Tutor instruction:

Please read through and present the slides to your tutees.

Please take moments to allow reflection and discussion. There is a task at the end, if more time is required please use Friday and/or Monday Period 1.



Lest We Forget

The World Wars and Tadcaster Grammar School

Lest We Forget



249 TGS Students Served in WW1.

25 of these students died on active service.

The names of those fallen and the location of their memorial can be found on the next slides.

Names of all the 249 students who served can also be found in our school archive.

Lest We Forget



Name	First Name	Rank	War Memorial
Allisinson	Cyril		
Atkinson	George	Leading Seaman	Tadcaster
Backhouse	Herbert	Private	
Backhouse	Sidney		
Constable	J S	unknown	-
Franklin	F. W	unknown	-
Gawthroup	S	unknown	-
Hill	Charles	Private	Tadcaster
Hill	James Parker	Private	Tadcaster
Hill	Joseph		
Hoodless	Harold	Private	Tadcaster
Kelly	Kenneth George	Second-Lieut	France
Marshall	William	Gunner	Tadcaster

Name	First Name	Rank	War Memorial
Poole	Frank	Grouper	-
Poole	Ralph		
Riley	L	unknown	-
Tate	George	Private	Tadcaster
Tate	Herbert	Private	Tadcaster
Taylor	Francis James	Lance Corporal	Tadcaster
Wadman	Vincent Henry George	Private	Tadcaster
West	George Clifford		
Whistrow	John		
Whitrow	J	Private	
Wilson	J.E	unknown	-
Wood	Robert Fearby	Rifleman	Tadcaster

World War I

All the students attending Tadcaster Grammar School during the First World War were affected by the world at war. Some left school early in order to serve their country on the Front, whilst others served locally, helping in the fields, hospitals and teaching younger students, as male teachers, originally exempt from conscription, found themselves called up - *many having already signed up voluntarily.*

Here are the stories of a few, although many served, some paying the ultimate price to secure peace.



The School Archives hold an original copy of the front pages of **'The Yorkshire Herald'** from Monday 17th July 1916. Now very fragile, the front page spread shows the photos of 51 **'Tadcaster Grammar School Old Boys: A Splendid Record of Service and Sacrifice'**



Lest We Forget

A short extract from the Paper:

'Naturally, with the old boys scattered in all parts of the kingdom, it has been a matter of difficulty to get in touch with all of them, and in compiling present records and reproducing the details of those who made so ready a response, the object has been to render it as complete as circumstance permit.*

The Greatest Sacrifice

Of those who entered his Majesty's Forces three have fallen in action, while several others have been wounded in one or other of the theatres of war.
Those who have been killed are:
Private J W Whitrow, Royal Scots Fusiliers
Private W G Wadman, Royal Fusiliers
Gunman Frank Poole, Royal Field Artillery.'



*Old as in former students - most were late teens/early 20s.

Private W. G. Wadman. (from newspaper)

The only son of Sapper G.M. and Mrs Wadman, of Stutton, Tadcaster. He was one of the most promising students at the school, which he left a little more than a year ago; at the time of leaving he was the ‘head boy’ and a general favourite with all. He had been preparing for the Civil Service examinations, which it was found necessary to postpone, and he therefore joined the Royal Fusiliers. Upon the completion of his training he was drafted to the front, and while doing duty in the trenches he was shot through the head as he was standing on the fire step and killed practically instantaneously. Splendid tributes to his sterling qualities were paid by officers and men, and the news of his death came as a great shock to those at the school. Private Wadman was an accomplished linguist and a first-rate Latin scholar, and the pupils had made him a present of a Latin Bible, this being of his own selection. The deceased soldier’s father, who is on active service..[writes] ‘It is to me a stimulus, having lost my only boy in such a righteous and noble cause …May God reward one and all.’



First Class Petty Officer F. Rees.

One of the 51 pictured in the Herald:
The school archives holds Frank Rees's *Certificate of Service in the Royal Navy*, donated in 1984 by a member of his family. From this record we know that he was paid a 'prize bounty for destruction of Enemy' on 21st January 1918. He twice received the **Distinguished Service Medal**, which was awarded to those who "show themselves to the fore in action, and set an example of bravery and resource under fire". Frank served on many ships throughout the War, choosing to remain in the navy until 1937, when he was discharged having served 20 years. It is sad to think that only two years later he would see his country be forced into another war and was recalled to once again serve his country. Frank died in 1975 aged 87 years.



