



## Memories of World War One

*August 2014 marks the centenary of the start of the First World War*

Memories of World War One is a teaching resource that provides links to local and national archives and cultural programmes, offering curriculum ideas and web platforms that enable schools to share research and activity throughout the four year commemoration.

For an electronic version of this resource go to <http://www.giantspectacular.com/get-involved>

Image from History Learning Site – Sergeant Stubby





## Introduction

The outbreak of the First World War was a turning point in world history, and Liverpool played a vital role in the run up to, and during the conflict.

Our aim is to create an exciting and inspiring participation programme which reflects the city's important role and shines a spotlight on the many sacrifices made during the war.

Over the next four years, a series of events will take place reflecting the different phases of the conflict. The City Council, through Culture Liverpool, will work in partnership with Liverpool John Moores University, creating a special website which catalogues the stories and memories of those in Liverpool and Lancashire who were affected in some way by the Great War. [www.merseyside-at-war.org](http://www.merseyside-at-war.org) will be a fascinating, community project which anyone can use to upload stories, memorabilia and bios of people who lived during that time.

This year also sees the return of the hugely popular giants in the street theatre spectacular *Memories of August 1914*. It will be the UK's flagship commemoration event taking place in 2014, marking the outbreak of World War One and will see three giants exploring the city in an emotional and magical tribute. For more information, visit [www.giantspectacular.com](http://www.giantspectacular.com)

The opportunity for children to learn more about their city is invaluable. There will be a huge number of projects taking place during the next four years which complement the curriculum and will bring history to life for future generations. Liverpool is blessed with a rich wartime heritage, from Lord Derby rousing the first of the Pals Battalions right through to the home front social advances of Eleanor Rathbone. As a result the city and its surrounding area contains a massive amount of memorials, museums and activities dedicated to the era.

For further information on the events happening over the next four years, and to upload your own events visit [www.giantspectacular.com/content/planning](http://www.giantspectacular.com/content/planning)

**Joe Anderson**

**Mayor of Liverpool**



## Resources & Research

There are lots of resources online and in print about all aspects of World War One (WW1). We have attempted to highlight some key resources and also to signpost resources specific to Liverpool.

### The Imperial War Museum (IWM)

IWM has many resources online exploring WW1. There are resources on its website regarding recruitment and conscription, and also dealing with the different nationalities and their contributions to the First World War. Other resources in the archive include a short thought-provoking film titled *People of the Great War*, and *Shaping the Modern World*. This explores the ways in which the war helped shape the world we live in today. Suitable for secondary schools, it contains original source material, historical notes and a selection of teaching activities and ideas. All resources can be downloaded and saved for future use.

The Imperial War Museum North also has an interactive new exhibition called 'From Street to Trench – a World War That Shaped a Region' which highlights the impact of WW1 on the North-west including Liverpool and is well worth a visit with your school.

<http://www.iwm.org.uk/visits/iwm-north>

<http://www.iwm.org.uk/learning/groups-and-schools>

<http://www.iwm.org.uk/exhibitions/iwm-north/from-street-to-trench-a-world-war-that-shaped-a-region>

<http://www.iwm.org.uk/learning/resources/learning-resources>

IWM also has 'Their Past Your Future' Learning Resources charting the history of world conflicts, from the World Wars to the Cold War - Their Past Your Future gives history teachers and students in UK schools everything they need to explore the course, causes and consequences of conflict from the First World War to today. Site includes fantastic free learning resources 'People of the Great War, and Shaping the Modern World.'

<http://www.tpyf.com/>



## Merseyside at War 1914-1918

This site has been commissioned and is maintained by Liverpool John Moores University. They are looking to collate memories and memorabilia of people from Merseyside who lived, worked or fought during the WW1 period. They are looking for anything from letters sent home from the front; photographs of soldiers and officers, their spouses, friends and families; birth certificates and records to posters that were displayed around Merseyside at the time. If your school or pupils have a story or memorabilia from the period... whatever you have, they'd like to hear about it. The site is fully interactive and there are stories of the people from Merseyside involved in WW1. The resources will increase over the four year period as the public add their own information to it. There will also be an Education Resource accompanying the site.

