to mark the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II opens in Settle's historic Folly on 2 July. Entitled 'On the Home Front: North Craven in wartime', it features many different aspects of life in our area of Craven, including farming, rationing, civil defence, stories of evacuees, prisoners-of-war, entertainment and much more. Local people had an impressive record of supporting the war effort through fundraising and this is particularly demonstrated in the remarkable achievement of raising £197,000 (about £6 million in today's values) during Warships Week in 1942. As a result, Settle Rural District adopted the frigate HMS Ribble, which was commissioned into the Canadian Navy in 1944 and remained under Canadian command for the duration of the war. The story of HMS Ribble, which has been meticulously researched by Mr Billy Fell of Settle, is specially highlighted in the exhibition and includes a painting and photographs of the ship and her Canadian crew, extracts from her logbook and the original brass plaque presented by the Admiralty to the people of Settle Rural District in recognition of their outstanding fundraising effort.

The exhibition will be on view from July to the end of September, when The Folly will be open on Tuesdays, Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holiday Monday from 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Party visits may be made at other times by appointment (contact details given below). Further information is available on the website at <http://www.ncbpt.org.uk/folly>

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