

LEICESTER ARTS & MUSEUMS SERVICE

# WORLD WAR ONE

# BRITAINS

Fighting for?  
ENLIST NOW



"WANTS  
**YOU**"



YOUR COUNTRY'S



YOUR COUNTRY'S ARMY  
SAVE THE KING

[FAMILY ACTIVITY PACK]

WORLD WAR ONE

# INTRODUCTION

This resource pack is to help you find your way through the World War One displays at **Newarke Houses Museum** and hopefully, to make learning about a harrowing part of history a little more fun.

Included in the pack are activities to do in the museum and at home.

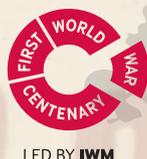
Trail answers are available to collect from the museum's reception.

## ACTIVITIES INCLUDED IN THE PACK:

1. Gallery Trail
2. Trench Trail
3. Censoring a Letter activity
4. Life in the Trench activity
5. Trench colouring in picture
6. Making a Periscope
7. Periscope Template



[www.sdsa.net/ww1-spsf](http://www.sdsa.net/ww1-spsf)



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[www.leicester.gov.uk/museums](http://www.leicester.gov.uk/museums)

WORLD WAR ONE

# GALLERY TRAIL



Find the German Maxim gun at the beginning of the trench and start the trail here



1. Find this helmet  
What caused this hole?



.....



2. Can you find out what this tool would have been used for?

Write your answer here:

.....



3. Find the dog called 'Rats'.  
Why did soldiers keep dogs in the trenches?

.....



4. What is this object called?  
What was it used for?

.....

5. Soldiers had to do their own washing, sewing and mending.

What did they call this sewing kit?



.....

6. To pass the time in the trenches, some soldiers made 'trench art'  
What has this bullet been made in to?

Find Eric Pochin's photograph album and look at the intricate drawings in Walter Anson's sketchbook.



7. Who did this tunic belong to?  
Which organisation did the owner of this tunic belong to?  
What did the organisation do during the war?



.....

8. Children were encouraged to raise money and send gifts to troops to show support.

What was this bag used for?



.....

WORLD WAR ONE

# TRENCH TRAIL

EXPLORE THE TRENCH AND THE DUGOUT.

1. At the entrance to the trench read the information about the four soldiers below. You will discover the fate of these soldiers as you exit the trench.



2. As you walk through the trench look for this notice: 'Watch Out For Trench Foot'.  
What do you think 'trench foot' is?  
What would have caused it?

.....  
.....

3. Look through the periscope.  
Why was it better to look through this than to lift your head up above the trench?

.....  
.....

4. Can you see the sandbags?  
What were they used for?

.....  
.....

5. Find the word 'bandoliers' on wooden boxes?  
What do you think bandoliers are?

.....  
.....

6. Enter the dugout and look for the sign that says 'Lice About.'  
What are lice?  
Why would they have been a problem?

.....  
.....

The Leicester Tigers is the nickname for The Royal Leicester Regiment. The 'Tigers' were Leicester's Regiment from 1688 -1964. They fought in many campaigns across the world including World War One and World War Two.

# WORLD WAR ONE

# TRENCH TRAIL CONTD

**7. Why do you think it would have been smelly in the trench?**

Write down 3 different smells soldiers would experience.

The 'Life in the Trenches' file in the dugout (page 3) might help.

.....  
.....

**8. Look for the tin can in the trench.**

Fresh food was difficult to get and most food was eaten cold. Tinned corned beef was popular. What did the soldiers call this? (Clue – look in the 'Life in the Trenches' file in the dugout for the answer).

.....  
.....



Lance Corporal Edward Chapman

**9. Write down the fate of the four soldiers listed at the beginning of the trail.**

.....  
.....



Private Francis William Jelley

.....  
.....



Second Lieutenant Joseph Emmerson

.....  
.....



Captain Charles Knighton

.....  
.....



