

1915

Date	National / International	In/affecting Matlock Bath
Jan 19	Zeppelin raids take place on Great Yarmouth and King's Lynn, killing 5 civilians.	
Feb 18	German U-boat blockade of Britain begins. All shipping is vulnerable, including that of neutral countries.	
Feb 19	Allied naval bombardment of Turkish forts in the Dardanelles and Gallipoli begins.	
Mar 10	12,800 Allied men lost in the offensive at Neuve Chapelle. Blame attached to poor quality and lack of supply of British shells, starting the 'Shell Crisis'. More shells fired in the single offensive than in the whole of the Boer War.	
Apr 22	Second battle of Ypres begins. First use of poison gas by Germany.	
Apr 25	Allied troops land on Gallipoli Peninsular.	
May 2	Austro-German offensive at Galicia.	
May 7	The British liner 'Lusitania' is torpedoed off Ireland and sunk by a German U-boat. 1,198 men, women and children drowned including 124 American civilians, causing a diplomatic crisis between Germany and the USA.	
May 23	Italy declares war on Austria-Hungary.	
May 25	Rising casualties cause unrest in Britain. The 'Shell Crisis' causes discontent with the level of Government support for front line troops. The pressure forces the Liberal Government of Prime Minister Asquith to step down and a coalition government is formed.	
May 31	First Zeppelin raid on London kills seven and injures over 30 showing that Germany can attack the British mainland and capital, causing a crisis of moral on the homefront.	
June 4	Britain loses 6,000 men as they push inland from the beaches of Gallipoli.	
June 16	Lloyd George sworn in Minister of Munitions.	
June 21	British troops reach the Euphrates river in Mesopotamia.	
July 30	Germany uses flame throwers for the first time in Ypres.	

Aug 4	The Germans annex Warsaw.	
Aug21	Britain loses 5,000 men in the Battle of Scimitar Hill, Gallipoli	
Sept 25	Start of the Battle of Loos. Britain uses gas for the first time, but it is blown over their own troops. Seven are killed and 2,625 injured.	
Sept27	British and Canadian troops break the German line at Loos, but heavy losses mean limited advantage can be made. Canadians receive over 9,000 casualties.	
Oct 5	British and French troops land in Salonika in neutral Greece to enable the aid of Serbian forces in the Balkans.	
Oct12	British nurse Edith Cavell is executed by German firing squad after helping prisoners of war escape from Belgium to Holland. She becomes a martyr and is adopted as a heroine in Britain.	
Oct 31	Steel helmets are adopted on the British front. The design is reputedly based upon the hat used by lead and tin miners and referred to in Derbyshire as the 'bradder hat'.	
Nov 22	After inflicting heavy casualties on Turkish troops at the Battle of Ctesiphon, south of Baghdad, British troops are low on supplies and are forced to retire to the town of Kut. The Turkish give chase and besiege the town.	
Dec 15	Sir Douglas Hague replaces Sir John French as Commander in Chief of the British Expeditionary Force.	
Dec 20	The Allies complete the evacuations at Suvla Bay and Anzac Cove, Gallipoli without a single casualty and without Turkish troops being aware of the operation. 83,000 men are evacuated. Gallipoli was the first major military action by ANZAC, Australian and New Zealand forces. (Australian and New Zealand Army Corps)	

