



## 2. War Savings / Propaganda Posters

**Subjects covered:** Local History, WW2, Citizenship, Art & Design, Mathematics, ICT

**Skills Required:** Speaking, listening, and reading, developing, presenting and communicating information

**Notes for the teacher:** All School references can be found either in the Schools folder or in 'The War at Home' pages.

Use photographs from the past of Middlewich, together with written and audio visual material. The following ideas and questions can guide you towards classroom sessions that include the above skills and subject areas, engaging differing age groups and abilities.

### **Resources on this site include:**

- Interpretation Boards No 1 'Savings and Fundraisers', No 2 'The Story of HMS Jasper'
- Posters Folder
- Interview Collection No 10
- Further Resources available from Middlewich Town Council Book Shop, including Allan Earl's book 'Middlewich at War'

Look at the information contained within 'War at Home' Interpretation boards; numbers 1 and 2 looks at the role of War Savings. Ask the pupils to explore why people were asked to raise money for the War Office and what kind of 'events' were put on during war-time. Ask the pupils if they had to put on an event, what would be required and how would they raise the most money? The posters for the events in Middlewich during war-time would go up in town to get as many people supporting them as possible; often this was a role for the schools.

In the class you need to choose a service to support, RAF, Navy etc... What type of poster would encourage people to support War Savings and support your event?

There are many examples on the internet of government designed propaganda to give you ideas; there is also a posters folder resource on this site. The pupils can look at the posters and decide what elements would make their poster stand out from the rest. Maybe inventing a character like they did, paint a war scene or make the point very seriously, it also helps if the poster is brightly coloured with large lettering sending out a strong message.

Perhaps the pupils can do a presentation to the class who become the War Savings committee and talk about their event. What is the event, how money is raised, how much money they are expecting to make. What is the effect of the event on morale of the town and how do you intend to present your poster.

You could also in the same way, re-design one of the war messages such as 'the walls have ears' or the more popular 'dig for Victory' I have an example as part of this session plan. It's a good way for pupils to learn about the role of the Land Army and other organisations by learning how they would promote the joining message.