

TALKING



Ages

11-14 14-16 Topics

Skills used

WORLD WAR ONE • HISTORY

OBSERVATION • DISCUSSION

ONSCIENTIOUS BUECTORS 00

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?

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

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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.



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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.



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Name DUNNING. Hobert

Address 25 Fairlawn S' - Moss Side - Manchester. 25 Fairlawn St.

Normal Occupation Sugar > Food Stoffe Salesman

Connection with Friends member. Acknowly.

Next of Kin-Name T. W. Donning (falger)

... Address 39 Ash Grove - Headingley - Leeds.

Married Single 12765

Date of Birth 22 (1915)

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Hubert Dunning's Service Schedule

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

Dates of Inoculation, 1st

12-766

Dates of Vaccination

Uniform and Training A/cs. to be paid for by:- Name J.H. (rosland

Address

122 Dudley Road Whalley Range Ledger Fol.

General Health

Reports

Dates on Leave



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.



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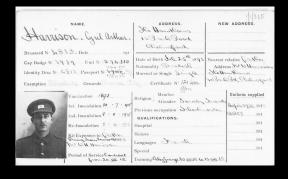
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Cyril Harrison's personnel card

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.

