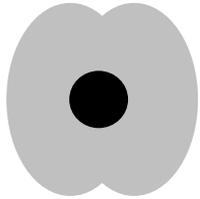


Pupils and staff from Abbey Grange CofE High School have been researching the history of Leeds during two world wars. They have been inspired to share some of their thoughts with you.



www.projectinspire.co.uk

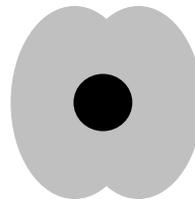
We hope you will investigate our website. You can discover more about the wartime Leeds and activities we have taken part in. We have been inspired by people who gave their lives for us.

We will remember them.

Here are some of the memories collected from our local community. More can be found on our website.

I joined up when I was 20 years old in 1941. Initially my training took place in Morecambe, where all I can remember is the endless square bashing up and down the promenade, more often than not in the pouring rain. On one occasion, after having drunk a mug of tea I found a huge cockroach at the bottom of the mug. Needless to say, I always checked my drinks after that experience. I was next posted to Coventry Bypass where I was trained as a barrage balloon operator. I loved the comradeship in the WAAF and had many laughs despite the demands of living in a country at war. When barrage balloons were discontinued Mabel was then posted to join Bomber Command at Bardney, Lincolnshire. I loved my time here and I was trained to patch up the planes which had been damaged in combat. It was bitterly cold in winter.

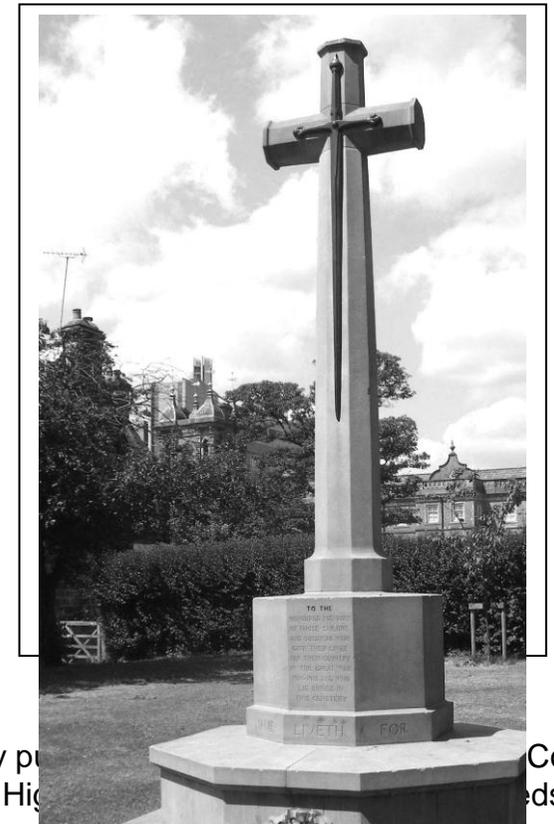
Mabel attends St Matthew's Church and lives in Chapel Allerton



Abbey Grange CofE High School Humanities College, Butcher Hill, Leeds, LS16 5EA

Chapel Allerton

Wartime Leeds



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1 Mustard Pot Grounds

In 1942 a large water tank was built in the grounds of the Colman family house. The water would have been used as an emergency supply following a bombing raid. Photographs of its construction can be found on www.leodis.co.uk

"I wonder if any of the walls are still there under the lawn" John

2 St Mathew's Church

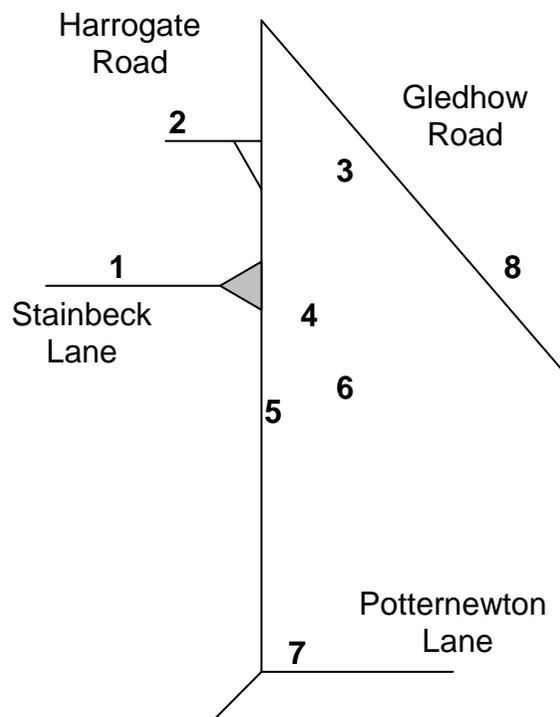
The walls of the church hold four separate memorials, three to individuals. One of these is to Leading Signman Vivian Walker-Walt, who died aged 26 in 1914 on HMS Pathfinder. She was the first ship ever to be sunk by a torpedo fired by submarine.

R.S. Briggs died in 1915 and is buried in Essex Farm, Ypres. B.M. Fenwick was killed in action at Anzac attacking Walkers Ridge. A service on Remembrance Sunday is held every year at 10.00am.

3 Leeds Pals - Victoria Street

In a house in this street Corporal W Marchent left home to enlist in the Leeds Pals. On the morning of July 1st 1916 he was injured and taken to a hospital in Birmingham. He was killed in action on 3rd May 1917. He was never to return to his home. His mother and father received a telegram informing them of his death.

"I live in this area and never knew so much happened in these streets" Alice



4 Methodist Church Memorial

A bronze plaque, found at the right hand side of the front of the church commemorates servicemen. A service on Remembrance Sunday is held every year at 10.30am.

"It is encouraging that men from this community are remembered locally decades on" Emily

8 Gledhow Hall

Used as a military hospital during the First World War treating 2250 wounded up to 1919. Bridges in Gledhow Valley Woods were highlighted on German bombing maps during World War Two. These maps can be viewed on our website.

5 War Memorial / ARP post

Built in 1920 by public subscription. Names are listed in alphabetical index. One name, Tom Tillotson, can also be found on the Thiepval Memorial to the missing of the Somme. On the opposite side of the road, numbers 27 to 35, became, in 1939, the Air Raid Precautions post in the old Allerton High Girls School.

"I would like to be able to sit and talk to people that remember the air raids on Leeds. I expect they were very frightened" Hassan

6 CWGC – Cemetery

There are six Commonwealth War Graves in this cemetery. Every Remembrance Sunday a poppy is laid on each grave.

"Brave soldiers deserve to be remembered" Alex

7 Chapel Allerton Hospital

At the corner of Potternewton lane are large gateposts. In June 1953 eight disabled ex-servicemen men left the Ministry of Pensions Hospital to begin their journey to see the Coronation. They were selected by ballot and wore blue suits issued by the hospital.

"I had no idea that this area of Leeds was so important to our countries history" Cameron