



Celebrating **REMEMBRANCE**

Young people exploring Remembrance
through art



Generously supported by The Hobson Charity

Cover image: *For valour*, by the art department and students at Queen Elizabeth's Grammar, Alford, Lincolnshire.

'I love the idea of helping our students participate in something larger and beyond subject boundaries.'
Primary school teacher

This booklet accompanies the Celebrating Remembrance exhibition at the Royal Albert Hall in 2010.

A big thank you to all the teachers and students from the following schools who worked so hard to make the Celebrating Remembrance project a success:

Brentside High School, Ealing
The Bridge School, Islington
Dulwich Hamlet Junior School, Southwark
Firs Farm Primary School, Enfield
Highfield Primary School, Enfield
Gateway Academy, Thurrock
Julian's Primary School, Lambeth
Oakthorpe Primary School, Enfield
Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School, Barnet
Queen Elizabeth's Grammar, Alford, Lincolnshire
Raglan Junior School, Enfield
Raynham Primary School, Enfield
Robert Bruce Middle School, Bedfordshire
South Rise Primary School, Greenwich
University College School Junior Branch, Camden
Winchmore School, Enfield

Congratulations also to the 30 home educated children (and their educators) who took part in the Celebrating Remembrance project this year.

The Royal Albert Hall's Learning & Participation team actively seeks to engage specifically with home educators as we recognise they need the same opportunities as children in mainstream education.

'It was a once in a lifetime experience.'
Home educated student



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Over 600 young people aged 5-19 took part in the Celebrating Remembrance project during September and October 2010.

Students learned about the realities and consequences of conflict – in lessons, through their own research and on field trips.

They then expressed their deepening understanding of Remembrance through art, some of which was displayed at the Royal Albert Hall.

Celebrating Remembrance was created by Royal Albert Hall Learning & Participation in partnership with The Royal Hospital Chelsea, the National Army Museum and the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

The project was generously supported by The Hobson Charity.

Visiting the battlefields

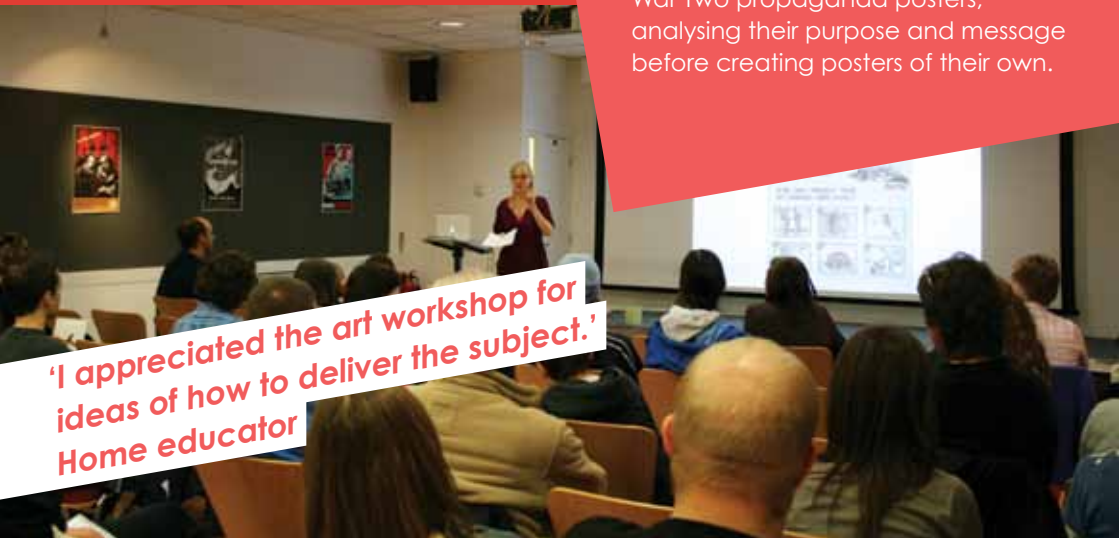


'Being present at these specific places was meaningful and relevant.'
Teacher

A trip to the battlefields of Flanders inspired teachers and home educators in the run up to the Celebrating Remembrance project.

By witnessing for themselves where history happened, teachers could bring Remembrance to life in their classrooms.

Workshops for teachers



'I appreciated the art workshop for ideas of how to deliver the subject.'
Home educator

Special workshops in London helped teachers and home educators prepare for the Celebrating Remembrance project.

They learned how art can be used to express someone's deepening understanding of Remembrance.

They looked, for example, at World War Two propaganda posters, analysing their purpose and message before creating posters of their own.

First-hand accounts



'I really enjoyed both the visit to Ypres and the tour of The Royal Hospital Chelsea. I have learnt so much about the importance of remembering the sacrifice of others.'
Steven, home educated student

Students questioned Chelsea Pensioners about the realities of conflict during visits to The Royal Hospital Chelsea.

Hearing first-hand accounts of conflict, from people who have actually experienced war, brought a new dimension to students' understanding of Remembrance.

