

The Home Front



This is Elizabeth, her brother James and their mother. They lived in Newhaven at the start of the Second World War.

Use this worksheet to explore the Home Front Exhibition and find out about life in wartime Britain.

1) Find the **Women at War** section of the exhibition to help you with these questions.

What did women make in the factories?

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There are four silhouettes of Women workers who will tell you their story. What was **Pat Jobsey's** job?.....

What **three** roles did the other women do?

1.....

2.....

3.....

Why do you think women with children didn't have to work?

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2) Next, Head into our **Corner Shop**.

Look carefully at products on the shelves.

Pick **one item**. How do you think it got onto the shelves? Did it come from overseas? Do you think it was rationed?.....

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What **rationed** item do you think you would struggle to live without?

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What do you think happened if you forgot your **ration card**?

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Our shop looks quite well stocked but many of the things that you take for granted would have been **rationed** during the war. This means that you would only have been able to buy a certain amount of a particular product.

What was the Black Market?.....

What was in short supply?.....

We were healthy due to rationing. Why was this?.....

3) Now head into our 1940s house.

Why do the windows have masking tape over them?

Look for the **Kitchen**.

Can you find four differences between your kitchen and this one?

1

2

3.....

4.....

Can you spot the **Squander Bug**? What's one bad thing he's suggesting you do:

.....

.....

Now go into the **Living Room**.

Who is the famous singer behind the mirror?

.....

Because there was no TV, what are **three** things you could do for entertainment during World War Two? Have a look around the room for clues!

1.....

2.....

3.....

Why is the air raid warden behind the curtain shouting at you to close them?

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4) Near the entrance you will find a **street that has been hit by bombs** from an air raid.

Make a list of the sounds you can hear.

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What is the name of the shelter that the woman is laying in?

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What is the official title of the men in the black uniforms?

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What was the name of the shelter that is outside the house?

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At the back of this exhibition, you will find two large **un-exploded bombs!**

What is the name of the large bomb on top of all the bricks, and how much does it weigh?

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Can you name **ONE** of the fire extinguishers in this case?

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Read the captions carefully for the **Bombed Out** case. How many Incendiary Bombs could be carried inside the German AB 500-1 bomb container?

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How would you put out an Incendiary Bomb fire?

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While you are here you should visit the **Air Raid Shelter** and experience an air raid for yourself, just like James and Elizabeth would have done if the siren had sounded while they were at school. Don't worry though, this one isn't real!

While you are in the air raid shelter sit quietly and listen to the speaker. Write down six words that explain how you felt while the raid was happening.

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5) Now head across to our **ARP and Home Guard** exhibit opposite the bombed-out street.

What does ARP stand for?

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Look at the Styrup Pump. How do you think it works?

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Look at the ARP uniform, looks uncomfortable, doesn't it? What do you think "CD" stands for?

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In the **Home Guard case**, you will see some paperwork. One is called "100 Practical Questions for the Home Guard". Can you come up with three questions that might be in this book?

1.....

2.....

3.....

Can you see the home guard uniform? Looks very itchy! Can you see the numbers on its arm? Reading the caption closely, where in Newhaven was this Home Guardsman stationed?

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Can you think of two reasons why you would join the Home Guard instead of the Army?

1.....

2.....

Fortunately, the Second World War did eventually come to an end. Do you know when?

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And you're all done!

We hope you enjoyed finding out about everyday life in wartime Britain.