

Teacher Guide: World War I



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My Yarns: World War I has been created for teachers using the Great War as a theme for their teaching. It is delivered from an Ulster-Scots perspective utilising themes and language reflective of that history and culture. The intention of this digital resource is to enable teachers to talk about day-to-day life in the Great War era while also introducing students to Ulster-Scots language. The package consists of an Interactive Story, a set of Ulster-Scots key words and a picture gallery of relevant images, sourced from National Museums Northern Ireland.

This document includes a breakdown of the content within My Yarns: World War I. It also includes suggestions for writing tasks that teachers can use directly or as inspiration for creating their own projects.

Schools can register with My Yarns to gain access to the Seedling Interactive Learning Authoring Platform. Teachers can then access the image resources and story templates which enable them to create their own interactive writing projects.



My Yarns
Yer stories wae Ulster-Scots

airmy - army
aside - beside
bak - back
bin - been
disnae - doesn't
een - eyes
faither - father
foundered - very cold
frens - friends
guid - good
hae - have
haes - has
hairt - heart
lang - long
ma - my
mine - remember
pairt - part
sae - so
sicht - sight
sin - since
sodgers - soldiers

stairted - started
teemin - raining heavily
twa - two
writ - written
wha - who
whan - when
wi - with
wur - were
ye'll - you'll

The Interactive Story “Message from the Front” is voiced by Eddie McKee and Molly Carson. Eddie is writing a letter to his love Molly describing his time at war.

Page 1



Ma dearest Molly,
It haes bin twa year frae this terrible war staired. It disnae seem sae lang sin young Billy an me wur trainin in sicht o Helen’s Tower in the camp in Clandeboye, faither an son thegither.

Page 4



Fur aa that, we’re aye proud tae be a pairt o Kitchener’s New Airmy - the 36th Ulster Division.

Page 2



We wur aa there marchin, followin orders, an lairnin tae be sodgers. Ye’ll mine that oor Billy joined up wi his freens frae the shipyard? I’m keepin ma een on them as best as I’m fit til.

Page 5



I hae bin made rifleman efter James Bacon wus foon deed at the camp in Ards last yeir.

Page 3



It’s a guid thing we haed the practice in hokin oot trenches. We hae need o them in France tae leeve in. It’s no sae bad whan it’s dry, but whan it’s teemin oor feet get foundered.

Page 6



Themorra’s the 1st o July an we are makin readie tae march nixt the enemy. They’ll get a quare gunk whan we get intae them!
I wull write another letter as shane as am fit whan we’re redd-up and landed safe.
I sen you aa ma love,
Your ain Eddie.

Children can write these in English first and then translate into Ulster-Scots, or they can have a go at writing straight in Ulster-Scots.

1) *Letter Writing:*

Use the internet to find out about Clondeboy training camp in World War 1 (you will find that James Bacon was a real person!). Imagine you are Eddie or Billy taking part in the training. Use the template to write a letter to Molly describing your experience

2) *PERSUASIVE WRITING:*

Imagine you are Billy talking with his friends in the shipyards about whether or not to fight in World War 1. Write a piece arguing why it would be a good idea to "join up". Use the internet to help with your ideas.

Using The Gallery

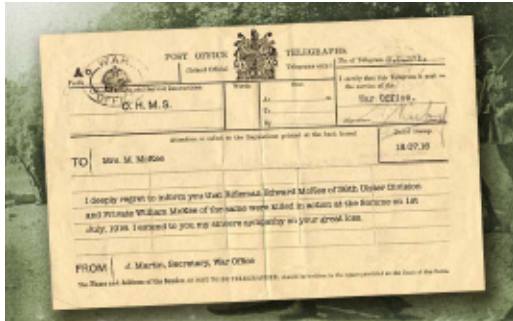
Look at and talk about the other images in the WW1 gallery. Choose one and write about what is happening in the picture using as many Ulster-Scots words as you can. Share your writing with your group or class.

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Interactive Story: Message from the Front

The story ends with Molly receiving a telegram informing her of the deaths of both Eddie and their son Billy.

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An so it is that the twa men I loved- ma Billy an ma Eddie- wur lost tae me. They niver cum hame frae the Great War, buried in the saft grun at the Somme. I hae naethin save onlie ma thochts o happy times lang bak.

Page 9



Thair names is writ aside monie ithers at Thiepval Tower in France wha gied their aa. But they leeve ivery day wi me in ma hairt.