And then there were the teachers:

Thomas Edmund Kitching - Woodwork Teacher
Active Service February 1916 on.
Resumed teaching post 14th February 1919

William Gerald Parkinson - Mathematics Teacher
Active Service August 1914 on,
Resumed teaching post 14th May 1919

Frederick Abbott - Woodwork Teacher
Active Service 23rd June 1916 on,
No information as to future return to work

If you would like to view the original newspaper please speak to Mrs.Brett in the ILC.



World War II

Just over twenty years after the end of the ‘War to end all wars’, the world was once again at war. Immediately things changed for the students of Tadcaster Grammar School. A letter went out to all parents on 8th September 1939, just five days after the Declaration of War:

“If you do not receive notice to the contrary Tadcaster Grammar School will open on September the 13th at 7:45am.

1. *The school premises will be available for TGS pupils only between 7:30am and 12 noon. Another school occupies the building on all afternoons. Lesson must begin at 7:45am and end before noon.*
2. *Travelling arrangements [information on trains/buses]*
3. *Please note it is intended to hold school on Saturday mornings as on any other day.*
4. *All pupils must bring **Gas Masks** to school daily.*
5. *As it is anticipated that no school dinners will be supplied, each child should bring to school some food to eat at the break.”*



106 TGS Students Served in WW2.

31 of these students names can be seen on the Tadcaster Memorial.

Their names are on the next slide.

Names of all 106 students who served can also be found in our school archive.

Lest We Forget



List of Names on the Tadaster War Memorial

Ashton, G

Atkinson, P W

Bell, T

Buckingham, T

Burton, S

Constable, J S

Davis, C

Fisher, A

Franklin, W

Gawthroup, S

Goodrick, A R

Grayson, M

Harland, A

Harvey, M G

Husband, H

Jackeman, L

Metcalfe, H

Noonan, J D C

Oxtoby T A

Pipe B

Pitts, H

Richardson, J G

Richardson , R

Riley, L

Sparling, W

Starr, W

Strothard, F W

Thompson, J

Wilson, G

Wilson, J E

Whitehad, T

Thomas Edward Metcalfe OBE, Ministry of Transport

In 1942, Thomas Edward Metcalfe OBE, a former ‘Honours Board - 1896’ student of TGS was awarded the Thomas Gray Prize for a seaman's protective suit. In a letter to the school, having been congratulated for the award, Mr. Metcalfe explains that he had been the ‘immediate leader of a body of men who have devoted themselves wholeheartedly to the solution of grievous problems created for the Merchant Service by war conditions.’ He goes on to express the debt he owes to the school for his success in life. He also speaks of sending material to the School for Warship Week. He ends with a message to the ‘boys’:

“We are fighting for the greatest things in the world human freedom, human dignity and the civilization which our great forefathers built by centuries of hazardous enterprise.”



Once again, not all our ‘Old Boys’ came home.

Leading Airman Phillip McLean Atkinson

HMS Ukussa (Naval Air Base in Ceylon), Royal Navy, who died 24th August 1944, remembered with honour on the Lee-on-Solent Memorial, Hampshire The memorial states:

‘These Officers and Men of the Fleet Air Army died in the service of their country and have no grave but the Sea 1939-1945.







Sergeant John Douglas Clifford Noonan

Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, who died aged 21 on 8th August 1944, remembered with honour at the Budapest War Cemetery.

Budapest War Cemetery contains 173 Commonwealth burials of the Second World War, all of them airmen whose graves were brought in from sites all over Hungary after the war. 3 of these burials are unidentified.





Lest We Forget



Reflective activity:

You will now be able to all contribute to your tutor groups Poppy Montage. Which you can see an example of on the next slide, this will be laid on Toulston Lawn (weather permitting) on the 11.11.26 during our whole school remembrance commemoration.

Your tutor will now give you your sticker. Please write a message on the sticker (inside the circle) and cut this out. On Friday you will then need to glue each poppy onto the paper provided. (See the next slide).



To be completed on Friday.

Once your Poppy Montage is complete please take to the year team office.

