

Audio file

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Transcript

00:00:01 Speaker 2

Welcome to a writers war, a National Lottery Heritage fund, First World War Centenary project produced by Chrome Radio for the University of Oxford, faculty of Mediaeval and Modern Languages. In partnership with year 10 students from Oxford Spires Academy. The university organised a series.

00:00:21 Speaker 2

Of workshops with their students looking at responses of British, French and German writers to the First World War. This is the last of four podcasts in which we hear from the students.

00:00:35 Speaker 2

In memoriam.

00:00:43 Speaker 3

I'm Barney more in Oxford spires Academy. During these workshops has made the past wars feel much closer and much more war, which actually helps to get an understanding of what will might be like now on large scale. 'cause obviously they're still our wars going on, but nothing quite compared to.

00:01:04 Speaker 3

Model one or World War Two.

00:01:06 Speaker 3

We looked at some poems about the First World War from the English point of view, we talked about how some English poets promoted it as propaganda and told people that they should go after war. However, some saw how bad war was, and they expressed that in their poems a poem talked about.

00:01:26 Speaker 3

Caterpillars and disgusting, horrible creatures dying all over the place. It makes you think about how terrible war can be and what can happen to people.

00:01:39 Speaker 3

We looked at some French poems about war. They were a lot more patriotic than their English poems. It was much more personal because the wars are being fought on their territory.

00:01:49 Speaker 3

Their English I was overseas. It was away from them. We went down to modern college and we looked at some old documents.

00:01:58 Speaker 3

And letters from that sort.

00:02:00 Speaker 3

Or a couple of letters were passed around with them was written in the trenches. You could tell it was very messy 'cause it had been written with a pencil and a piece of paper.

00:02:11 Speaker 3

Probably over someones knee. There was another letter passed around that was from someone else in that same time you could see the contrast between them.

00:02:21 Speaker 3

How meet and find them was written in ink and they had contrast to the messy screwed about writing in a pencil.

00:02:31 Speaker 3

On the other letter.

00:02:34 Speaker 3

We wrote poems about if a rule happened now what it might be like. We had to think about the bad things will and the good things about peace that we would miss with all their political tension.

00:02:48 Speaker 3

That seems to be going around at the moment. If there was a rule, I imagine.

00:02:52 Speaker 3

It to be.

00:02:53 Speaker 3

Nuclear and Poly wouldn't last very long.

00:02:57 Speaker 3

They never missing nukes, flying back down to Earth. They changed children, never the same. Again the fiery skies lit up with anger.

00:03:06 Speaker 3

Angle against the wall angle against the bombs, angle against the radiation. Changing the lives of the next generation and the next and the next.

00:03:15 Speaker 3

However, we are still waiting to play footy.

00:03:17 Speaker 3

In the park.

00:03:18 Speaker 3

We didn't hang out in town with my friends waiting, waiting for the day to come when it's all over and we get.

00:03:24 Speaker 3

To return to how we began.

00:03:26 Speaker 3

But inside we know, we know we can never be the same.

00:03:35 Speaker 4

Grinding guns lived, granting coldly and missed our screens. Instead of blood soaked men and the trends decay waits for its next victim.

00:03:43 Speaker 4

Own the soldiers will never know the end of its fight. They've been claimed by the Rupert early fill out. The film was painted red, related with more business.

00:03:51 Speaker 4

The brutal murder Ming Wars cancelled our lives playing in the park reading meeting friends being temporarily postponed for some, but for the unlucky or higher blow hits them, knocking them out of their seats into the radiator there.

00:04:06 Speaker 4

I'm Jake and I wrote that poem because war was not a thing that does much good for anyone, 'cause it's mostly just fighting. I don't find it so much it. That's the opposite, really.

00:04:21 Speaker 4

We're learning about war poems and the First World War, posing different languages and different aspects of war. We still measure different perspectives, several negative ones, and we saw that one sort of in between someone really glorified it as well.

00:04:37 Speaker 4

We went to modelling college.

00:04:38 Speaker 4

To see the archives.

00:04:39 Speaker 4

It was interesting to see what people lives were like then and how people kept Diaries overtime.

00:04:46 Speaker 1

Second thing is that around 15 years old.

00:04:56 Speaker 5

And I go to access fires Academy.

00:04:58 Speaker 6

I'm India, Ceylon. We've been looking at archives from modelling college and seeing lots of letters from people going into the trenches.

00:05:06 Speaker 6

And we looked at lots of power.

00:05:08 Speaker 5

And this is the World War One we've been looking at. Wilford area and Stadler and how the war inspired them to write their parents.

00:05:16 Speaker 6

I was in the French group and we're looking at how most warming back at home had a better view.

00:05:21 Speaker 4

On the war.

00:05:22 Speaker 6

Many people try to make it better for themselves telling themselves it was better than it actually was, or as the woman.

00:05:28 Speaker 6

And see how bad boy was and how much it affected families.

00:05:33 Speaker 5

We had the German poems from AMS toddler and we looked at a passage from Remarque. It was about a teacher and how he was very strict and there was another person who was excited for the war and he had no idea about all the consequences where we were at moving college we saw the memorial plaque.

00:05:53 Speaker 5

And and start lies was late when other people from the college. This was because he was German and they thought he was an enemy. But then later on they went there 'cause he was important.

00:06:05 Speaker 6

Well, I really like looking at the archives and Modelling College because it's really interesting to see the president writing letters all.

00:06:12 Speaker 6

About the war, but then.

00:06:13 Speaker 6

They would also be things out seeing butterflies. Life still went on. He's not really involved. He could still live his life.

00:06:41 Speaker 2

You have been listening to a writers wall. I do hope you'll join us for the next podcast in the series.

