

World War One Booklist

Picture Books and Graphic Novels



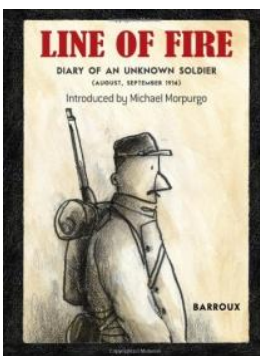
Archie's War by Marcia Williams
Walker 978-1406352689

Marcia Williams develops and extends the comic strip style for which she has become well known to create this scrapbook of a boy's life during World War I. The book strongly conveys everyday life at that time, using newspaper cuttings, photographs, cigarette cards and, most particularly, letters and cards that fold out from the page.



One Boy's War by Lynn Huggins-Cooper, illustrated by Ian Benfold Haywood
Frances Lincoln 978-1845075286

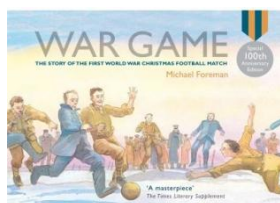
Sydney, a boy from County Durham, was one of many young men who lied about their age so that they could join the army, ideas of heroism in their hearts. His sad story unfolds as we read the letters he sent home to his mother and see into his thoughts as the full horror of war and the disillusionment this brings comes home to him.



Line of Fire. Diary of an Unknown Soldier by Barroux, translated from French by Sarah Ardizzone
Phoenix Yard 978-1907912399

Using the words of an unknown soldier whose diary he found amongst the rubbish being cleared out of a Paris basement, Barroux created this graphic novel with illustrations that evoke the period. The soldier begins his journey at the outset of the war with a cautious optimism but the diary ends only two months later on a devastating note. It appears that the wearying weight of war meant that the writer felt unable to continue his journal but its anonymity means that we shall never know for certain.

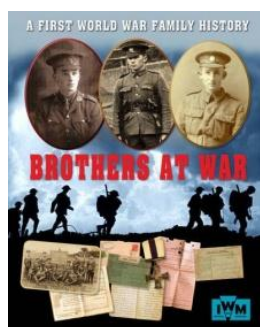




War Game by Michael Foreman
Pavilion 978-1843651789

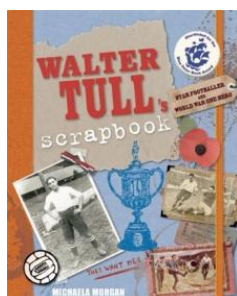
Dedicated to four of his uncles who died in the war, this story follows the fortunes of Will and Freddie from playing football in their Suffolk village to the hell of the wartime trenches, after they eagerly join up when war is declared. They find themselves playing football again, this time in No Man's Land during a Christmas Day truce on the Front Line – against the Germans. A beautifully balanced mix of words and pictures which brings home the poignancy and absurdity of war.

Non-fiction



Brothers at War. A First World War Family History by Sarah Ridley
Franklin Watts 978-1445124056

The author and her daughter investigate the lives of the latter's great-great grandfather and his brothers during the First World War. In researching their family history, they draw on public sources such as census returns and a terrific range of personal records, including letters, diaries and photographs. Eliza is fortunate that her family has preserved so much fascinating memorabilia with which to document the war in such an interesting way. Readers are encouraged to carry out their own investigations using websites listed at the end of the book.



Walter Tull's Scrapbook by Michaela Morgan
Frances Lincoln 978-1847804914

The story of black footballer and soldier Walter Tull, presented as though it were an autobiography written by Walter himself. It has an appealing and accessible layout that makes use of contemporary photos and documents.





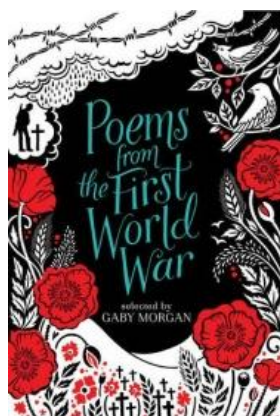
Cowards: The True Story of the Men Who Refused to Fight by
Marcus Sedgwick

Print on demand 978-1492868644

The true story of two men who were conscientious objectors and the treatment meted out to them. This book provides useful background for the novel *Private Peaceful* as well as being an interesting read in its own right. First published ten years ago, the original publisher surprisingly has not reprinted it at a time when there would be so much interest in it. Fortunately the author has made it available as a print on demand publication. Marcus Sedgwick has also written a teenage novel

The Foreshadowing (Orion 978-1842555170) set in World War 1.

