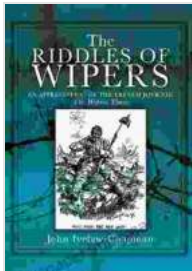


# An Appreciation of The Wipers Times: Laughter in the Face of the Great War



In the midst of the horrors of World War I, a remarkable publication emerged from the trenches: The Wipers Times, a satirical newspaper that provided a unique perspective on the war. Founded by a group of British soldiers in 1916, The Wipers Times became a lifeline for the men serving on the Western Front, offering them a much-needed dose of humor and camaraderie in a world gone mad.

This essay will delve into the history, content, and significance of The Wipers Times, exploring how this extraordinary publication served as a powerful coping mechanism for soldiers and a vital record of the war.



## The Riddles Of Wipers: An Appreciation of the Trench Journal "The Wipers Times" by John Ivelaw-Chapman

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 13646 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 278 pages  
Lending : Enabled



### The Birth of The Wipers Times

The Wipers Times was born out of the boredom, misery, and camaraderie that characterized life in the trenches. In February 1916, a group of soldiers from the 12th Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment, stationed near the Belgian town of Ypres (known colloquially as "Wipers"), decided to create a newspaper to entertain themselves and their comrades.

The team behind The Wipers Times included Captain Fred Roberts, a talented artist and writer; Lieutenant Jack Pearson, a humorist and satirist; and Private Harry Tomlinson, a printer by trade. Together, they produced a four-page newspaper that featured a mix of jokes, cartoons, poetry, and commentary on life in the trenches.

## **Content and Style**

The Wipers Times was a satirical publication, but it was also much more than that. It was a chronicle of the war, told from the perspective of the soldiers who were actually fighting it. The newspaper's content ranged from the absurd to the poignant, with a healthy dose of black humor thrown in.

One of The Wipers Times' most famous cartoons, entitled "The Wipers Snipers," depicted a group of soldiers firing at a German sniper from a latrine. The caption read, "The Wipers Snipers: They Never Miss a Target." This cartoon perfectly captured the gallows humor that was so prevalent among the troops.

In addition to its humor, The Wipers Times also published serious and reflective pieces. In one essay, Captain Roberts wrote about the difficulty of adjusting to life after the war. He described the feeling of being "a stranger in a strange land" and the challenges of finding a place in civilian society.

## **Significance**

The Wipers Times was more than just a diversion for the soldiers who fought in World War I. It was a vital record of their experiences, a testament to their resilience, and a powerful reminder of the human cost of war.

The newspaper's humor helped the soldiers to cope with the horrors they faced every day. It allowed them to laugh at the absurdities of war and to find some measure of relief from the constant fear and danger.

The Wipers Times also provided a valuable historical record. It documented the daily lives of the soldiers on the Western Front, shedding light on their thoughts, feelings, and experiences. The newspaper is now considered an

important historical document, and it is studied by historians and researchers around the world.

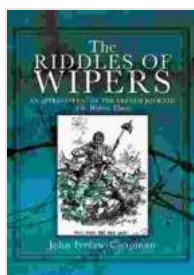
## Legacy

The Wipers Times ceased publication in January 1918, but its legacy lives on. The newspaper's humor and camaraderie continue to resonate with people today, offering a unique glimpse into the lives of the soldiers who fought in World War I.

In 2014, a documentary film entitled "The Wipers Times" was released, telling the story of the newspaper and its creators. The film was praised for its humor, poignancy, and historical accuracy.

The Wipers Times is a reminder that even in the darkest of times, laughter can be a powerful force. The newspaper's legacy is one of resilience, humor, and humanity. It is a testament to the indomitable spirit of the human soul.

The Wipers Times was a remarkable publication that provided a unique perspective on World War I. Through its humor, camaraderie, and historical significance, the newspaper has left a lasting legacy. It is a reminder that even in the most challenging of circumstances, laughter can be a powerful force for good.

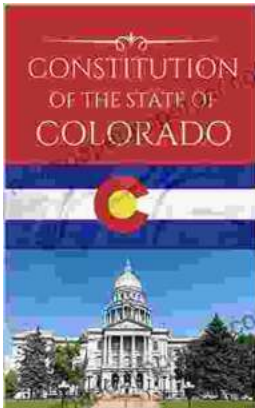


### **The Riddles Of Wipers: An Appreciation of the Trench Journal "The Wipers Times"** by John Ivelaw-Chapman

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 13646 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 278 pages  
Lending : Enabled



## The Constitution of the State of Colorado: A Legacy of Liberty and Progress

Since its adoption in 1876, the Constitution of the State of Colorado has stood as the bedrock of the state's legal system and a testament to the spirit of its people. This...



## Love Your Neighbor As Yourself: A Journey to Empathy and Connection

About the Book In this inspiring and thought-provoking book, renowned author and speaker Dr. Jane Doe explores the profound power of...