

THE **UNKNOWN WARRIOR WWI Educational Resource** Keystage 2

Written by Julie and Peter Daniel

# Acknowledgements

The Dover War Memorial Project, Westminster City Archives and Westminster Abbey would like to thank the following for their support and participation in The Unknown Warrior Project: Russell Hepplewhite, Rebecca Hewes, Maciek O'Shea and Helen Eastman for their energy and enthusiasm in creating and performing with pupils from St Martin's Primary School, Dover, "The Unknown Warrior" musicals on the 90th anniverary of the Warrior's home-coming to Dover. Jonathan Boast for working with the Dover Scouts and Brownies to create a beautiful stained glass window, the centrepiece of the Unknown Warrior exhibition which began its national tour at Westminster Abbey during Remembrance 2010. To Laura Arendis, Lou Evans and Canon Jane Hedges for co-ordinating the Westminster Abbey tours. To all the staff and children who took part in the project from the following schools and organisations:

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St Vincent de Paul Primary School, Westminster
Birkbeck Primary School, Sidcup
3rd (St Martin's) Dover Scout Group and 8th Dover
Brownies

And finally we'd especially like to thank The Heritage Lottery Fund whose grant of £28,000 made the project possible.

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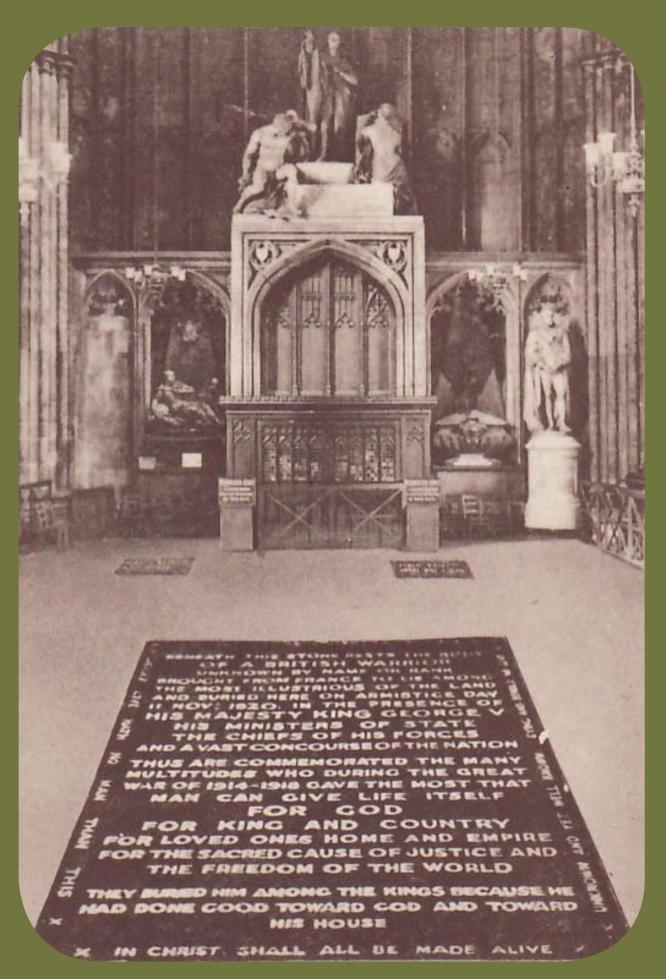
Design by Camilla Bergman



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## Introduction

The Unknown Warrior is buried in Westminster Abbey. He symbolises all those who died during WWI, a reminder of their sacrifice and a focus for their bereaved families. The idea that an unknown serviceman should be buried with full military honours amongst the monarchs in the Abbey was Reverend David Railton's. He wished to "ease the pain of father, mother, brother, sister, sweetheart, wife and friend."

On the night of 7th November 1920, bodies were exhumed from each of the main British battle areas on the Western Front, and brought to the chapel at St Pol, in northern France. Each was covered with a Union Flag. Brigadier-General L. J. Wyatt, the commander of British troops in France and Flanders, chose at random a body. This was placed in a coffin, which was taken to Boulogne, and transported aboard HMS Verdun to Dover on 10th November 1920. From Dover Marine Station the coffin travelled by train to Victoria Station, London, arriving at 8.32 pm on platform 8. It remained there overnight.

On the morning of 11th November 1920, the second anniversary of the Armistice, the Unknown Warrior's coffin was draped with the Union Flag that Reverend Railton had used for battlefield services in France, and was drawn through silent crowds to the Cenotaph. This war memorial on Whitehall, designed by Edwin Lutyens, was then unveiled by King George V.

After a two-minute silence at 11 am, the Unknown Warrior was taken to Westminster Abbey. The coffin entered the Abbey through a ceremonial guard formed mainly by recipients of the Victoria Cross and was interred at the west end of the nave. Some hundred women who had lost their husbands and all their sons also witnessed the burial.

The coffin was buried in soil from the main battlefields and the grave was eventually capped with a black Belgian marble stone (the only tombstone in the Abbey on which it is forbidden to walk). It features an inscription made from melted-down wartime ammunition. In the week after the burial, an estimated 1,250,000 people visited the Abbey, and the site is now one of the most visited war graves in the world.

The face of the Unknown Warrior will rightly never be known. He represents the son of every mother, the husband of every wife, the brother of every sister. The story of the Unknown Warrior is the story of all those who fell during the Great War of 1914-1918.

The Dover War Memorial Project worked together with Westminster City Archives and Westminster Abbey to deliver a project to mark the 90th anniversary of the Unknown Warrior. The project was funded through a £28,000 Heritage Lottery grant.

The Dover War Memorial Project, Westminster Archives and Westminster Abbey worked with children from Dover, Chatham and Westminster to explain the significance of the Unknown Warrior through the stories of six men, whose stories feature in this book. They represent three services and, being local to each town or city, symbolically mark the final journey home taken in 1920.

To commemorate this 90th anniversary the 8th Dover Brownies and the 3rd Dover (St Martin's) Scout Group, founded by casualty Tommy Eaves, created the stained-glass window design that appears on the front cover, with artist Jonathan Boast to honour all those who have died for their country.



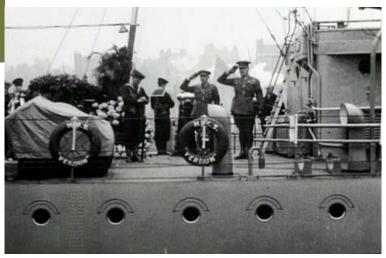


## HMS Verdun

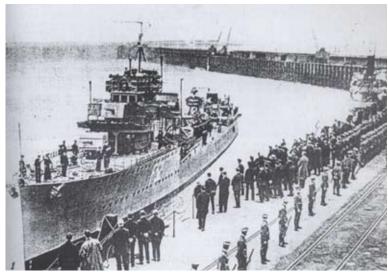
On 10th November 1920, the coffin holding the body of the Unknown Warrior was taken to Boulogne where HMS Verdun lay waiting to bring him home to Britain.

As HMS Verdun approached Dover, the Prince of Wales Pier was overflowing with people who had come to pay their respects. The town's shops had closed, and flags were flown at half-mast. Six bearers, Lieutenant-Colonels or the equivalent rank from all of the armed forces, boarded the ship, and the coffin was received by General Sir J. Longley, Commander of the Eastern Area, and Colonel Knight, Commander of the Dover Garrison.

The party processed to the western platform of the Marine Station, from which the train to London was due to leave at 5.50pm. A plaque now commemorates the Unknown Warrior's home-coming. The coffin was placed in passenger luggage van No.132 of the South Eastern and Chatham Railway Company, the same van which had carried the bodies of Nurse Edith Cavell and Captain Charles Fryatt.

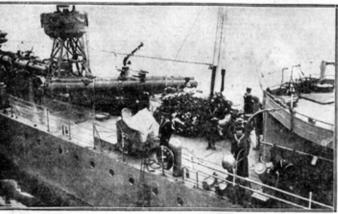


The Unknown Warrior aboard HMS Verdun



HMS Verdun arriving at the Admiralty Pier, Dover by courtesy of The Dover Express

THE DOVER EXPRESS AND EAST KENT NEWS FRIDAY, 12 NOVEMBER, 1920
THE 'UNKNOWN WARRIOR' AT DOVER.



The Unknown Warrior features in the Dover Express and East Kent News



Passenger Luggage Van no 132 of the SECR Co, now at Kent and East Sussex Railway



Heads are bowed and firearms reversed as the procession passes The Dover Express and East Kent News, by courtesy of Dover Museum



 ${\sf JG}$  Whorwell, by courtesy of Dover Museum

# Cecil Bromley

Amelia Bromley stood on the Prince of Wales Pier at Dover surrounded by people, yet somehow alone. "Is that HMS Verdun?" she asked, addressing the crowd around her, who just like her were gazing towards the horizon. A lady beside her said she thought it was. Realising that the body of the Unknown Warrior was drawing near to port seemed to bring a serenity to Mrs Bromley, who was dressed from head to toe in black, as were all the women around her. The sight of the ship brought a quiet content to her manner. She looked at it on the horizon for a long time, and when she finally turned her gaze the woman beside her was offering her tea from a flask she was carrying.

"No thank you," she replied, "I'll have no food nor drink today. You see that ship is bringing my Cecil home." There was a pause. "Yes he's come back home ... to the place he first entered this world." Though there was a dimness of tears, she smiled. The lady holding the flask of tea said nothing, but the silence was an interrogation.



Cecil Bromley The Royal Aero Club



Air Pageant Whitfield Dover c1935





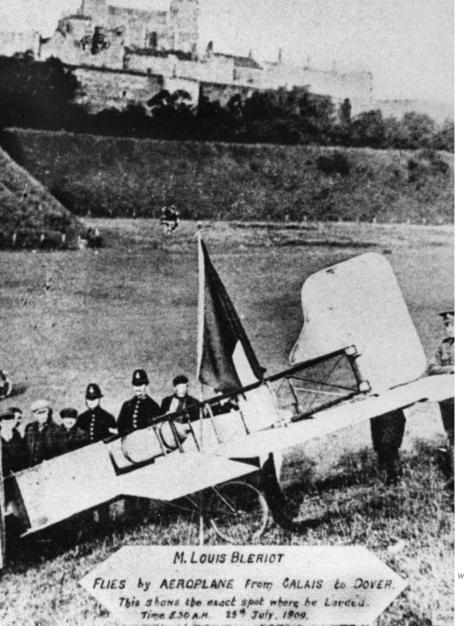
Above left: Harriet Quimby

Above right: M. Blériot's arrival at Dover

Below left: Louis Blériot was the first man to fly the Channel

Cecil Bromley's upbringing in Dover was filled with the exploits of aviation pioneers, which greatly influenced his love of aviation and prompted him to leave his job as a solicitor's clerk and to help conduct aviation experiments at Whitfield Aerodome. In 1909, Louis Blériot landed in front of Dover Castle having become the first man to fly the Channel. A year later Charles Rolls, of Rolls Royce fame, became the first man to fly from Dover across to France and back again. In 1912, Harriet Quimby (pictured) was the first woman to fly the Channel. She took off from Whitfield airfield where Cecil Bromley worked as a mechanic for a Mr Chalmers who was testing experimental aircraft.

