



**BLITZ**  
**80**

**REMINISCENCE**

NORTHERN IRELAND  
**WAR MEMORIAL**  
MUSEUM



Supported by  
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City Council



AS CHAIRMAN of the Northern Ireland War Memorial, it is a great privilege for me and my fellow Board Members to oversee the dedicated work of our team. The history of the NIWM can be traced back to a 1943 fundraising appeal for a memorial building which began in three converted trams placed at Blitzed Square, High Street, Belfast. The museum tells the story of the Blitz of 1941, doubtless the biggest disaster in Belfast's history. Lives were also lost in Bangor, Newtownards, and Derry/Londonderry. Oral history plays an important part in the NIWM's work and museum staff continue to interview and archive many stories of tragedy and heroism in the air raids. These accounts have added greatly to this Blitz 80 resource. This 80th anniversary is a significant point to reflect on the air raids, the casualties, the work of the emergency and fire services – including those who hurried from Éire, and the aftermath for evacuees.

**Ian Wilson**

*Chairman Northern Ireland War Memorial*



THE BELFAST BLITZ brought heart-breaking loss and devastation to the city. 80 years on, the importance of commemorating these tragic events remains. It is for this reason that I am delighted to support the production of this Blitz 80 publication.

City Hall was extensively damaged during the bombings, as you will read about in the pages of this publication. There are numerous artefacts related to the Second World War within City Hall, including a piece of shrapnel believed to have come from an incendiary bomb which struck City Hall on 4/5 May 1941. I encourage you to visit our exhibition or take a tour of City Hall to find out more, when it is safe to do so.

My thanks go to the Northern Ireland War Memorial Museum for producing this great resource. I hope you enjoy reading it.

**Alderman Frank McCoubrey**

*Lord Mayor of Belfast*



## REMINISCENCE PACK

THIS REMINISCENCE PACK has been created to support care homes and community groups to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Belfast Blitz. The resources in this pack have been designed for use with people of various ages and are ideal for connecting people with the past, even if they didn't live through the war years.

This pack contains:

- **REMINISCENCE GUIDANCE**
- **REMEMBERING THE BELFAST BLITZ** – first-hand accounts of the Belfast Blitz and facts about the air raids split into three themes: **Air Raid Precautions**, **The Air Raids** and **The Aftermath**
- **COMMEMORATIVE CRAFT ACTIVITY** – inspired by *April Showers Bring Forth May Flowers* by ceramicist Diane McCormick, which is part of the museum's art collection

Also included:

- **BELFAST BLITZ MEMORIES AND MUSIC CD** which includes spoken memories of the Belfast Blitz and wartime songs performed by music therapist Karen Diamond
- **INFORMATION ABOUT THE NIWM ORAL HISTORY PROJECT**

We encourage Care Home staff and community group leaders to share these resources with residents and members as widely as possible. For ease of photocopying, the resources are contained within a removable slide binder.

The Commemorative Craft Activity has been designed to be photocopied so that the craft resources can be shared with participants.

We'd love to hear how you are using this **Blitz 80 Reminiscence Pack** and see what you have created. Please email your feedback and photographs to [outreach@niwarmemorial.org](mailto:outreach@niwarmemorial.org) or share on our Facebook, Instagram or Twitter.

To request more copies of this resource, please email [outreach@niwarmemorial.org](mailto:outreach@niwarmemorial.org) or visit [www.niwarmemorial.org](http://www.niwarmemorial.org) to download and print



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# REMINISCENCE GUIDANCE

## The benefits of Reminiscence include

- Participants are recognised as individuals and better understood. This confirms their sense of identity and self-worth
- It enhances communication and therefore builds relationships
- It encourages positive social interaction and the sharing of personal experiences
- It uses a *Strengths Approach* – focusing on their long-term memory
- It is enjoyable and fun

## TIPS FOR FACILITATING A REMINISCENCE SESSION

These guidance notes suggest simple techniques for facilitators when using this booklet to help older people take part in an enjoyable Reminiscence group activity.

### Planning

- Aim to have a quiet setting with suitable seating, either at tables or in a circle
- Work with a small group of 5–10 people
- Get to know something about each person's life story
- Plan but be flexible

### Delivery

- Address each person by name (name badges can be useful and colour-coded to indicate people living with *dementia*)
- Speak calmly, clearly and slowly
- Identify yourself and explain the purpose of the activity
- Be a good listener. Use non-verbal responses and positive body language such as smiles, nods, eye contact, leaning in to listen
- Be open and playful in your approach
- Use short simple sentences and ask one question at a time
- In your speech, match the pace of the participants, allowing time for them to gather their thoughts
- Praise responses to increase confidence
- As the leader, do not regard yourself as the historical authority. Believe the stories being told – do not challenge or teach
- Respond to changes in mood, energy and interest. If energy levels seem low, it may be useful to incorporate music and movement into your session
- Do not ask a person living with *dementia* 'Do you remember?' as it can be too pressurising




This section contains extracts from the Northern Ireland War Memorial's Oral History Collection and facts about the Belfast Blitz. It is divided into three themes –

- **AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS**
- **THE AIR RAIDS**
- **THE AFTERMATH**

We suggest using this booklet with a small group of people (up to 10) to facilitate a reminiscence session. Take each theme in turn, and pause when prompted to encourage discussion. You might also want to photocopy the larger reproductions of images included within this resource to distribute among the group to prompt memories.

We hope this booklet will encourage participants to share their own life stories, and memories of the war years if they lived through those times.

The extracts marked  are included on the accompanying *Belfast Blitz Memories and Music* CD so your group might find it engaging to listen to the extracts during the Reminiscence session.

## REMINISCENCE AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS



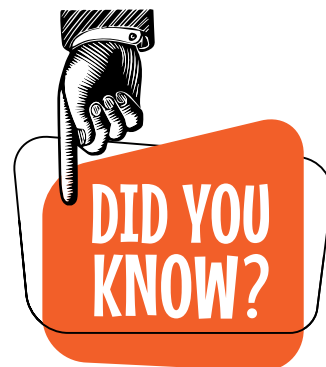
William was living on Excise Street off the Grosvenor Road in West Belfast. He remembered a girl who hated wearing her gas mask and he had an unfortunate experience himself in an air raid shelter

# William

I went to tin-top school, now they called it tin-top because it once had a tin roof on it. Donegall Road Elementary School it was. And then I remember a young girl who was in our class. When they were trying the gas masks on, oh she was so frightened and she was in an uproar and she wouldn't try it on and the teacher tried to implore her and say 'You must wear it! It's against the law for you to not to wear it'. But she wouldn't take it home with her and they had to get her mother down to take it home. I remember they built the shelters there so we could go and work on the shelters. And I was one night in the shelters and it was dark and the air raid warden didn't allow any lights to be on so the Germans wouldn't see and of course a lady fainted and I was sitting there and they're stuffing the water down my throat and I'm crying out 'It's not me! It's not me!' And the water was running out of me, so it was, and I said 'It's not me!' And I told my mother, I said 'I'm not going back to the shelter, if Hitler gets us he gets us, I'm not going back into that shelter' And I never went into the shelter again.



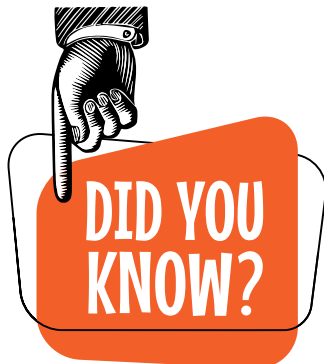
Mickey Mouse Gas Mask  
NIWM Collection



There were fears that Northern Ireland would be attacked with poison gas during the war so everyone was given a gas mask. The Mickey Mouse gas mask was issued to children aged two to five years old and was designed to be colourful so that putting it on would be fun.



Nancy lived in the Cromac Street area near the Belfast Gasworks. Her brother used their Sunday roast to make sandwiches for everyone in the air raid shelter



By April 1941 Belfast had roughly 700 public air raid shelters which could protect only  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the city's population. Their design meant they could not withstand heavy bombs and they were often dark and dirty which made them unpopular with the public.

Blitz damage on Waring Street reveals a new view of the Albert Clock. Notice the air raid shelter and the lamppost painted with white stripes to help it stand out in the darkness of the blackout.

Courtesy Belfast Telegraph

## Nancy

The Blitz was bad here, we had a family wiped out in Gloucester Street there – was it McGoldricks you called them? I remember my brother Jack, he was seven, we used to go up to Beechmount, imagine Beechmount, just to stay the night because there was a Blitz every night. The sirens would have went, so we stayed in a house up there. Sure we were worse up there than we were here, but everything was round you here. We had the Telephone House, the Gasworks – you know we were all crowded round with all these famous places, potential targets. We went up there and the next morning my brother came in, our Jack, and my mother says ‘Oh God son, what happened to you?! Look at you! The state you're in with your clothes and all’ He said, ‘Mummy, I was digging bodies out all night over in Gloucester Street’ They wouldn't come out and the house came down on top of them. I'd say that he probably was passing by and said he'd help. Then there was one night, the air raid shelters were outside your door when they were built and there was one right outside our door and then there was one built up Murphy Street, one of the first ones. We would have went up to Beechmount, I think we spent one night in an air raid shelter and I didn't like it at all. I was a bit claustrophobic and you know everybody was crowding in, everybody was praying. One night my mother came down and she got a roast of meat and this was a great thing this roast of meat you see, and it was a weekend. So, whenever we came down from Beechmount, our Jackie, he didn't go up, the boys stayed down and stayed in the air raid shelter outside our house. If there was any bread or meat that was in the house, he made sandwiches for them all in the air raid shelter!





Harriet was from Drew Street in West Belfast and was being confirmed in church during one of the air raids

## Harriet



Easter Monday night I was getting confirmed in Christ Church in Durham Street in Belfast. We were in the church and all and the minister was doing everything. The next thing the sirens went and the minister says 'We'll have to stop and you'll have to run to get home as quick as you can.' So we had to run up the Grosvenor Road to Drew Street, and then there was the Royal and you remember you've Dunville Park facing, we had to run there to the shelter. And I don't know what religion you are or anything, but it was mostly Catholics there at the time. We walked in and I was in my white coup, my white veil and my white dress. I was lovely, fourteen, mummy and daddy and all. All I heard was a wee woman saying 'Oh my God! There's an angel coming to bless us! Coming to save us!' I can remember that as well there and that's a long time ago, I was confirmed on the Blitz Easter Monday night.



Cycle Despatch Corps helmet  
NIWM Collection

## REMINISCENCE AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS



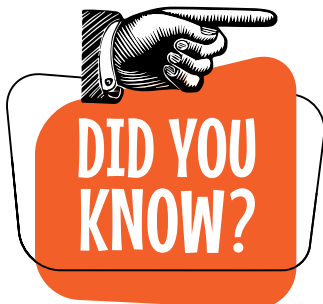
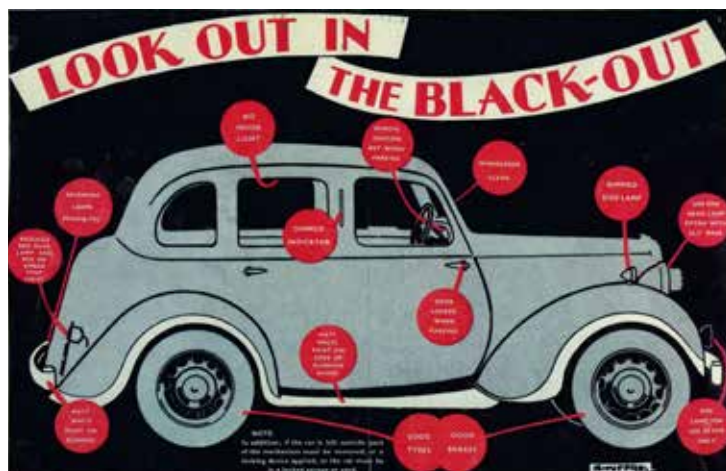
Allenby was living on the Ravenhill Road and helped his father who was an air raid warden

### Allenby

I do remember I had a bicycle, so I was termed a dispatch rider and I do remember in Agincourt Avenue which is just across the park from where I lived... Incendiary bombs had dropped. We were out and what we were doing was putting sandbags, throwing sandbags on top of these incendiary bombs to put them out. I do remember the night I was out with dad you know, with all that smoke. I wanted to get back in again because it was choking you. But I don't remember any of us really being scared, we all had our duties to do. I know that each evening one of my duties was to put up all the blackout curtains. What they were, they were a wooden frame covered with black paper and you know the old-fashioned sash windows. I remember they used to rattle like mad until father he got little rubber wedges to put in and that stopped all the noise, but each evening you had to put up all these window blinds, frames or whatever you'd like to call them so that no lights could be shown at all...

