**Empire to Armegeddon –**

**Netley Hospital During the First World War**

**Programme for the day**

(timings are approximate)

**10.00 – 10.15** 1 minute silence and introduction by Dr Philip Hoare author of *Spike Island: Memory of a Military Hospital*. An introductory lecture on the site’s history and the important part it played in the war. Netley, perhaps more than anywhere else in the country, brought the true effects and extent of industrial conflict into the home front.

**10.15 – 10.45** Exclusive preview screening: *A Place of War – Royal Victoria Hospital*, directed by Richard Townsend, presenter Philip Hoare, 30 mins, BBC South / BBC 4

**10.45 – 11.15** *Q&A* with Philip and the film’s director, *Richard Townsend*, who has conducted new research during the making of the first dedicated television film on the hospital

**11.15 – 1130** Coffee break

**11.30 – 12.15** *Dr Jane Potter*, Oxford Brookes University, is an expert on the role of women in the war and on the poet, Wilfred Owen. Using archive letters and diaries from women and men who worked at Netley, with an emphasis on Owen’s time at hospital and how it affected the work of our greatest war poet, Dr Potter will provide a fascinating new insight into the hospital’s social and cultural impacts during the war.

**12.15 – 13.15** Lunch break

**13.15 – 14.15** Screening: *War Neurosis* – British Pathe film, 40 mins, 1918. Using a pristine print of this unique film made at Netley, *Professor Edgar Jones*, King’s College, London, will discuss its true story. He will show how its ‘miracle cures’ for shell shocked soldiers were exaggerated, and provide evidence that sequences in the film are in fact fake. This will be the first public presentation of this amazing new evidence.

**14.15 – 14.30** Tea break

**14.30 – 15.15** *Dr Michael Hammond, University of Southampton*, film historian, will speak on the film genre of the First World War, with reference to the War Neurosis and Battle of the Somme films. Using fascinating clips from the films, and with specific reference to the Hampshire Regiment, he will discuss how ‘faking’ such footage was seen as less controversial than it would be today.

**15.15 – 16.00** Questions and Answers

**Tower Tours**. From 11am – 3pm. £3pp. Please book and pay at reception. Run by and all proceeds going to the ‘Friends of Royal Victoria Country Park.

**Refreshments:** Home-made cakes, tea and coffee in the reception area throughout the day. Run by and all proceeds going to the ‘Friends of Royal Victoria Country Park’.