

SCIENCE MUSEUM GROUP

AMBULANCE TRAINS: OBJECTORS

A FORGOTTEN FIRST
WORLD WAR STORY

TALKING



Ages

11-14

14-16

Topics

WORLD WAR ONE • HISTORY

Skills used

OBSERVATION • DISCUSSION

CONSCIENTIOUS
OBJECTORS

About Ambulance Trains

Explore the realm of First World War ambulance trains with our image bank for Key Stage 3 pupils. Discover the significance of the railway industry and ambulance trains during the 1914-1918 conflict, and learn about the life-changing journeys of wounded soldiers.

Using images in your classroom

Our galleries in the Science Museum Group are full of amazing objects which are all examples of how science and technology has changed and improved our everyday lives.

You can use images:

- To hook students' interest at the start of a lesson or to introduce a new topic.
- As part of a discussion to explore the stories of the people who have shaped the world we live in through their passion and creativity.
- As mystery objects and get your students using their science and history skills such as observation, using prior knowledge and asking questions.
- To create a display of applications of science in your classroom, connecting past, present and future examples of technology.
- In a pre-visit activity to familiarise students with some of the objects and themes they will find in any of our museums.

Conscientious Objectors: Background information

Before the First World War there had never been compulsory military service in Britain. The military had always relied on volunteers. Due to low enlistment a Military Service Bill was passed in 1916 which made it mandatory for single and widowed men between 19 and 41 years old to sign up for active service.

Conscientious objectors refused to fight, objecting to military service for many reasons including religious belief, political ideology, and moral or humanist principles. One of the biggest groups of people objecting to conscription was the Quakers.

Rather than fighting and to avoid imprisonment the Quakers went to work for the Friends Ambulance Unit. They were often on ambulance trains both in Britain and on the continent as civilian volunteers. Many were trained in the role of an orderly.

The aim of these resources is to help your students to examine the role of conscientious objectors in the First World War. The resources offer an understanding into the complexities of men opposed to war and what they did as a result.

Teachers' notes

Use them as discussion points for learning about the experiences of conscientious objectors in the First World War

Encourage your students to explore and interpret the resources

Investigate and compare the differences between this enforced conscription and current attitudes to military service

Talking points:

What do these resources tell you?

What does this tell you about the role of conscientious objectors in the First World War?

Why do you think it was important to be a conscientious objector?

What victimisation do you think these men might have faced from their actions?

How do you feel about their decision to become a conscientious objector?

If this was you, what would you do?

What questions do you need to ask about these resources?

What other types of sources of information do you think you need to look at to find out the answers to these questions?

1/1/519

NAME.		ADDRESS.	NEW ADDRESS.
Dunning, Hubert.		25 Fairview St., Mass Side Manchester.	39 Ash Grove, Healdingly, Leeds.
Brassard N° 7042	Date 191	Date of Birth Aug. 26 th 1893	Nearest relative Father
Cap Badge N° 1905	Unit N° 357 437	Nationality British	Address: 8 V Dunning
Identity Disc N° 7042	Passport N° 42417 8/10/17	Married or Single Single	sq ash Grove Healdingly.
Exemption Absolute	Grounds Conscientious Obj.	Certificate N° 76 War Office	
Vaccination at infancy	11.4.18	Religion Member Society of Friends	Uniform supplied
1st. Inoculation July 1915		Attender	B.R.S. 10.XI.191
2nd. Inoculation		Previous occupation Salesman. (Food)	191
Re-Inoculation 19. III. 18.		QUALIFICATIONS.	191
Kit Expenses to: H. Candland		Hospital slight knowledge of Amb.	191
FAU		Motors	191
122 Dudley St. V. Road		Languages	191
Gange. Mfe		Special Knowledge of Food stores	191
Period of Service Contract		Training Jordans. 1.XI.15. to 27.XI.15.	
from 1.XI.15.			