#### Lookout in the Blackout poster

Courtesy of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA)

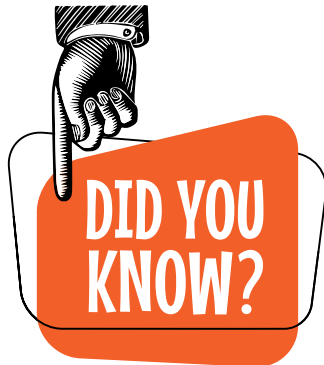


The blackout came into effect on 1st September 1939 but was not always observed when it should have been. In April 1941 it was reported two days after the first air raid on Belfast that the lighthouses on Belfast Lough were shining their lights as brightly as they had in peacetime. Eventually they were painted dark green and their lights were replaced by foghorns to warn ships at night.

## REMINISCENCE AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS



David was living in Lismoyne Park near the Antrim Road. His father was chief air raid warden for Belfast and built his own air raid shelter at the family home.



A total of 34 members of the Civil Defence Service were killed while on duty during the Belfast Blitz. Their names are commemorated on a plaque in Belfast City Hall.

The east wing of Belfast City Hall was extensively damaged during the Fire Raid. The Great Hall on the first floor bore the brunt of the damage. Five portraits were also lost during the attack. One painting of Sir James Johnston (Lord Mayor of Belfast 1917 & 1918) was damaged but was never restored and remains on display as a relic of the tragic events in the city in 1941.

### David

At that time we and the rest of the family were sheltering in what my father had made into a shelter according to the instructions, with a strengthened ceiling, the windows built up with brickwork, gas-proof, gas-tight screens over the doors. We had spare candles in case the electricity went out, which it did, and a water supply. Upstairs the bath was filled with water again to help with firefighting or for use if the water got cut off as it was. I don't remember being scared, thrilled would be more like it. I didn't know what was coming next and I hadn't thought of the consequences. It was just exciting to be there at the time it was happening. That was the first big one, and then a couple of days later there was another air raid when incendiary bombs were dropped. The first air raid was concentrated on the Waterworks and the water settlement plant off the Westland Road. The Germans thought that that was the water supply for Belfast and by knocking that out they thought it wouldn't impede the spread of flame to burn out buildings. So the second big raid was a fire bomb raid and there were fire bombs in the gardens either side of us and around here, but the centre of town got the worst of it...



Damaged painting of Sir James Johnston at Belfast City Hall

by kind permission of Belfast City Council



Civil Defence plaque at Belfast City Hall

by kind permission of Belfast City Council



Irene lived near the Shore Road in North Belfast and described going under the stairs during the air raids

## Irene

What used to happen was, when there was going to be a raid in Belfast, the air raid sirens used to go because they had to come over London you know, they had to come over the Irish Sea, so London knew they were on the way so they would warn Belfast that the German planes were on the way. So, it gave people time to get out of their houses and get into the air raid shelters. But you got a bit more time to get out. I can remember, I can remember before we went into that air raid shelter, underneath the stairway where everybody used to have their coal under the stairs. I don't know whether they still do that? The coal was kept under the stairs and that was all cleared out and we used to have to go in there. When there was an air raid we'd be sitting in there. Also, the blackout, you weren't allowed to have any light showing or anything so everybody had big heavy blankets or curtains up on the windows so there would be no light or anything showing. The place was in complete darkness.



Air Raid Precautions  
(ARP) Badge  
NIWM Collection

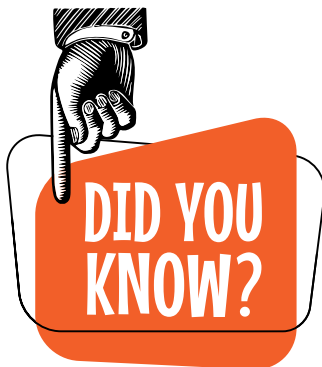


## Time to pause and chat about AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS

- Did you ever have a Gas Mask?
- Did you ever have to go into an Air Raid Shelter?
- Did you know anyone who was an Air Raid Warden?



Bertie lived in Ligoniel and recalled walking out of Belfast to the fields during the Blitz



Following the Easter Tuesday Raid many thousands of people took part in 'ditching' by leaving Belfast each night to go for safety to the hills, fields, barns and roadsides on the city outskirts. Most people generally walked two miles beyond the city boundaries to sleep in locations including the Cregagh and Castlereagh Hills, Divis Mountain and Hannahstown, Cave Hill and Glengormley.

## Bertie

The sky lit up and there was searchlights were all going up, all over the sky, and then the explosions started and the town, looking down into Belfast, it was a mass of flames, different parts of it, and you heard the explosions and you seen all the flashes of the buildings going. Then when that noise all started, the horses start running round and round the field so they did, and there must have been about a dozen or more horses up and they just kept running round the field, and we just sat there watching everything happening. Across from where we were living, on across the Ligoniel Road, was Ewart's Mill. That was Ewart's Upper Mill, and then the next thing, just past it, there was a massive big flash, and it wasn't until the next day we heard that a bomb had dropped. They'd been trying to get the mill but they missed the mill. Now they were about a hundred yards from it, and there was a big crater in the field beside it, and this crater must have been about here to that building across the road, massive big one, and we used to play in that so we did later on. We played in that for we were so young then, and we watched and we heard the planes. You didn't see them, but you seen the searchlights searching the sky for them. I was too young to be frightened then. About three nights in a row we stayed up there 'till you heard the all-clear, the sirens and the all-clear. My father used to say, right, that's it. It was about a quarter of a mile from our house up to where we stayed. We carried the seat of the car up so we did, for to sit on.

## 20,000 SLEEPING IN THE FIELDS NIGHTLY ORDEAL OF BELFAST FAMILIES

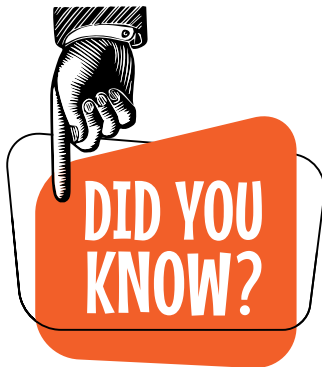
THE nightly evacuation of Belfast by women and children, who sought shelter in the fields and hillsides, was raised in the Northern House of Commons yesterday, following an announcement by the Premier (Mr. J. M. Andrews) to the effect that the Government had decided not to hold a secret session of Parliament.

It was stated during the debate that in one district 20,000 people were sleeping out at night, and the fear was expressed that if 40,000 family huts were not provided around the city before the winter there might be an unspeakable calamity.

Courtesy of Belfast Telegraph



Sadie was attending a dance at the Floral Hall at Bellevue when the Easter Tuesday Raid started.



The government was so concerned about dangerous animals escaping from Belfast Zoo during an air raid that orders were given to shoot the most dangerous. Altogether 35 animals were shot including lions, panthers, leopards, bears, wolves, a tiger, a puma and a lynx.

## Sadie

Well at the time, we had, my friend and I, gone up to Bellevue to a dance at the Floral Hall and we were dancing and then in the middle of it they came and said, 'There was an air raid and everybody had to get out quickly' 'leave quickly' because they were afraid of anything happening and the animals getting loose from the zoo. So, we all ran out, got into a tram, which was absolutely packed and someone said 'Oh, the lights!' A big flash of light came down, flares that lit up as if it was greater than daylight and all this noise started and these flares kept coming down. Everybody was going 'Get under the seats! Get under the seats!' so we all hid under the seats. Somebody had a lit cigarette and passed it down the whole tram, this one cigarette lit because they were afraid to light more, all the flares and they were afraid to light enough. The bombs kept falling, we got as far as Carlisle Circus and the driver said 'We're not going any further! Everybody out! Get to the air raid shelter, quick!' We were just opposite the army barracks, practically Carlisle Circus, we had to run to the shelter and I looked in the shelter and thought 'Oh no, there might be rats there! I'd rather go home!' So my chum and I ran. My other two chums, they had gone in a direction different to us 'cause they were trying to get home. We got as far as a couple of streets up and they started machine-gunning as the woman opened her doorway and pulled us in, in through her door. She said 'I'm glad you're here, because I'm looking after a whole lot of children here, their mothers are out fighting the fire!'

<p><b>Spend EASTER at BELLEVUE</b></p>	
<p><b><u>DANCING</u> at the</b>  <b>FLORAL HALL</b>  <b>EASTER MONDAY &amp; TUESDAY</b>          Afternoons ... 3-30—6-0          Evenings ... 8-0—11-0  <b>ADMISSION:</b>          Monday Afternoon ..... 1/-          Tuesday Afternoon ..... 6d          Monday and Tuesday Evening—          2/- Double; 1/6 Single.</p>	<p><b>CHILDREN'S THEATRE</b>          HAZELWOOD.  <b>EASTER MONDAY &amp; TUESDAY</b>          At 12-0 noon, 3-0, 4-0 and 5-0 p.m.  <b>UNCLE SAM'S Children's Corner,</b>          introducing <b>PUNCH &amp; JUDY</b> with  <b>Spittire Toby. :: Admission Free.</b></p>
<p><b>AMUSEMENT PARK OPEN ALL DAY</b></p>	<p><b>ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS</b>          OPEN 10-0 a.m. till dusk.          (Sunday from 2-0 p.m.)          Feeding Time 4 o'clock. Adults ... 7d;          Children...3d.</p>

Advert printed in the Belfast Telegraph on 11 April 1941, just days before the Easter Tuesday Raid

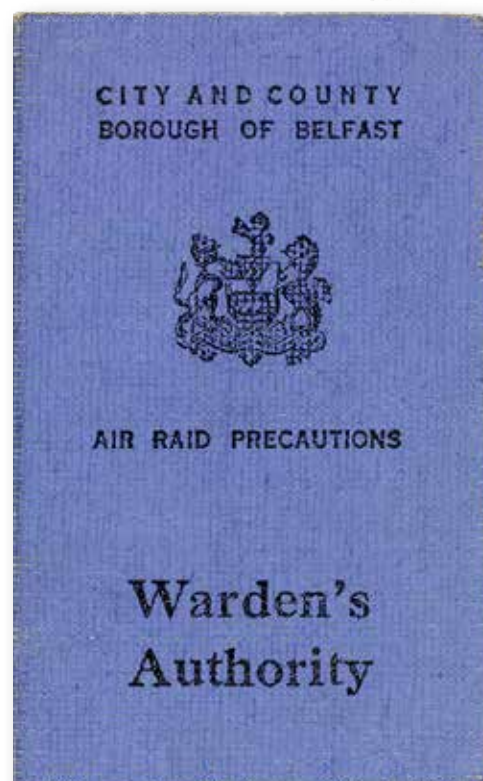


Isabelle was 104 when she was interviewed in 2016. She remembered the Easter Tuesday Blitz and their house being damaged.

## Isabelle

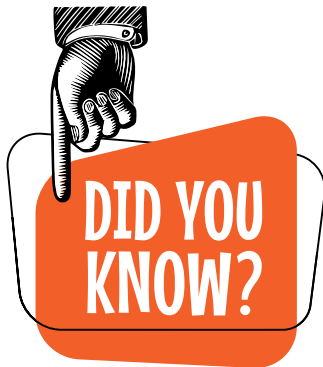
As soon as the sirens went we all had to run, get in and get into under stairs or somewhere. The bomb fell in a neighbour's garden, and then her daughter and her husband had come up from fires. Their house was on the other side of the street and they were killed, next door to me. In the garden, if it had have fell on the solid ground the warden told me it woulda' been worse, it sank into the ground you see. As it is, it caused a crack up the side of the house and my father, he was lifted out of the chair and threw across the floor. And a few of the neighbours were over with me and we were underneath the table but then we had to get out and we went up to the park. So we didn't stay in Belfast. I was brushing in the hearth and the warden came in and he says 'Missus, you needn't brush there for there's a big crack down the side of your house and you'll have to get out'. So we had to get out then and we had a bungalow at Kilroot and we went and stayed in the bungalow for the rest of the war. I thought I was safer out in the open, being up the road, and we were away for a long time. And the first night we came up we were just into bed and away went the sirens and I just took a quilt from me bed and took it with me and up the road. Then we just sat at the side of the road the rest of the night.

