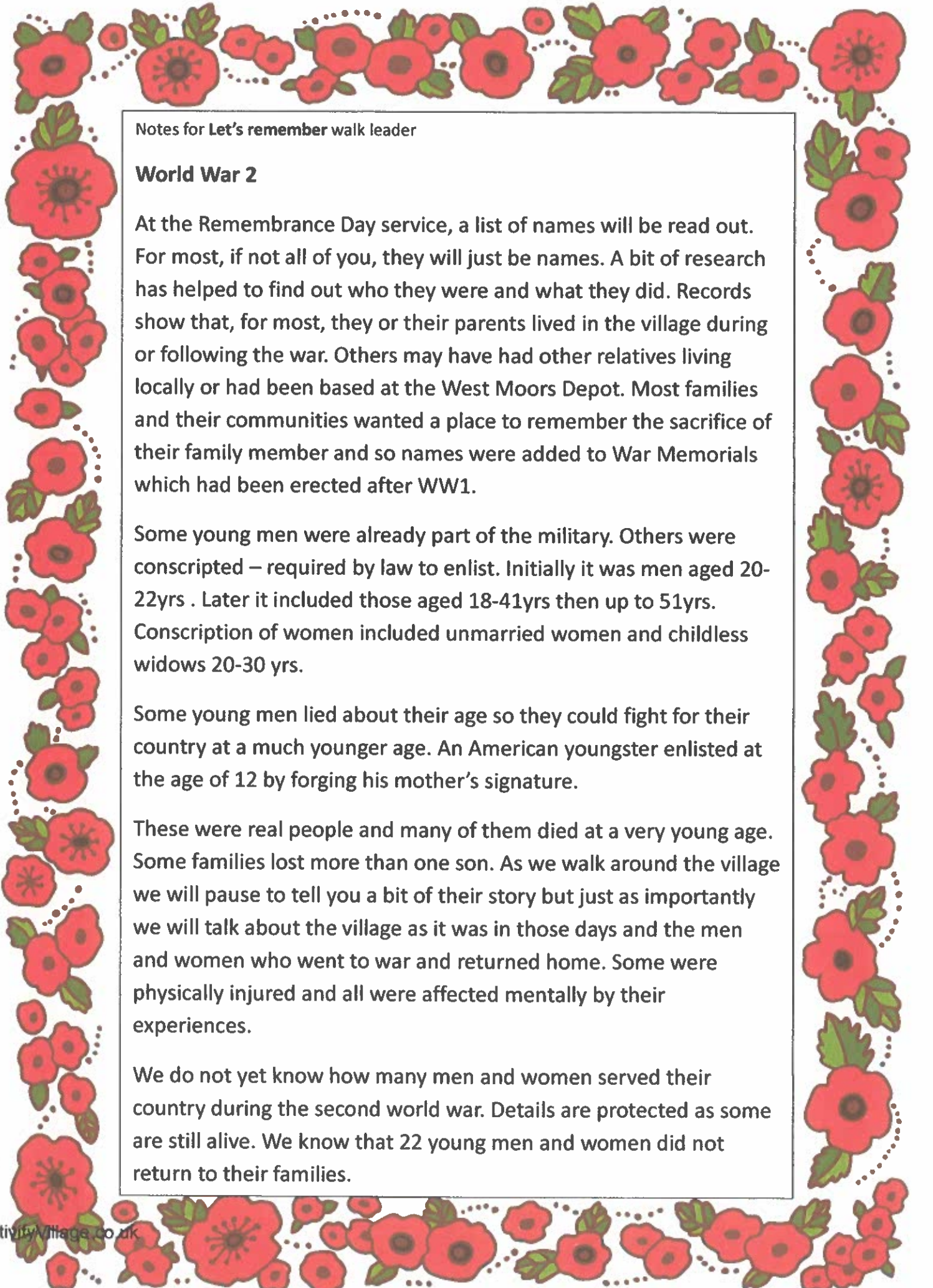




Notes for Let's remember walk leader

World War 2

At the Remembrance Day service, a list of names will be read out. For most, if not all of you, they will just be names. A bit of research has helped to find out who they were and what they did. Records show that, for most, they or their parents lived in the village during or following the war. Others may have had other relatives living locally or had been based at the West Moors Depot. Most families and their communities wanted a place to remember the sacrifice of their family member and so names were added to War Memorials which had been erected after WW1.

Some young men were already part of the military. Others were conscripted – required by law to enlist. Initially it was men aged 20-22yrs . Later it included those aged 18-41yrs then up to 51yrs. Conscription of women included unmarried women and childless widows 20-30 yrs.

Some young men lied about their age so they could fight for their country at a much younger age. An American youngster enlisted at the age of 12 by forging his mother's signature.

These were real people and many of them died at a very young age. Some families lost more than one son. As we walk around the village we will pause to tell you a bit of their story but just as importantly we will talk about the village as it was in those days and the men and women who went to war and returned home. Some were physically injured and all were affected mentally by their experiences.

We do not yet know how many men and women served their country during the second world war. Details are protected as some are still alive. We know that 22 young men and women did not return to their families.