

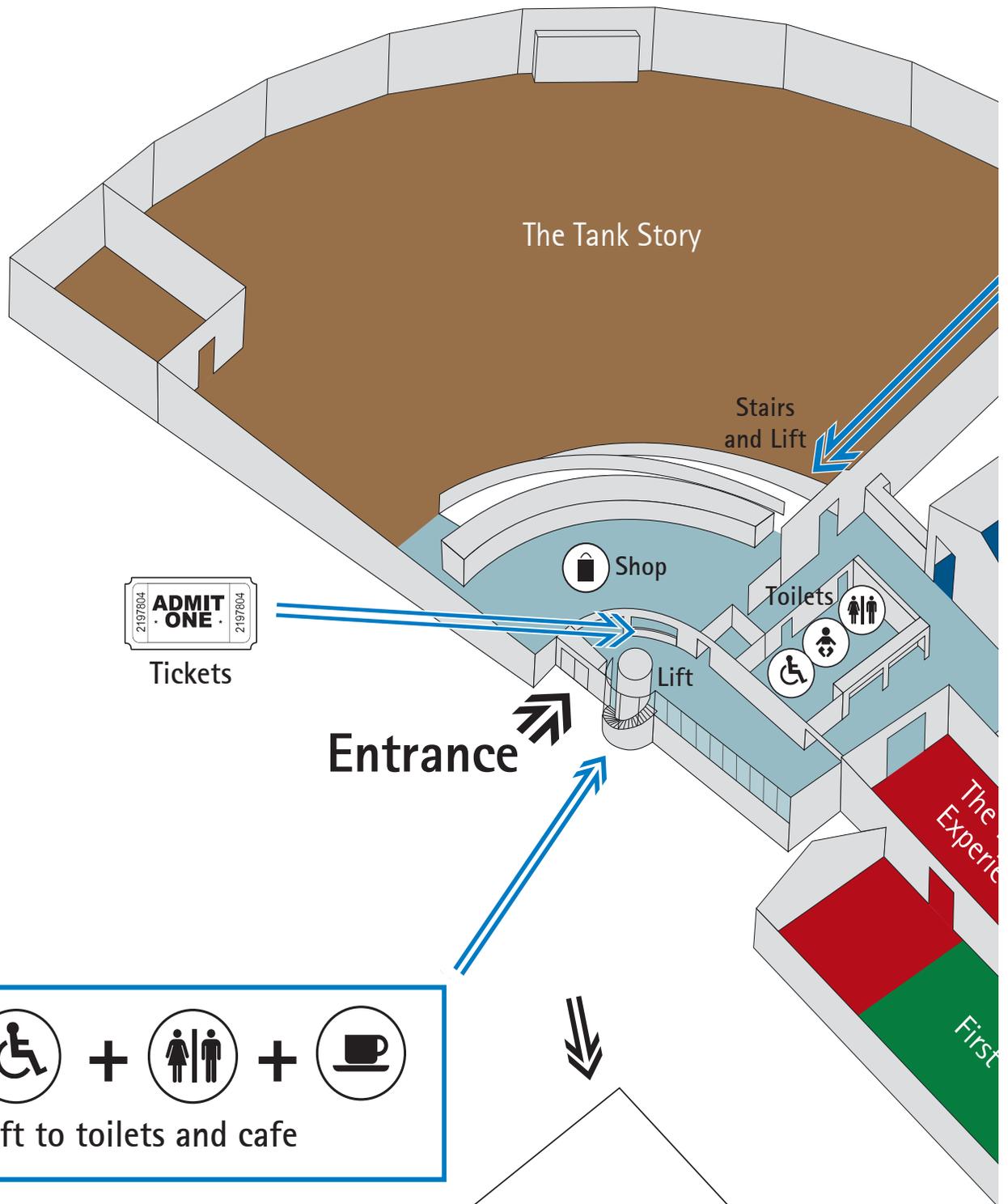


THE TANK MUSEUM



An Easy to Read Guide

Museum



Tickets

Entrance



Lift

Toilets

Shop

Stairs and Lift

The Tank Story

The Experience

First

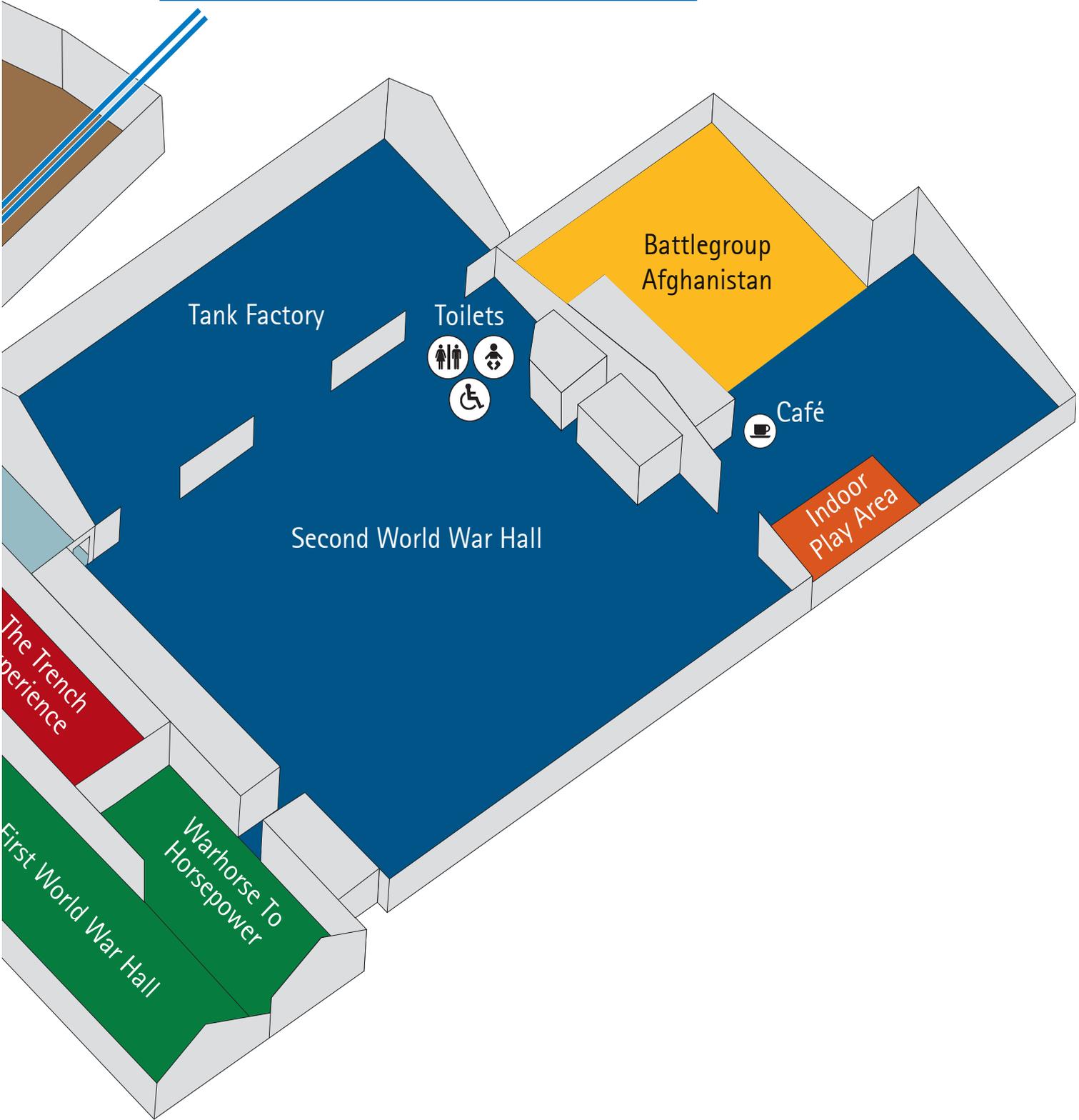
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Lift to toilets and cafe



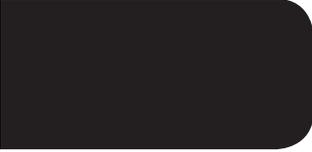
Car Park

im Map

 =  +  + 
Lift to toilets and cafe



Index

 **Welcome!** 

 **The Tank Story Hall** 

 **1st World War Hall** 

 **War Horse** 

 **The Trench** 

 **2nd World War Hall** 

 **Afghanistan** 

 **History** 

Welcome!



Using this guide

This book has been designed to be easy to read. People who find reading difficult will need help and support to understand the information.



Admissions

Buy tickets and guidebooks from the admissions desk. Our staff will be happy to answer your questions.



Accessibility

Most of the Museum is at ground floor level. There are lifts to the first floor cafe. There is a ramp into the Tank Story hall.



Food and Drink

We have a restaurant and a cafe where you can buy hot and cold drinks, meals and snacks.



Playground and Picnic Area

We have outdoor spaces where children can play. There is a picnic area with tables, if you are bringing your own food with you.



Wardens

Our staff are here to help. They will be happy to answer your questions. They can help you to use this guide and find your way around.



Wi-Fi

Network name: **TM-Visitors**. When you connect you will be asked to agree to some terms and conditions. Then you can open a web page or check your emails as you normally would.



Hearing Loop

There are hearing loops on most of the video and audio points in the exhibitions, and at the admissions desk. Switch your hearing aid to the 'T' position.



Shop

You can buy souvenirs, books, clothes, posters and model tanks in our shop.

Tanks



What are tanks for?

Tanks were invented during the First World War. They can carry guns, travel long distances and protect the soldiers sitting inside.