<http://www.merseyside-at-war.org/>

Go online, register for an account and upload your school's WW1 information – a great classroom activity.

## Museum of Liverpool

The Museum of Liverpool tells the story of the city in a landmark building on the waterfront. In addition to the new exhibition 'First World War: reflecting on Liverpool's Home Front' there are a number of other displays in the museum about WW1 and the part that Liverpool people played in it.

<http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/homefront>

<http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/mol/visit/galleries/peoples/western-front.aspx>

<http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/mol/visit/galleries/soldiers/>

<http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/mol/visit/galleries/soldiers/bootle-roll-honour.aspx>



## Liverpool Biennial

Liverpool Biennial, the leading UK Biennial of contemporary art, and Tate Liverpool will jointly commission Carlos Cruz-Diez to work with the idea of 'dazzle' camouflage in partnership with National Museums Liverpool using an historic pilot ship conserved by Merseyside Maritime Museum. The "Edmund Gardner" is situated in a dry dock adjacent to Liverpool's Albert Dock and will be a new public monument for the city. *Why don't you dazzle your school, the playground, the hall, your uniform?*

<http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/dazzleship> -link to Biennial programme and 1418now



## Schools History Project

Schools History Project has many online and downloadable resources for teachers of primary and secondary with a new Primary Hub and whole school and cross-curricular approach to teaching about WW1. The resources, guidance and lesson plans with power-point presentations and related background research have been written by Ann Moore. The lesson plans cover Poppy Day, Noel Chavasse, Women in WW1, and How the War Began with more planned to be added.

<http://www.schoolshistoryproject.org.uk/Teaching/Primary/ww1wholeschool.html>

## BBC Resources

As part of the WW1 Centenary Commemorations the BBC has dedicated a huge amount of programming and resources to the history of WW1. Website includes the 'Lives of the First World War Digital Archive' in association with IWM which members of the public are being asked to add to, Primary and secondary teaching resources, Assembly packs and Performance ideas plus links to other useful websites and resources.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/ww1>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/0/ww1/>



## Liverpool Libraries, Information and Archive Services

Liverpool has a dedicated 24 hour library service consisting of Central Library in the city centre and a community library network located in local neighbourhoods.

### Visiting Your Library

At every site you can find a range of printed reading and study materials. All sites have access to a photocopier, printing and e-mail facilities and some have a fax in addition to this. There is access to free computing including Microsoft Office and the internet which you need to be a library member but is free to use.

There is local history section of books at every site and books can also be requested at the library counter- just ask the library staff.

Every computer at every library site had access to the Digital Library information suite which includes the family history websites 'Find my Past and Ancestry'. These are free to use when you access them from a library site. In addition there are other online research tools such as newspaper articles. Library staff will show you how to find the Digital Library on the computers on request.

### Local history sessions and schools

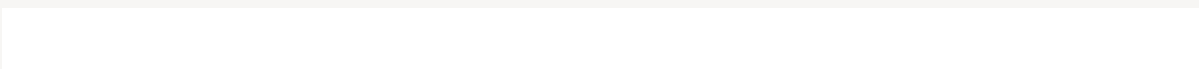
Look out for tutored family history sessions at your library. Schools are welcome to book in for a visit at any of our sites and we will show you the range of information available printed and online. Please contact your local library for details on **0151 233 3069**

### Available from home 24/7 services

Library services are available 24 hours a day and the library online service has a range of study, reading and research materials you can access from the comfort of your own home.

### Liverpool Library catalogue

You can search all of the printed holdings of the library, order books and renew loans at the library website [www.liverpool.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.liverpool.gov.uk/libraries)





## Read Liverpool

This is where to download free e-books, free audio books, magazines and a host of free reference materials including “Your Family History “magazine.

You just need to register online or use your library ticket to be able to download titles to your device. Devices including smart phones, android tablets, iPads, laptops, and kindle fire can all be used as e-readers for this site.