Air Raid Warden's card  
NIWM Collection



# THE WAR AND ME

This Blitz survivor lived in Sussex Street and remembered York Street Mill collapsing. Her father was an Air Raid Warden and led the rescue but many of their neighbours were killed.



According to official figures, almost 40 people lost their lives in Sussex Street and Vere Street when the rear wall of York Street Mill collapsed on their houses. Two police constables from York Street barracks, Robert Moore and Albert King, later received medals for their courage in trying to rescue trapped people from the rubble.

York Street Mill  
following the raids  
Courtesy of Belfast Telegraph

## Anonymous

It was York Street Mill, that's all I know, it might have been a spinning mill. And it toppled, a bomb hit it and fell and nearly everybody in the street was killed. My father and his friends were pulling people out and we were pulled out. We lost everything, we had nothing, only what we were wearing. We were under the stairs. In those days you didn't have big kitchens, it would have been your living room and there was a door there and, if you think of it, from your hallway, the stairs went up naturally as they do. That's Irish, but from your living room there was a door leading to your backyard and your coal was put in there and that's where we'd go, if there was any thunder and lightning, 'cause mummy was afraid, we all went in there. I don't even know what age I was because sometimes when your parents spoke about it, I might just think about what they said, you know that way. But I do remember the rubble and the rubbish and the noise and the dirt, we were as black as anything. My father brought us all out. Many a day afterwards, he would have told us stories about all the houses and the people that lived next door to us, and the girl had red hair, ginger hair. That's how he knew it was them, by moving all the rubble. Everybody went into the coal hole or under a table or something depending on what you had, you know people were poor in those days. Most of our neighbours were killed but God was good to us, he was, he was good to us.





Marion was having a cup of tea in a neighbour's house on Hopeton Street in the Shankill area when the house was hit. She spent five hours buried under the rubble before she was rescued.

## Marion

We were sitting in front of the house, in the house having a cuppa' tea, chair was there, fire was there, and we were all sitting round with a wee cup of tea. Mrs Kiely had made it, waiting for my dad, Liz and my cousin Bertie to come in – lucky enough they didn't. But as I say, everything stopped as if the world had went like that - you know, 'Crumbs what's happening?' Strange thing is we could breathe, we could all breathe. The only thing was the ceilings were wooden then and if it had have been plaster I dunno what the result would have been, but they were wooden ceilings and they must have acted as a kind of a wee shield. But as I say the house was rubble. Anyway, we were lying there and we were there five hours. And suddenly I heard a noise above and we didn't hear anything, we didn't hear the all clear. That bomb that was dropped was meant to kill people, you know, because it didn't go off until five hours after the raid. We were all lying there and I heard voices and I could hear people up above and suddenly there was a wee shaft of daylight, you see? A shaft of light appeared and I put my hand up like this and somebody caught my hand. And when I was lying in

there all I thought about was my father and I just said 'Please God, save me for my wee daddy' 'Cause there was just him and I as mum passed away and I can feel that yet, I can feel that inside me. The neighbours told me afterwards he was only forty-one but that he aged ten years that night, you know. My father, he was never the same after that. He didn't worry about losing the house, that wasn't his worry. He's running about saying 'I've lost one and now I've lost the other' and he was never the same, God bless him.

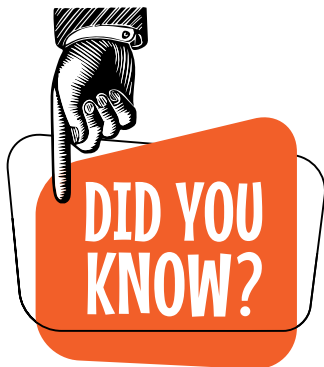


Air Raid Precautions poster NIWM Collection

## REMINISCENCE THE AIR RAIDS



Ann was born in under the family kitchen table in East Belfast during the Easter Tuesday Raid



Harland and Wolff shipyard lost 40 ships either destroyed or damaged in the air raids and almost  $\frac{2}{3}$  of its buildings were devastated. The boiler factory, a power station, cranes, offices, sheds and workshops were all hit and it took three months to repair the shipyard's electrical manufacturing shop.

Damage to  
Harland and Wolff shipyard  
Courtesy of Belfast Telegraph

### Ann

Right, 1941, you know there was a war. During the Easter Tuesday air raids, I decided to pop my head at 2am in the morning. My dad had to go and get a nurse to come and deliver me, my mum was underneath the kitchen table and my dad was out on the street going wherever it was he had to go to get the nurse and the shrapnel was falling round, well round him. When he got back with the nurse, obviously you can see I was delivered. What a time like to be on your own. But my grandmother, my grandmother, aunt and siblings were out in the shelter. You know they had shelters then, they were outside for safety. And my eldest sister she said to her granny 'What's mummy doing?' And of course in those days you didn't talk anything about babies or whatever and granny said to her 'Well your mummy's going to have a wee baby either a girl or a boy' and Madeline looked at her and said 'Granny why do we want another baby? There's plenty of children in this house', which was quite true. But anyhow, yes my father and the nurse came back, delivered me which was 2am on Easter Tuesday morning, and the bombs were flying. I'm told you could hear the bang of the bombs because they were trying to hit the shipyard and Shorts as it was known then and the Ropeworks. I'm not 100% sure but I think my gran or granny used to go in and out until daddy came back so she knew she had her own mother there if nobody else, and then a bomb came in the roof of the house. So as I said to you, I was born on Easter Tuesday.



## REMINISCENCE THE AIR RAIDS



**William lived on Serpentine Parade in North Belfast and remembered seeing a landmine falling on a nearby street**

**Veryan Gardens  
from the Whitewell Road**  
Courtesy of Belfast Telegraph

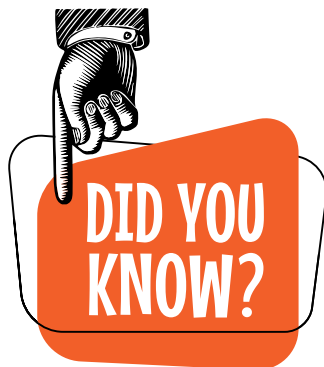
### William

Our mother made us put our day clothes in a little pile, my two sisters and mine so that we'd know in an air raid where our clothes were. And on that night of Easter Tuesday 1941 at somewhere about ten o'clock I think it was, we got the knock on the door from the air raid wardens. We were living in number 11 Serpentine Parade and it was a local man, a Mr Gray who was the air raid warden that told us that this was genuine and that we had to get out, which we did. So we went across the Serpentine Road and into the fields and lay down and it was a short time later that we could hear the bombs exploding and the search lights going up and the sky turning red with the fires up in Belfast where it had been bombed. There's one very, very important remembrance which I do have. As we were lying in the field, my mother, quite clearly - I can remember this - my mother saying, 'Don't look up!' Of course, me being a seven-year-old I had to look up and I saw and I can still envisage this, what looked like a wardrobe with two or possibly three parachutes on it and it drifted over our heads, quite a bit up but I can see with the lights up, the searchlights. It passed over our street, Serpentine Parade, it passed over the one below it which was Voltaire I think it was and it landed in the third one down, I think it was Vandyck. And it was a landmine. Everybody in that street who hadn't went up out of their houses were killed.





Margaret was living in McMaster Street off the Newtownards Road when her house was hit by an incendiary bomb



During the Fire Raid on the night of 4th/5th May 1941 the Luftwaffe dropped 96,000 incendiary bombs on Belfast. The bombs contained a chemical that ignited within them that was so powerful it could melt metal.

## Margaret

That particular night, the city was in flames, the church at the top of our streets was in flames, the sky was red, people were running, people were shouting, people were afraid. It was dreadful. You hear the sirens first, that's your warning. I lived with my mother and I lived with my grandparents for my father was dead and my mother had to work and granny and grandpa wouldn't get up. My grandfather said Hitler wasn't going to move him out of his bed, and granny's corsets were in the lower room so she didn't want to come downstairs to get her corsets. In the meantime, my mother had got me up. I was ten, and I can't remember feeling afraid, but my mother's youngest brother also lived with us, he was only eleven or twelve years older than me and he'd just come in from the Scouts and he had his uniform on. And whenever the incendiary bomb came through our attic roof it bounced onto his bed - fortunately he wasn't in it - and then it burrowed itself through the floorboards but by then my mother had alerted the air raid wardens. And the air raid wardens came in and they were equipped with stirrup pumps and buckets and all sorts of things, hoses and they were able to bring the fire under control. But the place was full of acrid smoke and Andy had gone up to help them - this is my mother's youngest brother - and he had gone up to help them. And when the men left, Andy came out and stood on the landing and smiled at me and I could see no teeth because there was a soot deposit all over his mouth. And this I think annoyed me more than the fact that the house had been on fire.



Incendiary bomb  
NIWM Collection



This interviewee was 19 and living on the Shankill Road in 1941. She was alone at home during an air raid and decided to make her way to her boyfriend's mother's house

## Anonymous

I remember, and this is God's truth, I remember running up the Shankill Road when there was another bomb. It was a Tuesday night and that German, that German plane just come across the Shankill and he actually looked down. I actually looked at him fly past and I just lay flat on the Shankill Road and I had to get up to Endsworth Street, up to Endsworth Avenue because that's where Bill's mother lived and I had nobody else, you see. So we're all huddled there in what you called the coal house. I don't know how many of us were in there, dog and all. It was an awful time, really an awful time. It was awful and my father was in the Army at the time too. My father was a prisoner in the First World War and was in the Second World War and that night alone, that night he was on top of the Gasworks fire watching. And my two brothers were away, my sister was in the Air Force. You know, just my mother – everybody was away. Just an awful, awful time. I was only young, 19, but to this day I think of that plane going over and just for that split second I saw that pilot. I had to lay flat on the ground and that was the night Heather Street was bombed. Heather Street was away on the Crumlin Road, it was bombed that night, and the Newtownards Road on the opposite side. It was a shocking, shocking time. Anybody that lived through the Blitz will never ever forget it.



## Time to pause and chat about THE AIR RAIDS

- Were you in Belfast during the air raids?
- Do you have any memories of areas in the city that were badly hit?
- Did you or your family members escape to the countryside to sleep during the air raids?

## REMINISCENCE THE AFTERMATH



Roy lived in Sunningdale Park in North Belfast with his father. Their house was completely destroyed although they survived, as did their dog Mack who was buried under rubble for five days



Article in the Belfast Telegraph  
19 April 1941

### Roy

My mother died in 1940 and my father and I lived with the aid of a housekeeper, until the house was bombed and then there was no house to keep. As was the custom my father and I, on Easter Tuesday 1941, we settled ourselves under the stairs and the house next – we were No. 5 – No. 7 suffered a direct hit. And fortunately our staircase held up and we were both OK. Fortunately neither my father or I was injured. We were sitting in the little cloakroom under the stairs and we could hear bombs dropping all around us, a bomb every couple of minutes. And when the bomb actually struck the strange thing was that everything seemed to happen in slow motion, the house collapsed in slow motion. The stairs held up and we walked out from under the stairs, my father and I then went for a walk, we walked out and went for a walk. It was the top of the Cavehill Road and we walked along the North Circular Road admiring the bombs as we walked. Just a heap of rubble. I must tell you this, we had a fox terrier. And the bomb was on Tuesday night, Easter Tuesday night and on Sunday following I was scrambling over the rubble to see if there was anything worth saving and I heard scratching below my feet. So with the aid of some others I started digging. And that was Sunday I started digging and out scrambled our dog as good as new! Took a drink of water, wagged his tail and that was that. Tuesday night was the bomb, Sunday afternoon we found the dog, still alive. His name was Mack. And he went to live in Omagh with my stepmother's sister and if a loud bang happened anywhere near him he would run upstairs and hide under the bed.



