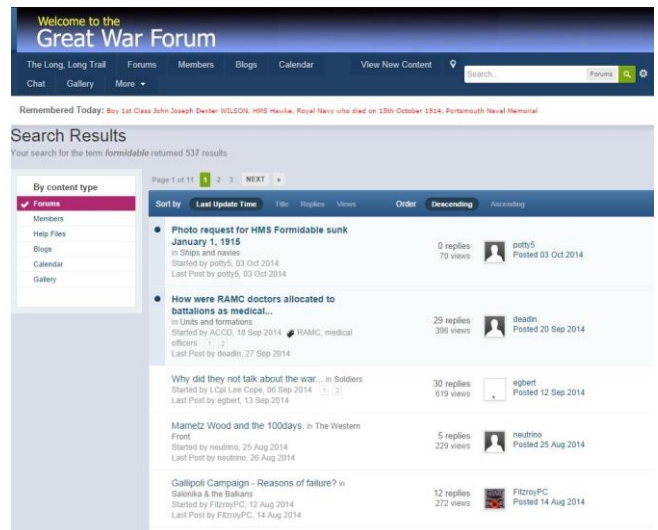
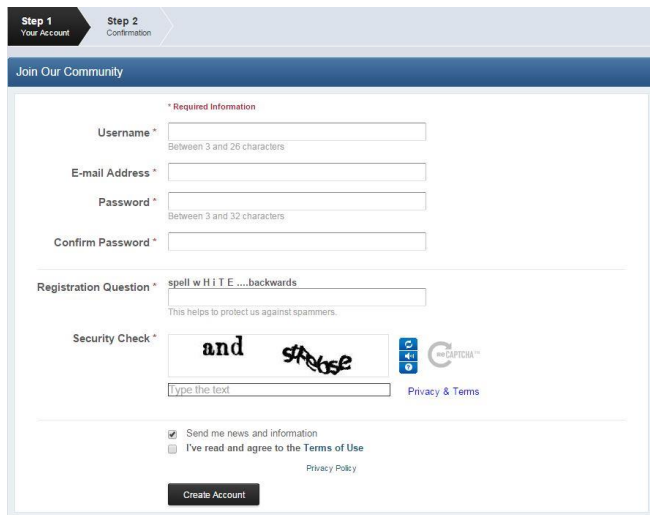


Great War Forum

<http://1914-1918.invisionzone.com>

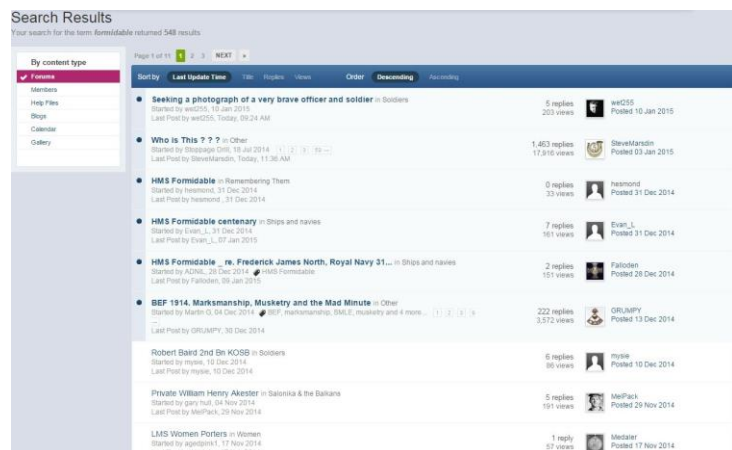
Forums may not instantly appear to be the best place to look for reliable historical information and there are a great many to be avoided. However, the Great War Forum is happily a very different experience. This is an extremely active forum where a lot of knowledgeable people exchange information on a wide range of subjects related to the First World War. Some requests for information can be quite simple (the date of a battle for instance) and some can be quite precise (perhaps the exact type of material used in a soldier's gas cape).

It is possible for anyone to look at discussion pages (usually called 'threads' in forums), but in order to search the whole site for a particular word, term or phrase, it is necessary to register an account. You might like to do this anyway if you want to post on the forum; signing up is quite easy; you only need to provide a username and email address. Your account will almost certainly be verified within 24 hours and your email address won't be inundated with spam.