<https://www.readliverpool.co.uk/>

## Central Library Archives and Local History Services

Liverpool Record Office and Local Studies Service at Central Library holds extensive collections from the 13<sup>th</sup> century onwards relating to all aspects of the City’s history.

These include:

- Liverpool Council minutes, committee reports and council proceedings.
- School records: admission registers, administration records.
- Cemetery interment registers. Information on where people have been buried.
- Church registers. Baptisms and Marriages for many Catholic and Anglican churches.
- Business records of companies.
- Community archives, including the Merseyside Jewish community.
- Hospital records. Admission registers, discharges and administration records
- Workhouse registers of admissions and creed registers.
- Maps and plans of the city including Ordnance Survey maps.
- Architectural drawings and plans of some Liverpool buildings.



- Personal papers. Diaries and letters of Liverpool people.
- Photographs and small prints of streets, churches, buildings.
- Voters' lists dating from the Nineteenth Century onwards.
- Gore's street directories from the 1760s onwards which include details of residents and businesses.
- Local newspapers dating from the Eighteenth century onwards.
- Everton collection consists of an online resource.
- Coroner's inquest reports.

The Archive and Local History service offers reference material and advice on research.

Our local studies collection has books on all aspects of Liverpool's history located in the 'Archive' area of Central Library. Please note that these books are for reference only.

Additional material is available in microfilm or microfiche format. Microfilm viewers are available. You can also use our computers to search 'Ancestry' and 'Find My Past' websites for free. These facilities are open during normal Central opening hours.

### Liverpool Archive Catalogue

Whether you are interested in the history of Liverpool or want to research your family history our archive catalogue lists all the reference material you need to help you with your search. The catalogue also includes local studies items which you can find by using the 'Advanced Search' tab.

### The Search Room

The Archive Search Room in Central Library is available to consult original archives and books by appointment only. We require at least one full working days' notice; a list of items needed and reference numbers which can be obtained from the online catalogues. We can help you with your research. Please contact us for more information and our latest fees on **0151 233 3069**.





## World War One Exhibition

Liverpool Central Library will be holding a WW1 exhibition

11 July to 26 September 2014.

<http://liverpoollibrariesitogether.wordpress.com/>

## How to join the library

You can join online via <http://liverpool.gov.uk/libraries/join-a-library/>

And the ticket will be sent to your home address or you can visit any library site and join but please bring 1 item of identification with you that shows your current address such as a utility bill or driving license.

## School Improvement Liverpool Primary and Secondary History Networks

School Improvement Liverpool's regular primary and secondary networks for leaders and teachers of History provide practitioners with the opportunity to access and share updates, planning and resources relevant to the new curriculum.

A number of downloadable resources on significant Liverpool individuals will also be available September 2014.

[www.ednet.co](http://www.ednet.co)

## List of 10 books offering differing perspectives on the First World War for young readers.

<http://www.booktrust.org.uk/books/children/booklists/187>

## Reading Quality Mark

Encouraging pupils to read these texts links to the city's Reading Quality Mark. The national curriculum for English places a clear emphasis on pupils developing the knowledge and skills to read easily, fluently and with understanding and having opportunities to develop the habit of reading widely and often for both pleasure and information.

The Liverpool Reading Quality Mark working in partnership with the Liverpool Library service and the National Literacy Trust supports schools to promote and develop whole school strategies for reading for pleasure. It promotes the use of quality texts to extend



thinking and understanding around subject/ topic areas and engagement with local, national and international initiatives to promote reading and develop key skills.

### City of Readers

City of Readers is a campaign to transform Liverpool into the UK's foremost reading city. We want every child who has the ability to do so to learn to love reading. That means growing up with reading as an enjoyable part of everyday life, sharing stories, talking about books, and surrounded by adults who love reading. We're going to highlight reading and readers everywhere across the city, bringing books and people together in public, so we can all see who is reading what, where! It's Liverpool – so carry a book

<http://www.cityofreaders.org/>

### Other useful links and resources for teachers and schools:

An exhaustive list of teaching resources, websites, museums, suggested visits and tour companies that cover a multitude of study areas and activities such as online exhibitions, courses, battlefield visits and re-enactments.

