

Title Slide

Slide2 – World War One (1914-1919)

Today we will look at how World War One began then how the war effected people at home.

Here are some Key facts about the war:

- It is also known as the Great War and the First World War.
- The fighting took place between 1914 and 1918.
- It was a terrible war. More people were killed than in any war fought before.

Slide 3 – The road to War

Before the war some countries in the world were very powerful like Britain and France. Other countries were not as powerful but wanted to be like Germany. These countries began making 'alliances'. These were agreements to protect each other and not fight.

But this created two big gangs of countries. The Triple Alliance (Germany, Austria-Hungary and Italy) and the Triple Entente (Russia, France and Britain). They did not like each other very much.

There were lots of little arguments. All it needed was one bad event to start them fighting.

Map: The Triple Alliance (Red), The Triple Entente (Yellow)

Illustrations by Gail Mackintosh.

Slide 4 – One bad day

That bad event happened on 28th June 1914. The Archduke Franz Ferdinand was shot dead in Sarajevo in Bosnia.

He was the Prince of Austria-Hungary. Austria-Hungary ruled lots of other countries like Bosnia.

Some of the nearby countries like Serbia did not like this. A member of one of these groups killed the Archduke. This sparked the First World War.

Image: Archduke Franz Ferdinand, [*Photographed by Carl Pietzner, picture in Public Domain. Accessed [via Wikimedia commons](#)*]

Slide 5 – A WORLD War how everyone gets involved (1)

Image 1 – Austria-Hungary declares war on Serbia because of the death of the Archduke.

Slide 6 – A WORLD War how everyone gets involved (2)

Image 2 – Russia promised to help the Serbs.

Slide 7– A WORLD War how everyone gets involved (3)

Image 3 – Germany supported Austria-Hungary so declared war on Russia. But they also declared War on France. France was Russia's friend and Germany had a plan to attack them both.

Slide 8 – A WORLD War how everyone gets involved (4)

Image 4 – Germany marched into Belgium on their way to attack France. Britain promised to protect the Belgians so declared war on Germany.

Slide 9 – A WORLD War how everyone gets involved (5)

Image 5 - Over the next four years more and more countries joined in from all over Europe, Asia and America.

Illustrations by Gail Mackintosh.



Slide 10 – The fighting

The fighting took place in two main places. In the West it focussed on Northeast France. This was called the ‘Western Front’. In the East it stretched all across Eastern Europe. This was called the ‘Eastern Front’. British soldiers mainly went to fight in the Western Front.

But the war affected everybody at home in Britain as well. In places like Horsham many families were split up as men were ‘recruited’ to fight.

— — — In the West. The trenches which did not really move after 1915.

— — — In the East. Where the Front Line was when the Russians had a revolution in 1917.

— — — Shows the farthest the Russian troops got at 1914

— — — Shows the farthest the Austro-German troops got in 1918

Illustrations by Gail Mackintosh.

Slide 11 – Recruitment

When Britain went to war they needed men for their army which was small. An important British man Lord Kitchener called for 100,000 men to join the army. This is called ‘recruitment’. Soon soldiers from all over Britain and the British Empire joined up. By the end of the war over 2000 men from Horsham had joined up.

There was no radio, TV or internet back then. The government had to use other ways to persuade men to join up. One way was through posters. We have some of the posters that were put up in Horsham on our website: www.horshamposters.com

Image: National and local Recruitment posters. *Poster No.: 1999.529 and 1998.1074 © Horsham District Council's Horsham Museum and Art Gallery*

Slide 8 - Conscription

In 1916 the government still needed more men to fight. But the war had gone on a long time. Many men had died. Those who made it home were often badly injured. It was harder to get people to join up.

So they made it a rule that all men aged 18-41 had to join the army. Some men were still left out because the work they did at home was very important. Not everyone was happy and some people refused to join up.

Image: Poster asking for volunteers before conscription, Poster against conscription. *Poster No.: 1999.653 © Horsham District Council's*

Slide 9 – War Work

It wasn't just the loss of family members that affected people at home. Everyone in Horsham was expected to ‘do their bit’. Here are some examples:

Image 1 - Some men who couldn't be soldiers joined their local Civil Guard. They helped the police and guarded important places like railway stations. Others stayed to do important jobs like farm or make weapons.

Illustrations by Gail Mackintosh.

Image 2- Women took on new jobs. Some worked in the fields in the Women's Land Army. Others became postmen and railway guards. Some made shells and bombs in factories. Others became nurses or volunteered to help nurses at the War Hospital Supply Depot.

Photograph © Horsham District Council's Horsham Museum and Art Gallery

Image 3 - Children helped out too. They sold flags on ‘flag days’ to raise money for wartime projects. Boy Scouts and Girl Guides delivered messages for the War Office. Boys and girls also worked in the fields and collected berries.

Illustrations by Gail Mackintosh.

Image 4 - Even animals got involved. Horses were taken from fields and sent to battle. They carried soldiers or pulled heavy guns.

Photograph © Horsham District Council's Horsham Museum and Art Gallery



Slide 10 – New Technology

The war forced armies to change the way they fought. By 1916 soldiers had tanks to stop machine gun fire, gas masks and radios and telephones to communicate.

But from the start of the war new technology changed the lives of those at home too. For example Zeppelins. Zeppelins were air-ships filled with hydrogen. The Germans decided in 1915 to use airships to bomb towns and cities in Britain.

People in Horsham would often see the Zeppelins pass over head.

In 1916 new weapons were made that could shoot down the airships. By 1917 the Zeppelin raids had stopped. But raids by new aeroplanes carried on.

Image: Zeppelin over Horsham Railway station. *Photograph © Horsham District Council's Horsham Museum and Art Gallery*

Slide 11 - Rationing

In the War lots of food was sent to the army to feed the soldiers. Then food that we got from other countries started to get less. This was because the Germans attacked supply ships with their U-boats (submarines). People started to worry about getting enough food and some food became very expensive.

The Government encouraged people to save food. By 1918 the Government decided to make rules about how much families could eat of certain foods. This was called rationing and meant everyone should get a fair share. The foods rationed included sugar, butter, meat and jam.

Image: Poster about the new ration books, Poster about Sugar cards. *Poster No.: 1998.1058 and 1999.544 © Horsham District Council's Horsham Museum and Art Gallery*

Slide 12 - Peace

On November the 11th 1918 there was a general 'armistice'. This meant everyone stopped fighting. Today we know it was the end of the war.

But they still had to decide on a 'treaty'. This was an agreement that would keep the peace. The treaty was finally agreed in June 1919.

In Horsham they celebrated the armistice by church services, flags, music and a torchlight procession. A year later they held their first Armistice Day Anniversary. They held church services and lit up the Carfax bandstand.

Image: 1919 Armistice Day Poster, photo of the Carfax bandstand lit up for the first Armistice Day Anniversary *Photograph: © Horsham District Council's Horsham Museum and Art Gallery, Poster No.: 1999.636 © Horsham District Council's Horsham Museum and Art Gallery*

Slide 13 - Remembrance

The war had been terrible. Over 800000 military men from Britain died and many more were injured. Over 300 of those men were from Horsham.

Remembering what happened is still important today. Every year on November the 11th we have remembrance events. August 4th 2014 marks 100 years since the war began. Many people across the country will also mark this date. Over the next five years people will look back at what happened and hold other remembrance events.

These help us to remember those who died in the war, those who were wounded and the families left behind in all countries involved in the war.

Photograph: The Horsham War Memorial was built in 1921. This photo shows the monument today. It now lists the names of all the Horsham men who died in WWI and a dedication to those who died in WWII *© Gail Mackintosh*



References

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