



We love...



Captain Corelli's Mandolin

Louis de Berniere's best known novel manages to be funny, poignant and tragic in equal measure. It's a war drama, a love story and comedy rolled into one and skilfully appeals to anyone of any age. It was first recommended to me by my history professor at university and it's no surprise why, Captain Corelli's Mandolin shows de Berniere's dedication to research, skilfully mixing truly human characters within the backdrop of wartime Kefalonia. I defy anyone not to feel Pelagia's frustration towards the end and once read, this is definitely a book you'll want to pick up and read again and again.

Manda Miller
Waterstones Darlington

The Waterstones Card guide to *Wartime tales*

With tales of bravery, horror, romance and hope, novels set in times of war are almost guaranteed to be some of the most emotionally charged works of fiction available. If you've discovered Sebastian Faulkes' *Birdsong* though the recent television dramatisation we've created this guide to help you find more stories about soldiers and war.

Read me first...



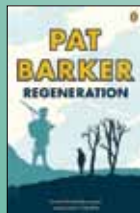
Birdsong

Breathtaking. An incredible read that really tears at your heartstrings. Love and war are combined in the setting of a man's lonely journey through life in the WWI trenches, and then the remnants of a life that he faces afterwards. The hardest battle of all, he fights with his own heart. We are left until the very last page to find out whether or not he fought in vain. You cannot put this book down until every page has been turned.



Olivia Dean, Waterstones Bolton

First World War



The Regeneration series

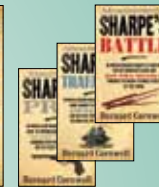
Pat Barker's Regeneration trilogy centres on the real-life relationship between the poet Siegfried Sassoon and army psychologist William Rivers, who was charged with the task of persuading Sassoon to withdraw his bitter anti-war diatribes and return to the front.



All Quiet on the Western Front

One by one the boys begin to fall...In 1914, a room full of German schoolboys, fresh-faced and idealistic, are goaded by their schoolmaster to troop off to the 'glorious war'. What follows is the moving story of a young 'unknown soldier' experiencing the horror and disillusionment of life in the trenches.

Napoleonic Wars



The Richard Sharpe series

Bernard Cornwell's legendary Napoleonic-era Brit soldier Richard Sharpe made his first appearance in *Sharpe's Eagle*, and went on to win legions of fans when played by Sean Bean in the classic TV series.



The Matthew Hervey series

Allan Mallinson's Cornet Matthew Hervey of the 6th Light Dragoons first appears in *A Close Run Thing* where he faces decisions, both military and romantic, which will change the course of his life, and possibly the outcome of Waterloo.

Second World War



Enigma

March 1943. The war hangs in the balance, and at Bletchley Park a brilliant young codebreaker is facing a double nightmare. The Germans have unaccountably changed their U-boat Enigma code and suspicion grows that there may be a spy inside Bletchley.



The Soldier's Return

When Sam Richardson returns in 1946 from the 'Forgotten War' in Burma to Wigton in Cumbria, he finds the town little changed. But the war has changed him and his wife has gained a sense of independence from her wartime jobs. As they strive to adjust, the bonds of loyalty and love are stretched to breaking point.