Firepower

Tanks usually have one or more guns.



Mobility

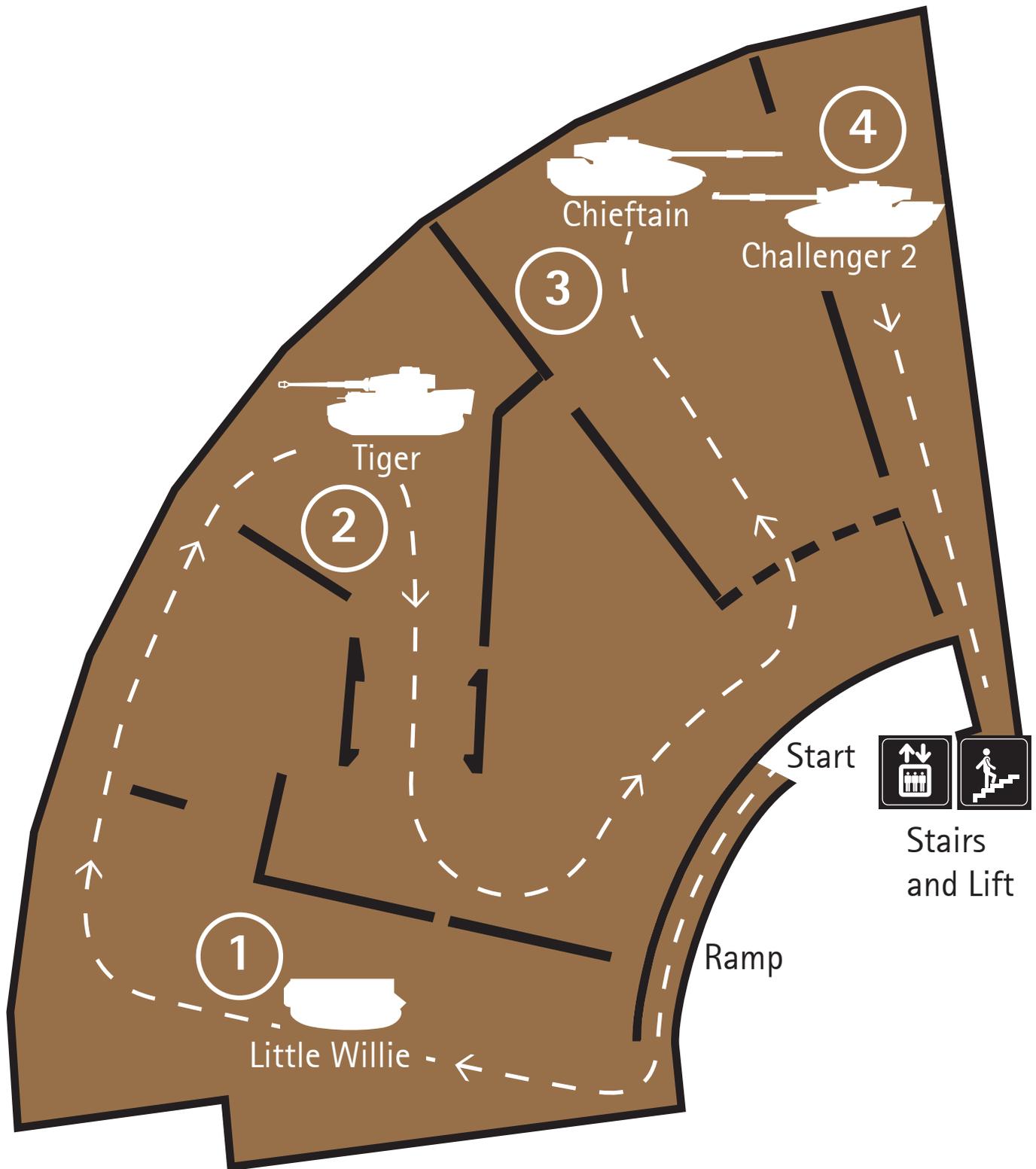
Tracks can go where wheels can't. They are much better at driving over hills, rocks, sand and mud.



Protection

Tanks usually have armour to protect the crew and the vehicle.

THE TANK STORY HALL



The story of the tank, from the very first to the most modern.



1. Little Willie

The world's first tank. This one does not have a gun. It was a practice tank, used for testing the idea of using tracks instead of wheels.



2. Tiger

This was built by the German Army during the Second World War. This is the only one in the world that still works. It was captured in Tunisia.