Cecil joined the Royal Flying Corps as an engineer. Serving in France, he was rapidly promoted to Sergeant. By 1916 the desperate shortage of pilots gave Cecil the chance to achieve his ambition of learning to fly. He returned to Brooklands in Surrey to gain his flying licence in August 1916. Cecil returned to France to serve with No 7 Squadron.



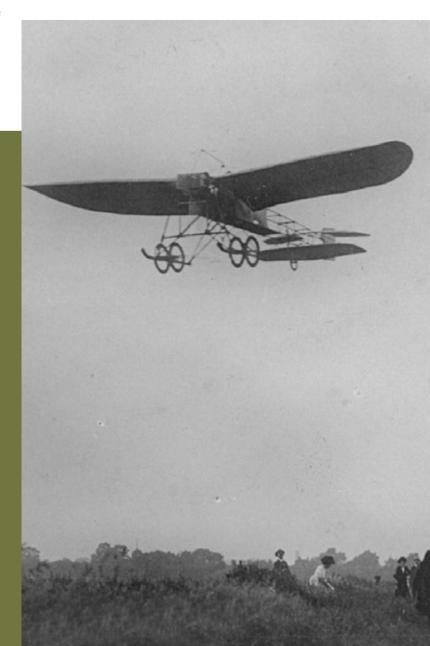
"It's My Cecil."

"Yes," she added, "my husband says that nobody knows who is in that coffin, but I know it is my Cecil. I know. If a mother doesn't know then who should? I've sort of felt all along that it might be my Cecil, but today a plane flew over our house and I knew it was a sign from him. He was a bright lad was my boy. He'd seen Blériot land up there by the castle and from that day on all he wanted to do was fly."

The others in the crowd on the pier exchanged glances. It was a grey November morning and both the sea and the sky were gloomy. But there was a radiance felt by all those gathered there that seemed to transcend the gloom.

Sergeant Bromley, like many other young Dovorians who saw so much of the early development of flying, was always very keen on it. After spending two years in Messrs. Mowll and Mowll's office, he left to join Mr. Chalmers, who was conducting aviation experiments at Whitfield, and a week or two before the war he joined the Royal Flying Corps. He went to France shortly after the war broke out, being then 18 years of age, and his energy and devotion to duty brought him early promotion. He was made sergeant, and a few months since was sent home for a course of instruction in flying and, having gained his pilot's certificate, he returned to France.

Extract from the newspaper by courtesy of The Dover Express and East Kent News





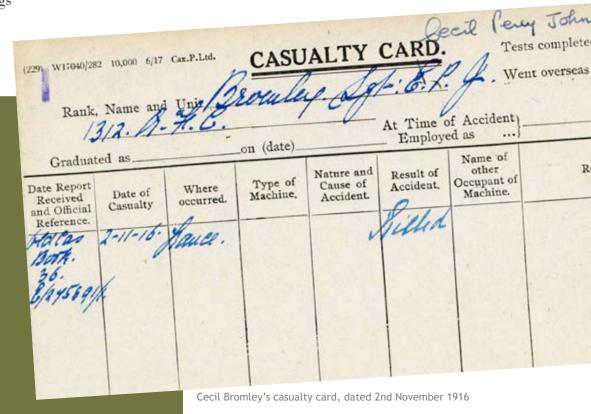
"Cecil, you see," Amelia continued, "was a pilot in the Royal Flying Corps. He was mortally wounded flying a patrol over enemy lines. It was on 2nd November 1916, the worst day of my life." Remembering the day made her stop talking and instead cast her eyes out to sea again. As HMS Verdun drew ever nearer to the quayside a look of contentment came to the plain, kindly face. "He was a good lad."

### What Cecil Said

"I remember what he said at Brooklands airfield after he'd been awarded his pilot's wings. I told him he was to mind and be careful, and he laughed and said that one way or another he'd come back home to Dover one day. And now he has." She asserted her belief with a little accentuation, as though somebody had questioned her. "And now he's being taken to Westminster Abbey to be buried amongst Kings"



Photograph of a wooden cross similar to the photo given to Cecil's parents



## DOVORIAN FLYER KILLED

Further details have been received in regard to the death of Sergeant Pilot C. Bromley, Royal Flying Corps, the son of Mr. and Mrs. P. R. Bromley, of 4, Bartholomew Street, Dover, the announcement of which appeared last week. It appears that he was flying with Second Lieut. Wood on artillery observation\* at 2,500ft., when they were attacked by a German machine, which suddenly came down on them from a cloud. Sergeant Bromley was shot in the head, and Lieut. Wood was seriously injured in the arm and chest, but he brought his machine down within our lines. Sergeant Bromley afterwards died whilst being removed to the dressing station, and Lieut. Wood has had to have one of his arms amputated. A photo of the grave has reached Mr. and Mrs. Bromley. It is surmounted by a wooden cross bearing the inscription:- "Sergeant C. Bromley, R.F.C. Rest in peace."

Details about Sergeant Pilot C. Bromley's death appear in the Dover Express and East Kent News



The Dover War Memorial Simon John Chambers, The Dover War Memorial Project



Arras Flying Services Memorial



Cecil Bromley was flying a Bristol Fighter similar to the one above when he was shot down

On 2nd November 1916 Cecil Bromley and Second Lieutenant G H Wood were flying a Bristol Fighter on observational patrol when they were shot down. Cecil was mortally wounded, but Second Lieutenant Wood, although badly injured, survived.

A photograph of Cecil's grave was given to his parents, but the grave was lost during subsequent battles. His orbituary appeared in the Dover Press in November 1916.

He is remembered on the Arras Flying Services Memorial, France, and the Dover Town Memorial.

# Tommy Eaves

"That's a lovely thought" said the woman, a school mistress, holding the flask of tea. "I'm Daisy, Daisy Eaves. My husband Tommy died on the Somme whilst in command of his company; he was very brave." Daisy hesitated before adding, "We were both teachers before we married in June 1914. I returned to teaching when he went to war but I never took his place in the hearts of the young lads of Dover. You see he was not just their teacher but their scout master too."

Despite the size of the crowd around her, Daisy suddenly felt all alone. She wasn't one for making a fuss, but she'd bottled these words up inside her for so long she just needed to say them.



Alfred Thomas Eaves by courtesy of St Martin's Primary School, Dover



Eaves stands at the back of the classroom on left by courtesy of St Martin's Primary School, Dover



Many awards for many activities, Eaves stands third from right by courtesy of St Martin's Primary School, Dover



Football team 1908-1909, Eaves stands centre back by courtesy of St Martin's Primary School, Dover



Eaves pictured at the Scout camp

Alfred Thomas Eaves (Tommy) was educated at Dover County (now Grammar) School for Boys. After leaving school Tommy undertook teacher training in Battersea, London. He returned to the area where he had been brought up, to teach at St Martin's Boys' (now Primary) School, Dover. He was greatly liked by the pupils and was a well-respected teacher.

Tommy was inspired by the ideas of Lord Baden Powell, the founder of the Scout movement, and founded the 3rd Dover (St Martin's) Scout troop. The picture above was taken at one of their annual camps in 1910.

On 4th August 1914, the day that Germany invaded Belgium, and Britain declared war, Tommy was away with the Scouts at camp.

Tommy volunteered for the army and was killed in action by a shell near Bapaume on 7th October 1916. He has no known grave.

Tommy's devotion to the young boys of Dover is remembered to this day. The hall where St Martin's Scout Group meets is called Eaves Hall in his memory. Tommy Eaves is also remembered with former pupils on a memorial plaque unveiled

Camping images by courtesy of St Martin's Primary School, Dover

in 1921 at St Martin's Boys' (now Primary) School, Dover. At the unveiling, the Vicar of St Martin's quoted Tommy's hope that pupils would remember him; Tommy had written 'Do not forget me too soon' in his last letter home.

In November 1947 at the request of members of the St Martin's Old Boys' Association, the road outside the hut was re-named Eaves Road.



Eaves Hall Scout Hut, Dover Simon John Chambers, The Dover War Memorial Project

"Tommy devoted his life to the boys of this town. He would never have left them but for the war. He promised the children he would be back and Tommy was a man of his word. Even when the telegram said he was missing I knew he'd come back to Dover, and now he has."

But Daisy Eaves' words fell on deaf ears as Amelia Bromley stared up into the skies above the white cliffs of Dover, lost in a world of her own.

A voice suddenly broke the silence. "Yes, it will be your boy." A kindly woman gazed with compassion at the two women. "It will be your husband and your boy who will be laid to rest in Westminster Abbey." She added, "And not just them, but the boy of every mother, and husband of every wife and the brother of every sister too ... Thousands of people all over England will kneel today and feel in their hearts that it is their loved one they are putting to rest at Westminster Abbey."



Raves, Alfred Thomas, Lieut., 10th (Service) Battn. The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regt.), clder s. of Alfred Oliver Eaves, of Walmer, by his wife, Cordelia, dau. of E. Davis, of Deal; b. Deal, 3 July, 1885; educ. County School, Dover, and St. John's College, Battersea, S.W.; was an Assistant Schoolmaster at St. Martin's Boys' School, Dover, obtained a commission as 2nd Lieut. in the East Surrey Regt. 4 Jan. 1915; transferred to The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regt.) March, 1916; acted as Instructor in the Young Officers' Coy, at Shoreham, and afterwards at Fermoy, co. Cork; served with the Expeditionary Force in France and Flanders from 4 May, 1916, joining the Trench Mortar Battery, and afterwards became Brigade Instructor of Trench Mortar Battery; took part in the operations on the Somme, and at Courcelette, Martinpuich and Flers, and was killed in action near Bapaume 7 Oct. 1916, while in command of his company. A brother officer wrote: "I deeply regret to inform you that your husband was killed in action on the 7th. I feel his loss myself very greatly. He was at the time of his death in charge of his company. The company was digging in under heavy shell fire. I did not actually see him fall, but I understand his death was a very gallant one. He was urging on the men to dig hard for cover, and, regardless of danger to himself, was supervising their work, when a shell burst just over his head and mortally wounded him. I need not say how very deeply mourned he is by his brother officers." He m. at Upper Deal, 2 June, 1914, Dalsy (196, Folkestone Road, Dover), dau. of Thomas Love.