Sunningdale Park Courtesy of Belfast Telegraph

## REMINISCENCE THE AFTERMATH



Alec was from the Shankill area and recalled the aftermath of the Easter Tuesday Raid, including the destruction of Percy Street

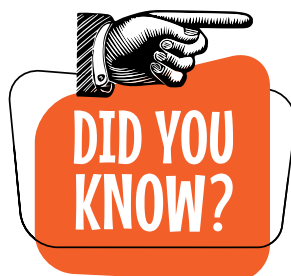
### Alec



There were thousands of people in the fields just lying with old coats or blankets over them, and then when we came down we found the devastation, it was unbelievable. Percy Street was an awful sight. Everybody just went down to see it, it's not like nowadays where they put a cordon round where bombs go off, everybody was just walking about and I've never seen such devastation. The next morning was a sight and there was a funny side to it was well. The Salvation Army were about and I knew one of them that was driving the emergency van and they chased a dog round and round down North Street because there was a head in its teeth, in its mouth. But it was a head of a dummy from one of the shops! And the glass was lying everywhere, you just couldn't walk on the streets. Then the next day we couldn't sleep in the house, it wasn't gone, just the roof was blown off. We went back to the house when the sirens had sounded the All-Clear, it was a continuous note. When the sirens rang it was just a long note and then people just went back to their houses. They wouldn't let us into the house for I think it was about a week, but we were evacuated to Newtownards.



Damage to Percy Street  
Courtesy of Belfast Telegraph



A mine fell near the public air raid shelter in Percy Street during the Easter Tuesday raid, killing nearly 40 people. Many houses collapsed in this densely populated working-class area and it was one of the worst-hit streets during the Belfast Blitz.

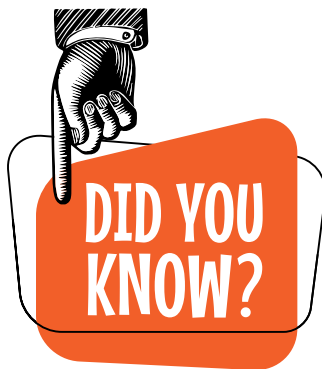


Esther's house in Harcourt Drive off the Cliftonville Road was destroyed and she was evacuated afterwards to family in County Tyrone. The only thing that survived were the fused coins from the money boxes she and her brother Roy had.

## Esther



We didn't have anything, the only thing that was standing was the old burnt-out washing machine, that was all. And my father went up the next day, after he had got us away down to the country. He went up to see if there was anything that could be salvaged, but there wasn't a thing. And then he came across the money that had been, so we assumed that was out of our boxes. It was just all our pennies in our money boxes really, probably the two, Roy had one and I had one and in those days it was just pennies you got, you know it wasn't pounds. So anything we got we put it into our money boxes to save up and I think it was just fused with the blast. We didn't have the money boxes at all, it was just the money my dad found. It was altogether, it was one clump, but then when we took it down to County Tyrone, when my dad brought it down to show us, my grandfather said 'Oh I'd love to keep a piece of that.' And he managed to get it apart, you know, so that's why it's in two bits now because he wanted to keep a bit to show everybody – he couldn't believe what he was seeing.



It's estimated that 55,000 houses were destroyed during the Belfast Blitz, over half the city's housing stock. Around 100,000 people were left temporarily homeless and by late May 1941 220,000 people had been evacuated from Belfast.



Esther's fused coins previously loaned to the NIWM Collection



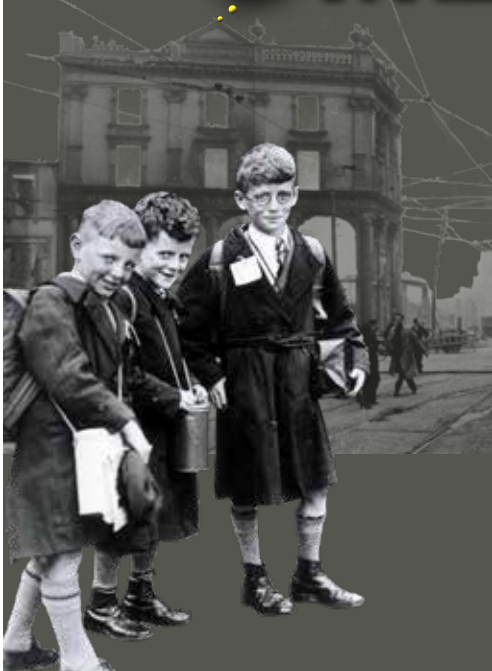
## Time to pause and chat about THE AFTERMATH OF THE BELFAST BLITZ

- Did you know anyone who lost their house in the Air Raids?
- Did you see the bomb damage in the city, maybe even years later?
- Were you or your family members evacuated to the countryside?



THE WAR  
AND ME

DO YOU HAVE  
MEMORIES  
OF THE SECOND  
WORLD WAR?



Maybe you would like to contribute to our Oral History Project. If you or someone you know would like to share their story, either through a written account or a telephone interview, then please get in touch with Michael Burns, The War and Me Oral History Project Coordinator

Email [projects@niwarmemorial.org](mailto:projects@niwarmemorial.org) or  
telephone 07588634847

**WE'D LOVE TO HEAR YOUR STORY**



Mickey Mouse Gas Mask  
NIWM Collection

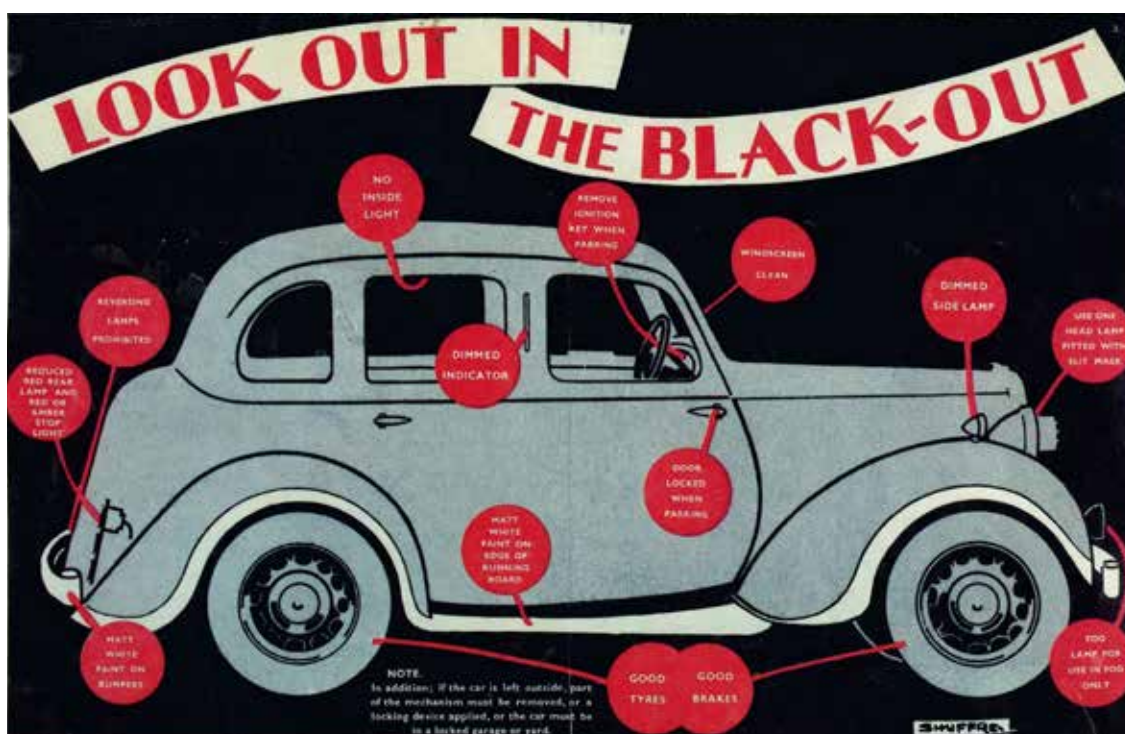


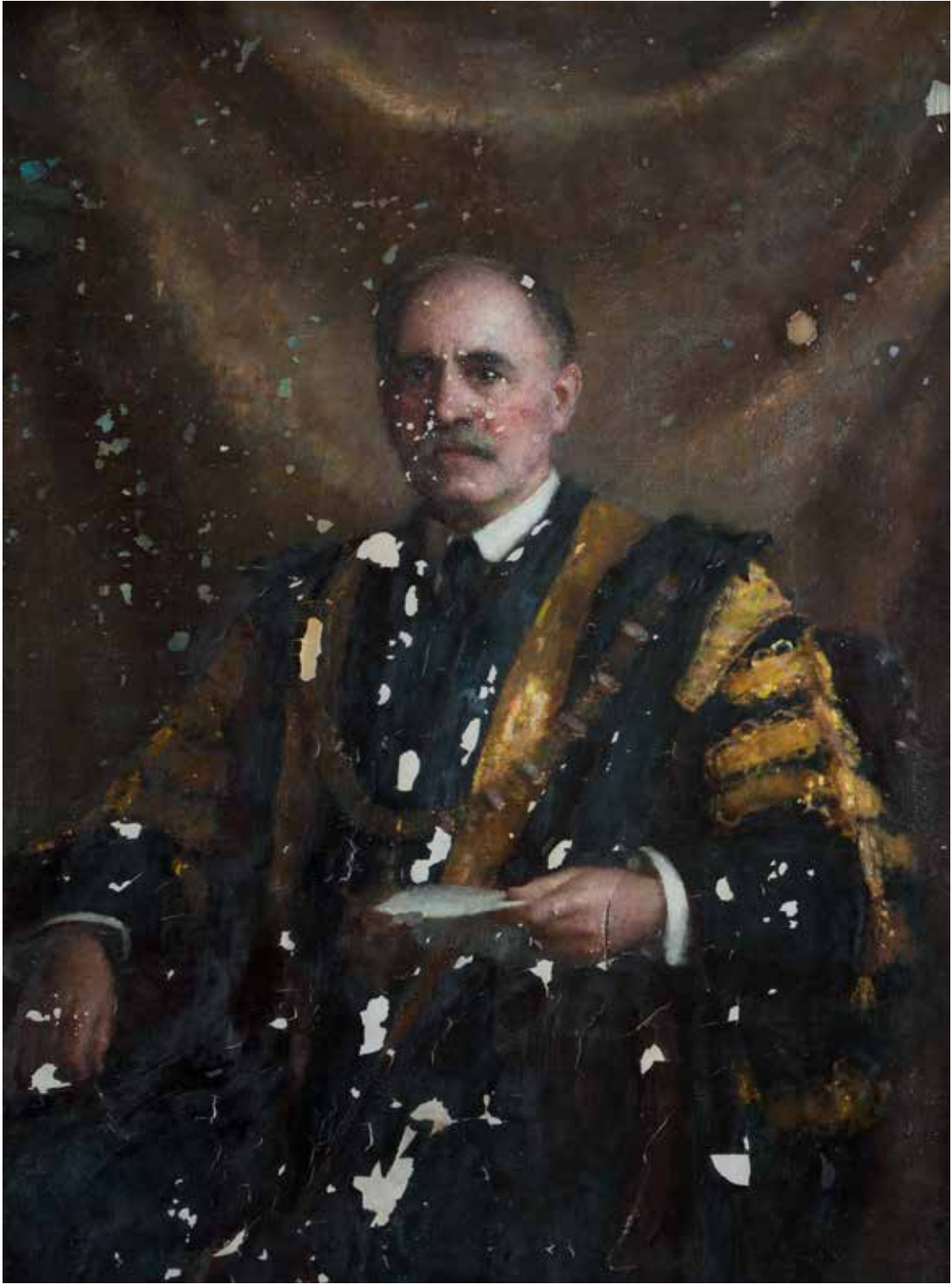
Blitz damage on Waring Street reveals a new view of the Albert Clock. Notice the air raid shelter and the lamppost painted with white stripes to help it stand out in the darkness of the blackout. Courtesy Belfast Telegraph



Cycle Despatch Corps helmet  
NIWM Collection

Lookout in the Blackout poster Courtesy of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA)





Damaged painting of Sir James Johnston at Belfast City Hall  
by kind permission of Belfast City Council



Civil Defence plaque at Belfast City Hall  
by kind permission of Belfast City Council