<http://www.greatwar.co.uk/>

### First World War Centenary Partnerships

First World War Centenary Partnership highlights centenary events and resources from across the globe.

[www.1914.org](http://www.1914.org)

### TES

TES has a range of World War One teaching resources to commemorate the First World War centenary by learning about the causes of war, life in the trenches and recruitment propaganda or through exploring the poetry of Wilfred Owen and novels by Michael Morpurgo, such as War Horse and Private Peaceful.

<http://www.tes.co.uk/ContentManagedPage.aspx?storyCode=6400138>



## World War One Centenary

World War One Centenary is an Open Educational Resource supporting new directions in teaching World War One.

<http://ww1centenary.oucs.ox.ac.uk/>

WW1 resources produced in partnership with the FA, Premier League and Football League.

<http://schoolsonline.britishcouncil.org/classroom-resources>

Culture Liverpool has collected a board of images relating to Liverpool during World War One that can accessed on

<http://www.pinterest.com/culturepool/world-war-one-in-liverpool/>

## Funding and further information:

The Heritage Lottery Fund has funding available for a wide variety of historical community projects. They are dedicated to making lasting differences for heritage, people and communities and offer a range of different grant programmes with grants from £3000 to over £5million. <http://www.hlf.org.uk/HowToApply/Pages/starthere.aspx>

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## Cultural programme - 14 – 18 NOW

14-18 NOW is a National Cultural Programme for the First World War Centenary Commemorations.

<http://www.1418now.org.uk/>

## Memories of August: Giant Spectacular 23- 27<sup>th</sup> July 2014

Liverpool will host the UK's landmark commemorative event - a poignant and spectacular piece of street theatre which will once again see giant visitors embark on an emotional journey around the city.

<http://www.giantspectacular.com/>

**Letter to an unknown Soldier:** A new kind of war memorial one; made only of words, and by thousands of people.

<http://www.1418now.org.uk/letter/>

There are plans for these powerful speaking memorials coming to Liverpool, keep an eye on <http://www.itsliverpool.com/culture/> for further information.

## Lights Out

“The lamps are going out all over Europe; we shall not see them lit again in our life-time”.

In a dramatic UK-wide event LIGHTS OUT is an invitation to everyone to turn off their lights from 10pm to 11pm on 4<sup>th</sup> August, leaving on a single light or candle for this shared moment of reflection.

<http://www.1418now.org.uk/whats-on/lights-out/>



## Memories and Memorials

### Curriculum 2014. Programmes of study, areas supported:

#### Key Stage 1:

- events beyond living memory that are significant nationally or globally
- the lives of significant individuals in the past who have contributed to national and international achievements
- significant historical events, people and places in their own locality

#### Key Stage 2:

- A local history study e.g. a study of an aspect of history or a site dating from a period beyond 1066 that is significant in the locality
- A study of an aspect or theme in British history that extends pupils' chronological knowledge beyond 1066 e.g. a significant turning point in British history

#### Key Stage 3:

- Challenges for Britain, Europe and the wider world 1901 to the present day
- A local history study.

Liverpool's contribution to the war effort is evident across the city, with over a thousand memorials dedicated to WWI in the Merseyside area. The memorials provide insight into military, art and social history, and are a vital part of Liverpool's makeup. Unfortunately, with the abundance of them around the city, many have been overlooked for years. To commemorate the centenary, schools could identify and adopt their local WWI memorials and research the names that they find. The stories and histories found as a result of this can be used in curriculum studies, performances and exhibitions, and can be uploaded to the Merseyside at War website. Merseyside at War is a website developed by the LJMU School of Humanities & Social Science that aims to provide an easy to use resource for schools looking to be a part of the WW1 commemorations.



The website enables the community to upload stories and bios of wartime people, from great-grandparents to family friends, creating a collective story of Merseyside at war. In turn, schools can download this information and use it in classes or projects. This can provide a resource for further activities linked to family history research within schools.