3. Chieftain

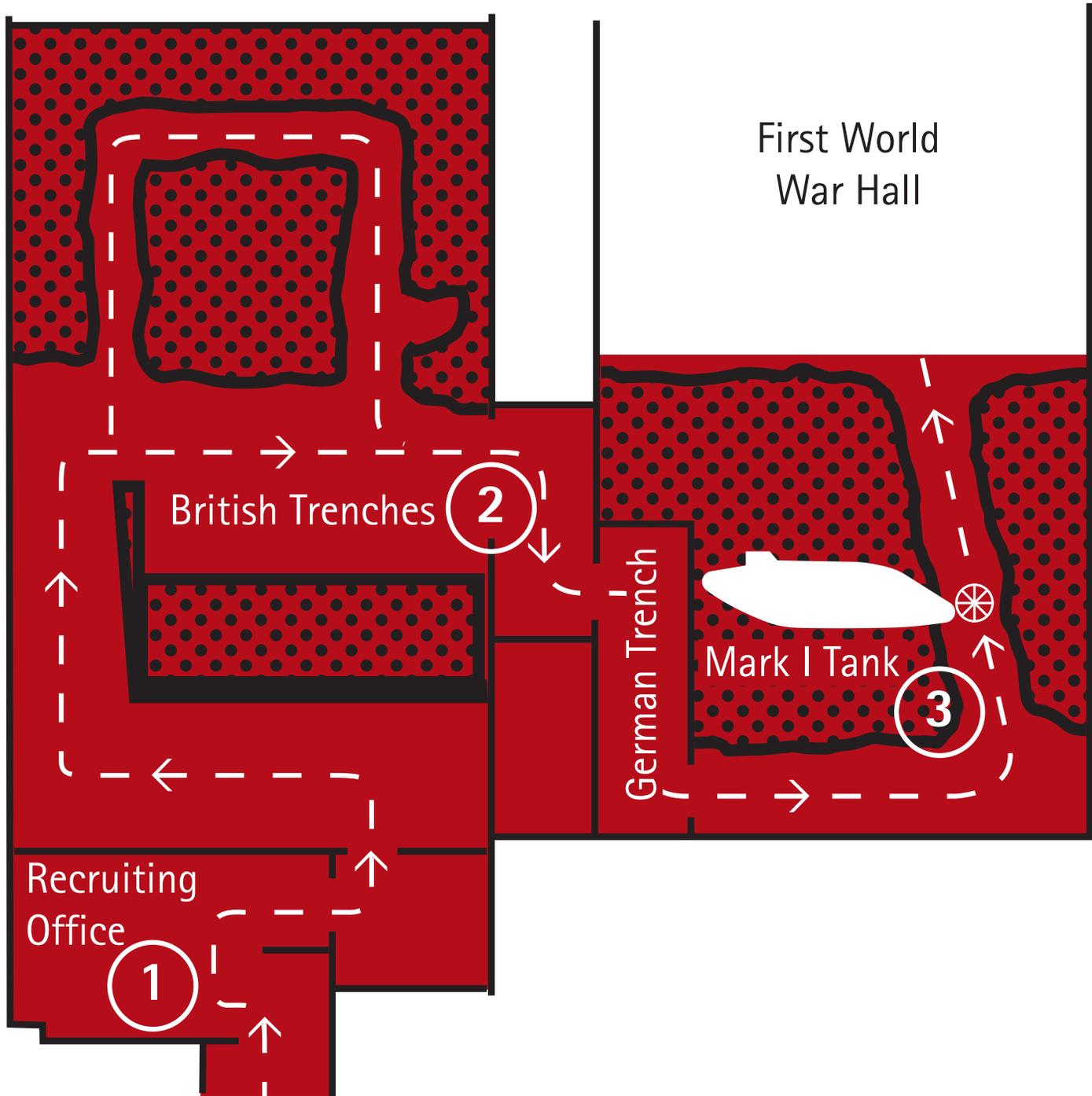
This tank is from the Cold War. It was designed to attack other tanks and defend Western Europe. Its engine could run on petrol or diesel.



4. Challenger 2

This is our most modern tank. It is still used today. It can fire at enemy targets 3km away. It fires darts that can travel at an amazing 3000 miles an hour!

THE TRENCH



Follow in the footsteps of a First World War soldier from the recruiting office to the trenches.



Before you go in:

Some areas of The Trench Experience are quite dark. The floor is uneven in places. It can be noisy. Talk to our staff if you are worried.



1. Recruiting Office

It is the start of the First World War. The man behind the desk signed up men who wanted to join the Army.



