



WORLD WAR ONE STUDIES AT RYDE CEMETERY

Prior to Visit -

Children to be divided into 4 groups named **COSSINS, GRAYSON, HAYWARD & WHITTINGTON.**

The groups are named after people buried in Ryde Cemetery with Commonwealth War Graves.

Group Name Information Cards on these individuals are available for each group and can be downloaded by clicking on the links.

The cards give a brief summary only on each person but suggest links to research further.

Each group also has 2 other named people related to WW1 who are buried or commemorated in Ryde Cemetery which should if possible be researched before the visit.

See **Group Leader Notes for WW1 Walk** which can be downloaded by clicking on the link.

All the people suggested and the graves of whom the children will visit when they come to Ryde Cemetery are available to be researched via the Ryde Social Heritage Group website - **www.rshg.org.uk**

The Isle of Wight Memorials website (usually already linked from the RSHG website) also contains extra biographical information on individuals & is linked to the Commonwealth War Grave Commission website & records.- **www.isle-of-wight-memorials.org.uk**

These particular graves of WW1 related individuals have been selected as they have very different stories to tell, with lots of interesting information to be researched via newspaper reports, obituaries, casualty records and details on the rest of their families. They have been chosen coming from a variety of backgrounds, of different ages, from different services (military & naval) and of higher and lower ranks. Some are Commonwealth War Graves & some family graves.

Support & Challenge -

The **HAYWARD** group may be suitable for children who require extra support as graves are positioned fairly close together, are easy to identify & have slightly less information to research.

The **COSSINS** group has graves positioned in different sections of the Old Cemetery, with lots of interesting information & many different research links so may be suitable to challenge more able children.

Visiting a World War Memorial - As part of their WW1 Studies children may like to visit one of the many war memorials in Ryde. Some of the names they will be researching are recorded on one or more of these memorials. If time permits, the visit to Ryde Cemetery could include a

brief stop at the nearby **All Saints War Memorial Cross** on the corner of Queens Rd. Looking at memorials could also be suggested as a **homework activity** & some children may wish to explore with their families memorials beyond Ryde e.g. Asheys, Binstead, Wootton & Newport. Details of all memorials are available on the Isle of Wight Memorials website.

When the children visit Ryde Cemetery they will need copies of the **WW1 School Walk Map** & their group leaders will require the accompanying **Finding the Graves** information sheets which can be downloaded by clicking on the link

OUTLINE OF VISIT

We suggest a full day visit or certainly a long morning to allow time to locate graves, view the WW1 exhibition in the Learning Centre, use facilities e.g. RSHG Archive Library with further maps, records, etc., the computer suite and the toilet! There is a small kitchen area & RSHG volunteers are always happy to provide refreshments for children & staff. You will need to notify us of your visit to ensure our volunteers are available. There is ample room for storing coats, bags, wellingtons etc. & packed lunches. There are plenty of chairs & benches for seating.

Report to Central Chapels - the Heritage & Learning Centre- to meet the Sexton and RSHG Volunteers.

Health & Safety Briefing for working round the Cemetery is given by the Sexton or RSHG Volunteer.

LOCATING THE GRAVES - Using the **WW1 School Walk Map & Finding the Graves** sheet, each group finds their Group Name person first. The group leader should have the **Group Name Information Card** & the **Group Leader Notes** on hand to assist with discussion. The group then use the map & follow instructions to find their other 2 graves.

Depending on length of stay, groups may take turns to visit the Exhibition, enjoy refreshments & do on site research using the WW1 Archive folders & computers. The whole party may wish to stop, compare stories & meet for lunch together.

Either after a refreshment break, or after lunch if staying all day, groups can then swap over so their leaders take them off to find other graves that they have not researched.

If time permits, groups may also like to explore the new part of the cemetery (keeping to the main paths only) as the WW1 School Walk only covers the Old Part of the Cemetery as far as the Bothy building. A map of the whole cemetery is available to download by clicking on the link.

There is a sample risk assessment available on the Education part of the RSHG website which can be downloaded & modified to use for your visit to Ryde Cemetery.