The Merseyside Roll of Honour gives details of all recorded memorials in Merseyside. The website can be used to locate and research your schools closest memorial and those soldiers commemorated on it. Is there a memorial in your school? Who is on it? Use the website resources listed below and via the Liverpool Library Service to build a picture of the local people who sacrificed their lives in the Great War.

City Memorials that could be focussed on are the Liverpool Cenotaph, The News Room War Memorial in Exchange Flags, The Kings Regiment Monument in St John's Gardens and the VC Winners Memorial in Abercrombie Square.

#### Resources:

An inventory of local WWI memorials

<http://www.merseysiderollofhonour.co.uk/memorials/memorials.htm>

Photographs of memorials in Liverpool area

<http://liverpoolremembrance.weebly.com/war-memorials-1.html>

Liverpool Town Hall – Hall of Remembrance

<http://liverpoolcityhalls.co.uk/town-hall/about/hall-of-remembrance/>

Liverpool Centotaph stands on St George's plateau, to the East of St George's Hall

<http://liverpoolcityhalls.co.uk/st-georges-hall/>

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

<http://www.cwgc.org/find-war-dead/how-to-find-a-casualty.aspx>

Website developed by Liverpool John Moores University, enabling schools to research soldiers and events in World War One, and also upload their own findings.

<http://www.merseyside-at-war.org/>



A useful website with step-by-step guide to researching a specific soldier from various records and containing other useful resources about World War One.

<http://www.1914-1918.net/soldiers/research.html>

### Lord Derby and the Liverpool Pals

Curriculum 2014. Programmes of study, areas supported:

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#### Key Stage 3:

- Challenges for Britain, Europe and the wider world 1901 to the present day
- A local history study



## Officers of the Kings 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion Liverpool Regiment 2

Of all the people that rose to prominence in the war, Lord Derby is possibly the most important figure connected to Liverpool. Lord Derby and his creation of the Liverpool Pals battalions was a famous point in history, and was the basis of a recruitment surge in Kitchener's army.



The creation of the Liverpool Pals battalions represented an important shift in the makeup of the war. For the first time, white-collar workers signed up in droves; bank clerks, office workers and even wealthy industrialists heard Lord Derby's rousing speech and gladly signed their freedoms away for the glory of their city and country. The story of the Liverpool Pals is a vital part of the city's history that influenced economic, social and military changes. The first of their kind, Pals battalions became a huge part of Kitchener's New Army.

Key stage 1 & 2 can learn about the Pals and the camaraderie soldiers had for one another in the war. Resources containing the names of the battalion members mean that individual soldiers can be researched in class projects, which can link in with the Memorials & Memories project.

In terms of key stage 3, the more mature points can be discussed, for example the challenges the Pals battalions faced fighting and dying alongside people they had known for years, and the repercussions that may have had. Also the challenge Lord Derby had of raising more troops, and the inventive ways he approached that challenge.

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## Resources:

Website of a group dedicated to memorialising the Liverpool Pals.

<http://www.theliverpoolpalsmemorialfund.com/history.php>

Listing of the diaries of the King's Liverpool Regiment, including the Pals.

<http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/mol/visit/galleries/soldiers/research/war-diaries.aspx>

Imperial war museum voice recordings of members of Pals

[http://www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/object/80009862#.UoK\\_85mxB4k.email](http://www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/object/80009862#.UoK_85mxB4k.email)

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<http://www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/object/80023051#.UoK-tM5UzTo.email>

Information on researching the King's Regiment.

<http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/mol/visit/galleries/soldiers/research/index.aspx>

History of the Liverpool Pals.

