

Welton At War

As part of our school's 200th birthday celebrations, Year 6 have been exploring the impact of World War One and Two on our school and village. We have studied parish newsletters and school logbooks to understand how the wars affected local life, and we have found this research both fascinating and insightful. We are excited to share what we have discovered with our school community. The information below is to the best of our knowledge, carefully checked from historical records. We would love to hear from you if you have any further information or memories to share about the school and village during the wars.

World War One

Our school was particularly close to airfields during both wars – Scampton (known previously as Brattleby) in WW1 and then Dunholme Lodge and Scampton in WW2.

- ▶ RAF Scampton is just north of Lincoln. It is famous today for the Dam Busters and for previously hosting the Red Arrows, but it was important in both World Wars.
- ▶ In World War I, the airfield was called Brattleby. It was used as a military airfield, but after the war it closed and most of the buildings were taken down.
- ▶ Before World War II, the RAF needed more airfields. Brattleby was chosen again, rebuilt, and reopened in 1936 as RAF Scampton, this time as a bomber airfield.
- ▶ During World War II, RAF Scampton played a very important role. Bomber squadrons flew from there to attack enemy targets. At first, planes attacked ships, and later they bombed land targets. The aircraft used changed over time, ending with the famous Lancaster bombers.
- ▶ In 1943, a secret squadron called 617 Squadron was formed at Scampton. They became known as the Dam Busters, famous for attacking German dams. Because the airfield needed stronger runways, Scampton closed for a short time while concrete runways were built.
- ▶ The airfield reopened in 1944 and continued to be used until the end of the war in 1945.

World War One School Logbook Entries

Our school logbooks provide a fascinating glimpse into life during the early years of the First World War. Unfortunately, the records only extend to April 1915, and within that period there are just four entries related to the war (see below). Interspersed with the usual day-to-day notes about school life, this sparse record suggests that, at least from the school's perspective, daily routines continued largely unchanged. Notably, there is no mention of the declaration of war, and the entries give little indication that the conflict had a significant impact on the school. The key takeaway is that, despite the upheaval unfolding across the country, school life in Welton Village went on almost as if nothing had happened.

October 7 th 1914	Pleased to see the children bring fruit, vegetables etc. to forward to soldiers.
October 15 th 1914	Received several notices re "War" from L.E.A. to fix on Notice Board.
November 10 th 1914	Four wounded Belgium soldiers, who are staying at Hackthorn hall, visited school & the children sang the Belgium National Anthem for them.
November 26 th 1914	Miss Kitson informs me that many of the girls are willing to knit at home garments for the soldiers.

The logbooks reveal that school life in Welton continued to engage directly with the aftermath of the First World War. A year after the conflict had ended, the children were able to hear first-hand accounts from soldiers stationed nearby, giving them a remarkable insight into events that were still very much part of the present for them, rather than distant history. Such visits would have been unforgettable history lessons, bringing the reality of the war vividly into the classroom.

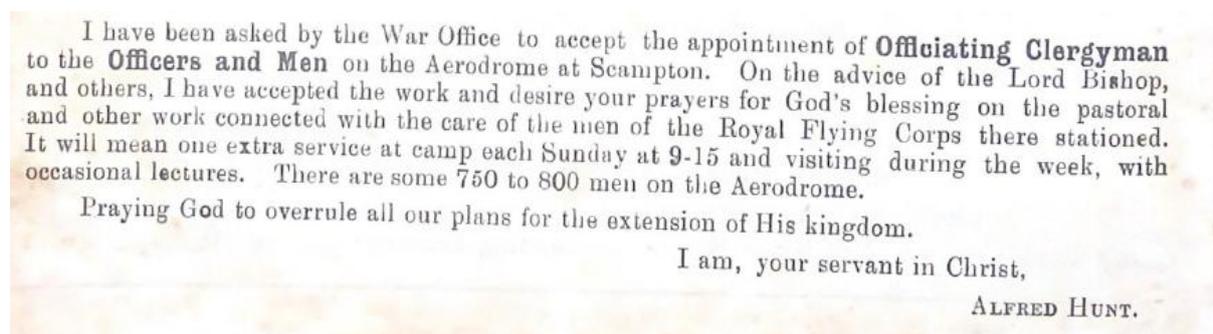
"Lieutenant Stewardson, of Scampton Camp, visited the school. He had been a prisoner of war in Germany for over 19 months. He talked to the children of his experiences." January 1919

The vicar reported that, as was known at this time, 72 men had returned to Welton from the war: 12 had died, 11 had been wounded, 3 returned as prisoners of war, and 46 had returned unwounded.