2. The Trenches

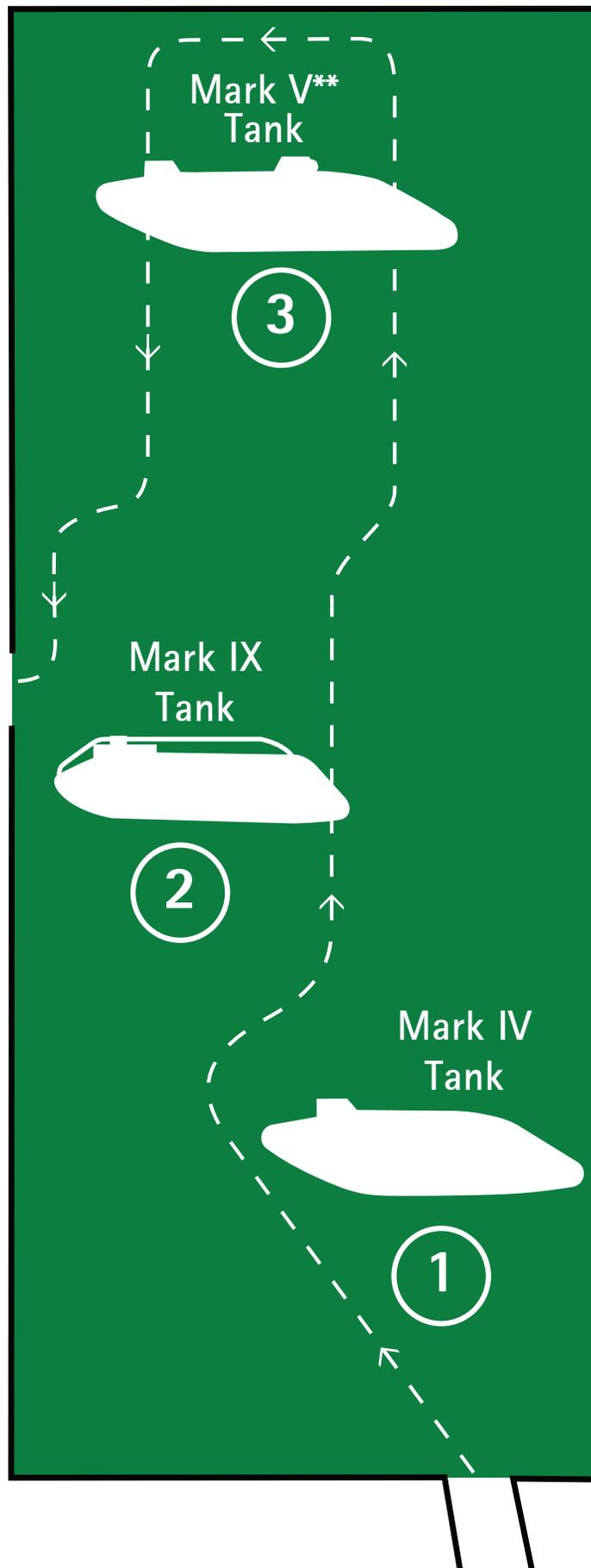
Soldiers protected themselves digging deep trenches. You will see a 'shell shocked' soldier. The war was frightening. Some soldiers could not cope.



3. Mark I Tank

One of the first tanks used in World War 1. German soldiers were terrified. They had not seen anything like it before.

FIRST WORLD WAR HALL



Tanks from the First World War.



1. Mark IV Tank

The Mark IV tank was the most common tank in the First World War. It had a crew of 8 men. It was hot, noisy and smelly inside.



2. Mark IX Tank

This tank was built to carry larger numbers of soldiers across the battlefield. The Army tried to make them float too. It was never used.



3. Mark V** Tank

Tanks were designed to drive over the top of trenches. The Germans made their trenches wider. So the British made an even longer tank: The Mark V** (say “Mark 5, 2 star”).