<http://www.davidbohl.webspace.virginmedia.com/TheLiverpoolPals.htm>

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**Noel Chavasse**

**Curriculum 2014. Programmes of study, areas supported:**

**Key Stage 1:**

- events beyond living memory that are significant nationally or globally
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- significant historical events, people and places in their own locality

**Key Stage 2:**

- A local history study e.g. a study of an aspect of history or a site dating from a period beyond 1066 that is significant in the locality
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**Key Stage 3:**

- Challenges for Britain, Europe and the wider world 1901 to the present day
- A local history study

Captain Noel Chavasse was the only man to be awarded the Victoria Cross twice during the First World War, and is only one of three to receive that honour since. His actions were a testament to the bravery and sacrifice that soldiers made during that time. Chavasse presents an opportunity for children to learn about current-day holders of the Victoria Cross award, and is an important local figure that is well-documented and easy to relate to. As a doctor, he also illustrates the challenges that non-combatants faced on the front lines, and the lengths they had to go to save lives.

Chavasse's story also gives an opportunity to look at the Victoria Cross, and more recent winners, like Lance Corporal Johnson Beharry, who won the VC in Iraq after rescuing his comrades from danger twice.



## Resources:

Schools History Project: links to lesson plans

<http://www.schoolhistoryproject.org.uk/Teaching/Primary/ww1wholeschool.html>

Website of Johnson Gideon Beharry, awarded the Victoria Cross in 2005 for bravery in Iraq.

<http://www.johnsonbeharryvc.com/>

Website providing information on all Victoria Cross recipients in Merseyside and the surrounding area.

<http://liverpoolremembrance.weebly.com/local-vc-winners.html>

Victoria Cross Winners national flagstone scheme

<http://www.liverpoolecho.co.uk/news/liverpool-news/nine-first-world-war-merseyside-7030566>

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## Thomas Alfred (Todger) Jones

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- A local history study

Born in Runcorn on the 25<sup>th</sup> December 1880, Todger Jones won the Victoria Cross for capturing 102 prisoners at the Battle of Morval. Under fire, he gained access to the German trenches, and systematically captured every soldier he came across. His entire recollection of the event can be found online, making his story a valuable resource and an example of the classic British attitude towards battle.

#### Resources:

- The story of Todger Jones, recanted by the man himself.
- [http://myweb.tiscali.co.uk/haltonrbl/haltonrbl/todger\\_jones.htm](http://myweb.tiscali.co.uk/haltonrbl/haltonrbl/todger_jones.htm)





## Resources:

BBC overview of the Home Front.

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/britain\\_wwone/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/britain_wwone/)

North West Film Archive: Life on the Home Front in North West England: A DVD of footage of life on the home front in North West England.

<http://www.nwfa.mmu.ac.uk/merchandise.htm>

GCSE Bitesize Resource about the Home Front.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/history/mwh/britain/homefrontrev1.shtml>

Short overview of the problems people faced during the war.

[http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/home\\_front\\_1914\\_to\\_1918.htm](http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/home_front_1914_to_1918.htm)

Description of the Defence of the Realm Act.

[http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/defence\\_of\\_the\\_realm\\_act\\_of\\_1914.htm](http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/defence_of_the_realm_act_of_1914.htm)

Rationing and World War One, an overview.

[http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/rationing\\_and\\_world\\_war\\_one.htm](http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/rationing_and_world_war_one.htm)

Resource on Conscientious Objectors.

[http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/conscientious\\_objectors.htm](http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/conscientious_objectors.htm)



## Football in Wartime

### Curriculum 2014. Programmes of study, areas supported:

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### Leigh Roose

A Welsh international goalkeeper famed for his eccentric style, Leigh Roose played for Everton in the pre-war years, along with a number of other teams. Often turning up to matches driving a horse and cart, Roose was famed as much for his quirky behaviour as he was his footballing ability. Often joining in on attacks, he was said to be a dextrous, recklessly brave player, who could kick a leather ball the entire length of the field. In 1916, although well above the age of the average recruit, Roose joined up with the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. He was famed for his grenade-throwing abilities, helped by years of goal-tending. He was awarded the military medal on the first occasion he went into battle, having been the subject of a flamethrower attack, refusing medical attention and throwing grenades at the enemy until his arm gave out. Roose was killed towards the end of the Battle of the Somme in unknown circumstances.