Poetry

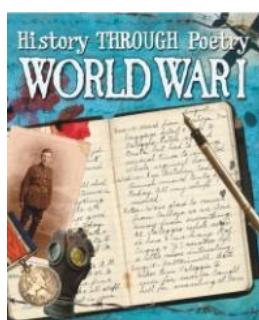


Poems from the First World War selected by Gaby Morgan

Macmillan 978-1447226161

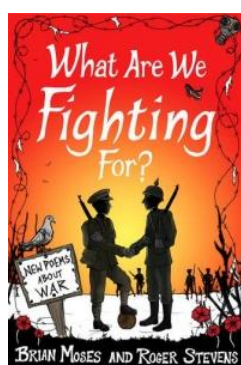
Poems by those who experienced the war. They include famous lines from Rupert Brooke, Wilfred Owen, Siegfried Sassoon and Edward Thomas. However, they range across a variety of voices: those who fought and those who tended the wounded and dying, those who remained at home, fearing for their friends and family and doing the work that needed to be done. The anthologist has taken care to ensure that women poets are included.





History through Poetry. World War 1 by Paul Dowswell
Wayland 978-0750283281

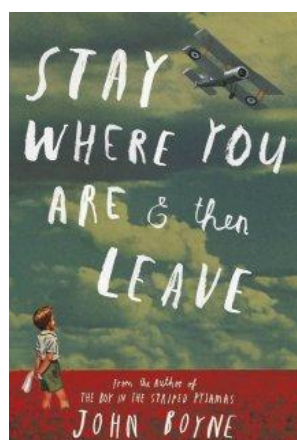
Each spread in this books features a poem or an extract from a poem written during the war and illustrating a particular theme or event. A lot of related information surrounds each poem: its context; the chronological development of the war, brief details about the poet, plus contemporary photographs and posters.



What Are We Fighting For? by Brian Moses and Roger Stevens,
illustrated by Nicola L. Robinson
Macmillan 978-1447248613

Different from the other poetry collections included here, as the poems are written from a modern perspective with the hindsight that brings. So we hear about the black soldiers whose deeds of heroism were ignored and about the bereaved fiancée whose ashes were scattered on her soldier love's grave 84 years later. This volume includes poems about both world wars and more recent conflicts.

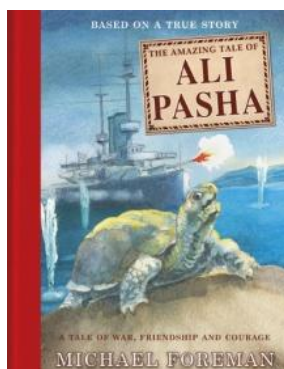
Fiction for KS2



Stay Where You Are & Then Leave by John Boyne
Doubleday 978-0857532930

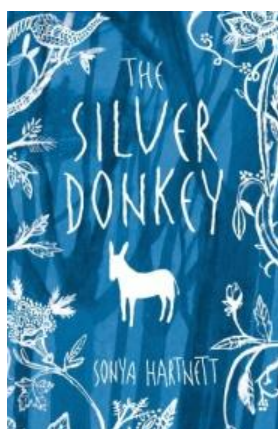
Alfie is five when war breaks out and his milkman father enlists in the army. Although this is a third person narrative the story is seen very much through his eyes. As the war goes on, Alfie takes responsibility, secretly supplementing the family income and carrying out a mission to find out what has happened to his father. The situations faced by conscientious objectors, shell shocked soldiers and neighbours who are interned are woven into the story which is immersed in everyday detail, giving the experience of reading it an almost tangible feel.





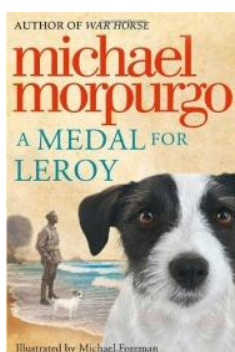
The Amazing Tale of Ali Pasha by Michael Foreman
Templar 9781848779990

Based on a true story about a tortoise who became the companion of a soldier who encountered him at Gallipoli. A young reporter in the 1950s visits Henry Friston because of a local tradition that the awakening of Ali Pasha from hibernation signals the start of Spring. He digs deeper and learns about Henry's experiences from the man's memories and his wartime diary. Michael Foreman's illustrations evoke both the 1950s setting of the framework story and scenes from the First World War where he uses his signature blue palette to great effect in vistas of the sea.