Air Raid Precautions (ARP) Badge

NIWM Collection

<h2 style="text-align: center;">Spend EASTER at BELLEVUE</h2>			
<h3><b>DANCING</b> at the</h3> <h3><b>FLORAL HALL</b></h3> <h4><b>EASTER MONDAY &amp; TUESDAY</b></h4> <p>Afternoons ... 3-30— 6-0          Evenings ... 8- 0—11-0</p> <p><b>ADMISSION:</b>          Monday Afternoon ..... 1/-          Tuesday Afternoon ..... 6d          Monday and Tuesday Evening—          2/- Double; 1/6 Single.</p>	<h3><b>CHILDREN'S THEATRE</b></h3> <p style="text-align: center;">HAZELWOOD.</p> <h4><b>EASTER MONDAY &amp; TUESDAY</b></h4> <p>At 12-0 noon, 3-0, 4-0 and 5-0 p.m.  <b>UNCLE SAM'S Children's Corner,</b>          introducing <b>PUNCH &amp; JUDY</b> with  <b>Spitfire Toby. :: Admission Free.</b></p> <h4><b>ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS</b></h4> <p><b>OPEN 10-0 a.m. till dusk.</b>          (Sunday from 2-0 p.m.)</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Feeding Time 4 o'clock.</td> <td>Adults ... 7d; Children...3d.</td> </tr> </table>	Feeding Time 4 o'clock.	Adults ... 7d; Children...3d.
Feeding Time 4 o'clock.	Adults ... 7d; Children...3d.		
<h2 style="text-align: center;">AMUSEMENT PARK OPEN ALL DAY</h2>			

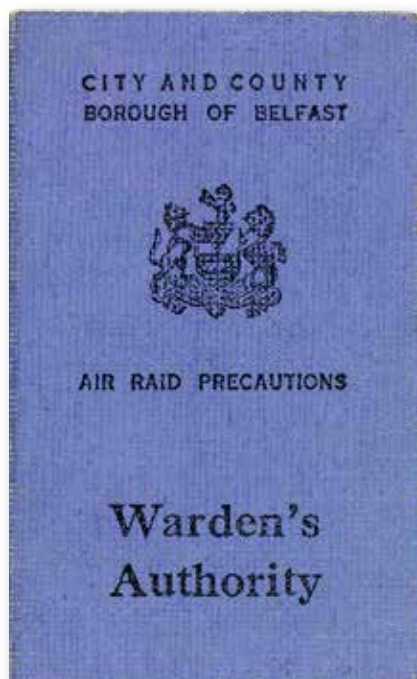
Advert printed in the Belfast Telegraph on 11 April 1941, just days before the Easter Tuesday Raid

# 20,000 SLEEPING IN THE FIELDS NIGHTLY ORDEAL OF BELFAST FAMILIES

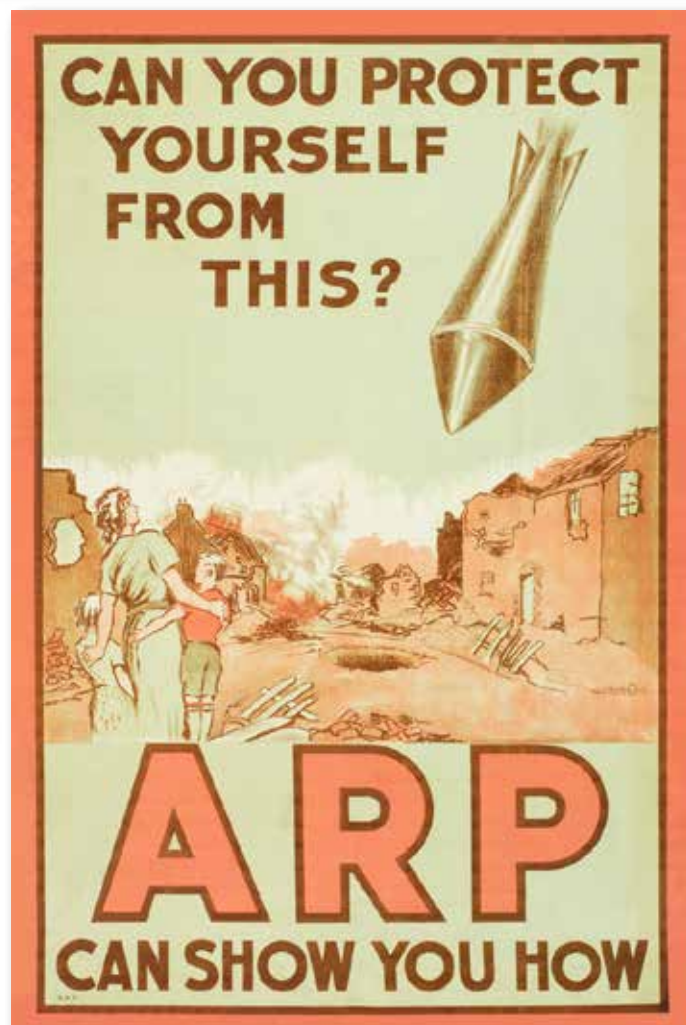
THE nightly evacuation of Belfast by women and children, who sought shelter in the fields and hillsides, was raised in the Northern House of Commons yesterday, following an announcement by the Premier (Mr. J. M. Andrews) to the effect that the Government had decided not to hold a secret session of Parliament.

It was stated during the debate that in one district 20,000 people were sleeping out at night, and the fear was expressed that if 40,000 family huts were not provided around the city before the winter there might be an unspeakable calamity.

Courtesy of Belfast Telegraph



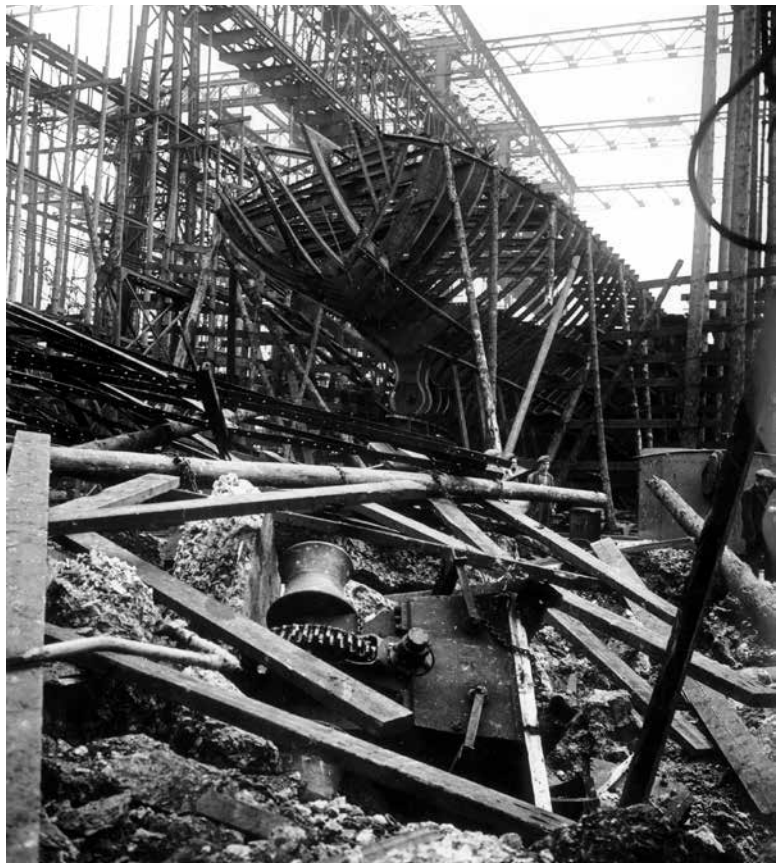
Air Raid Warden's card  
NIWM Collection



Air Raid Precautions poster NIWM Collection



**York Street Mill  
following the raids**  
Courtesy of Belfast Telegraph



**Damage to  
Harland and Wolff shipyard**  
Courtesy of Belfast Telegraph



**Veryan Gardens from the Whitewell Road**  
Courtesy of Belfast Telegraph

**Sunningdale Park**  
Courtesy of Belfast Telegraph





## **Terrier Buried For 60 Hours.**

**R**EX was a fox terrier, greatly attached to his Belfast mistress and her daughter, but a German bomb wrecked their home, injuring both in the early hours of Tuesday morning.

They were taken to hospital and a friend went yesterday about two o'clock to see if anything had been salvaged from the wreckage.

The demolition squad asked if the woman had had a dog as the men believed they could hear one whining under the debris.

When told of Rex the party set to with a will and eventually reached him. He was pinned on a rafter by a huge mass of debris, but he was still alive.

He was released, having been buried for sixty hours.

One of the rescuers carried him to the home of the friend, where a hot bath, hot milk and beef extract soon restored his spirits.

Rex is his old self this morning, ready to welcome one of his mistresses, who was slightly injured, when she returns from hospital to-day.

Article in the Belfast Telegraph 19 April 1941

Incendiary bomb  
NIWM Collection



**Damage to Percy Street** Courtesy of Belfast Telegraph



**Esther's fused coins** previously loaned to the NIWM Collection



NORTHERN IRELAND  
**WAR MEMORIAL**  
MUSEUM

## REMINISCENCE COMMEMORATIVE CRAFT ACTIVITY

Inspired by *April Showers Bring  
Forth May Flowers*

Created in partnership with the artist,  
ceramicist Diane McCormick

This commemorative craft activity is inspired by *April Showers Bring Forth May Flowers* by Diane McCormick which is part of the museum's art collection. The artwork is named after a 16th century proverb and it shows falling bombs transforming into flax flowers. It relates to the four German air raids Belfast suffered in April and May 1941 – the Belfast Blitz.

Diane explains the meaning behind her artwork:

*'The bombs relate to the Blitz and allude to the poppies falling from the ceilings at Festivals of Remembrance. The flax flowers record the Dig for Victory campaign which encouraged the growth of flax during the war. They also symbolise the resilience of the people in war and their determination to flourish after the devastation.'*

When making this art piece, Diane was given access to the museum's collection of photographs, newspapers, and posters, so the bombs and flowers are decorated with wartime imagery.

In this pack you will find instructions for creating your own artwork based on either a bomb or a flax flower shape. Also included is a range of imagery to be used to decorate your shapes including wartime badges, posters, newspaper articles and Easter flowers. We have also included a list of the streets affected by the Belfast Blitz, and the surnames of casualties which can be added to your artwork. We encourage activity therapists and group leaders to photocopy these resources and share them with their residents for use in this craft activity.

If you make a bomb or flower shape as part of a group, you can display them together to recreate *April Showers Bring Forth May Flowers*.

We hope this craft activity will inspire you to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Belfast Blitz. We would love to see what you create, so please send photographs to [outreach@niwarmemorial.org](mailto:outreach@niwarmemorial.org) or share them on our Facebook, Instagram or Twitter. We hope to include as many of these as possible in a digital artwork replicating Diane McCormick's original *April Showers Bring Forth May Flowers*.