## Christmas Truce

The story of the football match that took place between British and German troops is possibly the most famous of the war. Over Christmas, many unofficial truces happened across the lines, with soldiers exchanging gifts, singing songs and engaging in football matches. This highlights the nature of the war in 1914: there was no true animosity between the soldiers on either side. Often infantry in close proximity would stop aggressive behaviour and come to agreements not to shoot while men rested, exercised, or worked in view of the enemy. This is in direct opposition to later in the war, where constant gas attacks and bloody battles like the Somme and Verdun reduced the other side to less than human in soldier's eyes. From 1916 onwards, there were to be no more truces.

## James Meagan - Irish Guard - account of Christmas Truce

"Around Christmas, 1917, my regiment was holding a section of the line along the Somme, where bitter fighting had been in progress. Christmas Day arrived with no prospect of the official dinner as our ration party had failed to arrive, and as N.C.O. in charge of our section I had to worry about providing a dinner in lieu. We had tea and sugar but no milk. I decided (contravening Army Orders, of course) to explore a shell-hole in No-Man's land about 200 yards in front of our trench and collect some firewood to get a fire going for our tea. A tree had been blown into this shall-hole by artillery fire and this was my "prize". Telling some of my lads to keep me covered, I set out and eventually reached the hole. I was soon working away chopping wood with my bayonet, the only equipment I had. Then I happened to look across to the German lines, where a Bavarian Guards regiment were entrenched. To my surprise, I observed a German soldier coming towards me without his rifle. He had his hands extended and in broken English asked me how we were fixed for 'grub'. I explained my mission in the shell-hole and he then produced a very nice rich cake from under his tunic and handed it to me, with the compliments of his comrades. They were great fighters these Bavarians and held the Irish regiments in great esteem. I was deeply moved by his fraternal gesture of goodwill and we warmly shook hands. Both sides fraternised on Christmas Day in 1915 and 1916 but we had been forbidden to do so, on the 1917 festival. We both returned to our respective lines and my only regret was that I had nothing to return those Bavarians as a present. Unfortunately in about an hour's time the news got around to officialdom that the Irish regiment was beginning to fraternise. As a result, our artillery opened up with a particularly heavy and vicious barrage - the first shooting of the day - and right on the section of the enemy trenches which contained our friendly Bavarians. That was our Christmas present, as decreed by the inhuman laws of 'total war' and one I sadly regretted. The German artillery were a little slow in replying to our salvos but when they did it was thunderous. We took our Christmas dinner of tea sugar and rich cake to the 'music' of artillery."





## Resources:

### Football Remembers: The 1914 Christmas Truce

This educational resource pack focuses on the games of football played in No Man's Land in December 1914 and was produced in partnership with the FA, Premier League and Football League.

Containing original accounts and sources for use in the classroom, with activities for cross curricular lessons and projects.

<http://schoolsonline.britishcouncil.org/classroom-resources/football-remembers/education-pack>

An in-depth history on Leigh Roose and his career

<http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/ARSENALroose.htm>

Commonwealth War Graves Commission short film and online resource/game exploring football in times of war and highlighting key characters including Leigh Roose and Walter Tull.

<http://www.cwgc.org/glorydays/flash.html>

Account of the events leading up to the Christmas truce.

<http://www.1914-1918.net/truce.htm>

Piece on demystifying the Christmas Truce

<http://www.greatwar.nl/frames/default-christmastruce.html>

English soldier Bruce Bairnsfather's first-hand account of the truce

<http://www.greatwar.nl/frames/default-brucebairnsfather.html>



Photo of Liverpool Police Woman 1917

## Women in Wartime

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The changing role of women is an important part of WW1's history. Due to the shortage of able-bodied men, women were drafted into the workforce for the first time, becoming factory workers, drivers and police officers. This raised the challenge after the war of men returning to a hard-working, more autonomous female populace, and led eventually to women over 30 receiving the right to vote. Some women took it upon themselves to get closer to the war. Dorothy Lawrence, a reporter from Middlesex, posed as a male soldier and bluffed her way to the front line. Another woman, taking a more legal route to the frontlines, was Flora Sandes, who joined an ambulance unit in Serbia on the Eastern Front. Although nearly forty when signing up, Sandes rose to the position of sergeant major during the war and was the only British woman to officially serve as a soldier during the war.



