

BRITISH JEWS IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR

We Were There Too

Project Update, Lockdown Edition Part 2



One hundred and four years ago today, 29th April, Barnett Griew drew this postcard from France. It features in the story "Keep your Spirits Up" below.

Welcome to this *British Jews in the First World War – We Were There Too* Project Update, second Lockdown Edition.

The North West team of Rodney, Charlotte and Nicki are now on Furlough. This does not extend to Alan Fell and Paula Kitching and of course, our volunteers. They are still very active, writing articles, giving radio interviews, dealing with press enquiries and so on. This Project Update is being produced by us - volunteers - Lola and Ronnie Fraser.

You can still get in touch, contact information will be found at the end of this Project Update. We hope the whole team will be back in action as soon as possible. Meanwhile, keep safe, and enjoy this Lockdown Edition.

As well as providing the answers to the activities in the last update, you will find more quizzes to keep you and your family entertained whilst the country remains in lockdown!

There is also the opportunity to get inspiration from 100 years ago by reading about how soldiers during the First World War kept themselves entertained whilst in the trenches, and how they stayed in touch with their loved ones back home.



Model plane made from shell casings in the trenches

RECORDS, DOCUMENTS AND NEW INTERPRETATIONS FOR HISTORIANS

Project Historian Paula Kitching has been reflecting on the ways in which research for the *We Were There Too* project has highlighted how ordinary people adapted and coped with huge changes to their daily lives in a new article for this Project Update. With a focus on the *Jewish Chronicle* and *Jewish World*, Paula discusses how newspapers record the changing attitudes of the time, when many believed their lives would quickly go back to normal when this was all over. You can read the article [here](#), and find out how the project has used newspapers to tell the stories of British Jews in the First World War.



The offices of the Jewish Chronicle in London, 1914

BBC RADIO MANCHESTER

Last week, as the staff are still on furlough, the project's Senior Consultant Alan Fell stepped into the breach and was interviewed by Radio Manchester's Liz Saul about our recent exhibition at the Fusilier Museum in Bury and the launch of the Augmented Reality work in partnership with the Discovery Education. The

interview was broadcast on Eamonn O'Neal's breakfast show and you can listen back [here](#), and then slide the cursor along the tool bar to 2.47.

KEEPING OUR SPIRITS UP!

In the current lockdown, we are being inundated with social media entertainment: Youtube videos, Zoom chats, digital photographs. During 1914-1918, despite the grim times there was also a wealth of entertainment, it just wasn't online. Instead real people provided entertainment for those in military camps and on the homefront, including Jewish entertainers and artists.

Take a look at some of this marvellous material in an article written by WWTT volunteer Lola Fraser [here](#).



Army letter office no.2, Regent's Park London, Armistice Day 11/11/1918

ANSWERS TO PREVIOUS QUIZZES

[Crossword answers](#)

[Timeline Quiz answers](#)

['What am I?' Quiz answers](#)

['Find Me' Collections Quiz answers](#)

Provided by our wonderful volunteers Barbara and Merton Paul!



Soldiers playing cards in a trench mortar ammunition (known to British troops as 'toffee apples') at Acheux, July 1916 (IWM)

HAVE A GO YOURSELF

Why not have a go at getting creative and pass this time at home the way soldiers would have done in the trenches?

You could have a go at writing a poem, a letter to family or friends imagining you are serving as a soldier or a nurse, or even a song to perform and keep your family entertained! For inspiration, click [here](#) to read two letters by Year 6 pupils at King David Primary School, which you can use as templates to write your own letters. You can visit the Personal Records of [Isaac Rosenberg](#) and [Louis Golding](#) to read some of their poetry which was inspired by life during the First World War.

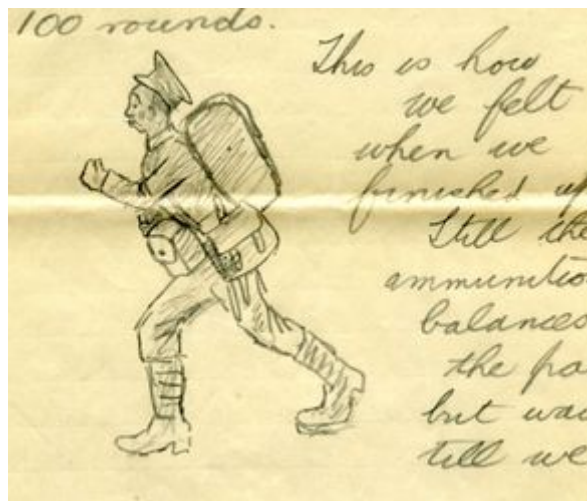
Soldiers also made art out of any material they could find such as old shell casings. What can you make out of objects found in your home?

Puzzles and games were other ways in which men in the trenches spent their downtime, so we have put together a wordsearch for you to have a go at:

[Wordsearch](#)

[Wordsearch answers](#)

If you do get creative, make sure to take a photo and tag us on social media @jewsffw and we will share our favourites.



This self portrait was drawn by Rifleman Barney Griew during training in Fovant, Wiltshire in 1915.

Thanks for reading, we hope you enjoyed! Make sure to visit the website jewsffw.uk to upload your family stories, and to learn more about our project.

To get in touch, email PD@jewsffw.uk or contactus@jewsffw.uk or you can find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram [@jewsffw](https://www.instagram.com/jewsffw)

We Were There Too Volunteers

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