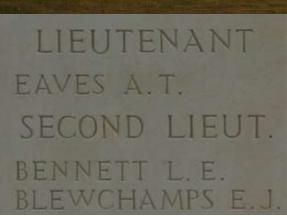
de Ruvigny's Roll of Honour 1914 - 1924



Tommy Eaves is remembered on the Dover Memorial Simon John Chambers, The Dover War Memorial Project



Top: the memorial window at Dover Grammar School for Boys Below: the memorial at St Martin's Primary School, Dover Simon John Chambers, The Dover War Memorial Project



Eaves' name appears on the Thiepval Memorial, France

Someone once said that everyone dies twice, once when you stop breathing and again when your name is mentioned for the very last time.

A toast was held in Tommy's honour by the St Martin's Old Boys for many years, until the Association disbanded. It appeared that Tommy was finally forgotten. However, on 10th November 2010, pupils from his old school performed a musical to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the return of the Unknown Warrior to Dover. Tommy's and Cecil Bromley's names were amongst those read out. They remain not forgotten.

Like Cecil Bromley, Tommy Eaves is remembered on the Dover Town War Memorial. The Dover War Memorial Project is dedicated to preserving the memory of Cecil, Tommy and all Dovorians who fought for their town and country in two world wars.

Lieutenant Tommy Eaves is amongst the 72,194 people with no known grave who died on the Somme, France, and are remembered on the Thiepval Memorial.



# **Learning Resources**

Key Stage 2
History/Literacy/Art & Design/ITC



# A Dover Tale Play



## **Lieutenant Alfred Thomas Eaves**

Tommy Eaves was killed by a shell near Bapaume on 7th October 1916. Before the war, he was a loved and respected master of St Martin's Boys' School and the founder and Scoutmaster of 3rd Dover (St Martin's) Scout Group. The Scout Hut, opened on 11th April 1934, was named Eaves Hall, in Tommy's memory. In November 1947, at the request of members of the St Martin's Old Boys' Association, the road outside the hut was re-named Eaves Road. Tommy Eaves is also remembered on memorials in St Martin's Primary School and Dover Grammar School for Boys, on Dover War Memorial, and at Marjon, University College, Plymouth. His widow, Daisy, continued teaching at St Martin's for many years after her husband's death.

Tommy Eaves by courtesy of St Martin's Primary School, Dover

#### **TASK**

One woman who may have seen the Unknown Warrior return to Dover was Daisy Eaves.

- Read the story The Unknown Warrior: A Dover Tale on pages 4 to 14.
- Look at the table below. You will notice that the story has been adapted into a play script.
- Read Tommy Eaves' obituary on page 19. See if you can adapt it into a play script.
- Use the table provided. The first part has been done for you.

Set the scene	It is a gloomy November day. Crowds stand on the Prince of Wales Pier in Dover as HMS Verdun appears on the horizon. A woman starts to speak to the crowd around		
	her.		
Amelia Bromley	Is that HMS Verdun?		
Daisy Eaves	Yes, I think it is.		
stage direction	Daisy is holding a flask and offers a cup of tea to Amelia.		
Daisy Eaves	Would you like some tea?		
Cecil's mother	No thank you, I'll have no food nor drink today. You see that ship? It's bringing my Cecil home to the place he first entered this world.		
stage direction	Amelia drifts off into her own world.		
Daisy Eaves	That's a lovely thought. I'm Daisy Eaves. My husband died on the Somme. We were both teachers you know. He was in the hearts of the young lads in Dover as he was a scout master too.		
stage direction	Daisy suddenly feels alone in the crowd. She is aware that she has been bottling these feelings up.		
Daisy Eaves	Tommy was devoted to the boys of Dover. He promised the children he would be back and he is a man of his word. I knew he'd come back and now he has.		
Kindly Woman	Yes it will be both your men who will be laid to rest at Westminster Abbey. And not just them either but the boy of every mother, and husband of every wife, and the brother of every sister too. Thousands of people from all over England will kneel today and feel in their hearts that it is their loved one they are putting to rest.		

EAVES, ALFRED THOMAS, Lieut., 10th (Service) Battn. The Queen's



Alfred Thomas Eaves.

(Royal West Surrey Regt.), elder s. of Alfred Oliver Eaves, of Walmer, by his wife, Cordelia, dau. of E. Davis, of Deal; b. Deal, 3 July, 1885; educ. County School, Dover, and St. John's College, Battersea, S.W.; was an Assistant Schoolmaster at St. Martin's Boys' School, Dover; obtained a commission as 2nd Lieut. in the East Surrey Regt. 4 Jan. 1915; transferred to The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regt.) March, 1916; acted as Instructor in the Young Officers' Coy. at Shoreham, and afterwards at Fermoy, co. Cork; served with the Expeditionary Force in France and Flanders from 4 May, 1916, joining the Trench Mortar Battery, and afterwards became Brigade Instructor of Trench Mortar Battery; took part in the operations on the Somme, and at Courcelette, Martinpuich and Flers, and was killed in action near Bapaume 7 Oct. 1916, while in command of his company. A brother officer wrote: "I deeply regret to inform you that your husband was killed in action on the 7th. I feel his loss myself very greatly. He was

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de Ruvigny's Roll of Honour 1914 - 1924

Set the scene	The door knocks and Daisy rushes to opens it. A postman hands Daisy a letter, which she instantly realises isn't from her beloved Tommy. She hesitates as she takes it and closes the door softly behind her.
Daisy Eaves	Oh no, I'm not sure if I dare open this letter as it's not from my Tommy and I fear what I will read.
Stage direction	Daisy pulls a chair beneath her and nervously opens the letter.

# A Dover Tale Play



Cecil Bromley The Royal Aero Club

## Sergeant Pilot C. Bromley

Cecil Bromley's upbringing in Dover was filled with the exploits of aviation pioneers. Inspired by the first cross-channel flights of Louis Blériot and Charles Stewart Rolls, he left his job as a solicitor's clerk to help conduct aviation experiments at Whitfield Aerodrome, a couple of miles inland from the famous White Cliffs. Just before the start of the Great War, Cecil joined the Royal Flying Corps as an engineer. Serving in France, he was rapidly promoted to Sergeant, and came back to Brooklands, Surrey, to gain his flying licence in August 1916. Cecil returned to France to serve with No 7 Squadron. On 2nd November 1916 he and 2nd Lt G H Wood were shot down while flying on observational patrol. Cecil was mortally wounded, but 2nd Lt Wood survived, though injured. A photograph of Cecil's grave was given to his parents, but the grave was lost during subsequent battles. He is remembered on the Arras Flying Services Memorial, France, and the Dover War Memorial.

#### **TASK**

One woman who may have been waiting by the Prince of Wales Pier to see the Unknown Warrior return to Dover was Cecil's mother, Amelia Bromley.

- Read the story The Unknown Warrior: A Dover Tale on pages 4 to 14.
- Look at the table below. You will notice that the story has been adapted into a playscript.
- Read Cecil Bromley's obituary on page 21 and write a play about Bromley's life. Begin with his early life in Dover and end with his death in France. Use the pictures to help you.

Set the scene	It is a gloomy November day. Cecil's mother is standing on the Prince of Wales Pier, Dover, waiting for the arrival of HMS Verdun.			
Amelia Bromley	Is that HMS Verdun?			
Lady in the crowd	Yes, I think it is.			
stage direction	Cecil's Mother gazes thoughtfully out to sea. She notices that the woman she has been talking to is offering her a mug of tea.			
Lady in the crowd	Would you like a cup of tea?			
Amelia Bromley	No thank you, I'll have no food nor drink today. You see that ship? It's bringing my Cecil home to the place he first entered this world.			
stage direction	The lady holding the flask of tea is left speechless. Cecil's mother continues to speak.			
Amelia Bromley	Yes my husband says that nobody knows who is in that coffin, but I know it is my Cecil. I know. If a mother doesn't know then who should? I've sort of felt all along that it might be my Cecil, but last night a plane flew over our house and I knew it was a sign from him. He was a bright lad was my Cecil.			

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Sergeant Bromley, like many other young Dovorians who saw so much of the early development of flying, was always very keen on it. After spending two years in Messrs. Mowll and Mowll's office, he left to join Mr. Chalmers, who was conducting aviation experiments at Whitfield, and a week or two before the war he joined the Royal Flying Corps. He went to France shortly after the war broke out, being then 18 years of age, and his energy and devotion to duty brought him early promotion. He was made sergeant, and a few months since was sent home for a course of instruction in flying and, having gained his pilot's certificate, he returned to France.

Mr. and Mrs. Bromley have received a large number of letters from their many friends, and they wish to ask those to whom they are unable to reply by letter to accept their heartfelt thanks for the genuine sympathy displayed, which they gratefully appreciate.



Beach in Dover The Daniel Family Collection



Whitfield Air Pageant, Dover c1935 The Hollingsbee Collection



Bristol Fighter



Wooden cross

# Plenty of Rain and Mud and Other Things



## Sergeant Richard Monty Daniel

Monty came from a family of bargemen from Rochester, Kent. He was a shipwright at Chatham Dockyard, and in 1909 joined the Royal East Kent Mounted Rifles as a territorial. Following the huge losses of the first day of the Somme, 1st July 1916, Monty volunteered to transfer to "The Buffs." He was killed by an enemy shell on 26th October 1916, just six days after arriving at the Somme. The army stated that Monty had reverted to the rank of Private after joining "The Buffs;" however his commanding officer described him as "dying with his stripes still on him." Although the order confirming his reversion to Private on full pay was dated the day after he died, his widow Jessie never received the Sergeant's pension that was rightfully hers. Monty is remembered on the Chatham Dockyard Memorial and the Thiepval Memorial in France.

Souly hope that you are not working when I know that you are anxious, and it's not nice to have no idea when I am, but I am quite well, and am jogging along in the usual way! There is plenty of rain and mud and other Things at here, but we are well that and well clothed, and on the whole have nothing to growse about. You would be surprised to see how comfatable we are at neight, with our overcoats and even a blanket-

#### TASK

Read the letter written by Lance Corporal (Arthur) Victor Sharman from the Somme to his mother in Sidcup on the day that Monty Daniel died, 26th October 1916. Soldiers rarely wrote the truth when they wrote home and Victor obviously did not want to worry her but hints how things really are when he says, 'There is plenty of rain and mud and other things out here.'