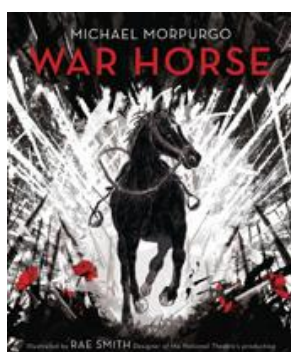
The Silver Donkey by Sonya Hartnett, illustrated by Laura Carlin Walker 978-1406304299

Two French girls find a soldier in the woods. He has left the army and needs to return home to see his sick brother as well as escape the horrors he has seen and which have affected his eyesight. How they build a relationship with him, in the course of which he tells them stories inspired by the silver donkey he carries, is a moving tale, with ink illustrations which subtly evoke the changes of mood in the text.



A Medal for Leroy by Michael Morpurgo, illustrated by Michael Foreman
HarperCollins 978-0007339686

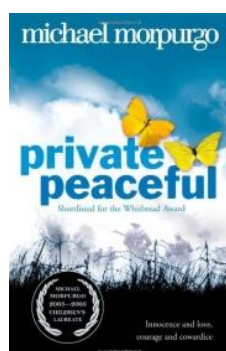
Black footballer and soldier Walter Tull was the inspiration for the character Leroy in this story in which family secrets are unravelled and which involves the lives of three generations affected by the consequences of the two world wars.



War Horse by Michael Morpurgo, illustrated by Rae Smith
Egmont 978-1405267960

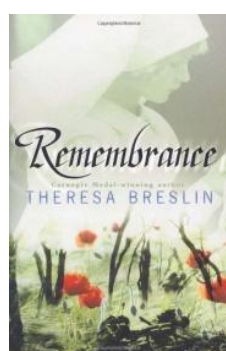
This is a special commemorative hardback edition of Michael Morpurgo's novel told from the viewpoint of a spirited horse commandeered for war duty. The story is now famous due to the film and the National Theatre production. The designer of the latter is the illustrator of this edition. The artwork is fittingly described as reflecting the progress of the story 'from the Naturalistic rural idyll of Devon to the Vorticist horrors of the trenches'.

Fiction for KS3



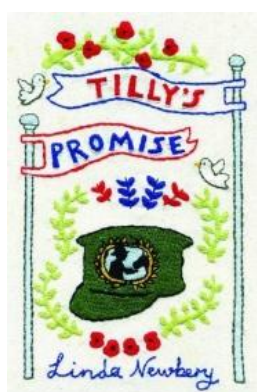
Private Peaceful by Michael Morpurgo
HarperCollins 978-0007150076

Soldier Thomas Peaceful looks back on his life from the trenches in Belgium. Structurally, each chapter of the book brings the reader closer to the present until the story turns into his present tense. The injustice of soldiers being executed for presumed desertion or cowardice is at the heart of this novel.



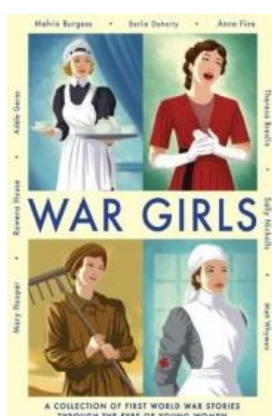
Remembrance by Theresa Breslin
Corgi 978-0552547383

Two families whose lives become intertwined due to circumstances brought about by the war. The experiences of the five main characters, much of which is revealed in the letters they exchange, allow for exploration of a number of themes related to pacifism, heroism, women's emancipation and social class. However, it is the importance and warmth of human relationships that shines through. Look out for Ghost Soldier, a new book from Theresa set in World War 1, due out in July.



Tilly's Promise by Linda Newbery
Barrington Stoke 978-1781122938

Tilly and her sweetheart Harry both make promises that are impossible to keep. Tilly as a nurse in France who is called upon to care for badly wounded German soldiers. Harry who has sworn to look after Tilly's brother Georgie, recruited into the same Company as him. Georgie is called to serve despite having learning difficulties and his experiences provide some of the most moving scenes in this short novel. Linda Newbery has also written a longer novel *The Shell House* (Red Fox 978-0099455936) set during World War 1.



War Girls
Andersen Press 978-1783440603

This collection of short stories by nine different writers, including Anne Fine, Berlie Doherty, Adèle Geras and Melvin Burgess, demonstrate women's changing lives during this period will be published in June. The roles the girls and women play cover a wide range and include an ambulance driver on the front line, a Turkish woman sniper and a waitress at the Lyons' Corner House on the Strand.