Roman Numerals

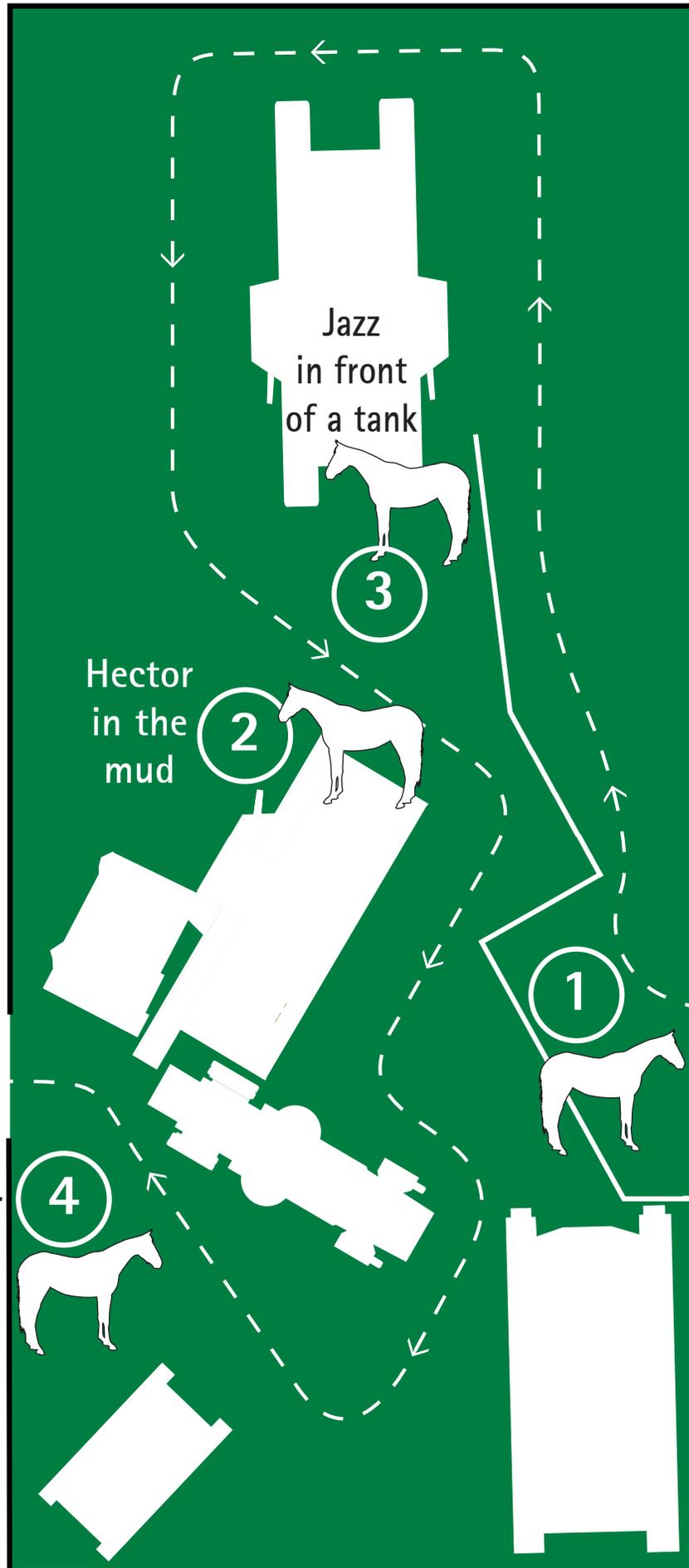
I = 1

IV = 4

V = 5

IX = 9

WARHORSE TO HORSEPOWER



All about the lives of horses during the First World War.



1. Freddy and the Omnibus
100 years ago, horses were used for many different jobs in cities and the countryside. They were slowly replaced by buses, cars and tractors.



2. Hector in the Mud
In the First World War, horses were used to carry things and pull guns. Life was hard and dangerous. Soldiers looked after them, but they were often cold and hungry.

