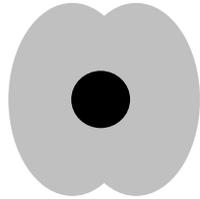


Pupils and staff from Abbey Grange CofE High School have been researching the history of Leeds during two world wars. They have been inspired to share some of their thoughts with you.



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.

“ My dad was a Home Guard on Soldiers Field, Roundhay Park. He told me they had no bullets in their guns, and that if the Germans had parachuted in he would have run”

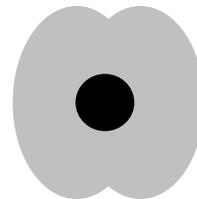
Mr P. Stainthorpe

“ I remember collecting jam jars and taking them to school for wartime fundraising. I can still see Gipton School Hall floor covered in bottles”

Mr A. Henderson

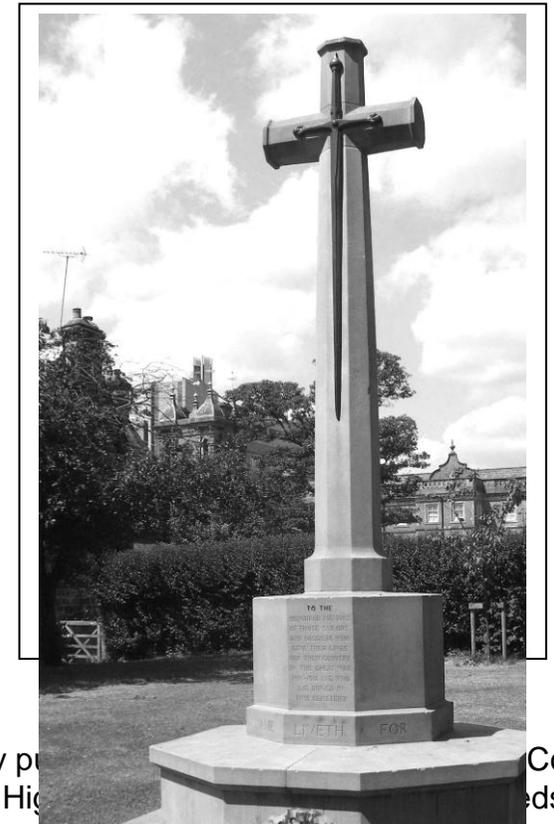
“ We all cried in our house because we didn’t have the room for a Dunkirk soldier”

Catherine S



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

Rounday & Harehills Wartime



By p
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1 Roundhay Park

In 1939 a Royal Air Force Exhibition opened in three temporary hangers. One exhibit 'reconstructed a crash landing of an enemy plane'. Crowds were entertained by flying demonstrations.

"I would have been there. This sounds very interesting" Zoe

2 Blackburn Aircraft Ltd

The Fairey Swordfish was one of the most versatile aeroplanes of World War Two. This was despite the fact that designed in 1934 it was already approaching obsolescence in 1939. It was built under contract by Blackburn Aircraft Ltd, Olympia Works, Roundhay Road. It is a Tesco Supermarket today.

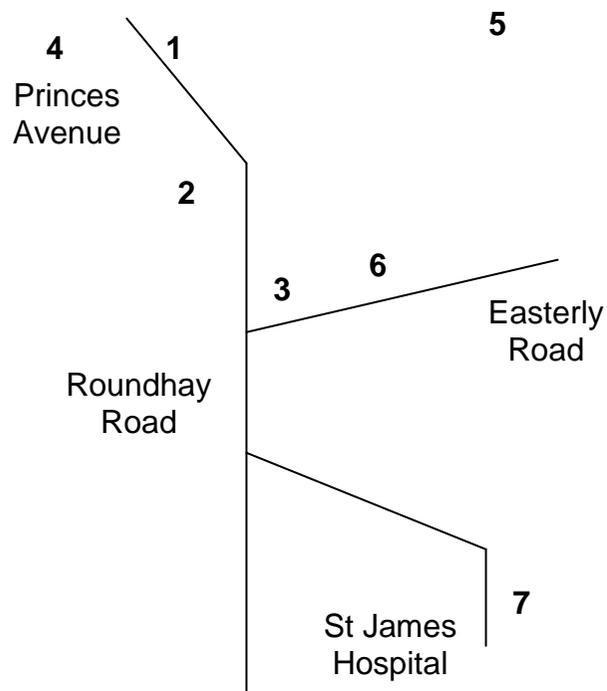
"Do people know they are shopping in an historical place?" Mark

3 Clock Cinema

In the car park of the Clock Cinema, today an electrical store, local children watched soldiers, recently returned in June 1940 from Dunkirk, meet their comrades.

"I can imagine their joy" John

"I live near here and didn't know this!" Andy

**4 Roundhay School - Evacuation**

On the 1st September 1939 over 18,000 Leeds school children boarded 51 trains at Leeds City Station. Some pupils from Roundhay High School were sent to Lincoln. Others were disappointed to find themselves much nearer home in Otley.

Many drifted back home and under pressure from parents the school re-opened.

"I cannot believe that so many children had to leave their homes and families"

Dominic

5 Wellington Hill / Bombing

An anti aircraft gun sited here, when used, would shake the houses in both Roundhay and Harehills. On September 1st 1940 a house on Easterly Road was bombed.

"I would have been terrified"
Catherine

6 Uplands Estate / Shelters

Willie Stead was the Air Raids Precautions official for this area, one of 7,000 in Leeds. In Upland Grove there was a public air raid shelter, one of 132 in the city. One was even built under the Grand Theatre.

"Does anyone know someone from Willie Stead's family still live in Leeds. They must be very proud of him"
Wendy

7 Beckett Street Cemetery

One of three Leeds cemeteries that presents a Commonwealth War Graves Commission Cross of Sacrifice. There are 71 war graves, 67 from World War One. Opposite the cemetery is the East Leeds War Hospital (St James). Friends of the cemetery lead Remembrance walks here each year.

"So many graves from one war" Lauren