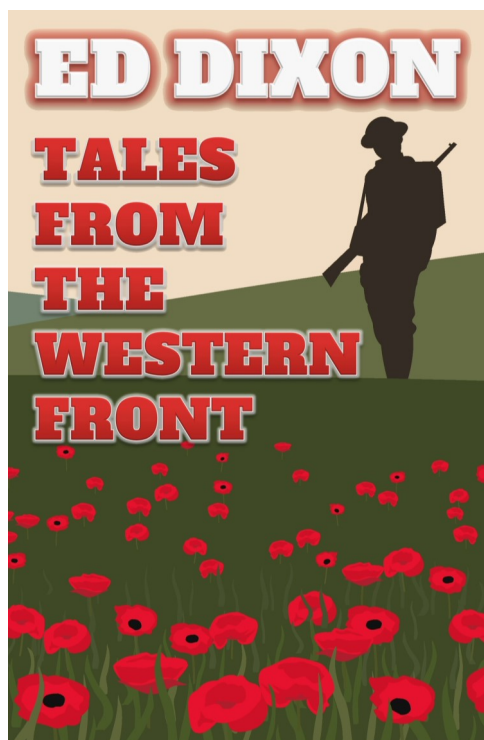


# INFORMATION SHEET



## Tales from the Western Front

*Tales from the Western Front* is a collection of stories about the people and places encountered by the author during more than three decades of visiting the battlefields, graveyards, towns and villages of France and Belgium.

Characters tragic and comic, famous and humble live within these pages, each connected by the common thread of the Great War. Meet Harry Lauder, the great Scottish entertainer and first international superstar; Tommy Armour, golf champion and war hero; “Hoodoo” Kinross, VC, the Pride of Loughheed; the Winslow Boy; Albert Ball, and Jackie the Soldier Baboon among many others.

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### Author Biography

Ed Dixon was born in 1938 in the small town of Tillicoultry near Stirling in Central Scotland and was educated locally and at the University of Edinburgh. On first leaving school he worked for three years with the National Coal Board as an apprentice mining surveyor during which time he was stationed at various collieries in the area. Despite enjoying his spell in the coal industry, it became clear that a surveyor's life was not for him and so it was that he set off on the path to becoming a teacher.

On completing a first degree at Edinburgh in 1963 Ed went off to the United States of America for four months. He toured around on a go-anywhere bus ticket covering most of the ground east of the Mississippi, including quite a while in the South. Returning to Scotland, he took a teaching qualification and after three years teaching English and History in a local secondary school he went back to the University of Edinburgh full-time to study for a postgraduate degree in North American Studies.

After graduation Ed was employed for three years in adult education at Falkirk Technical College and then returned to school teaching where he remained until retirement in 1999 at the age of 61. During his employment in the classroom he was successively head of history in three local schools, culminating in a 21 year tenure at Grangemouth High School.

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