In January 1926, a 12-year-old schoolboy found a small bundle of bullets lost by an airman in a farmer's field, and this discovery shows how the war continued to affect the children in the village for years to come.

Church Newsletters during World War One

An extract from the church newsletter shows that Welton's vicar was asked to support the 750–800 men stationed at Scampton. This highlights how important religion was to the soldiers at the time, as they attended services and listened to lectures from the local vicar



The following 1915 Welton parish newsletter reports that two members of the choir have recently enlisted to fight in WWI. How would you feel as a choir member knowing your friends were leaving to serve your country?

Dear Parishioners and Friends.

The Choir Outing to Sudbrooke Gardens, by special permission of Mr. C. C. Sibthorp, was greatly enjoyed by all; the day (Whit-Monday) proved fine, and the arrangements made for tea, cricket and boating were excellent. We wish to record our thanks to Mr. Sibthorp, to Mr. Sellars for the horses and trap, and to Mrs. Hunt for her zeal and energy in catering for both tea and supper, the latter taking place at the Vicarage.

The Day School Teachers are to be congratulated on the most successful concert, repeated a week later to clear off the deficit on the Annual Tea.

The Thirteenth Annual Egg and Flower Service for the County Hospital provided 160 eggs, making 2,300 eggs sent up from these services in the thirteen years.

John Cannon's Charity Service will be held at the Parish Church on Monday, June 21st, at 7-0 p.m.

Two other members of our Choir have joined the Army Service of the King and Country—Harry Drury and Jack Sellars. We pray that God may take care of them. Six former members of our Choir are now on service.

Each Wednesday at 7-0 in the Parish Church **Intercessions** are made specially for our parishioners on service. I should like to see the relatives of the men attend in greater numbers. Praying that God may guide us as a Nation and over-rule all things for His glory.

I am, your servant in Christ,

ALFRED HUNT.

During the same year, on October 1st, 1915, the parish newsletter shares the sad news that local 21-year-old Charles Toyn had died fighting. As a parishioner or schoolchild, this is how you might have first learned of the loss of a fellow villager. How would you have felt? Here, we also see the beginnings of the ideas for the war memorial that now stands in the village.

The Memorial Service for Charles Toyn was well attended. We propose to have some permanent memorial of those who fall in the War. We beg to offer our sincere sympathy to the parents and relations of
"One who died in defence of ourselves, our homes, and our country."

I am, your servant in Christ,

ALFRED HUNT.

CHRISTIAN BURIALS IN WELTON CHURCHYARD.

Jesus said "He that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live."—John xi., 25.

May 10th. Eden Marshall, aged 49, wife of Edwin Marshall.

" 15th. Mary Elizabeth Cabourn, aged 43, Spinster.

July 24th. Elibabeth Taylor, aged 72, widow of the late Charles Taylor.

Sept. 17th. Mary Dawson, aged 79, widow of the late James Dawson, of Lincoln.

Aug. 7th. Charles Toyn, aged 21, son of Luke and Elizabeth Toyn,
killed at the Dardanelles; late of the 6th Lincolnshire Regiment.

On November 1st, 1916, the Welton parish newsletter reported with heavy hearts the death of another local young man, taken too soon while serving his country:

Miss Westall and Mrs. C. Deecung have given to the Club Sick Fund, Sunday School, Day School, Lending Library, Magazine Fund, Band of Hope, Vestry Furnishing, and other funds. We offer to them our grateful thanks.

This month we have to mourn the loss of one of our most respected farmers in the person of the late Mr. Joseph Hall, for over twenty years sidesman at the parish church, and a most regular attender Sunday by Sunday in his place at the services. We offer our sincere sympathy to the relatives.

Also during the month of October Mr. Vasey has been notified of the death of his son William Vasey, somewhere in France, in defence of our freedom and religion. The Memorial Services on Sundays, Oct. 15th and 22nd, were well attended.