'Putting on actual clothes and equipment allowed children to comprehend the levels of discipline and bravery a soldier must face.'
Primary school teacher



Touching history

Several schools visited the National Army Museum as part of their research for the Celebrating Remembrance project.

Students learned about the life of ordinary soldiers and handled genuine equipment and weapons from both World Wars.



By Poppy, age 14, The Gateway Academy, Thurrock. Students studied Picasso's famous anti-war picture, *Guernica*, as a starting point for their exploration of Remembrance.

'The tunics look as though the people who may have worn them have vanished and only the material objects remain.'
By Zoe, Tamara, Milda, Prabesh, Shihan, Luke, Siar, Alicia, Jake, Ryan, Auate, Alavaila and Jess, year 12.

Students from Brentside High School, Ealing, made stunning 3D military jackets from propaganda, letters, packages, newspaper articles and pictures of domestic life during war.



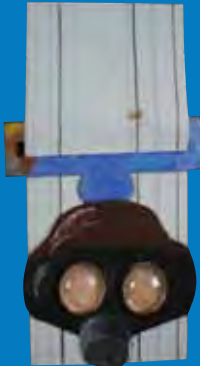
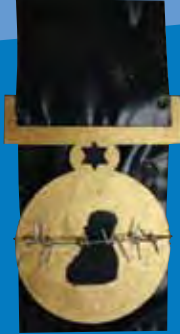


By Alexander, Julian, Ellie and Alannah, year 6, Julian's Primary School, Lambeth. 'In the sea are extracts of bad news that were given during the war. They are in the sea because they are being washed away.'



The Great War, by Simon, age 14, Clara, age 13, and Adam, age 13, home educated. Following a visit to the battlefields of Ypres, the three students made a collage of no-man's land with trenches on either side.

A few of the medals
by year 9 students
at Queen Elizabeth's
Girls' School, Barnet.



Wall hanging by
students from The
Bridge School,
Islington – a school
for students with
severe learning
difficulties.



Remember, by Lloyd, age 13, home educated. Inspired by a visit to the Langemark German military cemetery near Ypres. 'The fields were dense with healthy maize plants, soon to be cut down. We calculated the area of the field that would be covered if every casualty from the cemetery had been a maize plant – an appalling reflection.'

Remember...



Private story, by Will, year 13, Winchmore School, Enfield. 'My painting represents the pain, fear and daunting realisation of war and its atrocities. I have tried to convey the theme of inevitable death and the panic and chaos of war.'



Remembrance bench, by Robert Bruce Middle School, Bedfordshire. Created from drawings, poems, photographs and imagined diaries. 'Our bench will help us remember all those involved in war and the sacrifice they made.'

You can also watch *Love and Loss*, a film made by students of Robert Bruce Middle School, at www.royalalberthall.com/explore.





Patches from Remembrance quilts created by students at Raynham Primary School, Raglan Primary School, Firs Farm School, Highfield Primary School and Oakthorpe Primary School. This outreach project was run with primary schools in Enfield and led by the teachers of Winchmore School art department.



Gassed, by Nathaniel, aged 10, home educated. 'I painted a gas mask because my great grandfather, Charles Irwin, was gassed while he was in the trenches. The eye pieces on the gas mask show the horrors my great grandfather probably saw.'

Project partners

Royal Albert Hall Learning & Participation has worked with over 150,000 children, students and teachers as part of its drive to make the venue accessible to everyone. Royal Albert Hall Learning & Participation creates inspiring projects connected to the Hall's main programme – from fashion shows and dance projects to orchestral works and art workshops.



The Royal Hospital Chelsea invited students to talk to Chelsea Pensioners about their experiences of conflict. Founded in 1682 by King Charles II for the 'succour and relief of veterans broken by age and war', The Royal Hospital Chelsea, with its Grade 1 listed buildings, still serves its original purpose and intends to continue to further its role well into the 21st century.



The Commonwealth War Graves Commission ran a special workshop for teachers and home-educators who were taking part in the Celebrating Remembrance project. The commission looks after the graves and memorials of 1,700,000 men and women of the Commonwealth forces who died in the two world wars. Their graves and memorials are spread over 23,000 locations in 150 countries.



The National Army Museum hosted workshops for teachers and home educators taking part in Celebrating Remembrance and also welcomed students wanting to undertake research for the project. The National Army Museum explores the way in which Britain's past has helped shape our present and our future. From Hastings to Helmand, the museum's inspiring exhibitions and events programme look at the impact the British Army has had on the story of Britain, Europe and the world.



The Celebrating Remembrance project was generously supported by The Hobson Charity.

Military toys

When we were children,
war was just a game.
Now we know better,
it will never be the same.

My military toys,
were always so much fun.
But now my heart is filled with fear,
presented with a gun.

Now the game has changed,
it's something played by men.
A horrifying nightmare,
we failed to see back then.

When we enlisted,
we felt so big and bold.
Now we live in fear of death,
unsure of growing old.

I'll always miss my friends,
now that they are dead.
I saw Jack blown to pieces,
And Paul shot through the head.

If we knew what war was like,
when we were merely boys.
We would have smashed and broken up,
our military toys.

By Isabella, age 13, home educated



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