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USER GUIDE 10

WORLD WAR II RECORDS

This User Guide attempts to provide a summary of a selection of records held at Tyne and Wear Archives Service, which relate to events in Tyne and Wear, during the Second World War, 1939-45. It is by no means exhaustive.

Some records have restrictions on access.

Please note it is not normally possible to produce unlisted collections for consultation in the Searchroom.

1. AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS (A R P) AND HOME GUARD:

The establishment of the A R P group and various other forms of home guard provided invaluable civil defence. This collection of accessions gives not only information on the A R P and home guard, but also bomb damage and war casualties as the A R P kept records of these throughout the war.

a) A R P

GATESHEAD:

CB/Ga County Borough Council records including A R P,
1938-45

UD/Ry/39 Ryton UDC, A R P stock ledger, 1938-41

NEWCASTLE:

120 Cooperative Society papers re Joint A R P Sub
Committee, 1941-1944

2239 A R P Papers on war damage, 1941

- MD/NC Lord Mayor's Emergency Committee, 1939-40
Civil Defence Working Group, 1939-1945
Air Raid Precautions Committee, 1938-1944 type
- D/NCP Corporation maps and plans of temporary A R P accommodation, 1940-44; fire and A R P location of First Aid posts, 1938; Corporation correspondence about air raid shelters, 1939-1940; Corporation papers concerning additional protection for the Fire Brigade control room at Central Police Station, 1941
- UD/Go A R P records, 1939-1945 proposed plan for air raid shelters, 1939; lists and positions of A R P services, 1939; papers re rescue and demolition sectors, 1939-1945

NORTH TYNESIDE:

- 1131 Tynemouth Poor Law Union, A R P rotas at hospital, transfer of patients etc, 1939-1945
- T15 Tynemouth CB Clerks Dept: A R P files; 1938-1951; general wartime files, 1939-1941
- MB/WB Whitley Bay Municipal Borough files with details of air raids and precautions, 1939-1945

SOUTH TYNESIDE:

- T179 South Shields CBC Clerks Dept records including A R P minutes, 1938-1945; Police and Fire Service stock ledger, 1941-1945
- T180 South Shields CBC Treasurers Dept papers re A R P equipment issued to police and fire service, 1941-1945

SUNDERLAND:

- 270 Clerks Dept: A R P papers re tenancy of garage for Fire Brigade equipment; papers about A R P scheme for Docks and Corporation Quay; lecture notes on role of A R P, 1939
- T12 A R P personnel billeting registers, 1939-1947; A R P register of personnel and particulars of service, 1939-1944

T164 A R P handbook, 1938

CB/Su A R P and Civil Defence Committee, minutes,
1939-1958

b) HOME GUARD AND CIVIL DEFENCE

GATESHEAD:

1395 Team Valley Industrial Estate, on correspondence
re wartime provisions, 1939-1945

NEWBURN:

2059 Home Guard, duty rotas at reservoir, 19 April 1941

NEWCASTLE:

266 Newcastle and Gateshead Joint Fire Service, records,
1944-45

359 Public Assistance Committee, register of persons in
receipt of and correspondence about civil defence
medals, 1946; papers on removal and storage of
furniture due to enemy action, 1940-1941

PA/NC Newcastle City Police Files including: petrol rationing,
lighting regulations, air raid warnings, internment of
aliens, suspect lists, 1936-1950

1577 RNVR Tyne Division papers and photographs,
1939-1945

DX385 Osbaldeston Gardens Fire Fighting Committee papers
on Commander S T Sullivan RN, instructions and orders,
1940-1942; Chief Constable of Newcastle to heads of
service, wardens and fire guards, with instructions for
dealing with incendiary bombs, 1942; After the Raid
(issued by the Ministry of Home Security), papers, 1940

DX164 Lemington Gardens Fire Watching Committee, papers
concerning details of a new scheme for watching, 1942

SUNDERLAND:

T170 Sunderland CBC, Clerk's Dept circular and papers
about invasion defence preparations, 1942

270 Clerk's Dept records of prisoner of war from Germany, 1943

c) WAR DAMAGE AND CASUALTIES

GATESHEAD:

T213 Whickham UDC, register of civilian casualties admitted to hospital, 1941

1957 St Mary's Hospital, Stannington, war casualties admissions register, 1939-1941

NEWCASTLE:

T157 Engineers Dept, war damage returns, 1940-1944

MD/NC Air Raid Damage Emergency Repairs Committee, 1940-1945
Emergency (Health) sub-committee, 1941-1945

NORTH TYNESIDE:

1826 Swan Hunter Ltd, war damage papers, 1939-1954

T289 Tynemouth County Borough, bomb damage schedules arranged alphabetically by street indicating date and extent of damage, 1940-1945

C/WB3 Trinity Methodist Circuit, Whitley Bay, papers and photograph of war damage, 1943

MB/WB Whitley Bay MB, files concerning civilian casualties admitted to hospital, 1939-1941

T15 Tynemouth County Borough records and ARP about war damage, 1938-1961

1913 Tynemouth Victoria Jubilee Infirmary, papers on war casualties, 1939-1948

DX52 North Shields Fire Watching and Fire Fighting Scheme meeting minutes, 1941; Fire Watching rosters, 1943-1944; papers re printed circulars, 1941-1942; papers about civilian duty respirator card, 1940; 'First Aid to the Injured' certificate awarded by St John's Ambulance Association, papers 1940; 'Official Figures

of Tynemouth's Air Attacks', Evening News, 1944

DX111 German plans of North East military targets, showing Parts of North Shields, Wallsend, Byker and Walker, 1942