## Resources:

Biography of Flora Sandes.

<http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/Wsandes.htm>

Dorothy Lawrence's account of her time in the war.

<https://archive.org/details/sapperdorothy00lawrgoog>

Resource on women's work at home during the war. Contains hi-res pictures of factory memorabilia.

<http://www.iwm.org.uk/history/womens-war-work-during-the-first-world-war>

Resource on women and the war.

[http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/world\\_war\\_one\\_and\\_women.htm](http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/world_war_one_and_women.htm)

Piece discussing the changes women went through in the war, such as improved job mobility and undertaking more 'male' professions.

[http://www.firstworldwar.com/features/womenww1\\_four.htm](http://www.firstworldwar.com/features/womenww1_four.htm)

Schools History Project

<http://www.schoolhistoryproject.org.uk/Teaching/Primary/ww1wholeschool.html>



## Eleanor Rathbone

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A member of the noted Rathbone family of Liverpool, Eleanor was a social reformer and campaigner famous for her part in introducing Family Allowances paid to mothers, which later developed into Child Benefit. A strong supporter of women's rights, she spent her life campaigning tirelessly for equality, setting up several organisations and committees to further the cause. Rathbone was said to be a humble person, not fond of public attention. She was also, however, driven and passionate; during the Spanish Civil War in 1936 she tried to hire a ship to run the blockade of Spain and remove Republicans at risk. Such was her determination that junior ministers and civil servants of the Foreign Office would reputedly duck when they saw her coming. During WW1 Rathbone established a committee to investigate Britain's poverty levels. This committee led to a proposal arguing for the introduction of Family Allowances, a battle they would win finally in 1945. While the war was going on at the front, a hard and possibly equally important battle was being waged at home: the battle for equal rights.



## Resources:

Website of the Eleanor Rathbone Trust, a charity set up in her name.

<http://www.eleanorrathbonetrust.org.uk/>

Biography of Eleanor Rathbone.

<http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/PRrathboneE.htm>

Another overview of Rathbone's work, complete with a list of her writings.

<http://liv.ac.uk/library/sca/coldescs/rathbone/eleo.htm>

Biographical resource that talks more about Rathbone as a person, as well as a campaigner.

<http://www.oxforddnb.com/view/printable/35678>

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## Children in Wartime

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The role of children in wartime was not just confined to the homefront. At the beginning of the war the fervour and enthusiasm was so great, people of all ages wanted to enlist. Some recruiting officers turned a blind eye when obviously underage boys (and girls) turned up to join the forces. As the war progressed, and more and more lives were lost, the need for fresh recruits meant that the standards and vetting processes were relaxed even more, allowing more children to enlist. The youngest boy ever to enlist is supposedly John Condon from Waterford, Ireland. He was believed to be 12 years old when he joined up. John went with the Royal Irish Regiment to Flanders in 1915. He died during a German gas attack near Ypres. He is buried in the Poelkapelle British cemetery in Belgium.



At home it was almost as tough. With the conscription rate age limit being raised from 38 to 41 shortly after the outbreak of the war, more and more fathers and brothers were leaving for France. This put added pressure on the women and young men left in England to rise to responsibilities that had previously been left to the men of the house.

**Resources:**

Teachers should review all content in this section before using to ensure it is age appropriate.

Article on children of the Great War; those left at home when the fighting started.

- <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/magazine/7082625.stm>

Information on the phenomenon of child soldiers in World War One.

- [http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/boy\\_soldiers.htm](http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/boy_soldiers.htm)

One Boy - A thought provoking teaching resource which will allow the pupils to learn more about a young British soldier killed on the Somme in the First World War.

- <http://www.cwgc.org/learning-and-resources/primary.aspx>

Image of young soldiers of the Lancaster Regiment