## WORLD WAR ONE

# SOLDIERS IN THE TRENCHES USED TO WRITE HOME TO THEIR FAMILIES.

Soldiers in the trenches used to write home to their families. Every week about 12 million letters and postcards were sent.

There were some things they were not allowed to write about and officers would check letters before they were posted.

They couldn't write about anything that might help the enemy, like movement of soldiers and plans to attack. They couldn't complain a lot about life in the trenches or tell people about battle plans that had gone wrong in case people at home started to grumble about the war.

Read this letter and pretend to be an officer - cross out anything the soldier is not allowed to say.

This is part of a letter written by Private Arthur Trolley. If you find the black flipbook in the World War One Gallery, you can read all of his letters.

Dear Mother and Dad,

Just a few more lines to let you know that I am still quite alright.

We are still in a barn but of course we may be moved at any moment.

It is a lot better than the other barn we was in because during the night it was nothing to have a few rats run over you. Still we soon get used to them and we take no notice... I got Lucy's parcel quite alright...

How is Gladys, is she getting on well at school?....

Well, I will be closing now and I hope that Dad has plenty of work because I shall be glad when I get back to it again. Still we must keep cheerful, the war is bound to be over someday....

Sadly, Private Trolley was killed the next day.

Now write your own letter on the trench notepaper. Be careful what you write about.

8th October 1915  
 Dear Mother and Dad  
 Just a note to let you know that I'm alright but everyone is grumbling here! It's raining all the time and I can't get dry. The food is terrible! Yesterday there were maggots in my corned beef! How's Tom doing at school? Has the cat had her kittens yet? The sergeant says our big guns will stop firing on Saturday morning so we might be attacking the German trenches. I hope not. We're almost out of toilet paper again. Please send some in your next parcel. You know, the way things are going, the Germans will win this war so we might as well come home. Anyway, I'll keep my head down!  
 your loving son  
 Jack.

WORLD WAR ONE

# TRENCH NOTEPAPER



## WORLD WAR ONE

# SOME SOLDIERS MADE SKETCHES OF LIFE IN THE TRENCHES.

Add to this drawing things a soldier might have seen.

You could include: Barbed wire, sandbags, tools, weapons or rats



Colour in



## WORLD WAR ONE

## MAKING A PERISCOPE

Periscopes are optical instruments and are used to see things beyond the line of vision.

In the trenches they were used to see around corners and over walls so soldiers did not have to expose their head to the enemy. They could spy on the enemy and not be seen.

A periscope uses mirrors to reflect the light from the object around the corner and into your eye.

Read the true story below to find out why it was dangerous to lift your head above the trench.

## MY GRANDFATHER FOUND OUT THE HARD WAY!

His friend wasn't feeling well and my grandfather offered to do night sentry duty for him (he also wanted to try out his friend's new rifle).

A German sniper was being a nuisance by shooting the sandbags at the top of the trench and sand was pouring onto the men below. My grandfather decided to have a shot at this sniper and stood up on the firing step.

He saw the flash of the sniper's gun and fired at it but another German sniper was watching and fired at the flash of my grandfather's rifle. The bullet hit the magazine, which exploded in my grandfather's face!

My grandfather lost his eye but he was sent home. As a boy, I remember seeing his glass eye watching me from a glass of water by his bed!