Sharman documents Bexley Archives

"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn"

By Laurence Binyon

Soldiers in the trenches longed for a 'Blighty.' This was a wound bad enough to get them home permanently. On 13th August 1917 Victor Sharman got his Blighty. He was shot in the left arm at the beginning of the Battle of Passchendaele and sent home. He never went back to war and when the war was over he married his sweetheart Muriel. He died aged 97.

As Victor wrote his letter on October 26th 1916 he had nearly 80 years ahead of him. For Monty that would be his last day alive. He had been married only three months, but his life was over at the age of 29.

Cach.

# Plenty of Rain and Mud and Other Things





Images on this page are from The Daniel Family Collection unless otherwise stated.





Sabre practice, 1915

WWI tank Imperial War Museum



Soldiers crouching in trenches Imperial War Museum



FRAY BENTOS

Food items found in the trenches. Cans like the oil can pictured were recycled and used for cooking.

#### Dear Jessie

Six days now in this God forsaken hole, Haggard and hopeless in my muddy 'home,' Six days ago I staggered to this place, Sliding and slipping, sinking in my boots, Into the mud of Fabeck Graben trench.

My first day here I'm eager to forget, For now we've marched into a grey, treeless world, That's been shelled into my idea of hell. The rank stench of 'No Man's Land' still haunts me, And its cause hangs limply from our wire.

That first night a flare lit up the darkness, Revealing grinning rats, grown fat as cats, And when the brightness died in dark, The ice wind came to chill me to the bone, As I stood ankle deep in mud and slime.

Between fitful moments of troubled sleep, I think of our training camps at Ramsgate, Flashing sabres charging at the gallop, Pointless preparation for war in France, That's fought with bullets, shells and monstrous

I sit here 'chatting' with my mates from home, In vain hope of ridding ourselves of lice, For every unwanted guest we remove, It seems two more move in and take their place, To leave us just as lousy as before.

We have cans of bully beef for dinner, And biscuits hard enough to feed to dogs, It's left me dreaming dreams of Sunday roasts. Our tea is flavoured from a petrol can, But comes in handy when we need to shave.

Six days ago I staggered to this place, Now I long to be back in Gillingham, And hold you Jessie in my arms again, I keep our wedding picture close to me, To give me strength when I am feeling down.

And now darling its time for me to close.

## Monty

NOW I AM A SOLDIER WITH NO KNOWN GRAVE.

They say that the one that has your name on Is the one shell you never get to hear. It's true!

All that I am, all that I was. Finished.
Ended in an instant of blinding light.
I was husband, brother, uncle...Sergeant?
I died with my Sergeant's stripes still on me.
Now I have a number (G/12973), but no rank,
And no body 'neath a memorial stone.
Here in my corner of a foreign field
My story ends.

Peter Daniel

# Plenty of Rain and Mud and other Things

#### **TASK**

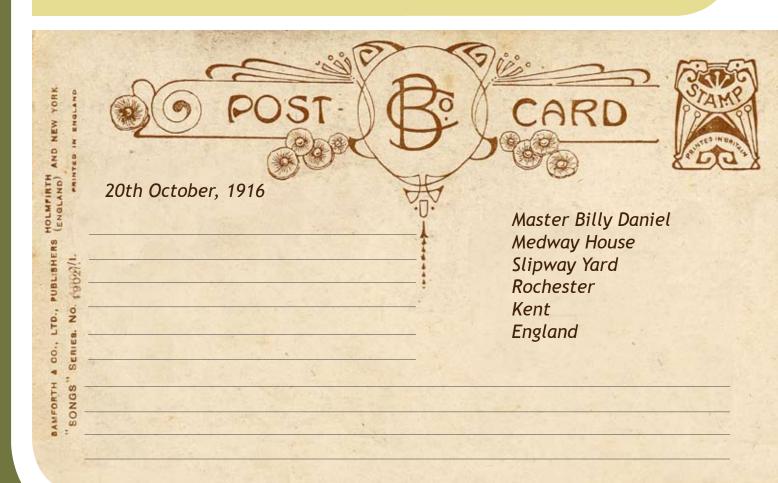
Imagine you are Monty. You saw a young boy in the street when you were travelling out to the trenches who reminds you of your nephew Billy. When you finally arrive in the trenches you decide to write a postcard to Billy and a letter to his father, your brother William, telling them about your life as a soldier in France.



London buses were used to carry men towards the front The Daniel Family Collection

Billy Daniel The Daniel Family Collection

- Read the poem *Dear Jessie* on page 23 to help you think of things to write.
- Use the postcard template below to write a postcard to your nephew, Billy.
- You will need to be careful what you tell your nephew; he's young and you
  don't want to scare him with too much detail about what life is like in the
  trenches.



#### **TASK**

- Read the poem *Dear Jessie* on page 23 to help you think of things to write.
- Use the letter template below to write a letter to your brother, William.
- You are close to your brother and can tell him truthfully how awful life in the trenches and the Somme really is.



20th October, 1916 Dear Brother William,

William Daniel
The Daniel Family Collection

#### Jim Brill The Daniel Family Collection

#### **Private James Brill**

James (Jim) Brill grew up in Chelsea, London, and returned to his mother's home town, Chatham, to join the Royal Marine Light Infantry in 1914. He was sent to the Dardanelles and was mortally wounded during a counter attack in the Monash Valley. The attack was described by an Australian witness as the "bravest thing he had ever seen". Jim died of his wounds aboard HMT Mashobra on 3rd May 1915. His effects were sent back to his young widow, Florence, who was pregnant with their first child. Jim was buried in Chatby cemetery, Alexandria, Egypt. Florence named their son after him, and kept her husband's tattered photo and the string that had tied up that last parcel in her purse until the day she died, fifty years later in 1965. Like many other war widows Florence would never see her husband's grave. For these women the Unknown Warrior's tomb provided a place to grieve

2. It me bannet ranning contection

#### The Parcel

Awake me from this fitful dream
Bring back this man of mine
Don't tell me you are sorry
Erase these dreadful lines
How could you not protect the man
I wed on Boxing Day
Widowed now at seventeen,
Still holding my bouquet
On my hand the wedding ring
He gave to me that day
But all I now have left of him
Is a parcel and some string

No Dead Man's Penny
Or letter from the King
Can ever ease the pain
His golden face, his walk and smile
I'll never see again
I pleaded with him not to go
His place was in the home
And now these cold and printed words
Have smashed the life I've known
The only thing that keeps me strong
Is inside me, a part of him,
If it's the son he wanted
Then I shall call him Jim

I still remember
The day he marched out of the door
And though he said "I'll be home soon"
I'll see my Jim no more
No named carved in stone
No medal Badge of trophy
No words that you can speak
Can wipe away this gloom today
These tears upon my cheek
Wake me from this nightmare
The clock ticks on the same

The clock ticks on the same
But life without my darling Jim
Won't be the same again

Julie Daniel





Label that Florence Brill carried in her purse for nearly 60 years

The Daniel Family Collection

#### TASK

- Read the poem *The Parcel* by Julie Daniel on page 26.
- Imagine you are Florence Brill.
- Write two diary entries one for 1915 and one fifty years later in 1965.
- 1915 You receive the parcel containing your husband Jim's last effects.

  Record how you feel. Are you angry, sad, or lonely? Describe what your feelings are about the war.
- 1965 Fifty years have now passed since your husband was killed. How do you feel now about his death? How do you think his death has affected your life? How have you kept his memory alive?



1915	
-	
-	
4045	
1965	
A DOLLAR	
ATKAM.	
Government   Dels. T.O.	

#### TASK

On 3rd May 1915, Pte James (Jim) Brill was part of the Chatham Battalion, RMLI, ordered to capture from the Turks the ridge line at the end of Monash Valley at Gallipoli. He was wounded and found himself aboard the hospital ship HMT Mashobra.

Jim never got a chance to write a last letter home to his pregnant wife Florence.

• Using the writing frame below to help you. Write a last letter from Jim to Florence.



## A: Write a suitable opening to your letter to Florence

<b>B</b> :	Describe	how yo	u fel	t in the
	moments	before	the	attack.

- Were you scared?
- Who were you thinking about in the final minutes before the attack?

The Marines expected to go into orderly trenches once they landed but found only holes in the ground, hastily dug to protect the Australians they were relieving, from Turkish bullets:

'From the dark came the distant sounds of Turkish bugle-calls. Close in front of them from the dense scrub flashed the occasional rifles of snipers; overhead the bullets cracked; machine-guns sent the mud of the parapets in showers upon them.'
(Charles Bean, The Story of Anzac, Vol 1, Sydney, 1935, p.533)

- C: Describe the moment you were shot and you wait for help.
- What did you see around you as you lay wounded?

'For many days afterwards on the ugly bare shoulder at the top of Monash Valley their dead lay like ants shrivelled by a fire, until a marine climbed out at night and pushed them down into the valley, where they were buried. The name 'Dead Man's Ridge' clung to this shoulder when its origin was almost forgotten.' (Charles Bean, The Story of Anzac, Vol 1, Sydney, 1935, p.533)

- D: Describe how you feel about the decision to attack the Turks.
- Did you feel that you were ready for battle?

Young and but partly trained, thrown without preparation into a terrible struggle, over-tried, gallantly but often needlessly exposing themselves, they had suffered heavily, and their dead lay thickly among the Australians and New Zealanders upon those dreadful heights.

(Charles Bean, The Story of Anzac, Vol 1, Sydney, 1935, p.116)

E: Describe the scenes aboard the hospital ship HMT Mashobra.

'On the 3rd May the Mashobra received 500 men fresh with wounds from the field of war. These with their impromptu bandages were taken full speed ahead to Egypt and the captain says he hopes he will never again witness such a pathetic and dreadful sight as the decks of his ship that day.'

(Auckland Times 10th May 1915)

F: Read Brooke's poem. Do you think these words have been of any consolation to James Brill as he lay dying of his wounds?

'If I should die think only this of me, That there's some corner of a foreign field That is forever England.'

(Rupert Brooke, 'The Soldier', The Complete Poems of Rupert Brooke, London, 1933, p.148)

G: End your letter in a suitable way

#### The Soldier

If I should die, think only this of me:
That there's some corner of a foreign field
That is for ever England. There shall be
In that rich earth a richer dust concealed;
A dust whom England bore, shaped, made aware,
Gave, once, her flowers to love, her ways to roam,
A body of England's, breathing English air,
Washed by the rivers, blest by suns of home.

