

Further Support for Teachers



LONGER PROJECTS

Use the pack and resources to deliver short, one-off lessons or as part of longer term projects in school.

Case Study:

Firside Junior School's War Memorials Project



In July 2014, a year six class from Firside Junior School and some of the EITE team spent two days at Norwich International Airport restoring the previously vandalised Horsham St Faith war memorial that sits adjacent to the entrance of the airport.

Learning about the past

The children spent the first half of the week in the classroom using the resources to examine the local impact and significance of the USAAF in

their area, building on their previous knowledge about WW2 from their history lessons.

They learnt about the geographical impact that the airfields had on the area and the difference in culture between the English and the Americans. Using images and oral histories to explore life on the airbases, they created artworks inspired by the murals, cartoons and sketches the Americans left behind.

Later in the week, the students moved on to look at the importance of war memorials and to design a leaflet for year three students at their school to share their newly acquired knowledge.

By this stage they had become experts on war memorials, which meant they were shocked to hear about a recent act of vandalism on the memorial at the airport and were excited and motivated to help EITE with the restoration work.



Restoring the memorial

EITE Ambassador Mike Bailey took part in an oral history session with the children, sharing stories about his childhood encounters with the Americans during the war and his work to design the memorial.

The children cleaned, polished and varnished the memorial and memorial bench, painting the RAF and USAAF ensigns, and planting lavender and American grasses leading up to and surrounding the memorial headstone.

After putting all of the tools away and taking a step back, it became clear the children had given the memorial a whole new lease of life and they deservedly received a lot of praise from those passing by into the terminal!

One child brought his father back to the memorial after school to look at all the hard work he'd put in.

Overall, the week was a great success for all those involved, and everyone ended up learning a lot about both War Memorials, and the impact of the Americans in their area.



MEMORIALS: explore images and description of school project to preserve war memorials. GORMAN/A-GORMAN/J: view the letters and newspaper cuttings relating to the Heigham Street memorial. BAILEY: hear Mike Bailey's oral history interview.

ACCESSING ARCHIVES

Norfolk Record Office (research and study centre)

The Archive Centre is the home of the Norfolk Record Office, the Norfolk Sound Archive and the East Anglian Film Archive. It has excellent facilities for research, and extensive collections related to the air bases in Norfolk. WW2 teachers' packs, bomb maps, and 'online exhibitions' such as 'Norfolk's American Connections' are available online.

<http://www.archives.norfolk.gov.uk/>

Essex Record Office (research and study centre)

Search the catalogue online for photographs, oral histories and archival material related to WW2 in Essex, some of which has been digitised.

<http://seax.essexcc.gov.uk/>

Essex Record Office also offers an 'Essex at War' schools session, details of which can be found on their website.

<http://www.essex.gov.uk/Libraries-Archives/Record-Office/Pages/Essex-Record-Office-Workshops,-Classes,-Education.aspx>

Fold 3: Photographs of servicemen (website)

Fold3 is an online archive which brings together US military records, stories, photos, and personal documents of the men and women who during WW2. Thousands of images of American airmen in England are available free of

charge. Browse: WW2/WW2 US Air Force Photos/Europe/England for photos of the air bases, maps, aircraft, recreation, African-Americans.

<http://www.fold3.com/>

The American Air Museum Archive: social and aviation history (website)

As a teenager Roger Freeman and others photographed the 8th UAAF stationed near to his home at Boxted air base, Essex. Growing up on the Essex/Suffolk border Freeman dedicated his life to documenting the friendly invasion; the aircraft, airmen at leisure, the locals, even animals on the bases. His extensive collection can be accessed via Duxford Museum website.

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

The British Cartoon Archive: Carl Giles (website)

Artwork, files and related documents from the studio of cartoonist Carl Giles. Includes approximately 6,500 original artworks for the cartoons; reference files of photographs and cuttings, on which to base his drawings; business correspondence with the Daily Express, Sunday Express and others; 'studio correspondence' with readers and admirers; general and family correspondence, a reference book collection including publications featuring his own work; an almost complete set of Giles annuals; cards; photographs; films and objects.

<http://www.cartoons.ac.uk/collections/CG>

Lee Miller Archive (website)

Search the Lee Miller Archive online: www.leemiller

FURTHER READING

Beneath the Clouds: Social History of the USAAF in East Anglia, Jackie Stuart (Poppyland Publishing, 2012)

This book explores the social history of the air bases and how war-time life in Britain affected the fighting men and the ground personnel. The book brings together the words of the men themselves, and of those who met and mingled with them and extracts of the book are used in this pack.

The Motherland Calls: Britain's Black servicemen and Women 1939-45,

Stephen Bourne (The History Press, 2012)

The Motherland Calls is Stephen Bourne's second book to unearth a hidden history of Black Britain and the Second World War. This book highlights some of thousands of Black British, Caribbean and West African servicemen and women who supported the British war effort from 1939-45.

Rich Relations, David Reynolds (Random House, 1995)

Using documents from America and Britain and interviews with survivors of WW2, David Reynolds explores the relationships between American GIs and local people and the impact the Americans had on Britain and British society. This book is great because you can search in the index for local towns and villages.

The GIs: The Americans in Britain 1942-1945, Norman Longmate (Hutchinson & Co, 1975)

Norman Longmate investigates the relationship between America and Britain during WW2 and the experiences of airmen.

When Jim Crow met John Bull, Black American Soldiers in World War Two Britain, Graham Smith (I.B.Taurus & Co. Ltd, 1987)

This book explores the experience of African-American GIs in Britain from their arrival to the legacy they left behind and you can search in the index for local towns and villages.

Land Girls: Women's Voices from the Wartime Farm, Joan Mant (Amberley Publishing, 2014)

Joan Moat's history draws on the memories of over 300 land girls, many of who were stationed in East Anglia, to tell the story of life on a wartime farm.