

Women during WWI



Men of Oundle Leaving for War. From Peterborough Museum (CG127)

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Visit us at the Museum

Women during WW1



Dinner at Haddo House, 1884 by Alfred Edward Emslie. From National Portrait Gallery, London (NPG 3845)

Related Themes:

Labour, Gender Roles, Equality, Families,
Nursing, Medicine, Munitions, Uniform,
Philanthropy, Faith.

SOURCES:

Using the sources provided on the following pages you can conduct your own research on the theme of Women during WW1.

For some questions you may want to look at the website: www.peterboroughww1.co.uk

"My name is Lady Mary Glyn and I will be guiding you through the theme of Women during WW1:

There is no entry for me in the visitors' books, but I was instrumental in the setting up and running of the WUTAC tea room. There is however an entry for Crystabelle Layton, one of the women who helped to run the tea room.

I hold a different perspective to the stories and to the war than the servicemen who passed through the station.

I was born into the aristocracy, and although I had status and wealth, I shared the same worries as many mothers during this time, when my son went off to war. The war years allowed women to take on roles they previously had no access to, including working in munitions factories, on the railways and on the land. This section will give you more insight into the experience of women during this time."



Peterborough & The Great War: Resource Pack

Women during WW1

The image shows a page from the 1911 Census for the household of Lady Mary Glyn, residing at 10, Grosvenor Gardens, London. The document is a form with multiple columns for personal details and household information. The header reads 'CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911'. The form includes sections for 'HEAD AND OTHERS', 'HOUSEHOLD', and 'PERSONS IN HOUSEHOLD'. The household includes Lady Mary Glyn, her daughter Lady Mary Glyn, and other family members. The form is filled out with handwritten details.

1911 Census, From Ancestry



Newspaper Clippings, From Peterborough Archives & Local Studies (PAS/WUTAC/2/3/1)

SOURCES:

The sources on this page relate to Lady Mary Glyn, WUTAC and Olive Booth, they include:

1. A Census
2. Newspaper Clippings
3. A News Article

QUESTIONS:

- What does the census tell us about Lady Mary Glyn?
- What do Lady Mary Glyn and Captain Olive Booth have in common?
- When did the WUTAC tea room open?
- How many men passed through in the first week?

WEBSITE TASK:

- Go to the 'Further Links and Information' page, and click the link relating to Letters from Lady Mary and Bishop of Peterborough to their son at war. Read through their correspondence and then try and write a letter in reply, placing yourselves in their son.



From Peterborough Advertiser, 28/4/1917

Women during WW1

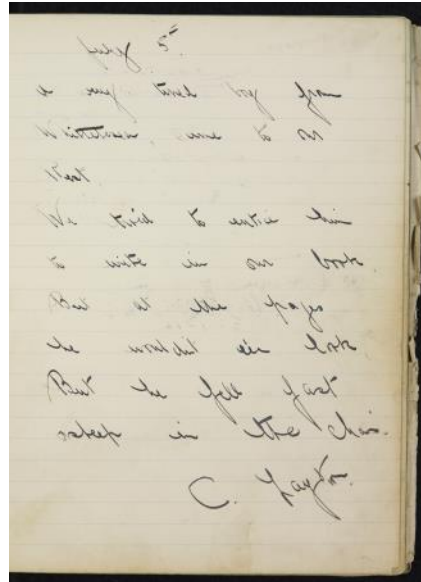
SOURCES:

The sources on this page relate to Crystabelle Layton, one of the women involved in the running of the tea-room, they include:

1. Her entry in the visitor's book.
2. An entry about her in the visitors' book.

QUESTIONS:

- Crystabelle talks about 'Whittlesea' in her entry, how is this place name spelt today?
- Why would the spelling have changed over time?
- She is the only woman to have written in the visitors' book, what kind of work do you think she would have been doing at the tea room?
- When researching it can be hard to trace identities of people (as their name is often spelt differently in different places). In the other entry the serviceman talks about 'Cristobel', do you think it's the same lady?



WUTAC Visitors' Book, From Peterborough Archives & Local Studies (PAS/WUTAC/1/1/2, Page 15)

July 5th
A very tired boy from
Whittlesea, came to our
Rest
We tried to entice him
to write in our book
But at the pages
he wouldn't e'en look
But he fell fast
asleep in the chair.
C. Layton.

Transcription of the extract above

21/6/16

I might miss trains, but that
you know.

Is quite permissible

But I would fair my promise
keep

With good kind Christobel.