Believe me, your servant in Christ, ALFRED HUNT.

CHRISTIAN BURIALS IN WELTON CHURCHYARD.

"Jesus said, He that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live."—John xi, 25.

- Dec. 11. Gordon Lionel Herrick, aged 15 months.
" 22. Sarah Kettleborough, aged 72, widow.
1916. Jan. 5. Elizabeth Woulds, aged 80, widow.
Feb. 12. Annie Butler, aged 77, wife of Butler.
April 5. Joseph Brand Houldsworth, aged 83, of Welton Hill.
" 18. Joseph Rippingale, aged 78, of Sudbeck Lane.
" 25. Joseph Brown, aged 79, of Church Lane.
May 11. James Cabourne, aged 67, of Lincoln.
" 15. Esther Green, aged 1 month.
June 21. Rosetta Morley, aged 22, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. Booth.
Oct. 19. ~~Joseph Hall, farmer, aged 72, of Brook House, Welton.~~
" 22. William Vasey, aged, buried somewhere in France. Died in defence of King and Country.

In January 1917, the newsletter shows how the schoolroom was used by soldiers stationed nearby. Imagine how you'd feel as a child if your classroom was filled with soldiers!

During World War One, local soldiers from Scampton walked three miles to a schoolroom in Welton to use a recreation room. There, they could rest, read, talk with friends, and - most importantly - write letters home to stay close to their families. The room was so valued that soldiers used it every night. Later, a YMCA hut opened closer to them, offering a more convenient place to relax and write.

The Design of the Memorial Window to Dr. Richard Smith has been well received by nearly everyone who has seen it. We asked for the design in 1913, but did not receive the sketch until September, 1916. As it is an Historical Window it will be a great addition to the beautifying of the Church. Mr. A. C. Newsum promises £10, Mr. A. Shuttleworth £5, Mr. Taylor £2, Mr. Pennell £1. The total cost will be about £100.

During the month of December we lost by death our former Sidesman Mr. Wilcox, who has been ill for many months. We offer our sympathy to his widow and daughter.

The Soldiers' Recreation Room is well patronised every night. Hundreds of letters have been written by the men to their relations and friends, although the men have to walk three miles each way to use our Schoolroom. The Y.M.C.A. Hut will be opened in the month of January, and then they will be able to write letters without the long walk down to our village.

Again hoping and praying God may give you His rich blessing of Peace.

I am, your friend in Christ,

ALFRED HUNT.

The following extract shows a moving obituary, honouring a man who was a pillar of the community and deeply involved in local groups - someone everyone in Welton would have known. Imagine the grief felt by so many. It also reflects the patriotism at the time - dedicated to England, Home, and People - a reminder of Private John Baldwin's sacrifice.

WELTON VICARAGE, LINCOLN,
May 1st, 1917.

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

It is with sincere regret that we heard of the death of Private John William Baldwin, on active service somewhere in France. He was one of the best lads we have known in the village. Always helping in Choir, Bellringing, Band of Hope, Cricket; he is much missed by us all. He met his death nobly doing his duty for England, Home and People. Our sympathy is offered to his parents and relations.

Another death reported in June 1917 was of a former Welton pupil, Hedley Baldwin, born and raised in the village (we believe unrelated to John Baldwin, though there were several Baldwins in Welton). School logbooks confirm he had struggled with learning - he once had "scanty knowledge of their own country" in geography and needed support in reading. Ironically, though he had little knowledge of his homeland as a child, he later gave his life for it - a truly remarkable sacrifice.

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

The Fifteenth Annual Egg and Flower Service, on behalf of the County Hospital, proved very successful—120 eggs being offered at the Service, making a total of over 2,700 eggs given at these Services. A letter of thanks from the Superintendent has been received.

The Junior members of the Choir greatly enjoyed their visit to Sudbrooke Park, by permission of C. C. Sibthorp, Esq., who allowed them to visit the vineries, greenhouses, gardens, park, and use the boat and punt on the lake. The day, Whit-Monday, proved to be fine and tea was enjoyed picnic fashion on the grass. All returned safely to the Vicarage by 8 p.m. Our best thanks are offered to Mr. Sibthorp for his kindness and to Mr. Grayson for the loan of his pony and trap to drive those unable to cycle.