When your account is verified and you're signed in, a search bar will appear (top right). You can type a search term in here and look at the results.

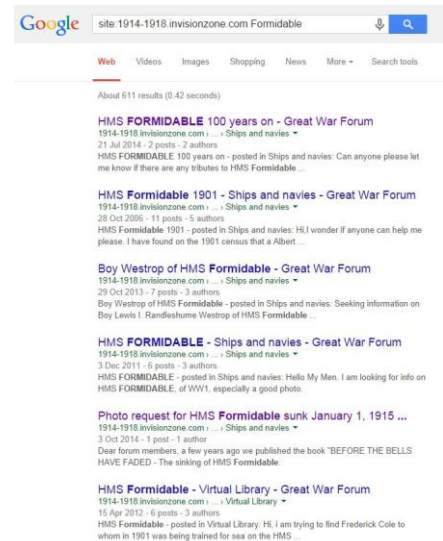
There's not a particularly wide range of filters available for these searches – at the top of the results list you'll see that you can sort the results by **time**, **title**, **replies** or **views**. You can also search different elements of the larger site, such as **blogs** or **images**, from the option bar on the left.



If you'd rather not create an account, it's still possible to search forum threads using Google. Go to www.google.co.uk and in the Google search bar, type **site:1914-1918.invisionzone.com XXXX** (where XXXX is the search word – note the space between com and the search word). Using this search term in Google restricts the search results it displays to those on the Great War Forum (you can use this format to limit searches to any website, such as the BBC).

The search results will be displayed in the same format as a regular Google search, but if you look at the web addresses it lists under each 'hit', they should all come from the same website.

The big downside to Google searches is that the full title of a thread is usually too long to be displayed fully. Still, you only need to click the link to see it.



- **HMS Formidable** in Remembering Them
Started by hesmond, 31 Dec 2014
Last Post by hesmond, 31 Dec 2014
- **HMS Formidable centenary** in Ships and navies
Started by Evan_L, 31 Dec 2014
Last Post by Evan_L, 07 Jan 2015

[HMS Formidable centenary - Ships and navies - Great War F...](#)
1914-1918.invisionzone.com › ... › Ships and navies
31 Dec 2014 - 8 posts - 4 authors
HMS Formidable centenary - posted in Ships and navies: Does anybody know of any events to mark the centenary of the sinking of HMS ...

[HMS Formidable _ re. Frederick James North, Royal Navy 31...](#)
1914-1918.invisionzone.com › ... › Ships and navies
28 Dec 2014 - 2 posts - 2 authors
HMS Formidable _ re. Frederick James North, Royal Navy 312071 _ torped - posted in Ships and navies: Dear Sirs, As we are fast approaching ...

Whichever search type you use, you'll notice that results originate from a range of different sub-forums. You can see these categories on the main page of the forum; they include such sub-forums as **Soldiers, Units and Formations, Ships and navies, Women – Home and Overseas, Battlefield touring, Cemeteries and memorials** and many more. When forum users start a thread (usually to create a discussion or ask a question), they will place it in the most appropriate sub-forum. When looking through the search results you should also keep an eye out for the most appropriate sub-forums. These are displayed on the right of the thread name when you search within the forum, or in green immediately below the thread name when you search in Google. If you're searching for a ship, **Ships and navies** will probably be the most appropriate forum, but information may appear elsewhere.

Most of the people who post on the Great War Forum do so to ask or answer questions. If you have a specific query about an event, site or ship, it's possible that it has already been asked (and answered) here. As with most forums, replies appear directly below the preceding comment and continue down the screen – long threads may run into several pages. Administrators manage the site and make sure that any inappropriate content is removed and vandals are blocked.

A lot of useful information can surface in forums such as these. The sub-forum for **Ships and navies** currently has more than 6,500 separate threads on a fantastic array of topics. However, as with any source of information, it is worth exercising some caution before taking answers at face value. Extremely proficient users will often post answers along with the source of their information, which is extremely useful as it can guide you to another website, book or article. However, there are occasions where people may post information that they believe to be true without being certain of it, or without explicitly stating that the information is unsourced. Whilst this is still useful, it's important to verify such information from other sources.