# What you need

- Cardboard
- Scissors
- Glue stick/PVA glue
- Colouring pencils/felt tips/paints

## Instructions for decorating bomb and flower shapes

- Use the falling bomb or flax flower shape provided in your pack. Cut out your shape and use it as it is or use it as a template to draw it onto some stiffer card like a cereal packet or box. Paint the card white and let it dry before you begin.
- Cut out some of the flax flowers, shamrocks, bluebells or daffodils on the sheets provided.
- Arrange the flowers as you wish within your shape. Stick them down with a glue stick or PVA glue.
- Alternatively, you can cut out some of the photographs, badges, posters, or newspaper cuttings and add them to your shape. It doesn't matter if some of the design goes over the edge of the flower or bomb shape as you can trim it at the end.
- Cut out and add some Blitz street names or casualty surnames. Placing these around the edges of the bomb shape or centre of the flower shape can look effective.
- Use colouring pencils, felt tips or paint to add colour to your designs.
- If you wish you add your own memories about the Second World War and then arrange the flowers around them.
- Finally, when the glue has dried, cut around the overall flax flower or bomb shape to tidy the design





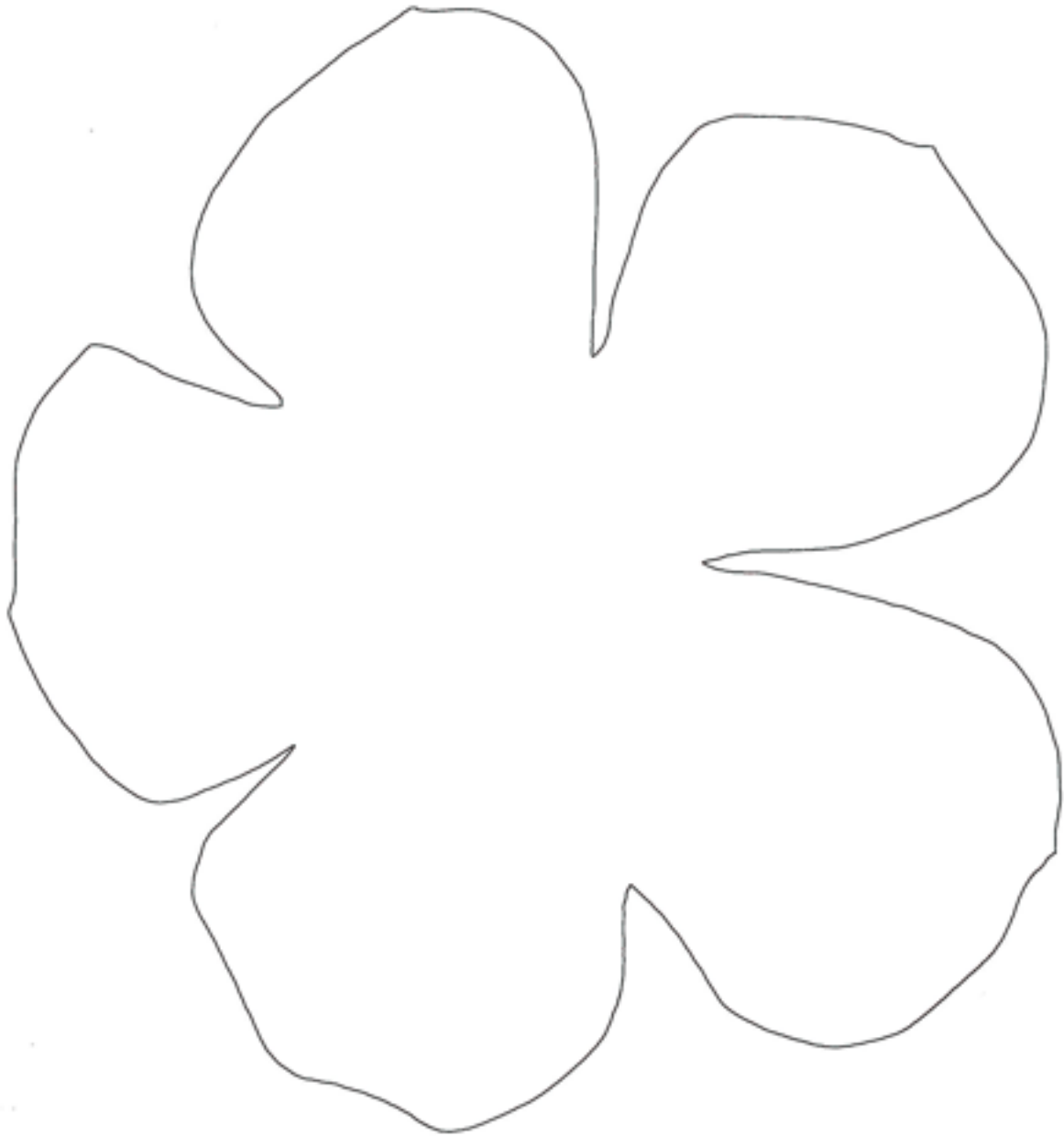
# April Shower

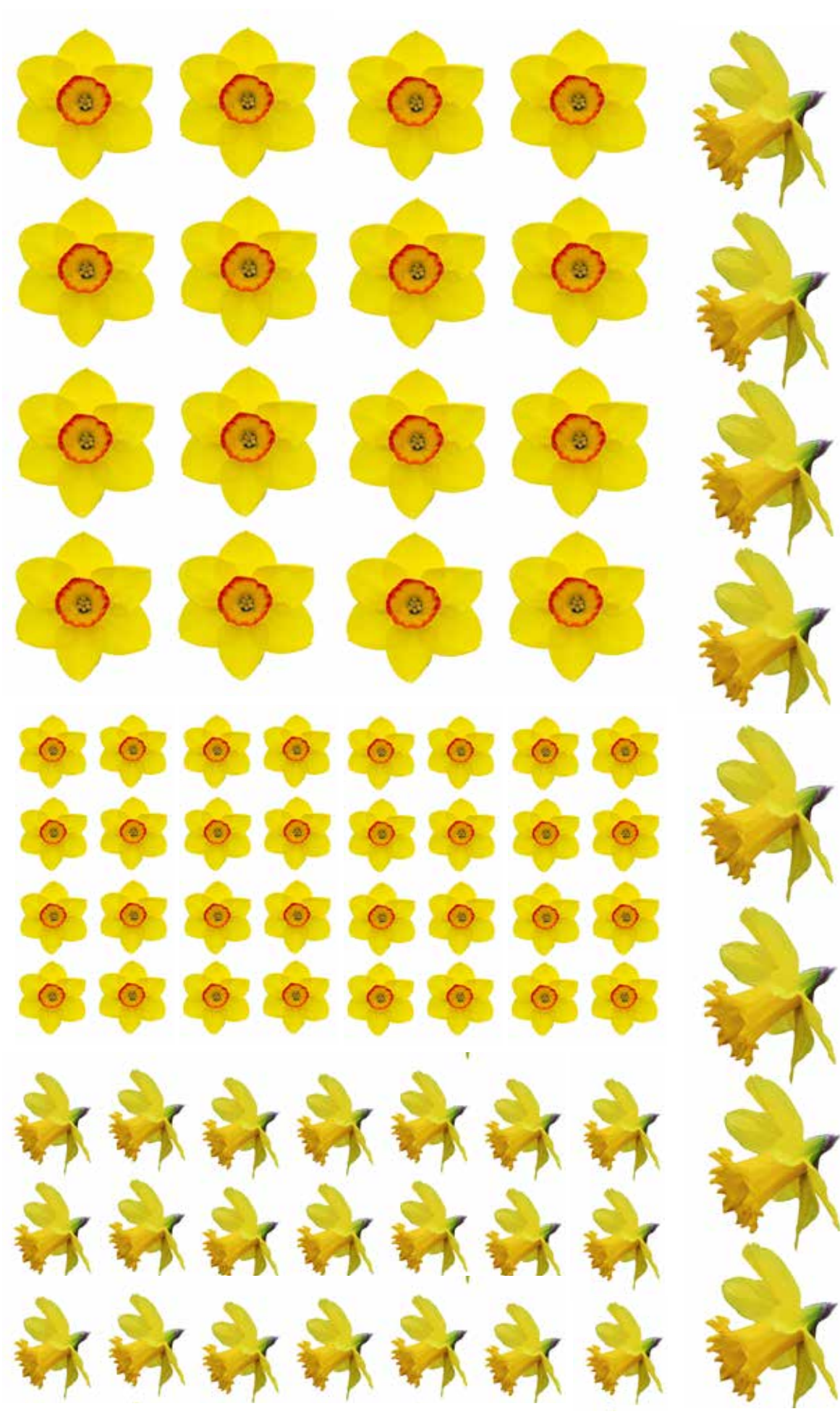
Inspiration for this shape is taken from the falling bombs of the Belfast Blitz