Dr. Richard Smith's Memorial Window Fund is growing. To give all the parishioners an opportunity of helping this Memorial of a native of Welton, and one who has done so much for Welton boys and girls, we hope to arrange a Garden Meeting and Concert during the month of June, and pray God may favour us with His blessing and guidance in our plans.

An anonymous donation of Ten Shillings for **Vestry Teas** has been received, and is placed to the funds for debt reduction. Mrs. Hunt will be pleased to receive further donations.

Hedley Baldwin, a former scholar in Welton School and native of the Village, has laid down his life for the Liberty of Europe and the Christian Faith in France. He was the second son of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Baldwin, of Ryland, to whom we offer our sincere sympathy in their sad bereavement.

Praying God may over-rule all things to His glory and the extension of the Christian Faith.

I am, your friend in Christ,

ALFRED HUNT.

Interwar Period



LAST Thursday, we published a photograph of the bottom class of Welton School in 1935, kindly loaned to me by Gordon Clifford.

Mr Clifford had also forwarded this second photograph, taken of the school's top class the following year and belonging to Jack Dowman, of Vicarage Road in the village.

In the centre at the rear is the school's headmaster, Charles Wakerley.

The picture shows, back row: Jack Boulton; Ensell Chapman; John Mason; G. Avard; J.

Healey; Charles Wakerley; John Lane; Dennis Capps; Cecil Drury; F. Mason.

Second row: H. Cottingham; Sidney Carter; A. Smith; F. Smith; Desmond Thomas; Ralph Nicholson; A Goode; Jack Dowman.

Third row: Margaret Drury; Doris Carter; Mildred Dowman; Vera Blythe; Gwen Warriner; Beatrice Johnson; A Smith; Nellie Baldwin.

Front row: C. Blythe; F. Andrews; Tom Everton; J. Wells; Walter Garner.

Circled in red on the 1935 school photo are Welton schoolboys who later served in the armed forces during World War II. Their names were read aloud each Sunday by the Vicar. Fortunately, we do not believe that any of these boys died on active service.

World War Two

Dunholme Lodge

- ▶ Dunholme Lodge was an airfield built near Welton to help RAF Scampton during World War II.
- ▶ During the war, Lancaster bombers from different squadrons flew from Dunholme Lodge.
- ▶ The airfield's runways were extended so bigger planes could take off safely.
- ▶ Later, it was used for special units that modified gliders.
- ▶ After the war ended, flying stopped, and the site was used for a short time by the Polish Resettlement Corps.
- ▶ In the late 1950s and early 1960s, Dunholme Lodge became a missile base to protect nearby bomber bases.
- ▶ Today, some buildings still exist, and the history of Dunholme Lodge is remembered at William Farr School in Welton.



Welton's closeness to Dunholme Lodge and RAF Scampton in WW2 meant residents constantly experienced the sights and sounds of the RAF. Welton experienced the noise and disruption of war, including air raids, blackouts, and even nearby plane crashes in WW2. Blackouts were necessary because the village was close to potential targets during WW2.

A Welton resident commented on the sights and sounds in the village: '***We have aeroplanes all around us now – Lancasters at Scampton and Dunholme Landing Ground, and Lancasters and Halifaxes at Faldingworth***'.

World War Two Logbook Entries

9.1.39	Admitted 3 infants and 2 juniors from Scampton Air Camp.
3.8.39.	All children brought their gas masks to school this morning, and drill relating to the same, together with instruction in ARP, was given in all classes. Daily practice in wearing gas masks will be given in future.
31.8.39.	Owing to the seriousness of National Affairs, notice has been received today that children from Leeds are to be evacuated into this area tomorrow. It is estimated that 63 of school age will arrive in Welton.
1.9.39.	Received notice from the LEA that school is to close this morning until further notice. It will be required this afternoon to receive evacuees. Received notice that the Scampton children have left the district.