FRIENDS AMBULANCE UNIT (1914-1919) PERSONNEL CARDS SERIES 1

NAME: Dunning, Hubert

ADDRESS: 25 Sandown St, Mary St, Newcastle

NEW ADDRESS: 27 Mt St, Reading, Alder

Brassard N: 1012 Date: 191

Cap Badge N: 1905 Unit N: 553 #17

Identity Disc N: 1542 Passport N: 4241

Date of Birth: 26/11/1893

Nationality: English

Married or Single: Single

Nearest relative: Mother

Address: 111 Dunning

Exemption: Conscientious Grounds Certificate N: 1111

Vaccination: 1st: Inoculation 2nd: Inoculation 3rd: Inoculation

Religion: Member

Attender: 30353, 30354, 1915

Previous occupation: Soldier

QUALIFICATIONS:

Hospital: 1st, 2nd, 3rd

Mothers: 191

Language: 191

Special: 191

Period of Service: 1914-1919

Training: 1914-1919




Image: Courtesy of Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain

Hubert Dunning's personnel card

Hubert was one of many thousands of conscientious objectors working within the war. Hubert chose to work on a Friends Ambulance Unit train rather than be involved in combat.

Passes	Details of Service									Leave
	Date	Station	Work	Date	Station	Work	Date	Station	Work	
Red Permit B.263 No 5. A.T.	29.11.15	Arrived in France								1/1/52
	4.12.15	A.T. 17	Orderly							1-10-17 - 11-1
	15.8.16	A.T. 5	"							23 9/16 - 7
	1.9.16	A.T. 5	Corporal							
	1.11.16	A.T. 5	Sergeant							
	2.1.18	Acting Senior N.C.O								
	5 2/19	LIEFT THE UNIT								

[illegible]

Image: Courtesy of Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain

Hubert Dunning's details of service

Hubert Dunning was in service for a total of just over four years. Throughout those years, he rose through the ranks.

5.

Name DUNNING. Hubert

Married - Single 1/2/765

Address ~~25 Fairlawn St. - Moss Side - Manchester.~~ 25 Fairlawn St.

Normal Occupation Sugar & Food Stuffs Salesman

Moss Side, Manchester.

Connection with Friends member. Ackworth.

Next of Kin—Name T. W. Dunning (father)

Date of Birth 22 (1915)

" " Address 39 Ash Grove - Headingley - Leeds.

Date of joining F. A. U. 1/11/15

For. Amb.: Gen. Service: Agric.

TRANSFERS		PRESENT SERVICE			
Date	Service	Date	Unit	Date	Unit
		<u>1/11/15</u>	<u>J.1</u>		
		<u>28/11/15</u>	<u>Dunedin (AT. 17).</u>		
		<u>16/8/16</u>	<u>A.T. 5</u>		
		<u>5/2/19</u>	<u>Left France</u>		
			<u>Demobilised.</u>		

Exemption

W.O. gray cert. 76 C.O.
(No date)

Incl 16

Date of Leaving F. A. U.

Cause

FRIENDS AMBULANCE UNIT (1914 - 1919) PERSONNEL CARDS SERIES 2

5

Name DUNNING, Hubert Married - Single 1/2/16

Address 25, Fawcett St. - New Side - Manchester. 25, Fawcett St.

Normal Occupation Shops & Food Stuffs Salesman At New Side, Manchester.

Connection with Friends member - formerly

Next of Kin - Name T. W. Dunning (father) Date of Birth 22 (1872)

Address 39 Oak Grove - Handingley - Leeds.

Date of joining F. A. U. 1/1/15 For Amb. : Green Service : Agree

TRANSFERS		PRESENT SERVICE		Exemption
Date	Service	Date	Unit	
		<u>1/1/15</u>	<u>T/1</u>	<u>W.O. granted 76 P.O. (No date)</u>
		<u>23/1/15</u>	<u>3rd Class 2nd Cl.</u>	
		<u>16/1/15</u>	<u>AT 2</u>	
		<u>16/1/15</u>	<u>AT 2</u>	

Image: Courtesy of Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain

Hubert Dunning’s Service Schedule

Personnel cards gave specific details about length of service, holiday entitlement, religious membership and occupation.

