



THE ROYAL BRITISH

Changing life stories

Remembrance

Then and Now – Service in WWII and Today

What does service and sacrifice mean to you?

Introducing service and sacrifice

In 2020 think of all the men and women in the Second World War and those today, who have served and sacrificed to help us and our country

Sacrifice

Service

Can you think of those who helped others during in the Second World War? What kinds of jobs did they do?

- Examples might include: soldiers fighting on the frontline, pilots fighting in the skies, nurses and doctors, air raid precaution wardens, families looking after evacuees, spies decoding messages, people growing food to help with shortages
- Some people helped at home in their local communities, some people helped in the armed forces in other countries. They were **all** contributing to the war effort.
- Norah Grajnert was a helper and served in the Women's Volunteer Service. She met her husband whilst she was serving, who was a Polish Officer helping the fightback against the Germans.
- Listen to her story on the next slide. What kinds of things was she doing to help? Why was the work she was doing dangerous?
- Norah drove a mobile canteen around the bombed and devastated centre of Bristol for the Women's Volunteer Service, providing food and drink to rescuers and those who were being rescued. She once nearly got crushed by a falling wall after a bombing raid.





Watch this video about one of the thousands of people who helped during the Second World War

https://vimeo.com/showcase/6966586/video/416435231



Who are the helpers now?

There has also been lots of people helping this year during the coronavirus pandemic.

Can you think of who they might be? What kinds of work have they been doing?

• Examples might be teachers looking after key workers in lockdown, nurses, doctors, armed forces, community volunteers helping at foodbanks

Exploring service: what did they give Then?

Can you think what sacrifices helpers made during the Second World War?

Case study: Noor Inayat-Khan

Noor was brought up in France, but her family moved to Britain in 1940. She wanted to do her bit for the war effort, so she joined the Women's Auxiliary Air Force (WAAF).

After two years in the WAAF as a radio operator, she became a secret agent and was sent to Paris. Using the code name Madeleine, she helped send important information from Paris back to London – a very risky job in German occupied Paris.

Noor was not a typical British spy for the 1940s. Her mother was American and her father was descended from Indian royalty. The work she did was dangerous and difficult, requiring great moral and physical courage – a world away from the daily life she had been used to. Sadly, Noor never returned from France and was never able to see her family again. She is one of only three women in World War Two to receive the George Cross – a medal awarded for great courage in the face of danger.

Noor's story is just one example of how difficult times can bring out the best in a person, whether that is during World War Two, or today in 2020.



Can you think what sacrifices helpers have made during the coronavirus pandemic?

How do we say thank you and remember?





We use symbols to demonstrate our thanks and Remembrance

Have you ever worn a poppy? (you may be wearing one now!). Have you ever drawn a rainbow to hang in your window to thank key workers for helping us?

We often use symbols to represent our thoughts about something.

During Remembrance we wear poppies. The poppy was chosen because at the end of the First World War poppies began to grow in the fields where the fighting happened. People wear a poppy to show their respect to those that gave their lives and as a symbol of hope for a peaceful future.

During the pandemic, people put pictures of rainbows in their windows to show support and thanks to key workers and as a symbol of hope that things will get better.

These symbols remind us to take time to remember and thank all the people who gave in service and sacrifice

Do you know of any other symbols that represent something important?

TASK:

Perhaps you could create one that represents how you feel about an important issue or loved one?

We use **actions** to show our thanks and Remembrance

Watch this video of the Clap for Carers during lockdown.

https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/mar/26/millionsof-britons-clap-for-carers-on-coronavirus-frontline

Have you ever participated in a minute's silence? Have you ever joined in with a Clap for our carers?

- We use **actions** to demonstrate our thanks and remembrance too. We hold a two minute's silence on Remembrance Sunday to remember all those who died so our thoughts can focus fully on thinking about them and the sacrifice they made of giving their lives to fight and defend our freedoms.
- The 'Clap for Carers' was started at the beginning of lockdown with members of the public applauding from their doorsteps and windows every Thursday at 8pm to thank NHS staff, supermarket workers, teachers and other frontline helpers who were so important in the fight against Covid-19.
- These actions helps us take time to remember the service and sacrifice of others.



- Then people fought in the war and died for their country, looked after loved ones, helped at home and at work
- Now people fought on the frontlines and died to protect us, looked after loved ones, helped at home and at work

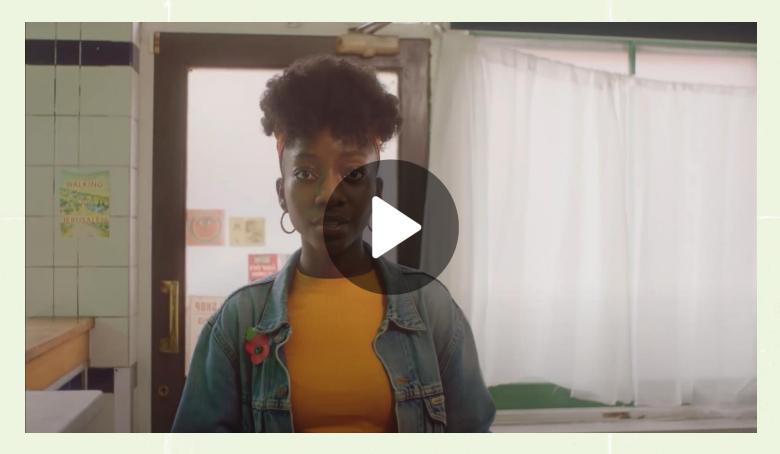
Then and Now people have shown courage, bravery and determination.

We remember ALL their service and sacrifice

Why do we have Remembrance?

- To remember
- To show respect
- To say thank you
- To preserve peace and freedom





We will now show our thanks and remember with one minute silence to think about all those who helped us, then and now, so that we can have freedom and be safe.

Dear Lord,

We remember and thank the British and Commonwealth forces who fought in the war and the freedom their service and sacrifice gave us.

We remember and thank all the people who did not come home.

We remember and thank all the people who rebuilt the country after the war. We remember and thank all the people who help us today.

We are grateful to everyone whose service and sacrifice help ensure a safe and peaceful world today.

Amen