11.9.39.	<p>School reopened this morning on instructions from LEA. 22 evacuees (2 seniors, 9 juniors and 11 infants) were admitted . One teacher, Miss H Bayes, accompanied them. The infants, with 4 juniors are accommodated in one end of the infants' room and are under the supervision of Miss Bayes. The remaining 5 juniors are with Mrs Johnson (Standards I and II) and the 2 seniors with the Headmaster (Standards V and VI).</p> <p>Instructions from the LEA regarding admittance and registration of these children have been followed. Entries relating to these evacuees have been made in separate sections of the ordinary school register and names etc are shown in red. All the evacuees have been received from the South Accommodation Road Council School , Hunslet, Leeds 10.</p>
11.9.39.	The ordinary school work does not appear to be seriously affected under the new conditions , and the regular timetable is able to be followed.
12.9.39.	<p>Admitted 15 Senior Boys from the Chislehurst Central Boys' School, Kent , on behalf of the Waifs and Strays Society. These boys have arrived as evacuees and are staying at Scampton. This has meant a complete reorganisation of the school. The boys referred to above, together of our own Senior boys, have been placed at one end of the main classroom and are under the supervision of Mr Houghton. Standard VI girls and all Standard V and IV are at the other end of this room with the Headmaster in charge. Standard III have been removed to the middle class room and with Standard II have Mrs Johnson in charge. Standard I have been accommodated with the infants under the control of Miss Gardiner.</p> <p>Under the circumstances , it is practically impossible to work to the timetable, so a temporary one is being constructed.</p>
20.9.39.	The 16 Senior Boys admitted last week have removed into Warwickshire Classes are now arranged as they were at the commencement of term.
25.9.39.	Admitted 2 junior children. These children arrived with the Leeds evacuees but later developed a form of chicken pox.
16.10.39.	During recent weeks 9 of the evacuees have returned to Leeds. Commenced with fires today.
6.11.39.	One of the evacuees returned to Leeds during the weekend.
8.11.39.	Miss McKecknie (Board of Education) visited school this afternoon and took details of staffing, accommodation, children on books , arrangements for evacuees etc.
13.11.39.	Two of the evacuees returned to Leeds during the weekend.
8.1.40.	2 evacuees returned to Leeds during the holiday leaving only 7 now on the books.
22.1.40.	The stove, damaged by frost during the Christmas holidays, has now been repaired and reinstalled. It appears to be working efficiently. Nearly all the long distance children are absent, there being an exceptionally heavy fall of snow during the weekend. One of the evacuees on our books returned to Leeds during the weekend - leaving 6 now on roll. Miss Bayes, evacuee teacher, returned to Leeds today, having been recalled for service in that city.
15.4.40.	2 evacuees returned to Leeds during the week end. There are now only 2 evacuees left on the books.
24.5.40.	In response to an appeal for funds to provide tobacco and cigarettes for men in HM Forces, made by the Over seas League, our children subscribed 12/-
17.6.40.	Today we rehearsed arrangements which will be followed in the event of a local air raid. Shutters will be placed to each window in the senior and junior class rooms. Desks will be arranged along the walls of the rooms, as far as possible away from windows and doors. The children will lie under the desks at a given signal. The infants will use the large class room with the seniors.
19.8.40.	Mr GW Houghton, Uncertificated Assistant Master, was called up for War Service in the RAF during the holidays. This has necessitated a regrouping of classes from the new ones arranged after the Promotion Tests in July.