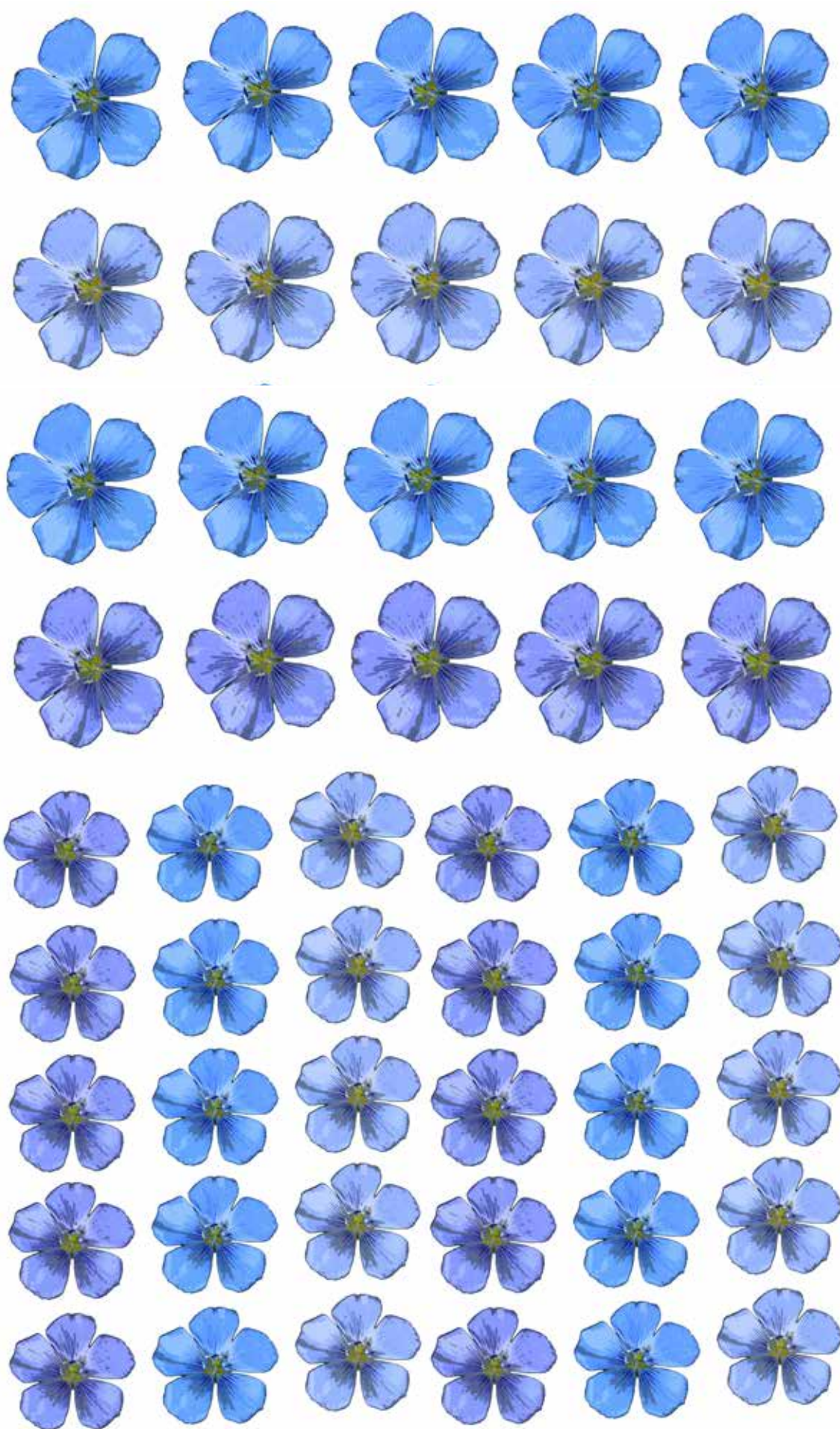


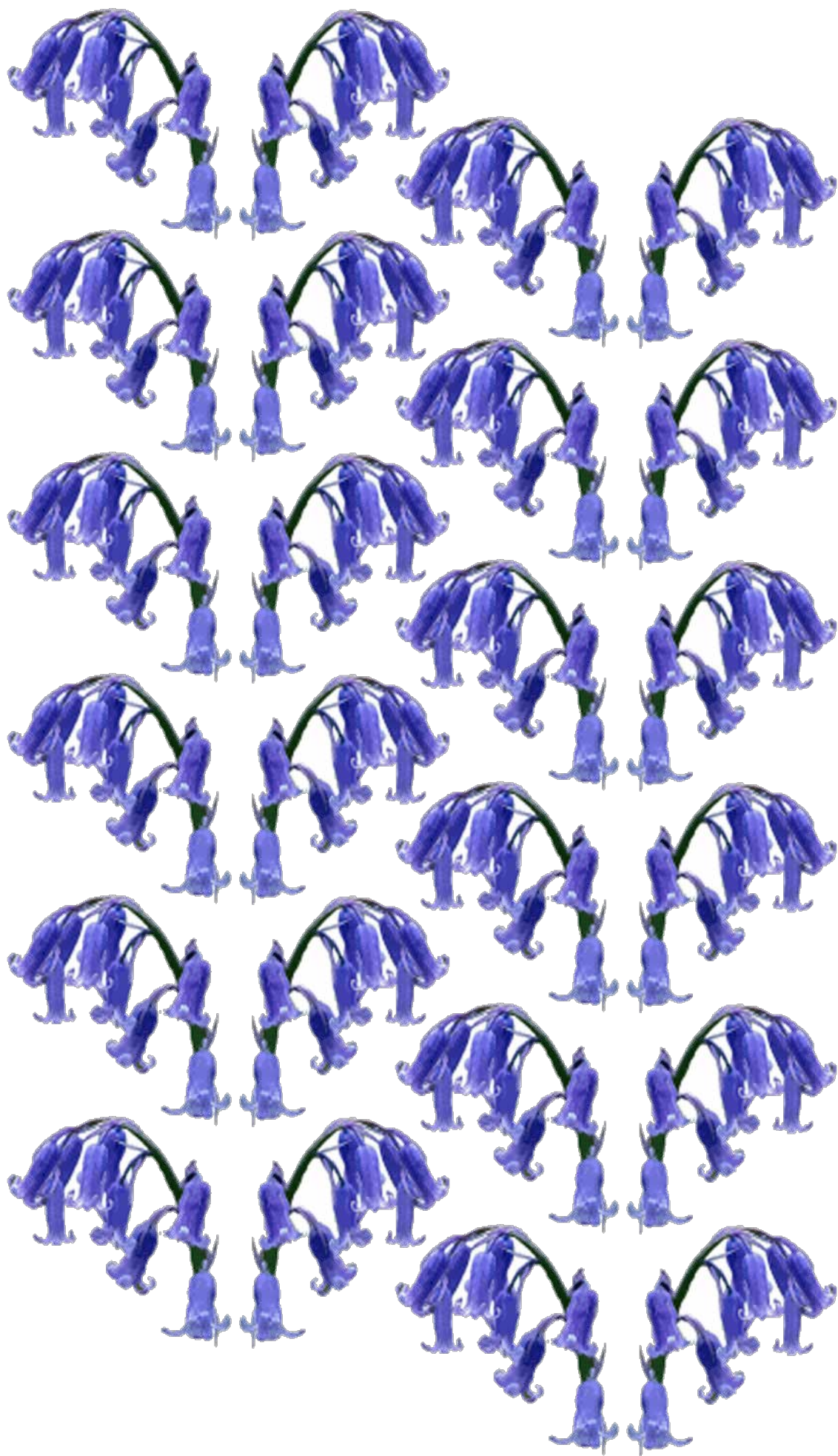
# May Flowers

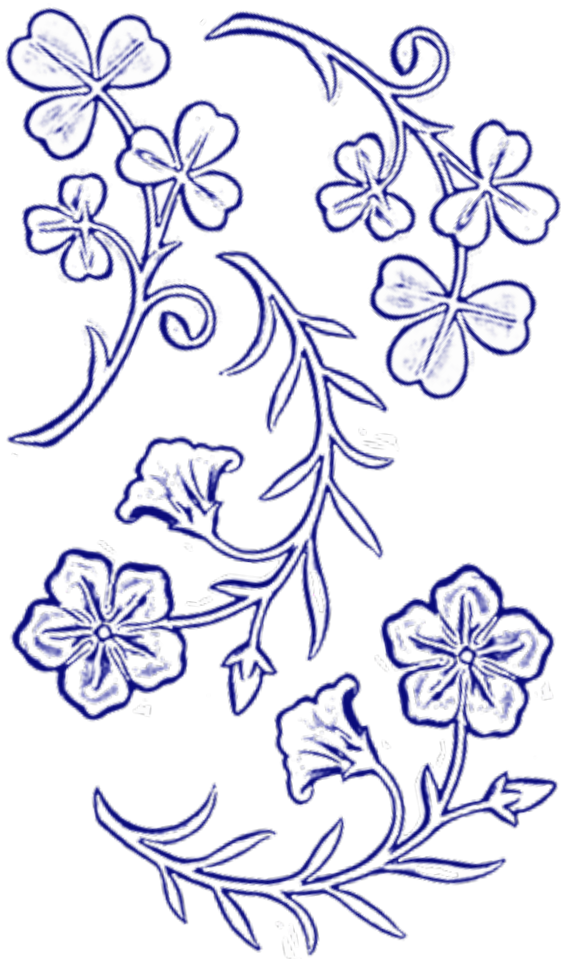
Inspiration for this shape is taken from the flax flower. Flax was historically grown in Northern Ireland for the linen industry and in the 1940s it provided material for parachutes and uniforms.











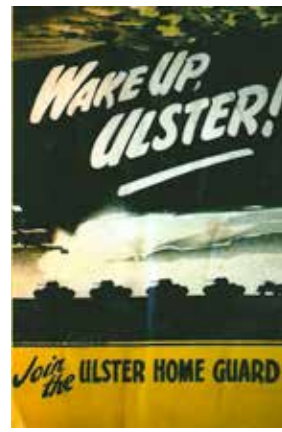
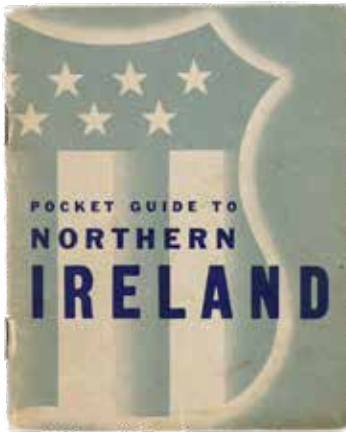
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AITKEN	BROOKER	CONNOLLY	DUFF	GREER	HOLT
ALLISTER	BROOKES	CONVERY	DUFFY	CRIBBIN	HOLTON
ANDERSON	BROTHERS	COOMBS	DUNLOP	CRIMES	HOOD
ANDREW	BROWN	COOKE	DUNWOODY	CUGLIELMAZZI	HOWARD
ARMSTRONG	BROWNE	COPLING	ELKIN	GUINNIS	HOWE
ARTT	BURDETT	CORR	ELLIOTT	GUY	HUDDLESTON
ASH	BULLOCK	CORRY	ERSKINE	HACANS	HUGH
ATCHESON	BURKE	COSTELLO	ESDALE	HAGGAN	HUGHES
BAIRD	BURLEIGH	CRAIG	FARRELLY	HACIN	HUNTER
BALL	BURTON	CREIGHTON	FAUX	HALLIDAY	HUTCHINSON
BALLANCE	BYRNE	CROASDALE	FEE	HAMILTON	HUTTON
BALLANTINE	CALDWELL	CROSSAN	FERGUSON	HANNA	HYNES
BALMER	CAMERON	CROTHERS	FERRIS	HARBINSON	IRVINE
BARR	CAMPBELL	CROTTY	FINLAY	HARKNESS	IRWIN
BEATTIE	CARLETON	CURRAN	FINNEGAN	HARPER	JACKSON
BEECH	CARROLL	CURRY	FISHER	HARRIS	JACOBSON
BEGGS	CARSON	DANBY	FLACK	HARRISON	JAMIESON
BELL	CARTER	DARRACH	FLETCHER	HARRON	JAMISON
BELSHAW	CASH	DAVEY	FLOOD	HARVEY	JERWOOD
BENNETT	CASTLES	DAVIDSON	FLYNN	HAWKINS	JOHNSTON
BENTON	CHILDS	DAVISON	FORBES	HAWTHORNE	KANE
BILL	CHRISTIAN	DEERING	FRENCH	HEANEY	KATER
BINGHAM	CHRISTY	DEMPSTER	FRIZZELL	HEMELRYK	KEANE
BLACK	CHURCH	DENBY	FULLERTON	HENDERSON	KEARNEY
BLEAKLEY	CINNAMON	DENNANT	GARDNER	HENDRON	KEENEY
BOAL	CLARKE	DOHERTY	GARRETT	HENRY	KELLY
BOTHWELL	CLOSE	DOJAN	CASS	HERON	KENNEDY
BOYD	COBAIN	DONNELLY	GEDDIS	HIGGINS	KIDGER
BRADLEY	COBBLE	DORNAN	GILMORE	HIGGISTON	KING
BRADSHAW	COCHRANE	DORMAN	GORDON	HILL	KINCHAN
BRADY	COLE	DORNAND	GOWAN	HILLIS	KINGSTON
BRANIFF	COLLINS	DOUGLAS	GRAHAM	HILLOCK	KNIGHT

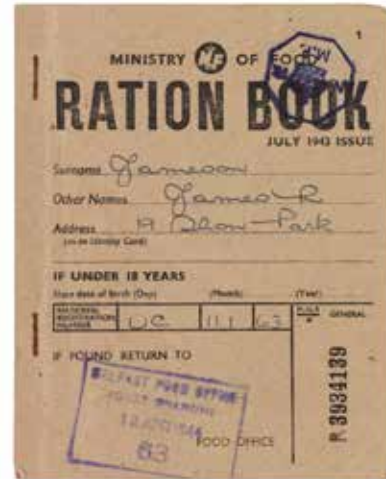
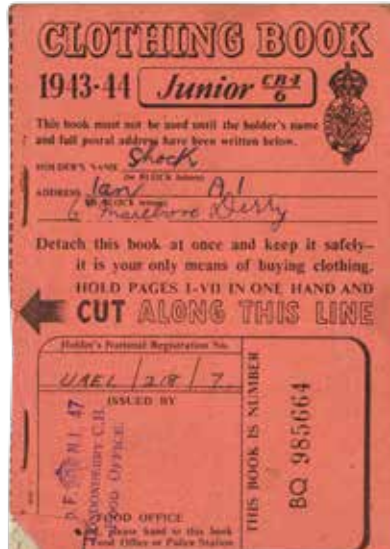
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KYLE	McDONALD	McNIECE	MURDOCK	ROGERS	TIMONEY
LAMBERT	McDOWELL	McPOLIN	MURRAY	ROSS	TODD
LANCASTER	McELHERAN	McSHANE	NEILL	ROSSBOROUGH	TOOGOOD
LARMOUR	McERLEAN	McSOURLEY	NESBITT	ROWLEY	TOOLE
LEEBODY	McFALL	McTERNACH	NIXON	ROY	TORLEY
LEMON	McFARLAND	McVEIGH	O'BOYLE	RUSSELL	TOTTON
LENNON	McFARLANE	McWHINNEY	O'BRIEN	SAUNDERS	TURNER
LIDDIARD	McCARRY	MACDONALD	O'HARE	SAVAGE	TURPIN
LILLEY	McGAUGHAN	MACEE	O'NEILL	SCOTT	UNSWORTH
LONG	McGEE	MAGILL	ORR	SCULLION	VANNAN
LUTTON	McGENNITY	MAGOWAN	OSBEN	SEAWARD	VENN
LYNAS	McCERRIGAN	MAHAFFEY	OWENS	SHAW	VENTON
LYTTL	McGLADDERY	MALCOLM	PARK	SILVERMAN	VIGORS
McADAMS	McCOOKIN	MALCOLMSON	PATIENCE	SIMMONS	WALLACE
McANESPIE	McGOWAN	MALLON	PATTERSON	SIMON	WALSH
McATAMNEY	McGRAWN	MARASI	PENFOLD	SKELLY	WARD
McATEER	McGREGOR	MARTIN	PERRING	SKELTON	WARWICK
McAULEY	McGRODER	MASON	PHILLIPS	SLAVIN	WATSON
McAVOY	McHUGH	MATEER	PICKUP	SMITH	WATT
McCAFFERY	McILVEEN	MAWHINNEY	POLLOCK	SMYTH	WEBB
McCALLUM	McINTYRE	MAXWELL	POWER	SPENCE	WELCH
McCANN	McILWAINE	MAYS	PRITCHARD	SPRATT	WELSH
McCAREY	McKAY	MEAKLIM	QUIGLEY	STAFFORD	WHERRY
McCARTNEY	McKEE	MELLS	QUINN	STAUNTON	WHITE
McCLEARY	McKENNA	MILEY	REDMAN	STEELE	WILSON
McCLELLAND	McKEOWN	MILLAR	REID	STERRETT	WISEMAN
McCLEMENTS	McKINTY	MILLER	REILLY	STEVENSON	WRIGHT
McCLOSKEY	McKNIGHT	MILLS	RENTON	STEWART	WYLIE
McCORMICK	McLEARY	MONTCOMERY	RICHARDSON	STORY	
McCREADY	McLELLAN	MOORE	RICHMOND	SWANN	
McCRICKAR	McMEEKAN	MORRIS	RIECKEN	TAGCART	
McCULLAGH	McNAIR	MORTON	ROBERTS	TATE	
McCULLOUGH	McNALLY	MULDOON	ROBINSON	TAYLOR	