Dates of Inoculation, 1st

2nd

Dates of Vaccination

Uniform and Training A/cs. to be paid for by:—Name *J.H. Crosland*

Address *122 Dudley Road Whalley Range* Ledger Fol.
Manchester

General Health

Reports



Dates on Leave

1/10/17 - 11/10/17

23/9/18 - 7/10/18

FRIENDS AMBULANCE UNIT (1914 - 1919) PERSONNEL CARDS SERIES 2


Dates of Incapacitation: 1st		2nd	1/2-766
Dates of Vaccination			
Uniform and Training Allowance to be paid for by --Name-- <i>J. H. Dunning</i>			
Address <i>12.2 Dudley Road, Whalley Range, Manchester</i>			
General Health			
Reports		Dates on Leave	

Image: Courtesy of Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain

Hubert Dunning's leave requests

In just over four years of service on a Friends Ambulance Unit train, Hubert took only three weeks and three days of leave.

1/1/865

NAME.		ADDRESS.	NEW ADDRESS.
Harrison, Cyril Arthur.		The Hawthorns 13 Bark Road. Chelmsford.	
Brassard N° 4813. Date 191		Date of Birth Feb. 25 th 1893	Nearest relative Father
Cap Badge N° 3979. Unit N° 274.330		Nationality British	Address: Mr W Harrison
Identity Disc N° 4813. Passport N° 34118. 14/11/178436		Married or Single Single.	The Hawthorns 13 Bark Rd., Chelmsford.
Exemption Absolute Grounds Conscientious Obj.		Certificate N° 121 War Office	
	Vaccination 1893	Religion Member	Uniform supplied
	1st. Inoculation 30.7.1915	Attender Society Friends	Hopkins 29 th 1915.
	2nd. Inoculation 8.8.1915	Previous occupation Schoolmaster.	BRES 191
	Re-Inoculation 5.4.1916	QUALIFICATIONS.	191
	Kit Expenses to: Father During Train Service BRES Mr W. H. Harrison.	Hospital	191
Period of Service Contract from 20. VII 15.	Motors	191	
	Languages French.	191	
	Special	191	
	Training Odeys Grange 20. VII. 15. to 13. VIII. 15.		

NAME. <i>Harrison, Cyril Arthur.</i>		ADDRESS. <i>153 South Street, Chatham, Kent.</i>		NEW ADDRESS. <i>11/115</i>	
Brassard N° <i>34832</i> - Date <i>1915</i>		Date of Birth <i>Dec 25th 1895</i>		Nearest relative <i>C. Arthur</i>	
Cap Badge N° <i>3979</i> - Unit N° <i>9-14-110</i>		Nationality <i>English</i>		Address <i>153 South Street, Chatham, Kent.</i>	
Identity Disc N° <i>4815</i> - Passport N° <i>3446</i>		Married or Single <i>Single</i>		Certificate N° <i>121</i>	
Exemption <i>Conscientious</i> - Grounds <i>Conscientious</i>		Certificate N° <i>121</i>			
Vaccination <i>1893</i>		Religion - Member <i>Quaker</i>		Uniform supplied	
1st. Inoculation <i>20 - 7 - 1915</i>		Previous occupation <i>Quaker</i>		Wages <i>Special 1915</i>	
2nd. Inoculation <i>9 - 8 - 1915</i>		QUALIFICATIONS.		1915	
Re-Inoculation <i>5 - 4 - 1916</i>		Hospital		191	
3rd. Inoculation <i>5 - 4 - 1916</i>		Motors		191	
Period of Service <i>Conscientious</i>		Languages <i>English</i>		191	
Training <i>Conscientious</i>		Special		191	

Image: Courtesy of Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in Britain

Cyril Harrison’s personnel card

Personnel cards were issued to all staff of ambulance trains. Some men of conscription age wanted to contribute to the war effort but did not see fighting as the answer. When war broke out, Cyril was just over 19 years old.