28.8.40.	To allow soldiers , who are billeted locally, to use the school, for recreation during the late afternoon and early evenings, afternoon school will commence at 1pm instead of 1.30pm . Morning sessions continue to commence at 10am.
9.9.40.	Margaret Whitaker, one of the two evacuees, returned to Leeds during last weekend.
18.11.40.	In response to a circular received from the Education Committee, morning school commenced today at 10am and closed at 12.30pm. Afternoon school from 1.30pm to 4pm. The arrangement is to overcome 'black out difficulties' which would have appeared owing to the Governments decision to continue 'Summer Time' throughout the winter.
12.12.40.	Admitted 2 children who have left London to stay with relatives in Welton.
9.1.41.	Practice using a stirrup pump is given periodically to the senior boys. Gas mask drill continues.
25.4.41.	School was to open to visitors this afternoon, the reason being to show how the children are taking part in the National Effort. The village is holding a War Weapons Week (April 19 th – 26 th) and today is set aside as Children's Day. Mr Wilfred Walker, ex Headmaster, visited School.
27.10.41	Two senior boys have obtained permission to continue potato picking for further week , owing to scarcity of labour.
17.11.41	The new times will continue throughout the winter months, to overcome blackout difficulties. Time for afternoon school remains the same , 1.30 – 4pm.
10.3.43.	Children brought their gas masks to school , when many were refitted. The children wore them for a few minutes.
24.5.43.	In response to an appeal by the Overseas Tobacco league, we were able to forward the sum of £1.
4.6.43.	School closed for the Whitsun Holiday which has been arranged in consultation with the Lindsey War Agricultural Executive Committee in order that the senior children may assist the farmers in beet singling.
25.6.43.	Children's day in Wings for Victory Week. Open Day at School. Bomber Crew in flying kit and with rescue equipment visited school in the afternoon.
5.7.43.	PC Bradley visited the school and warned the children about playing with any strange objects they may have found. Some children have been seen with rounds of ammunition, evidently picked up when a bomber crashed in the vicinity on Saturday last.
19.7.43	Sergt. Robson (Police) visited school and showed the children a specimen anti-personnel bomb used by the enemy in recent air raids. He urged them not to touch strange objects which may be found.
14.7.44.	Children's day in the local :Salute the Soldier Week". School open to parents from 2pm onwards. Children in all classes competed for prizes of Savings Stamps. Needlework, Handwork and Art exhibitions with singing and dramatization to close.
7.3.45.	This afternoon the Headmaster was absent attending the funeral of a colleague of the Royal Observer Corps who lost his life through enemy action in the vicinity on March 4th.
12.3.45.	This morning Capt. Frederick Bishop (Indian Army), an ex-scholar, visited school and was able to tell the senior children much of interest of India and Burma where he has served in HM Forces during the last 3 years.
26.4.45.	Madame Cathala, attached to the WVS, visited school and talked to the senior children about the deeds of boys and girls in France during the Occupation.
7.5.45.	Received Circular from LEA regarding arrangements pending the announcement of VE (Victory in Europe) Day. Informed staff and scholars.
31.5.45.	All children invited to tea and sports by the local Women's Institute as a Victory Celebration.

In August 1940 we read that **'Mr GW Houghton, Uncertificated Assistant Master, was called up for War Service in the RAF during the holidays.'** Letters sent to Mr. Houghton from former pupils reveal that he

served in Africa. While on leave in January 1945, he returned to the school to share some of his more exciting experiences in East Africa. Imagine what it must have been like for the teachers, his pupils, and colleagues to hear firsthand stories from the front - bringing a distant part of the war vividly into their classroom.

Tragedy on the Welton-Hackthorn Road: A WW2 Observer Corps Death

'A Royal Observer Corps member was killed today. A German plane shot at him, then the plane crashed into his car. It happened on the Welton to Spridlington road.' 4th March 1945.

WW2 hit home in Welton in a dramatic and tragic way. In March 1945, during German intruder operations just weeks before VE Day, a low-flying Luftwaffe Ju 188 attacked a car on the Welton-Hackthorn road. The aircraft crashed into the vehicle, killing the driver - the only member of the Observer Corps to die on duty in the war. He was a local father of two.

A local resident's account adds detail: the Ju 188, crew of four, had been hunting returning Lancaster bombers. After shooting one down near Langworth, it strafed the car but flew too low, crashing it across two fields. The German crew was buried in Scampton churchyard. Decades later, a farmer found a German ID tag, revealing that a member of the squadron's ground crew—reported "absent without leave"—had apparently hitched a ride in the plane. One Luftwaffe gravestone now bears two names.

A Remarkable WW2 Story from Welton

WELTON VICARAGE, LINCOLN,
August 1st, 1916.

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

The Sunday School Festival was favoured with fine weather and large numbers. The drive to Mrs. Robinson's at Welton Hill where she so kindly entertained us, and then by Snarford Church to Spridlington Road, Cold Hanworth, and Mrs. Shuttleworth's at Low Fields, and back to Welton, was most enjoyable. We give thanks to Mr. Stovin, Mr. Russon, Mr. Simpson, Mr. Pearce and Mr. Grayson for so kindly lending their horses and traps.

In the afternoon at 2-30, the children started from the Vicarage and visited various houses in the parish, returning to Tea at 4-30. Games were enjoyed until 9 p.m. Our thanks are given to all our friends for their kind help on behalf of our Sunday Schools. The Celebration of Holy Communion for the Festival was better attended this year.