ABERDEEN STREET  
AINSWORTH PASS  
ALBERTBRIDGE ROAD  
ALEXANDRA JETTY  
ALEXANDRA PARK AVENUE  
ALEXANDRA WORKS  
ALLIANCE ROAD  
ANNADALE STREET  
ANNETTE STREET  
ANTRIM ROAD  
ASHLEY GARDENS  
ATLANTIC AVENUE  
AVOCA STREET  
AVONDALE STREET  
BALLYCLARE STREET  
BALLYNURE STREET  
BALLYSILLAN ROAD  
BEECHMOUNT CRESCENT  
BELMONT ROAD  
BEN MADIGAN PARK  
BLYTHE STREET  
BRIDGE STREET  
BROMLEY STREET  
BROWN'S SQUARE  
BURKE STREET  
CAREW STREET  
CARLOW STREET  
CLIFTONPARK AVENUE  
CLIFTONVILLE ROAD  
CONCORD STREET  
CONNSWATER STREET  
DISRAELI STREET  
DOCK STREET  
DONECALL STREET  
DONECORE STREET  
DUFFERIN DOCK  
DUFFERIN STREET  
DUNCAIRN GARDENS  
DUNCRUE STREET  
EASTLAND STREET  
EDLINGHAM STREET  
ECLINTON STREET

ESTORIL PARK  
ETNA DRIVE  
EVELYN GARDENS  
CAINSBOROUGH DRIVE  
GLANTANE STREET  
GLASCOW STREET  
GLENCOE PARK  
GLENRAVEL STREET  
GLOUCESTER STREET  
GRACEHILL STREET  
HALLIDAYS ROAD  
HARCOURT DRIVE  
HARLAND AND WOLFF  
HATTON DRIVE  
HAZELDENE GARDENS  
HEATHER STREET  
HENRY STREET  
HIGH STREET  
HILLMAN ST  
HOCARTH STREET  
HOLMDENE GARDENS  
INDIANA AVENUE  
KENDAL STREET  
KILRONAN STREET  
LILLIPUT STREET  
LINCOLN AVENUE  
LOUISA STREET  
MANOR STREET  
MESSINES PARK  
MILLFIELD AIR RAID SHELTER  
MONTREAL STREET  
NEWTOWNARDS ROAD  
NORTHERN ROAD  
OHIO STREET  
OAKLANDS  
ORCHARD STREET  
PARKGATE AVENUE  
PERCY STREET  
POLLOCK DOCK  
QUEEN'S ISLAND  
RAVENSCROFT AVENUE  
RIBBLE STREET

ROSEBERY ROAD  
ROSEBERY STREET  
SALISBURY AVENUE  
SANDOWN ROAD  
SEAFORDE STREET  
SEASCAPE PARADE  
SERPENTINE GARDENS  
SERPENTINE ROAD  
SHANDON STREET  
SHANKILL ROAD  
SHERIDAN STREET  
SOMERTON ROAD  
SOUTHPORT STREET  
SUNNINGDALE PARK  
SUSSEX STREET  
TAMAR STREET  
THORNDYKE STREET  
TORRENS ROAD  
TWICKENHAM STREET  
TYNE STREET  
SHORE ROAD  
STRATHEDEN STREET  
SYLVAN ROAD  
TEMPLEMORE AVENUE  
THORNDYKE STREET  
UNITY STREET  
UPPER MEADOW  
VERE STREET  
VERYAN GARDENS  
VICTORIA BARRACKS  
WALTON STREET  
WESTBOURNE STREET  
WHITLA STREET  
WHITWELL ROAD  
WITHAM STREET  
WOODVALE PARK  
YORK PARK  
YORK ROAD  
BARBOUR STREET,  
GREENCASTLE  
MERVUE STREET, BANGOR  
NEWTOWNARDS AIRFIELD





## Belfast Air Raid Emergency

IF YOU HAVE CHANGED YOUR ADDRESS SINCE MONDAY, please send a post card to Casualty Enquiries Bureau, City Hall, Belfast. Your friends are anxious to know your whereabouts. Issued by the Belfast Civil Defence Authority 17th APRIL, 1941.

## Blankets Sent From Britain

FOLLOWING his telegram to the Prime Minister of Northern Ireland, Mr. Herbert Morrison, Home Secretary and Minister for Home Security, has, it was learned yesterday, arranged for two officers from his department to travel to Belfast to assist authorities here in dealing with the aftermath of the raid.

Mr. Morrison's "all we can send" was given immediate effect by the dispatch of fire-fighting machines and men, and blankets, as a first instalment of the help Belfast may count on receiving.

But more blankets are urgently needed for people who have been rendered homeless or whose household effects have been damaged, and householders who have any spare blankets should respond to this appeal.

## Woman and Home

### Have You Your Identity Card?

DO you carry your identity card always? It has, I believe, been forgotten by almost as many people as that other very useful war-time appendage—the gas mask.

Women, one authority told me, are the worst offenders. Men generally keep their cards in their pocket books and have them in their coat pockets. Women put theirs in a handbag and forget to take it with them when they change bags. They go visiting near their homes or do their morning shopping without their identity cards. At the week-ends they go for country walks, and, liking to have their hands free, they leave their cards behind—and their gas masks as well, of course. The week-end holiday produced a fine harvest of absent-minded walkers. I spent an amusing fifteen minutes at one cross-roads watching an official stop pedestrians and ask to see their identity cards. The request produced always the same initial reaction—blank astonishment as the civilian pondered as to what an identity card might be. Then comprehension dawned and there was a feverish search, culminating most frequently in a shame-faced avowal that it had been forgotten.



ANY doctor will tell you that children must be clean inside to keep bright outside. Unremoved food wastes cause tummy aches, bilious attacks and constipation. Children then get peevish and dull. Mother! Look after their Inner Cleanliness with an occasional glass of Andrews.

**FIRST**... Andrews cleans and refreshes the mouth and tongue.  
**NEXT**... Andrews settles the stomach and corrects acidity.  
**THEN**... Andrews tones up the liver and checks biliousness.  
**FINALLY**... To complete your Inner Cleanliness, Andrews gently cleans the bowels. It sweeps away trouble-making poisons, cures Constipation, cools and purifies the blood and clears the skin.

Andrews is safe for children. It gently cleanses a child's system and cuts out the need for harsh purgatives. Children love Andrews and think its merry sparkle fun to drink. They never look on Andrews as "medicine." Economical to use. Sold, and 1/6d. including postage tax.

For Inner Cleanliness be regular with your

**ANDREWS LIVER SALT**

## PUBLIC NOTICES.

CITY AND COUNTY BOROUGH OF BELFAST.

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS.

MEN OVER 30 YEARS AND WOMEN OVER 18 YEARS ARE URGENTLY REQUIRED AS VOLUNTEERS FOR THE A.R.P. SERVICES.

FULL PARTICULARS AND ENROLMENT FORMS can be obtained at the MARQUEE, CITY HALL, between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. DAILY THIS WEEK.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### AFTER AN AIR RAID STAY UNDER COVER UNTIL YOU HEAR THE HANDBELLS

THE "RAIDERS" PASSED" SIGNAL ON THE SIRENS (A CONTINUOUS BLAST) MEANS THAT ENEMY AIRCRAFT ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE LEFT THE AREA.

There will still exist a possible local danger from the presence of gas, unexploded bombs or dangerous buildings after a bombing attack, and members of the Public should remain under cover until they hear the "All Clear" signal which will be given in all cases by Wardens ringing their handbells.

The Wardens will, on hearing the "Raiders Passed" signal, patrol their Sectors and ascertain that it is safe before sounding the handbells and the Public should not take the continuous blast on the sirens as indicating that all danger is passed.

**WAIT UNTIL YOU HEAR THE HANDBELLS BEFORE LEAVING COVER**

## BELFAST AIR RAID : Official Notices

The following notices are issued by the Ministry of Public Security, Northern Ireland, and the Belfast Civil Defence Authority:—

### (1) Accommodation for the Homeless.

Arrangements are being made by the authorities to billet homeless people as quickly as possible.

It is the imperative duty of householders to receive the homeless into their houses. The authorities will take a serious view of any refusal to do so.

### (2) Stay at Home if you can.

People whose homes are still habitable should continue to live in them, and so relieve the pressure on the authorities, who are fully engaged in providing accommodation and transport for those whose homes have been destroyed.

17th April, 1941.

## Carry On, Ulster!

THE VICIOUSNESS of the German air raid on Northern Ireland becomes more obvious on further survey. It is exactly the same story here as across the water—churches, hospitals, cinemas, public-houses, shops, and the humble homes of the poorest, these have suffered worst. And the reason is obvious enough. The Germans may be bad shots, but they are not as bad as all that. No; the aim and intention was to try to break the spirit of the civilian population—or of as many people as possible.



Leisurely, carefree days, when the world was young. Healthy days. Unknown then were the stress and nerve-strains that are products of our grimmer times.



## Nerve versus Nerves —yesterday and today

If you led a peaceful, open-air existence you would not need 'Sanatogen' Nerve-Tonic Food. But today, under the stress of air raids, separations, overwork and extra worry most people feel the need of this comforting world-famous tonic food.

'Sanatogen' is not just a stimulant that 'bucks you up' for a few days and lets you down again. It feeds your nerves and blood: it supplies them with essential organic phosphorus and protein so that its effect is lasting as well as sure.

If you are feeling strained, over-tired, nervy or physically exhausted, try a course of 'Sanatogen'. It won't work a miracle overnight—but it will in a week or two bring your health and vitality surging back.

**'SANATOGEN'**  
NERVE-TONIC FOOD

Obtainable from all chemists in 2/3 jars and 12/1, 6/6 and 2/6 tins (including Tax).

The Registered Trade Mark 'SANATOGEN' applied to 'Sanatogen' Food is a brand of cereals and vitamin glycerophosphate chemically combined by Dr. Hans E. K. Schmidt, the proprietor of the Trade Mark.

## Next Steps

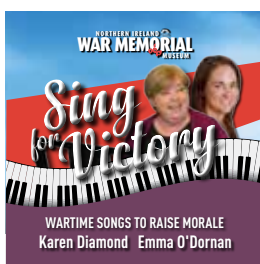
### Connect

Connect with us online at [www.niwarmemorial.org](http://www.niwarmemorial.org) to find out more about the FREE Workshops and Resources we offer to Care Homes and Community Groups

### Sing for Victory

Sing for Victory is one of our virtual Singing and Reminiscence Workshops.

Participants sing songs from the 1940s and reminisce about the past with our Outreach Officer and Music Therapist Karen Diamond.



The Sing for Victory CD and accompanying songbook are FREE for older people to enjoy in the comfort of their own homes. Request a copy now.

Visit our You Tube channel for Reminiscence Video Memories at the Museum. Created to help staff in Care Homes and Folds to facilitate Reminiscence Sessions with their residents, the video features objects from the Second World War that can act as triggers to stimulate discussion.

### REMINISCENCE WORKSHOPS

Our engaging Virtual Outreach Workshops bring objects and photographs from the museum collection to community groups, older people, and their carers.

Our workshops are enjoyable and multi-sensory with museum objects, music and movement.

### Watch + Learn

**You Tube**



Stimulating curiosity and providing a hands-on approach to learning, our Reminiscence Loan Boxes are available to Activity Therapists and Community Group leaders on loan from the museum. Loan Boxes focus on life during the Second World War and include objects from our Handling Collection, photographs, background information, ideas for activities and guidance notes for use.