And think, this heart, all evil shed away,
A pulse in the eternal mind, no less
Gives somewhere back the thoughts by England given;
Her sights and sounds; dreams happy as her day;
And laughter, learnt of friends; and gentleness,
In hearts at peace, under an English heaven.

Rupert Brooke, 1914



Rupert Brooke (pictured), was known for his patriotic poetry during WWI; he was part of the same Royal Navy Division as Pte James Brill that set off for the Dardanelles. Brooke tragically died on the 23 April 1915 from an infected mosquito bite and was buried in an olive grove on Skyros, Greece. The site was chosen by his close friend, William Denis Browne, who wrote of Brooke's death: 'He did not live long enough for his feelings towards the war to turn bitter.'

#### TASK

The Soldier poem is written as a sonnet. A sonnet is a poem with 14 lines divided into two verses, they are typically used as love poems.

Read through the poem and write down your answers to the questions.

•	What do you	think is the	object of Bro	oke's affection	in this poem?	 

Can you find examples of the following:

- Alliteration (Words beginning with the same sound) ------
- Personification (Giving an object human characteristics) -----
- Metaphors: (Saying that something is something else) -----
- Repetition: (Repeating a word or phrase to make a point) -----

Watch the clip using the link below from the BBC Learning Zone site http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningzone/clips/rupert-brooke-the-soldier-poem-only/6492.html

- What seems strange about the soldier chosen to read the poem on the website?
- The majority of soldiers that fought in the Dardanelles and Gallipoli were from Australia and New Zealand. How do you think they would have felt about this poem?

------

# Give it up for Arthur and Dicky



## Private Arthur Seaby and Private Richard Seaby

Brothers Arthur and Richard (Dicky) Seaby grew up working on their parents' market stall in North End Road, Fulham, London. They had rarely been apart until Arthur joined the Queen's Bays a year before the outbreak of war in 1914. Arthur survived one of the few cavalry charges of the war at Nery, France, but was killed at Messines on 31st October 1914. Grief stricken, Richard followed his brother to France, and he too was killed, just before Christmas 1917. Arthur is remembered on the Menin Gate and Richard on the Cambrai Memorial at Louverval, Belgium. Their mother Norah dealt with her overwhelming grief by bringing up Richard's newly-born son as her own. He was named Richard Arthur Seaby in memory of her lost boys.







Richard Seaby The Daniel Family Collection



Arthur Seaby The Daniel Family Collection

## The Ballad of Big Mum

There ain't no graves for both me lads who fought and died out in France

No last rites said, no sermons read as the parish priest weren't there

The Servites bell will never tell that their souls are off to 'eaven

And we'll bury 'em not in the family plot where the Seaby family lie

But I 'ear 'em still on our market stall down on the North End Road

On my darkest days the street and its ways remind me that life goes on

I cannot choose who to tell the news as they all have a right to know

On the day that Arthur and Dicky were born they were the first to know

Now each in turn let all of 'em learn the end that both of 'em made

Of the scream and the shell and the venom of hell
And the flames that swallowed them up
I ask this street where all of us meet at the side of
the River Thames

All you barrow boys please make some noise as you raise a toast to the skies

Call out loud and proud to all those around and promise to forget them not.

Peter Daniel



Arthur senior and Norah Seaby's wedding The Daniel Family Collection

# Give it up for Arthur and Dicky

#### **TASK**

A kenning is a compressed metaphor, originally used in Anglo Saxon and Norse poetry. People gave their swords names like "death-bringer" or "wound-maker." Some kennings can be more obscure than others, and can end up being like a riddle.

- Use the pictures on the right to help you write a kenning poem for Arthur Seaby.
- Think about where he was from, his family, what he did both before and after becoming a soldier. For example, as a cavalryman he was a "horse-rider."

Note: Although it's not essential, the word pairs often have an *er* ending: "Market trader" "Vegetable seller" "Rifle shooter"

Kenning poetry is common to cockney rhyming slang. It is frequently suggested that cockney rhyming slang began its life as the tongue of the London costermonger (street trader), when they tried to conceal illegal trading from the police.

 See if you can translate the cockney rhyming passage Day Break at Nery below



North End Road Market c1920s
The Daniel Family Collection



A Trooper from the Queen's Bays - 2nd Dragoon Guards 1944 The Daniel Family Collection

#### Day Break at Nery

Arthur Seaby woke up in Nery on his tod. Last night the Germans had attacked and the Bays had to scarper. They were outnumbered but Major Lannowe had used his loaf and got 'A' Squadron out of trouble. The currant bun was starting to rise so Arthur had a butcher's at the dickory dock on the church tower to see what time it was. He looked in his pack, found his Cape of Good Hope and had a wash. He put on a clean Dicky Dirt, because his old one pen and ink-ed a bit. Then he pulled up the braces on his round the houses and put his plates in his daisies. He lit a fire so he could boil some water for a cup of Rosy Lea. He opened his north and south and gulped a sip of tea whilst he ran a comb through his Barnet. When he'd finished his breakfast he started writing two letters; one to an old china of his, and one to Dicky, his one and other. He hadn't heard a dicky bird from either of them in a long while.

Cockney Rhyme	Meaning	Cockney Rhyme	Meaning
Tod Sloan	Alone	Round the houses	
Scapa flow	Go	Plates of meat	
Loaf of bread	Head	Daisy roots	
Currant bun		Rosy Lea	
Butcher's hook		North and South	
Dickory dock		Barnet Fayre	
Cape of good hope		China plates	

#### **TASK**

Sometimes cockney rhyming words are so well known they get shortened, a good example of this is the phrase: 'use your loaf' = Loaf of bread = Head

The shortened form is used in the following sentence from Day Break at Nery

"They were outnumbered but Major Lannowe used his loaf and had got them out of trouble"

- Look at the table above. Use the context *Day Break at Nery* to help you find the meanings of the cockney rhyming slang. The first few have been done for you.
- Write a postcard in cockney rhyming slang from Arthur to his brother Richard Seaby.

# Bob 'Pom Pom' Whiting

## **Private Robert Whiting**

Bob "Pom Pom" Whiting was born in Canning Town, east London, and began his football career as a goalkeeper with his first employer, Thames Iron Works, which soon became West Ham United. The power of his kicking soon led to fans nicknaming him "Pom Pom" after the quick-firing naval gun. After a spell at Tunbridge Wells F.C. (where he met and married his wife Sarah), he joined Chelsea to replace the legendary "Fatty" Foulke before moving to Brighton. He joined the Football Battalion in 1914 and went out to France a year later. In need of medical care in 1916, he was at a hospital in Brighton when he deserted to be with his pregnant wife. He was arrested and found guilty, but with the army short of men for the Arras Offensive his punishment was suspended by General Hubert Gough. "Pom Pom" was sent back to France, where he was killed on 28th April 1917. He left behind his wife, Sarah, and his three sons, Robert, James and the newly-born Joe. Sarah countered rumours that "Pom Pom" had been shot as a deserter by publishing a letter from his commanding officer which stated that he had died courageously while helping wounded soldiers. "Pom Pom" is remembered on the Arras Memorial, France.



Above left: Bob Whiting Chelsea FC Left: Chelsea FC legendary goalkeeper, "Fatty Foulke" Chelsea FC Below: "Pom Pom" playing for Brighton & Hove Albion Brighton & Hove Albion Collector's and Historians' Society

#### Who's for the Game?

Who's for the game the biggest that's played,
The red crashing game of a fight?
Who'll grip and tackle the job unafraid?
And who thinks he'd rather sit tight?

Who'll toe the line for the signal to 'Go!'
Who'll give his country a hand?
Who wants a turn to himself in the show?
And who wants a seat in the stand?

Who knows it won't be a picnic - not much Yet eagerly shoulder a gun?
Who would much rather come back with a crutch
Than lie low and be out of the fun?

Come along lads - But you'll come on all right For there's only one course to pursue,
Your country is up to her neck in a fight,
And she's looking and calling for you.







Many footballers like "Pom Pom" Whiting felt pressure to give up playing football and join up. Newspapers like the Daily Mail printed patriotic poems like the one above by Jessie Pope.

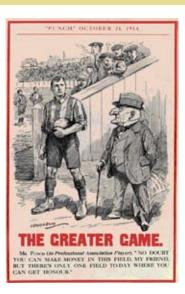
- Read Jessie Pope's poem Who's for the Game?
- How many comparisons can you see between the war and football in the poem?





Footballers like "Pom Pom" would also have seen posters like the Football Battalion ones pictured. They were meant to appeal to football fans, so the words used in the posters had a double meaning that could be used in either a football or war context.





Football Battalion posters Imperial War Museum

Phrase	Football	War
Forward	Chelsea played only one forward in their team for the match against Barcelona.	The soldiers climbed out of their trench and marched forward towards the enemy.
Goal		
Victory		
Shoot		

HOW WHITING FELL.
DASTARDLY RUMOUR REFUTED.

For some time past a dastardly remour has been in circulation in Brighton to the effect that Whiting, who greatly distin-guished himself as a goalkeeper in the ser-vice of Brighton and Hove Albion, and previously with Chelson, was shot as a descrier in France, the real fact being that he fall gallantly in action. Unbappily the rumour has now reached the ears of his widow, and has come as a great shock to ber. Fortunately Mrs. Whiting, who is now living with her fatherless little ones at 3, Afbion-square, St. John's road, Tunbridge Wells, had in her possession official documents and letters which disprove a foul calumny on beroic dead. These she has forwarded to Mr. Albert Underwood, Secretary of the Afbion, with the request that they should be given all possible publicity. They have been shown to a Representative of the Sussex Daily News, which gladly opens its columns for the purpose. The following is a copy of a letter dated 15th May, 1917, which Mrs. Whiting received from Second-Lieut. J. G. Howard, acting adjutant 17th Middlesex Regiment:

"I very much regret to have to inform you that your husband, No. F74, Private R. Whiting, of this Battation, was killed in action on the 28th of last month. He was killed instantaneously by shell-fire in the recent offensive operations. Will you please accept my sincere sympathy in your loss."

The official notification from the Record Office, which Mrs. Whiting has attached to this letter is also dated 15th May, 1917. It acquaints her that her husband was "killed in action" on 23th April, 1917, encloses her the King and Queen's gracious message of sympathy, and also expresses the regret of the Army Council "at the soldier's death in his country's service."