Mr. Harry Drury, who has been on a month's leave from Egypt, kindly gave a Soldiers' Tea for the benefit of the Vestry Fund, on July 19th, so adding 10/- to the money in hand. Many attended and enjoyed a novel tea and its preparation.

Mr. & Mrs. Applewhite and Mr. & Mrs. Robinson kindly entertained some twenty wounded soldiers from the 4th Northern Hospital on July 26th.

Among the soldier visitors was the one who had brought in Alec Green, one of our Welton boys wounded at the front. The visiting soldier recognized Alec Green's photo in the Vestry, and said "That's Green, the young fellow I brought in when wounded." What a singular coincidence that out of the millions of soldiers in the army, the one who helped Alec Green when wounded should visit Welton.

The Day School holidays are arranged to begin on August 18th, for a month, and then in October a further week for Potato Picking.

During the month the New Prayer Books have come to hand, for the use of visitors to our services in Church.

A New Ladder has been erected in the Belfry so that access to the roof is now more easily obtained.

Wishing you every blessing,

I am, your servant in Christ,

ALFRED HUNT.

In May 1920, a German gun was given to the parish council by the government. How would you have felt about this? This is what occurred:

- ▶ When it was placed on the village green, it was removed one night and found its resting place in a pond in close proximity to the village.
- ▶ Afterwards it was got out with great difficulty and placed in the churchyard, as the parish council presented it to the vicar and churchwardens.
- ▶ No one disturbed it for a short time and then one evening last week it disappeared afterwards it was found about two miles away in Horncastle Lane.

Why Does Our School Logbook Record More About World War Two Than World War One?

In summary:

- ▶ WWI had less direct impact on daily school life, especially for children. WW1 was largely fought overseas but WW2 had a threat at home (and very close by!) which meant evacuation, drills, black outs etc.
- ▶ WWII was a “total war” that involved civilians and schools directly.
- ▶ Children were actively involved in WWII through evacuation, drills, and war work.
- ▶ Government direction and use of schools increased significantly in WWII. Schools were used to deliver government initiatives, propaganda, safety training, and morale-building activities - all of which were formally recorded.
- ▶ Evacuation and air raid precautions were unique to WWII. The mass evacuation of children did not happen in WWI on anything like the same scale.
- ▶ Because evacuation dramatically altered school organisation, staffing, accommodation, and registers, it generated frequent entries.
- ▶ Record-keeping expectations were more detailed by the time of WWII. The school was more systematic in recording wartime activities. This suggests a higher level of preparedness and structured response to wartime challenges.

Evacuation and Arrival of Children

The logbook shows that children were evacuated from Leeds to Welton for safety, often arriving with little notice. Their arrival disrupted normal routines but also brought a sense of shared responsibility among the local pupils.

Staff Involvement and Shortages

Staff played a crucial role in managing both evacuation logistics and day-to-day school life, but shortages due to teachers joining the war effort were noted. The children often experienced larger class sizes or temporary adjustments to schooling.

Community and Moral Education

Lessons and activities often incorporated themes of patriotism, resilience, and community spirit, reflecting an emphasis on moral education alongside academic learning.

Exposure to Global Events

Despite limited media, children learned about global events through news relayed at school and church, discussion of wartime developments, and letters from evacuated families, giving them awareness beyond their immediate surroundings.

Remembering the Fallen



You can see that the World War II names were added to the base of the pedestal, not the main column - obviously, the memorial's designers hadn't anticipated another war decades later.

On 24 August 1922, permission was granted to erect the memorial we know today: a soldier of the Lincolnshire Regiment in full battle dress, with reversed arms. The faculty also allowed the Royal Air Force Memorial Window in St Mary's Church, Welton. Made by Messrs. Tuttell of Lincoln from Italian marble, the memorial used George Beeton, an ex-10th Foot soldier, as a model for the masons commemorating those who died in 1914–18.

George Grantham, killed in August 1918 shortly before the memorial was built, was added around 2005 on a separate stone at the base among the flowers. Notably, there is one engraving error: Hermann Reed is recorded as "Herman Read."