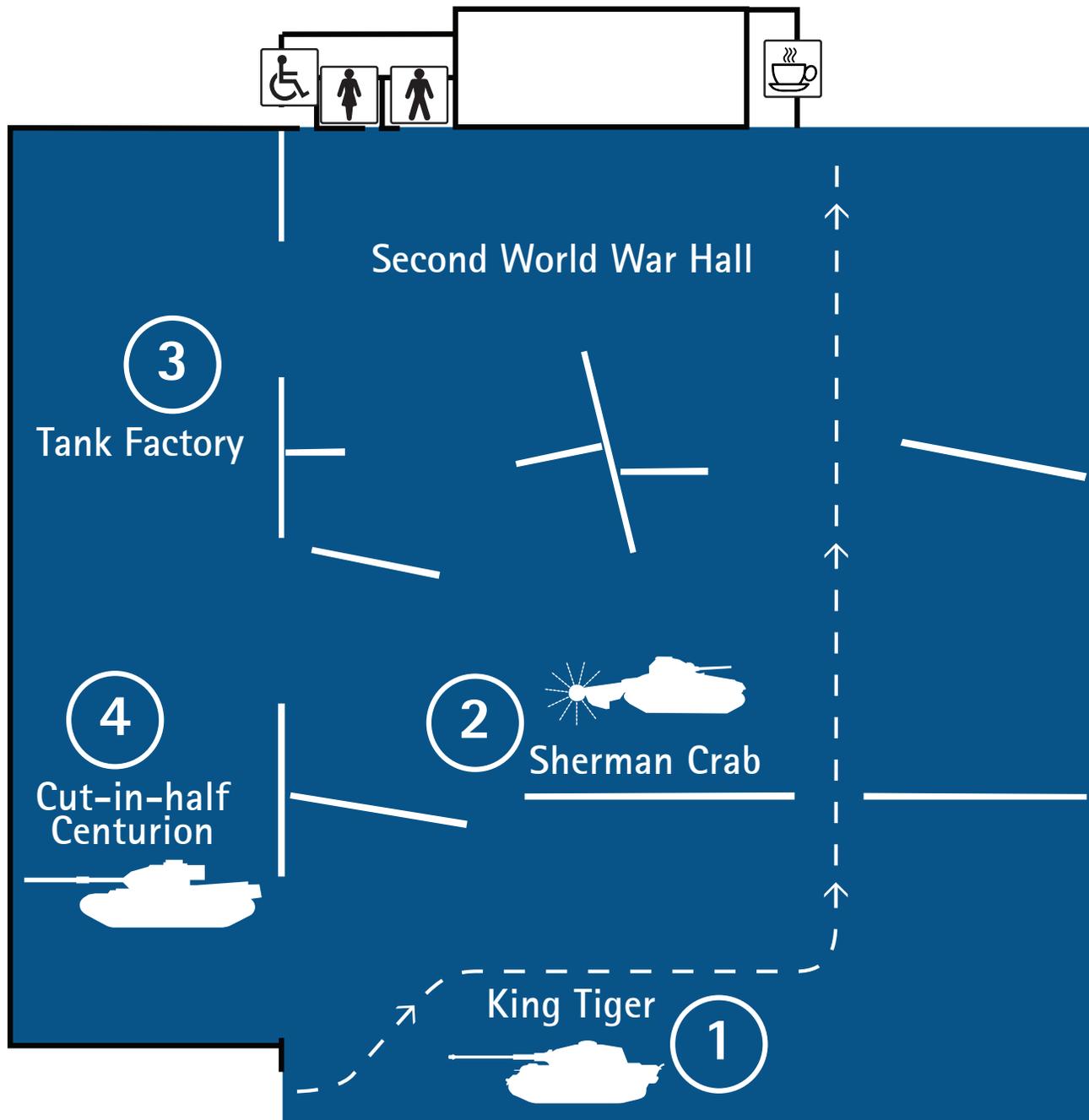


3. Jazz in Front of a Tank
Horses were used to ride into battle. They found it hard to get through barbed wire. They had no protection from guns. Tanks were invented to solve these problems.



4. After the War
1 million horses were used by the British Army in the war. Only 60,000 came back home. Soldiers had learned to fight in tanks, not on horseback.

SECOND WORLD WAR HALL



Tanks from the Second World War, and the Tank Factory Exhibition.



1. King Tiger

A German tank, first used in 1944. It was well armed and had thick armour. But it was heavy, and its engine was not powerful enough.



2. Sherman Crab

This tank was used on D-Day. There is a drum on the front, with chains attached. They spin around, to clear a safe path through mine fields.



3. Tank Factory

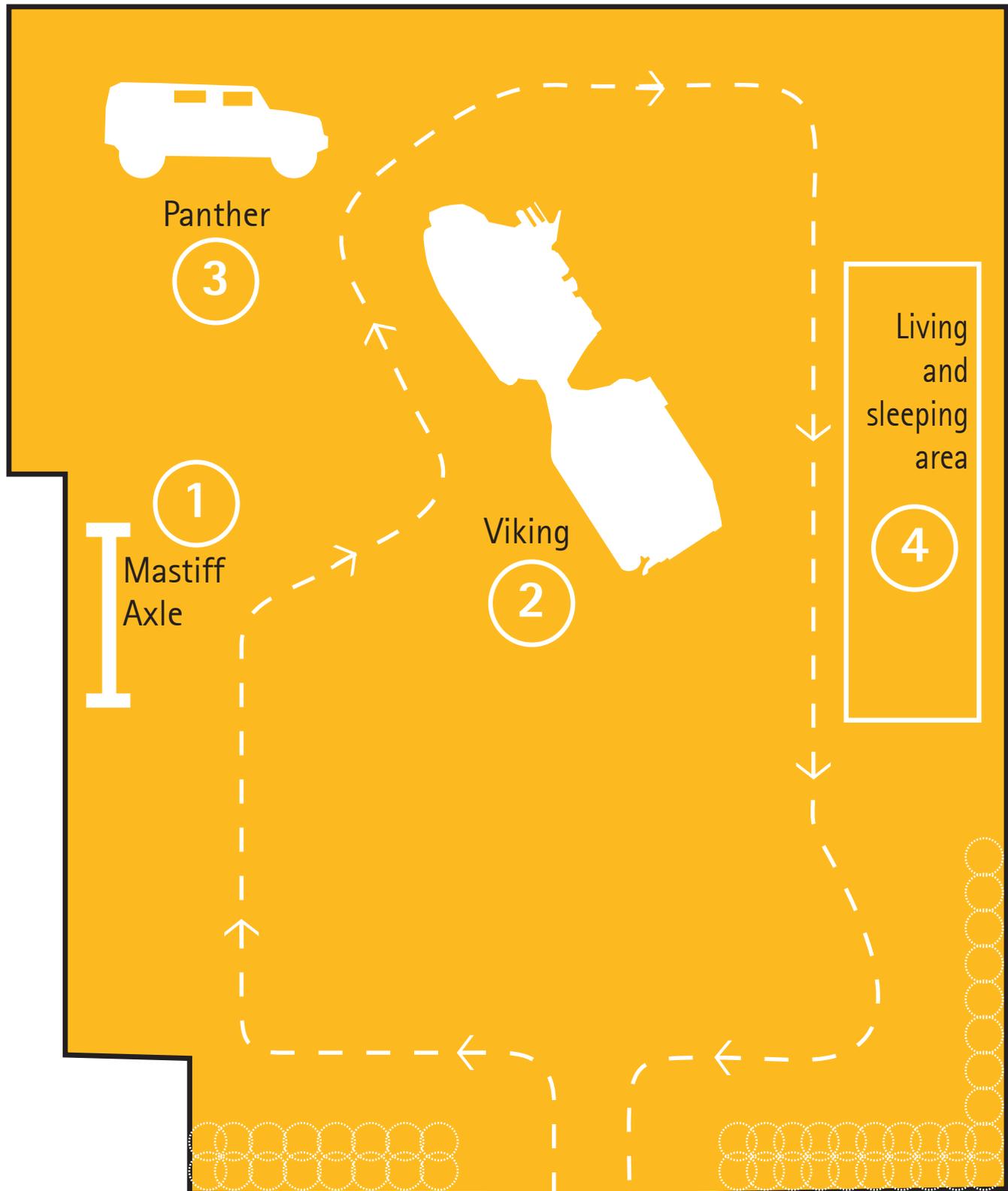
On the left hand side of the Discovery Centre is the Tank Factory exhibition. It is about how British tanks were designed and made from 1916 to 2014.