The officer commanding "B" Company, 17th Middlesex Regiment, wrote Mrs. Whiting:—"Your husband lost his life while attending to the wounded under fire, and died while doing his duty both well and nobly. He is buried very near the scene of the action near Vimy Ridge." Mrs. Whiting also received a letter of sympathy and condolence from the Rev. Donald Murray, C.F. In this he said: "Your husband was killed at the post of duty during an attack on the 28th instantaneously by shell fire. It is sad for those left behind, but you must remember there is a world to come."

'I very much regret to have to inform you that your husband, No. F-74 Private R. Whiting, of this Battalion, was killed in action on the 28th of last month. He was killed instantaneously by shellfire in the recent offensive operations. Will you please accept my sincere sympathy in your loss.'

'Your Husband lost his life while attending to the wounded under fire, and dies while doing his duty both well and nobly. He is buried very near the scene of the action near Vimy Ridge.'

Extract taken from a letter from 2nd Lieutenant J.G Howard, B company 17th Middlesex to Whiting's widow, dated 15th May 1917.



After Nellie Whiting heard about "Pom Pom's" death, she had to write to the Sussex Daily News to quash rumours that her husband had been shot as a deserter. Although it was true that Pom Pom had deserted in 1916, he had returned to France and died bravely.

### **TASK**

• Write a letter to the editor of the Sussex Daily News making a case for your husband "Pom Pom" to be remembered as a hero and not a coward.

Dear
I think that
The reason I say this is because
Also
Furthermore
Some people will argue that
However, I think
Yours sincerely

In Memoriam Literacy

The Thiepval Memorial is the largest Commonwealth war memorial to the missing in the world. The memorial contains the names of 72,194 United Kingdom and South African men who have no known grave and who fell on the Somme between July 1915 and February 1918. Both Monty Daniel's and Tommy Eaves' names are found here.



HERE ARE RECORDED
NAMES OF OFFICERS
AND MEN OF THE
BRITISH ARMIES WHO FELL
ON THE SOMME RATTLEFIELDS
JULY 1915 FEBRUARY 1918
BUT TO WHOM
THE FORTUNE OF WAR
DENIED THE KNOWN
AND HONOURFD BURIAL
GIVEN TO THEIR
COMRADES IN DEATH

Thiepval Memorial The War Graves Photographic Project

On war memorials there isn't any space for an epitaph to remember any individual so it is very easy for soldiers like Tommy and Monty to become lost amongst so many names.

The Dover War Memorial was unveiled on 5th November 1924. It commemorates 780 men. Over 2000 Dovorians died in both wars. The Dover War Memorial Project preserves their memory on a new kind of memorial, "a Virtual Memorial." The virtual memorial provides plenty of space to remember each individual and includes photographs. Visit www.doverwarmemorialproject.org.uk to find out more.



LIEUTENANT
EAVES A.T.
SECOND LIEUT.
BENNETT L.E.
BLEWCHAMPS E.J.
BOWER G.R.
BUT TERWORTH W.

Monty Daniel The Daniel Family Collection

Tommy Eaves by courtesy of The Dover Express and East Kent News

#### **TASK**

Design your own "Virtual Memorial."

• Type in the following website address into your web browser http://www.doverwarmemorialproject.org.uk/Casualties/WWI/SurnamesG.htm

You will see examples of many casualties whose surnames begin with G listed.

- Choose a casualty from the CWGC website (see page 42) and create a "Virtual Memorial" in their name.
- Write a few words about your chosen casualty.
- Imagine what they looked like and draw a picture of him or her.
- Imagine the house where they lived and draw a picture of it.
- Draw a gravestone and inscribe an epitaph\* for your soldier on it.
- \* an epitaph is a short inscription in memory of the person buried there



The Dover War Memorial Simon John Chambers, The Dover War Memorial Project

In Memoriam Literacy

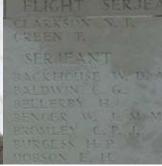
Sergeant Cecil Bromley is remembered on the Arras Flying Services Memorial and the Dover War Memorial. Arthur Seaby is on the Menin Gate at Ypres where every day the Last Post is played in memory of those who died fighting for the town.

MITCHELL J.H. NETHERWOOD OGRADY H.V. OSBORN J.H. ROBINS G. J. HIRTCLIFFE J.W THOMPSON G. E.



Arthur Seaby is remembered

on the Menin Gate Memorial



Cecil Bromley is remembered on the Arras Flying Services Memorial





Look at the examples of epitaphs below. The three on the left are written by famous writers and the ones on the right are examples of epitaphs found on CWCG graveyards in France, written by ordinary people.

(the task continues on the following page)



Arras Flying Services Memorial The Dover War Memorial Project



Menin Gate Memorial The War Graves Photographic Project

### In Memoriam

The flowers left thick at nightfall in the wood This Eastertide call into mind the men, Now far from home, who, with their sweethearts, should Have gathered them and will never do again.

Edward Thomas (written a year before he died at Arras in 1917)

#### The Coward

I could not look on Death, which being known, Men led me to him, blindfold and alone

Rudyard Kipling

#### A Son

My son was killed while laughing at some jest. I would I knew

What it was, and it might serve me in a time when jests are few.

Rudyard Kipling (following the death of his son John in 1915)

"His face was a ray of sunshine Amongst so many dark clouds"

"Little cross of bronze The cross he won But never wore My son"

"Some time Some time we'll understand"

page 18

page 20

page 22

page 26

page 30

page 30

## In Memoriam

#### The Unknown Warrior

Thousands of soldiers killed in World War One were left with no known grave. They are honoured in Westminster Abbey through the tomb of the Unknown Warrior. The remains of an unidentified soldier were brought back to England and buried amongst the Kings of England on 11th November 1920.



Cecil Bromley

Tommy Eaves

Monty Daniel

Arthury Seaby

"Pom Pom" Whiting page 32

Dicky Seaby

Jim Brill

The Unknown Warrior postcards The Daniel Family Collection

#### **TASK**

An epitaph is a short inscription on a tombstone in memory of a person buried there.

- Choose one of the soldiers whose name is written in the box.
- You will write an epitaph for him so that he is remembered in Westminster Abbey.
- Read through your soldier's story and answer the questions in the table below. This will help you remember the key parts of his life.
- Use the template on page 39 to help put your epitaph together.
- Finally use your epitaph in your stained glass window design which you will do in your next activity called Window for the Abbey.

Read the examples of epitaphs on page 37. As you can see they are usually quite short so four lines will do.

What were the major events in your soldier's life?	
How did your soldier die?	
How do you think he would have felt about the circumstances of his death?	
How do you think he would like to be remembered?	

My list of words and phrases Write a list of words or phrases for your epitaph. Use your answers to section 1 to help you.
Sort out my list of words and phrases Now look at all the thoughts you have jotted down. Can you put them into some sort of order?
Think about the mood or tone of what you are trying to say.
The final draft of my epitaph
Ask a partner to read through what you have written. What works well? What isn't clear and needs improving? When you have done this give your epitaph a title and write your final draft in
this box. Use your answers to task 1 to help you.

## Let's Remember the Littlefields

In Old Pye Street, Westminster, there is a stone plaque built into the wall of one of the flats on the Peabody Estate. Like many memorials it has been there for so long that people walk past without even noticing it.

Half-way down the list is the name of Private Littlefield. In 1912, William Littlefield married his sweetheart Alice Ezard and set up home in the Old Pye Street flats, Westminster. They had two sons, Thomas and William. Private William Littlefield died in France on 2nd July 1917 before his youngest son, William, was born; he was 29 years old. His sons were two of the 340,000 British children to lose a parent in the Great War.

The families of servicemen killed in WWI were sent a memorial plaque and scroll from a 'grateful' King and country. Nearly three years after the war ended Alice Littlefield was still trying to get the War Office to send her one. Alice must have questioned how 'grateful' her country was as she struggled to make ends meet on her widow's pension. She was forced to take a job as a cleaner in the new Imperial War Museum to supplement her widow's pension.

Tragically Alice was killed when a German bomb fell on the Old Pye Street flats on 10th November 1940. Her eldest son Thomas was also a victim of war, and was killed whilst serving in France, just two weeks after D-Day in 1944.

Top right: Old Pye Street Memorial
Middle right: Letter from the King and a memorial plaque
Middle far right: William Littlefield with son Thomas
Below right: Extract taken from a letter Alice wrote to
the War Office Images Peter Daniel
Below left: Alice with son Thomas



Sir

I am writing to ask if you over look me as regards my husband plaxk. I received a scroll months ago. I should be pleased if I could hear from you and oblige,

AJ Littlefield Pte W Littlefield 8099

1st Battalion East Surrey Regt.

## Let's Remember the Littlefields

#### TASK

There are many Memorials for soldiers who died during WWI and WWII, but what about their loved ones who were left behind? Read the story of the Littlefields on page 40 and choose either Alice or William Littlefield to complete the following activity.

- Design your own "Virtual Memorial" in memory of Alice or William.
- Look at examples from the Dover War Memorial project website http://www.doverwarmemorialproject.org.uk/Casualties/WWI/SurnamesG.htm
- Write a few words about Alice or William in box 1.
- Draw a picture of Alice or William in box 2.
- Draw a picture of the Peabody flat where they lived in box 3.
- Draw a gravestone and write an epitaph for either Alice or William in box 4.

2	3	4	

Charles Waller was one of the 689 men of the Oueen's Westminsters who attacked the German lines at Gommecourt on 1st July 1916. 494 of these men were to be killed or wounded (72% of the Battalion). Charles was one of those killed and has no known grave. His parents received a telegram informing them he was missing in action. A year later his father David wrote to the Red Cross for news. Their letter confirmed the worst. Five years later David Waller was still trying to track down the final resting place of his only son through the Imperial (now Commonwealth) War Graves Commission.

SOLDIFR

THE GREAT WAR

UNTO

Telephone No.: REGENT 6151.
Telegrams: "NATIONALLY, CHARLES."

### BRITISH RED CROSS

ORDER OF ST. JOHN.

16.8.17

ENQUIRY DEPARTMENT WOUNDED AND MISSING,

18, Carlton House Terrace, S.W.

16th Londons, July 1st 1916.