A beautiful stained-glass window on the north side of St. Mary's Church commemorates RAF pilots who lost their lives while training in the parish.

The inscription reads: *"To the Glory of God and in honour of the officers and men of the RAF who died in their service of their country. Their name liveth for evermore."*

Designed and crafted by Burlison & Grylls of London, the window was unveiled by the Bishop of Lincoln on 10 May 1921.

On a Roll of Honour below, the term "invalided out" refers to a soldier who was officially discharged from active service due to an injury or illness that made them permanently unfit for duty.

Can children spot any women's names? It's important to remember that both women and men made vital contributions to the war effort, and local children played their part too. Women on the Roll of Honour often served in essential non-combat roles, such as in the ATS (army clerks, drivers, radar operators), WAAF (RAF support roles), WRNS (naval communications and maintenance), Air Transport Auxiliary (ferrying aircraft), or in civil defence (nurses, ambulance drivers, fire watchers). While they were not on the front line, their work was crucial to supporting the armed forces and the country.

A Roll of Honour from the Second World War was compiled of every person who was connected with Welton at that time serving with the Forces. The Roll was read out every Sunday by the Vicar. The members of the Forces are:

Ronald Albone	Cecil Drury	James Keating
Harry Appleby	Thomas Ealam	Margaret Kell
Edna Appleyard	William Ealam	Richard Loome
Henry Baldwin	Jack Elsey	Aubrey Lewis
Reginald Baldwin	Sydney Evison	Jean Merryweather
Jack Bell	Kenneth Everton	Eileen Merryweather
Jack Boulton	Thomas Everton	Harry Oakden
Richard Brocklesby	William Fields	Sydney Richardson
Alfred Burnett	William Fisher	John Sellars
Walter Butler	George Garner	Fred Smith
George Cape	Robert Garner	Harold Smith
Dennis Capps	William Garner	Joan Stanley
Sidney Carter (senior)	Alphonso Gilbert	John Stanley
Sidney Carter (junior)	Nancy Glew	Leif Storr
Denzil Chapman	Enid Glew	Coney Stovin
Mary Clare	Jack Grayson	Desmond Thomas
Arthur Clarke	Joseph Haggitt	Wilfred Walker
Mary Carter	Ernest Heal	Albert Warriner
George Coulson	Herbert Herrick	Eric Warriner
Anthony Dale	Harold Hindley	William Warriner
Noel Dowman	George Houghton	Fred Williamson
Hubert Dowman	Harold Hydes	Alice Willoughby
Harold Drury	Ida Jacklin	Dennis Willoughby
Leslie Drury	Austin Jackson	George Willoughby
Reginald Drury	Cecil Johnson	John Wimbush

Notice the Welton teacher highlighted in red.

The following were invalidated out:

Nora Bishop
 John Foster
 Ralph Jones
 Vera May
 Arthur Wharton

So, How Did the World Wars Affect Our Village and Its People?

During the World Wars, life in Welton changed a lot. Before the wars, Welton was mostly a quiet farming village, but being close to important military places, like RAF Scampton and other airfields, meant the village was part of the war effort.

- Many **young men from the village joined the army, navy, or air force**, so families were often worried about them.
- Farmers worked **extra hard to grow more food** because the country needed supplies for the soldiers. Some villagers even helped **produce food for the war effort**.
- The village was close to **airfields and military bases**, so sometimes soldiers and pilots were seen in the area, and there were more vehicles, planes, and equipment around than usual.

- During World War II, **RAF Scampton** nearby became famous as the home of the **Dam Busters**, so Welton would have felt the presence of important war missions. Villagers might have seen **planes taking off for raids or training flights**.
- Life was also affected by **rationing, shortages, and the fear of attacks**, even in a rural village like Welton.

To summarise, the World Wars made Welton busier and more connected to the military. People worked harder, worried about loved ones, and saw their peaceful village change because of the war.

History doesn't only live in books or museums. It lives in our village - in the paths we walk, the buildings we pass, and the stories of the people who were here before us. Our village and school are more than just places on a map; they have been shaped by generations of people who lived, worked, learned and told stories here. By studying our local history, we have discovered that we are part of an ongoing story - we are the next generation in our village's story. It is our responsibility to remember those who came before us and honour the lives and contributions that helped shape the community we enjoy today.