T280/WMB126 Borough of Wallsend record of civilian deaths due to war operations 1941-42

SOUTH TYNESIDE:

1061 Land Defence Volunteers and Home Guard, Redheads Shipyard, South Shields, papers re air raid damage, 1941-1943

624 Stadtplan, German wartime adaptation of 6" Ordnance Survey map, showing military targets of the South Shields, Hebburn and Jarrow area, 1940

DX111 German plan, based on 6" Ordnance Survey map, Showing military targets in South Shields and North Shields, 1942

T95 South Shields CBC Town Clerks Dept, files and papers re allotments, 1939-1944

HO/ING Photograph album of air raid damage in South Shields, 1940-43 (includes some newspaper cuttings)

SUNDERLAND:

270 Town Clerks records, including papers re Association of Municipal Corporations (AMC), war damage and repair to property, 1939-1940; War Damage Act re safeguarding of public interest, 1941

T170 Corporation wartime files about civilian deaths, 1939; air raid casualties, 1943; papers re invasion, 1942-1945

2129 St George's Presbyterian Church, papers concerning war damage, 1944

DX141 Fenwick's Brewery after bomb damage, photographs, 1943

C/SU17 Cleveland Road Methodist Church, records about war damage and rebuilding collections, 1945-1947

- MC/SU1 Sunderland North Methodist Circuit, papers on war compensation and damages settlements for Methodist property in Sunderland North, 1946-1953
- 1338 River Wear Commissioners, papers and reports on building and repair work, 1943-1944
- 1381 Ryhope Emergency Hospital, registers of casualties 1940-1948, including admissions from London hospitals 1940-1941; index of patients 1941-1943
- 1481 Sunderland Royal Infirmary admissions of war casualties & nurses 1940-1948
- DX111 German plan, based on 6" Ordnance Survey map, showing military targets in Sunderland, 1942

2. EVACUATION

Many people were evacuated out of the area as a result of the outbreak of World War II. Most were transferred elsewhere for their own safety: some left to start a new life overseas. Contrary to popular belief, it was not just children who were evacuated, but also adults who left suspected target areas in the region to escape danger.

GATESHEAD:

- T213 Whickham UDC billeting register, 1940-1945

NEWCASTLE:

- T67 CB papers re A R P school plans, 1938
- T78 Government evacuation scheme expenditure papers, 1938-1939
- 1634 Church High Girl's School, evacuation correspondence, 1939-1942
- 1314 Blechynden family, including evacuation cards, 1940
- 359 Newcastle Public Assistance Committee, papers re evacuation, 1939-1945
- HO/RVI Royal Victoria Infirmary, resident medical staff, papers re volunteers for evacuation duty, 1939-1943

- DX385 Evacuation procedures, information leaflets and papers, 1939
- E/NC19 Todds Nook County Primary School, evacuation to Arnside, Lake District, admissions and billeting register, 1940-1942

SUNDERLAND:

- T12 RDC billeting register, 1940-45

3. HOME FRONT: (FUND RAISING, MORALE ETC)

The families left at home employed themselves in keeping morale strong, wherever possible trying to lead everyday lives and providing aid by way of food, clothes and shelter to those who needed it. This group of accessions gives information on welfare schemes, personal records and events such as fund raising and the 'end war' celebrations.

NEWCASTLE:

- 376 Newcastle Corporation emergency and welfare centres records, 1939-1943; probationers agreement for wartime day nurseries, 1941-1943
- 359 Public Assistance Committee correspondence about emergency rest and feeding centres, 1939-1945; papers re emergency shelter scheme, 1940
- 1314 Public Health Service records including ration books, 1939-1940
- 1386 Longstaff Family of Gosforth, papers and letters, 1934-1944
- 2286 RNVR Lieutenant, Gosforth, diary, 1943-1946
- S/JS1 Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen and Women (Access requires Depositor's Consent)
- MD/NC Advisory Committee to Local Fuel Overseer, 1939-1940
Billeting Tribunal, 1939-1948
Holidays at Home Committee, 1940-1945
Wartime Day Nurseries sub-committee, 1941-1946

NORTH TYNESIDE:

- 359 North Tyneside Coordination Committee, papers and minutes concerning care of the homeless, 1942; papers about relief for shipwrecked persons landed in England, 1946; papers about wartime nurseries; papers concerning VE Day celebrations, 1945-1946; papers concerning 'Welcome Home' fund and dinner, 1945-1947

SUNDERLAND:

- T12 RDC community feeding register, 1939-47
- 270 CBC Clerks Dept records: 'Salute the Soldier Week', 1944; feeding kitchens and centres; St Mark's vicarage wartime nursery; clothing for bombed out people; war memorial; war savings for 'Salute the Soldier' and 'Wings for Victory', 1943; correspondence; Mayor of Sunderland's Air Raid Distress Fund papers, 1943
- T170 Sunderland Corporation files re war refugees, 1940-1942; papers re awards for gallantry, 1940-1953
- 1684 Collection of identity cards, 1943
- C/MU3 Murton Methodist Church, papers re wartime community feeding centre, 1931-1945

4. WAR MEMORIALS

- DX1054 Moor Line and Walter Runciman & Company Book of Remembrance 1939-1945

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