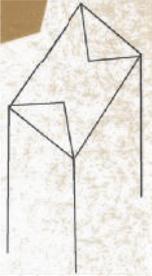
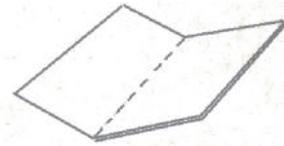
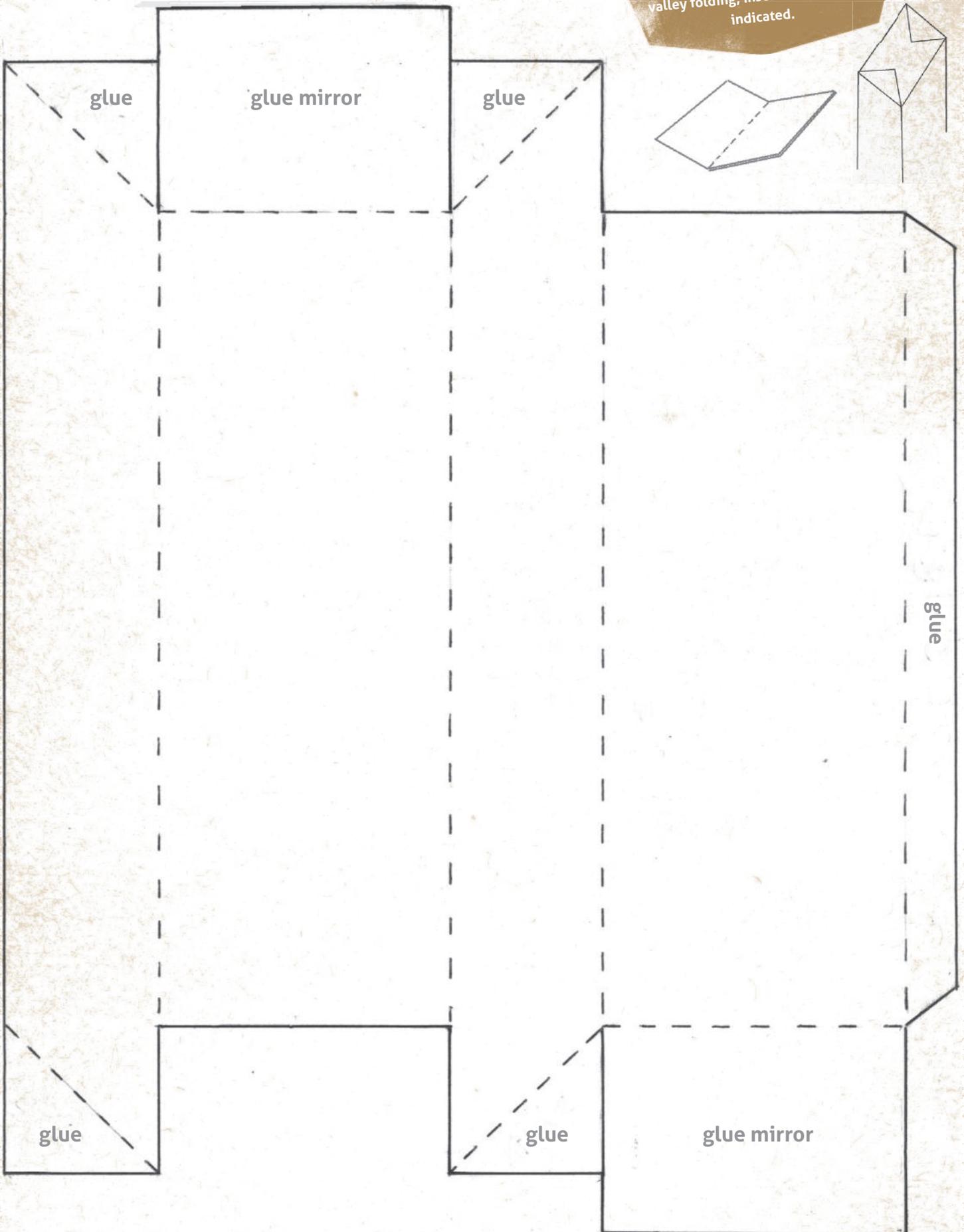


This is a replica First World War periscope in The Trench at Newark Houses Museum.

# WORLD WAR ONE MAKING A PERISCOPE

[FAMILY ACTIVITY PACK]

Print onto thin card  
Cut along all solid lines and score  
along all dotted lines before  
valley folding, insert mirrors where  
indicated.



glue

glue

glue mirror

glue

glue

glue

glue mirror