

**British Commission for Military History Spring Conference, 1 April 2017**

## ***The Armies in 1917***

### **Programme**

**09.30-10.00 – registration and coffee**

**10.00-11.30: Parallel Sessions**

#### **Panel I: Morale and motivation in 1917**

Tom Thorpe – **Between mutiny and the mission: the paradox of unit cohesion in the BEF's 56th Division during 1917**

Dr Tony Cowan – **A Picture of German Unity? Federal Contingents in the German Army**

Michael Orr – **Bunny & his artillery company: Command and Morale in 2nd Battalion Honourable Artillery Company in 1917**

#### **Panel II: The British and the Arab armies in the Middle East**

Dr John Peaty – **Lawrence, the Arab Army and the Capture of Aqaba**

John Alexander – **Sideshow of a Sideshow: British Strategic Culture and the Northern Arab Army of 1917**

Dr Paul Knight – **The Second Battle of Ramadi, Mesopotamia, 1917 – evidence of the Manoeuvrist Approach to Warfare?**

**11.40-12.30: First keynote**

Dr David Zabecki: **General Fritz von Lossberg, Germany's "Lion of the Defensive" at Third Ypres**

**12.30-13.30: Lunch**

**13.30-14.30 Panel III: The evolving British army**

Dr Paul Harris – **The British Army Staff System in 1917**

Philip Pratley – **Irish Soldiers One Year On: The Changes of 1917**

**14.30-15.30: Panel IV: The emergence of armoured warfare –**

Dr Tim Gale – **The development of French armoured warfare doctrine in 1917**

Robert Robinson – **Learning the Logistics of Armour in the British Army**

**15.30-16.00: Afternoon tea**

**16.00-16.45: Second keynote**

Professor William Philpott – **Underperforming or overachieving? The French army in 1917.**

**17.00 Conference closes**