

World War 1 Timeline

The timeline includes the real events from World War I referred to in the play. Fictional events from War Horse are in italics.

1912

Albert's father buys Joey in an auction

1914

28 June: Archduke Franz Ferdinand is assassinated

July: Albert teaches Joey to plough

28 July: Austria declares war on Serbia

1 August: Germany declares war on Russia

3 August: Germany declares war on France and invades Belgium

4 August: Great Britain declares war on Germany

Albert's father sells Joey to the British Army and Albert's cousin Billy and other village men enlist in the British Army

23 August: Germany invades France

November: Joey arrives in France

December: Albert runs away to enlist in the British army and search for Joey

1915

March: Albert arrives in France as a British soldier. Joey and Topthorn are captured by the Germans

1916

15 September: Britain and France use tanks for the first time

December: Joey and Topthorn are forced to pull artillery guns

1917

1 February: Germany resumes unrestricted submarine warfare

6 April: The USA declares war on Germany

31 July: Britain launches a major offensive on the Western Front

20 November: British tanks win a victory at Cambrai

1918

8 August: Advance of the Allies is successful

4 October: Germany asks the Allies for an armistice

November: Joey wanders into 'No Man's Land'

9 November: Germany's leader, Kaiser William II, abdicates

11 November: Germany signs an armistice ending World War I

Joey and Albert reunite and head home to Devon

1919

June 28: Treaty of Versailles is signed between Germany and the Allies



War Horse drawings by Rae Smith

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