Ryn (D Waller 2327

Now that over a year has passed without news, notwithstanding our diligent enquiries at home and abroad, we fear that the soldiers of the 16th Londons who were missing in the attack of July 1st 1916 cannot have survived. This was, as you know, the first day of the great offensive on the Somme front and the battle was everywhere very violent

We understand that the 16th Londons made an early morning attack We understand that the lota Londons made an early morning attack between Hebuterne and Gommecourt N. of Albert. They took three lines, but then had to retire, as their supports could not get up to them through the enemy's barrage fire. Their losses were heavy, from bombs, and snipers' bullets as well as from shelling and machine gun fire, and in the retirement the fallen had to be left behind. On our side we hear of bayonets being used, and of a determined stand made at the first German line trench. An eye-witness says:

"We held it till 7 p.m. when the Germans came over and bombed

Finally our men returned to their own trenches about 250 yards away.

In the stress of the incessant fighting, men had little opportunity for noticing the movements of their comrades. After questioning every reliable witness whom we could find, we have reluctantly had to give up all hope of hearing anything of the Some rate, though we never cease to watch the Prisoners' Lists from Germany for the names of all the missing.

With much sympathy in what we feel convinced is your sad loss,

David Waller Egs

Private.

Yours truly,

for THE EARL OF LUCAN

Imperial War Graves Commission ATTAS.

16/8/21.

2327 Rfn C.D. Waller 1/ Queens Westminsters

1/7/16.

I have to acknowledge your letter of August 3rd I regret that I am unable to find any record of the grave of the above mentioned Soldier but should anything definite be forthcoming you will duly notified through the Head Office,
gon Baker Street meantime if you think of visiting the spot
I would suggest that you might include Gommecourt Cometery
No. 2. Hebritaine shore there are buried many of the opening No 2. Hebuterne, where there are buried many of the Queens Westminsters and numerous Unknown British Soldiers, killed on (Signed) A E. Kelk July 1st 1916. C i/c inquiry Bureau No 4 Afra

Charles Waller documents





London Infantry Record Office Regents Park N.W. 1.

23rd May 1922.

Sir.

I am directed to transmit to you the accompanying British War and Victory Medals which would have been conferred upon No 2327 Riflemen C.D. Waller 16th Bn London Regt. had he lived, in memory of his services with the British Forces during the Great War.

In forwarding the Decorations I am commanded by the King to assure you of His Majesty's high appreciation of the services rendered.

I am to request that you will be so good as to acknowledge the receipt of the Decorations on the attached form.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

Dedication of a Window

placed in St. Benedict's Chapel

IN MEMORY OF THE Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Private Riflemen

QUEEN'S WESTMINSTER RIFLES

Who gave their lives for their

1914-1918.

ALL TO BE SEATED BY 2.50 P.M.

QUEEN'S WESTMINSTER RIFLES

MEMORIAL · SERVICE

TO · WESTMINSTER · ABBEY · ON

THURSDAY - 17TH JULY - 1919

SATURDAY, MARCH and, 1925

I am, Sir Your obedient Servant

Bigned

a in the second

Colonel i/c Records.



WALKER, A., Rfln. WALKER, F., Sgt. WALKER, F. H., A/Sgt. WALKER, R. W., Rfln. WALL, W. L. J., Rfln. WALLACE, D. C., Rfln. WALLACE, L., Rfln. WALLER, C. D., Rfln. WALLER, W., Rfln. WALSH, P., Rfln. WALTER, E. A., Rfln. WARD, H., Rfln.

David Waller never got over the loss of his only son. He attended two memorial services at Westminster Abbey in 1919 and 1921, the latter to dedicate a special window in memory of the fallen soldiers of the Queen's Westminsters. He also attended the opening of the Thiepval memorial to the missing of the Somme in 1932. Like other families he received his son's medals and death plaque but nothing could replace his only son, the lad he'd groomed from birth to take over the family business.



# A Window for the Abbey

Springtime

is a time of

rebirth and

renewal.



John Hayden The Daniel Family Collection John Hayden was born in 1893 close to Westminster Abbey and grew up living at 8, Moreton Place, Pimlico. When war broke out in August 1914, John was already a part time soldier with the Queen's Westminster Rifles and went with them to France in November that year. John participated in the famous Christmas Truce and shortly after this had a premonition that he would die. He wrote this short poem and sent it back to his family in Pimlico. They had it published in the Post Office staff magazine when news of his death broke.

When I am dead, no graven stone
Raise o'er my head, but there alone
Beneath the may - tree let me rest;
There in the Spring, when winds blow light
And thrushes sing, the daisy white
Will timidly display its crest.

If there above, upon the tree,
The gentle dove may sigh for me,
I'll have no need of human tears;
And as the bee may - dew sucks deep
His melody will charm my sleep
With lullabies no mortal hears.

Then, when in play the children meet,
There let them stay - so may their feet
Hallow with footfalls soft my bed;
Perchance the sound of voices clear
Will pierce the ground to touch my ear
And bring me peace, when I am dead.

J.H., 1914

What do you think John meant when he wrote, "I'll have no need for human tears." Think about the people he left behind.

The trenches
were very loud and
constant shelling
happened day
and night. It is in
contrast with John's
wish for lullabies.

Children symbolise innocence and joy.

Doves
symolise peace.
Why do you think
John writes the
"The gentle dove
may sigh
for me."

Is John
typical of how
you'd expect a
soldier to be?
What makes him
different?





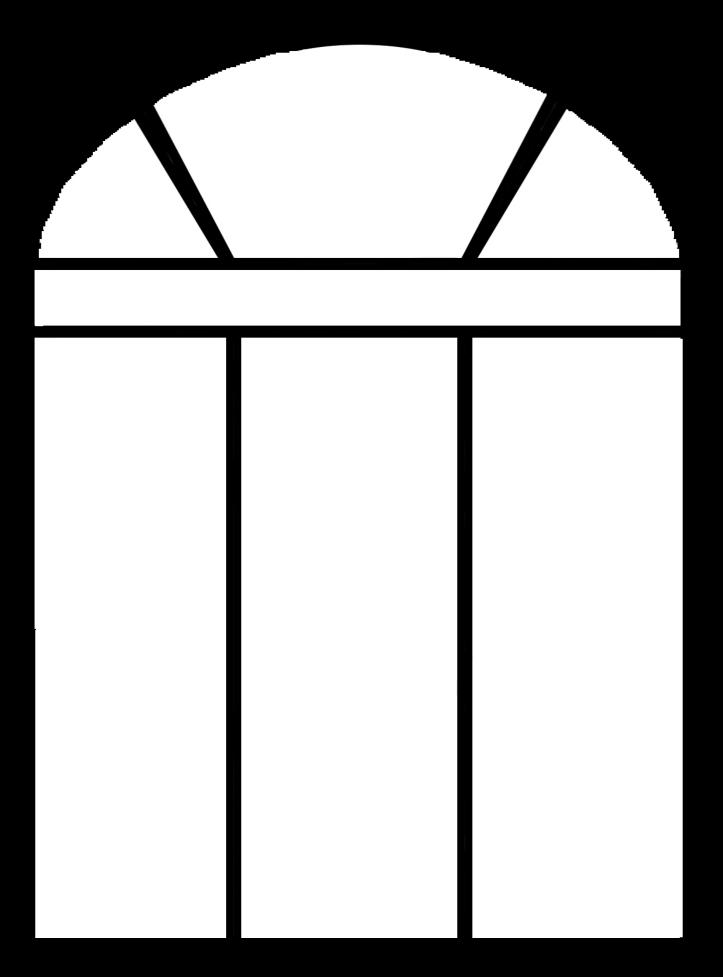




#### TASK

Design a stained glass window for Westminster Abbey in memory of the soldier you chose (see page 38). Use the pictures of the stained glass windows to help you with your design.

- Read Hayden's poem above. Notice that Hayden uses many symbols in his poem Choose some of these symbols to include in your stained glass window design.
- Write an epitaph and include it in the oblong shape at the top of the stained glass window. Alternatively you can use the one you wrote on page 39.



- Write your soldier's name in the centre arch at the top of the window.
- Write an epitaph in the oblong at the top of the stained glass window.



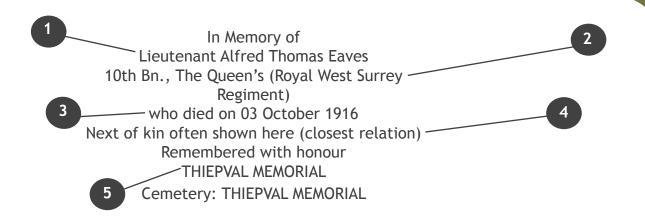
# In Memory of Lieutenant ALFRED THOMAS EAVES

10th Bn., The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment)
Who died
on 03 October 1916

Remembered with honour THIEPVAL MEMORIAL



Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



### Interpreting CWGC Information:

- (1) Thomas Alfred Eaves was a Lieutenant.
- (2) Thomas served with The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment)
- (3) He died on 3rd October 1916
- (4) Some certificates show next of kin here, however Daisy Eaves is not recorded on his records at the Commonwealth War Graves website.
- (5) Location of grave or memorial. As you can see Tommy's name is on a memorial, this means that he has no known grave. He is found in name only on Pier and Face 5 D and 6 D.

Country: France Locality: Somme

**Location Information:** The Thiepval Memorial will be found on the D73, off the main Bapaume to Albert road (D929). Each year a major ceremony is held at the memorial on 1 July.

Historical Information: On 1 July 1916, supported by a French attack to the south, thirteen divisions of Commonwealth forces launched an offensive on a line from north of Gommecourt to Maricourt. Despite a preliminary bombardment lasting seven days, the German defences were barely touched and the attack met unexpectedly fierce resistance. Losses were catastrophic and with only minimal advances on the southern flank, the initial attack was a failure. In the following weeks, huge resources of manpower and equipment were deployed in an attempt to exploit the modest successes of the first day. However, the German Army resisted tenaciously and repeated attacks and counter attacks meant a major battle for every village, corpse and farmhouse gained. At the end of September, Thiepval was finally captured. The village had been an original objective of 1 July. Attacks north and east continued throughout October and into November in increasingly difficult weather conditions. The Battle of the Somme finally ended on 18 November with the onset of winter. In the spring of 1917, the German forces fell back to their newly prepared defences, the Hindenburg Line, and there were no further significant engagements in the Somme sector until the Germans mounted their major offensive in March 1918. The Thiepval Memorial, the Memorial to the Missing of the Somme, bears the names of more than 72,000 officers and men of the United Kingdom and South African forces who died in the Somme sector before 20 March 1918 and have no known grave. Over 90% of those commemorated died between July and November 1916. The memorial also serves as an Anglo-French Battle Memorial in recognition of the joint nature of the 1916 offensive and a small cemetery containing equal numbers of Commonwealth and French graves lies at the foot of the memorial. The memorial, designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens, was built between 1928 and 1932 and unveiled by the Prince of Wales, in the presence of the President of France, on 31 July 1932. The dead of other Commonwealth countries who died on the Somme and have no known graves are commemorated on national memorials elsewhere.