4. Cut-in-half Centurion

The Centurion was used after the Second World War. It has been cut in half so that you can see inside.

BATTLEGROUP AFGHANISTAN



The lives of British soldiers during the recent war in Afghanistan.



1. Mastiff Axle

The axle is the part of a vehicle that wheels are attached to. This one is from a Mastiff Armoured Fighting Vehicle. It drove over a bomb. You can see the damage to the metal.



2. Viking

The Viking is used by the Royal Marines. It can drive through water. It can work in very hot countries. The bars protect it from rocket powered weapons.



3. Panther

Used as a 'command vehicle'. It can take Officers around the battlefield. They can see what is happening and give orders to the soldiers.



4. Living and Sleeping Area

This is the place where soldiers lived and fought from in Afghanistan.

You can see where they eat, rest and sleep.

First World War

The First World War started in 1914 and ended in 1918. “Allied Powers” fought the “Central Powers”.



Allied Powers

Britain
France
Russia

Central Powers

Germany
Austria-Hungary
Italy

- Most of the fighting happened in France and Belgium.
- 8.7 million British and Commonwealth soldiers fought. 900,000 British soldiers died.
- Soldiers fought from trenches: long, narrow ditches.
- Tanks were invented during the First World War.



Tank: Mark IV



Tank: Whippet

Second World War

The Second World War started in 1939 and ended in 1945. “Allied Powers” fought the “Axis Powers”.



Allied Powers

Britain
Russia
America

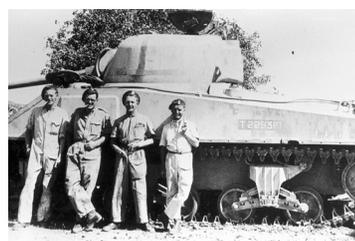
Axis Powers

Germany
Japan
Italy

- Fighting happened all over the world.
- 8.6 million British and Commonwealth soldiers fought. 380,000 of these soldiers died.
- It started when Germany invaded Poland.
- The leader of Germany was called Adolf Hitler. He led the Nazi party. The Nazis killed over 6 million Jewish people.



Tank: Churchill



Tank: Sherman



Tank: Tiger

The Cold War

The Cold War started in 1945 and ended in 1991. It involved “Capitalist” and “Communist” countries.



Capitalist countries

America
Britain

Communist Countries

Russia
(The Soviet Union)

- America and Russia disagreed about how people should live and the type of government they should have.
- They did not actually fight each other, but they both built lots of powerful weapons and tanks. This was called the ‘arms race’.
- It ended when the Soviet Union was broken up into smaller independent countries.



Tank: Chieftain (British)



Tank: T-72 (Russian)

Afghanistan

This war started in 2001, and for Britain, ended in 2014. It involved Britain, America and Afghanistan.



Commonwealth countries

America

Britain

... and many more

Taliban

An Islamic group.

It ruled Afghanistan from 1996-2001.

- In 2001, members of al-Qaeda flew 2 planes into the World Trade Centre in New York.
- The Taliban ran training bases in Afghanistan. They refused to hand over Osama Bin Laden, the leader of al-Qaeda.
- 10,000 British and Commonwealth soldiers fought there in 2009. 450 British and Commonwealth soldiers died.



Tank: Jackal



Tank: Viking



THE TANK MUSEUM



Many thanks to:
Muntsy's, Weymouth
Felicity Wood, Tank Museum
Clare Tarling, People First Dorset

www.tankmuseum.org