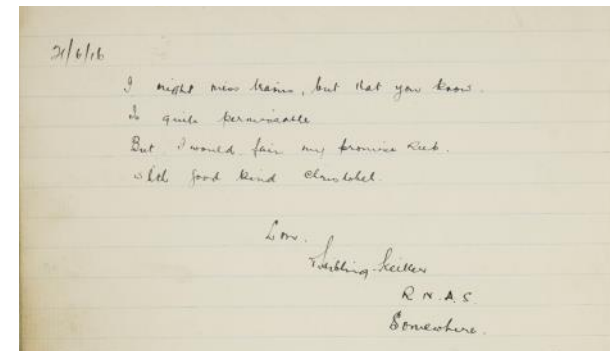
LM

Hibling-Keiller

R.N.A.S.

Somewhere

Transcription of the extract
below



WUTAC Visitors' Book, From Peterborough Archives & Local Studies (PAS/WUTAC/1/1/2, Page 9)

WEBSITE TASK:

- Go on the 'Discover More' section of the website and read the article about WUTAC. (ladies who ran the rest room)
- What was the temperance movement?
- One other woman involved in running the tea room has been traced, what's her name?
- Who was Adelaide Cox?

Women during WW1

SOURCES:

The sources on this page relate to wartime work for women, they include:

1. An Article
2. A Photograph from an article
3. An Article
4. A Photograph from an article

QUESTIONS:

- What do these images tell us about the work that women were involved in during WW1?
- What jobs did Mrs Hillson do before going to France?
- In one of the images a woman is wearing a black armband, why?

WEBSITE TASK:

- Go to the 'Further Links and Information' page and visit the page about women's roles on the home front.
- How would life have changed for the women, what difficulties did they face?



**G.E.R. WOMEN CARRIAGE WASHERS
AT PETERBOROUGH.**

From The Great Eastern Magazine

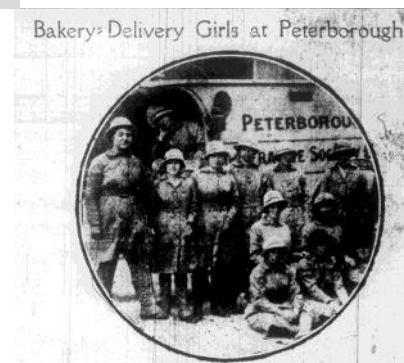


HERE we have a photo. of two of the first batch of local women to don the Government regulation garb for working on the land. They are Mrs. W. ROWELL, Church Street, Sawtry, and Mrs. G. ALLEN, Glatton, both engaged on Mr. A. J. Berridge's Bruce's Farm, Sawtry.

From Peterborough Advertiser, 7/4/1917



From Peterborough Advertiser, 17/11/1917



From Peterborough Advertiser, 19/5/1917

Women during WW1



Opening Palace Hospital Peterboro' 7/9/18, From Peterborough Museum.

SOURCES:

The sources on this page relates to nursing, they include:

1. A Photograph
2. An Article

QUESTIONS:

- Why would someone be awarded the 'Royal Red Cross'?
- What do you think a 'matron' is?
- Why would they have opened a hospital in The Bishops Palace?

WEBSITE TASK:

- Go on the 'Discover More' section of the website and read the article on Edith Cavell.
- Why was she in Peterborough? Why was she captured by the Germans?
- Where would you see Edith's name in Peterborough?



From Peterborough Advertiser, 10/3/1917

Women during WW1



Women Making Munitions. From Peterborough Museum
(Mb138)

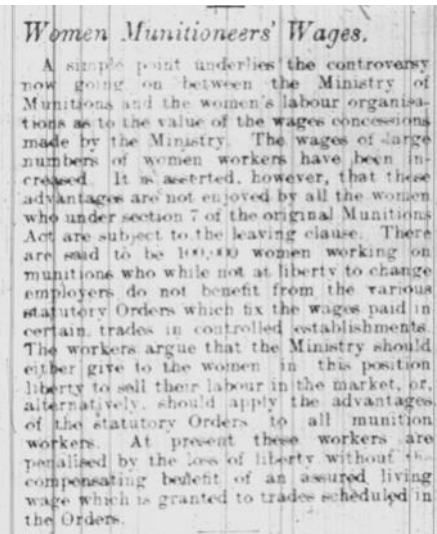


London Brick munition girls w Milton wounded, 1917 ,
From Peterborough Museum

SOURCES:

The sources on this page relate to munitions workers, they include:

1. A Photograph
2. An Article
3. A Photograph



From Peterborough Advertiser, 15/1/1917

QUESTIONS:

- Why would they need women to work in munition factories during WW1?
- Why do you think some workers would be paid more or less than others? Is this fair?
- Why are the men in the image not at war?

WEBSITE TASK:

- Go to the Further Links and Information page, visit the link to Women War Workers Rally Photographs
- Why do you think they were attending the rally?
- Do you recognise any of the buildings in the background? Where are they?
- What are the benefits of joining the Land Army according to the women's banner?