No. of Identified Casualties: 72194

#### **TASK**

Visit your local war memorial. Write down the names of four soldiers and the regiment (if available) to which they belonged. Search the CWGC website using their details (see instructions below) and add their details to the table below.

Name of Soldier	Age	Regiment	Date of death	Where they are buried	Other information (Next of Kin, address etc)

#### **INSTRUCTIONS**

- 1 Visit the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website at www.cwgc.org.
- 2 Click on 'Search Our Records.'
- 3 Fill in the details that you have of your soldier on the 'Debt of Honour Register' form.
- 4 Click 'submit' You should now see your soldier's name appear with more information about them.
- 5 Click on the name of your soldier and more information will appear; you can use this information to fill in the table above.
- 6 Click to see a certificate showing your soldier's name and the picture of the cemetery or memorial where they are remembered.

www.cwgc.org

#### TASK

• Choose some soldiers below whose names are on one of the 4 memorials featured on the left. See if you can find out any further information about them on the CWGC website www.cwgc.org



Dover War Memorial www.doverwarmemorialproject.org.uk



Alfred T Eaves 1916 The Dover Express and East Kent News



Walter Tull
1918
Finlayson Family Collection



Stephen J A Palmer 1917 Mr Stephen Coombe



Cecil Bromley 1916 Royal Aero Club Trust



Sidcup War Memorial



Thomas Highgate 1914



Percy Jones 1915



Reg Unwin 1916



Ernest Weller 1918



Chatham Dockyard



Richard Monty Daniel 1916



Fred Langdon 1915



Victor Marlow 1917



William J Norris 1918



QWR Scroll Westminster Abbey



Francis G Swainson 1916



Charles D Waller 1916



Hugh F Mott 1916



Richard H Treffry 1917

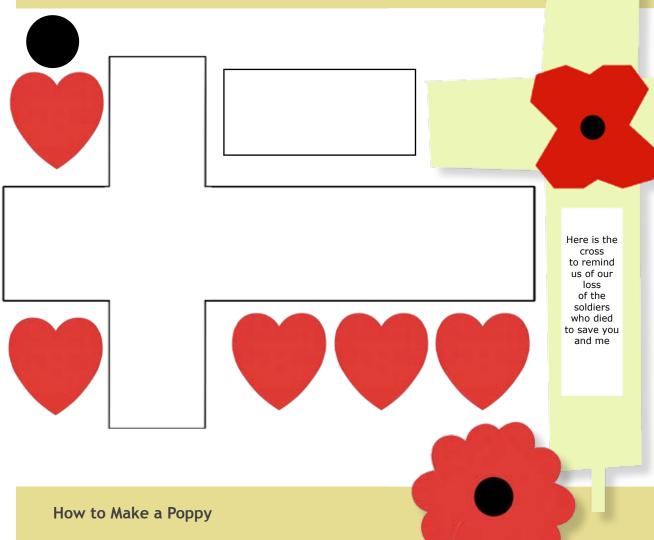
## Remembrance Cross

#### How to Make a Cardboard Cross

#### Materials:

#### **Instructions:**

- Cardboard
- Scissors
- 1 Photocopy this page.
- 2 Cut out all of the shapes.
- 3 Trace the outline of the cross onto cardboard twice.
- 4 Cut out the 2 cardboard crosses.
- 5 Paint or colour the cardboard cross white.
- 6 Write an epitaph or poem on paper to stick on your cross.
- 7 Glue your epitaph onto the bottom part of the cross.
- 8 Put the skewer between the two cardboard crosses and staple the top and bottom of the cross. Ask your teacher to help you.



#### Materials:

#### .....

- Red paper
- Black marker
- Scissors
- Glue

#### Instructions:

- 1 Cut out the shape of the 5 red hearts.
- 3 Cut out the small black circle.
- 4 Join the five hearts by the point to create the "petals."
- 6 Use the black circle to cover the connection point and glue in place.
- 7 Glue the poppy to the cardboard cross above the epitaph.

# The Westminster Abbey Unknown Warrior Trail

The Grave of the Unknown Warrior in Westminster Abbey stands as a remarkable tribute not just to the fallen of the First World War but to the millions who have died since in international military conflict. Follow the trail around the Abbey to see what you can discover about the Unknown Warrior. If you need any help finding your way, just ask a marshal (dressed in a red gown) or volunteer (dressed in a green gown) to point you in the right direction.

 → Enter the Abbey and stand by the Great West Door. Walk straight ahead and stand in front of the tomb of the Unknown Warrior.						
Write down a word to describe how you feel standing in front of the tomb:						
Look at the inscription on the tomb and fill in the blanks:						
They because he had						
done good toward and toward his						
What is the name of the red flower that surrounds the border of the tomb?						
What do you think the colour red symbolises? (Hint: What is red that relates to war?)						
 Not far from the Unknown Warrior's tomb, you will see a large pillar with a bell. This is the bell from HMS Verdun, the ship which transported the Unknown Warrior's coffin from France to Dover.						
Draw a picture of the bell in the box.  Don't forget to Include the inscription.						
 → If you look up, you will see some flags hanging from the ceiling. One of them, the Padre's Flag, was a Union flag which was draped over make-shift altars on the front. The flag is significant because it formerly belonged to Reverend David Railton, the man whose idea it was to bring the Unknown Warrior back to Britain.						
What kind of work was David Railton, as a reverend, responsible for on the front?						

# The Westminster Abbey Unknown Warrior Trail

→ Walk past the tomb of the Unknown Warrio Congressional Medal of Honour.	or to the pillar opposite the bell. Here you will find the					
The Congressional Medal is the highest hono	our which can be conferred by which country?					
→ Look by the door of the nave. Set into the awarded in Britain	ground are the two highest awards for gallantry					
	orial casket. It is against the wall a short distance from Illy there was a window in the abbey that acted as a					
	ast words the Dean of Westminster Abbey said to the 1914. Can you find the missing words from the Dean's					
Honour Love Fear						
Honour						
	the badge of the Queen's Westminster Rifles. It is /estminster, which was given to the city by Elizabeth I					
the top of the badge. What is the name of twas fought?	estminster in 1902 for gallantry in the Boer War is at the country set in the top of the badge where this war					
I I	vill see WWI cap badges with a symbol inserted into op of the casket. Draw the symbol in the box.					

# The Westminster Abbey Unknown Warrior Trail

 The memorial book contains the names	of every	member	of the C	Queen's	Westminster	Rifles	who
was killed in WWI.							

Write the name of a soldier shown in the memorial book. When you get back to class look him up on the Commonwealth War Graves website by visiting www.cwgc.org.uk)

My soldier's name: .....

- ---> Walk down the nave and ask a marshal (dressed in a red gown) or volunteer (dressed in a green gown) to let you through the barrier on the right of the Quire Screen. This will take you to Poets' Corner, On the ground you will see a number of memorials. Find the War Poets Memorial, which has an inscription in red lettering which reads: "My subject is War and the pity of War. The Poetry is in the pity."
  - 1. How many names are listed on the memorial? .....
  - 2. Do you recognise any of the names? .....
  - 3. Laurence Binyon, one of the poets memorialised here, wrote a famous poem called For the Fallen in which he wrote: "At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them." What does this mean and how does it make you feel?

Fill in the missing letters:

- 6. Rober \_ Grav \_ s 14. S \_ eg \_ried Sassoon
  - 15. Charle \_ \_orley
    - 16. Edwa \_ d \_ homa \_
- ··· Walk out into the cloisters and make your way to the west cloister, where you will find the Braille Memorial to Ian Fraser. Read the inscription and answer the following questions.
  - 1. What happened to Ian Fraser at the Battle of the Somme in 1916?
  - 2. The dots you see on the memorial are used by blind people to read and write. What is the official name of this form of writing?
  - 3. Do you have any idea of what kind of people the St Dunstan's charity helps? Hint: Think about Ian Fraser and what happened to him during the Battle of the Somme.

THE LORD KNOWETH THEM THAT ARE HIS × BENEATH THIS STONE RESTS THE BODY CREATER OF A BRITISH WARRIOR UNKNOWN BY NAME OR RANK BROUGHT FROM FRANCE TO LIE AMONG THE MOST ILLUSTRIOUS OF THE LAND AND BURIED HERE ON ARMISTICE DAY II NOV: 1920, IN THE PRESENCE OF HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE HATH MINISTERS OF STATE THE CHIEFS OF HIS FORCES AND A VAST CONCOURSE OF THE NATION THUS ARE COMMEMORATED THE MANY MULTITUDES WHO DURING THE GREAT WAR OF 1914-1918 GAVE THE MOST THAT Z CAN GIVE LIFE ITSELF FOR GOD KING AND COUNTRY FOR LOVED ONES HOME AND EMPIRE FOR THE SACRED CAUSE OF JUSTICE AND THE FREEDOM OF THE WORLD THEY BURIED HIM AMONG THE KINGS BECAUSE HE HAD DONE COOD TOWARD COD AND TOWARD × HIS HOUSE IN CHRIST SHALL ALL BE MADE ALIVE

## The Tomb of the Unknown Warrior at Westminster Abbey

The coffin was interred in soil from the main battlefields in France and the grave was eventually capped with a black Belgian marble stone; it is the only tombstone in Westminster Abbey on which it is forbidden to walk. The inscription was made from melted down wartime ammunition.

In Memory of Mr Denis Kehoe
28th March 1920 - 11th October 2008
The Corps of Royal Engineers, 1935 - 1948
Headmaster of St Martin's Primary School, Dover, Kent, 1971-1985
He wished that Tommy Eaves should be remembered,
for he was a good example for young people.



St Martin's Primary School, Dover, Kent, where Tommy Eaves taught, and Denis Kehoe was headteacher Simon John Chambers, The Dover War Memorial Project



Westminster City Archives Peter Daniel 10 St Ann's Street, London, SW1P 2DE Tel: 0207 641 5180

Email: pdaniel@westminster.gov.uk www.westminster.gov.uk/archives

The Dover War Memorial Project Marilyn Stephenson-Knight Simon John Chambers Tel: 07876 240701

Email: frontline@doverwarmemorial project.org.uk

www.doverwarmemorialproject.org.uk







