



Wartime Reflections **in Nay-Upon-Halt**

WW2 themed activities for 10-11 year-olds (Y6) to get your children thinking outside the box.

Contents

1. About This Pack
2. About the Village of Nay-Upon-Halt
3. The American Army Camp
4. Wartime Reflections Childrens' TV Channel name and logo.
5. 'Nay-Upon-Halt in the Blitz' Museum Opening Ticket
6. The Lost Christmas card
7. The New Village Memorial Park
9. Football Club Mascot
10. WW2 Shop Window Display
11. **TV Interview with village Veteran**
12. Evacuees Suitcase
13. The Time Capsule and the Photograph
14. New Adventure Playground
15. Re-enactment Calendar
16. Banner Joist Farm Museum Entrance Sign
17. A Mother's Speech
18. **You be the Judge!**
19. The Ripped Up Letter.
20. The VE Day Cake
21. A Homecoming Song

1. About This Pack.

This activity pack is designed for Teachers and Parents with children in the age range of 10-11 years old (Year 6).

The activities are all based around the fictional village of Nay-Upon-Halt, located in the middle of the English countryside.

The challenges could be used as extension tasks during a WW2 topic in school, or issued as homework.

As a way of increasing independence, the Internet could be used by the children to assist their research and complete the tasks.

There are two activities highlighted in yellow in the Contents Page. These activities lend themselves well to group work with valuable opportunities to discuss ideas and reasoning. If this pack is to be given by a parent for use at home, or issued by a teacher for homework during school holidays, these activities provide a great opportunity for all the family to get involved and generate interesting discussion.

2. About the village of Nay-Upon-Halt

The village lies in the middle of the English countryside and has a population of 1,000 people. The nearest town is a twenty-five minute drive away or a twenty-minute train journey.

Nay-Upon-Halt has a church, 3 shops (a small General Store, a Greengrocer's and a Bakery), a Cafe, Pub, Primary School, Village Hall, and a small train station.

There are plans for new businesses in the village – read on to find out more!

The people who live in the village are very proud of where they live and many generations of some families have lived in the same house or street in the village.

During the First and Second World Wars, many men from Nay-Upon-Halt left to go to war. Some of them never returned. The villagers are proud of these men and continue to find ways to honour and remember them.

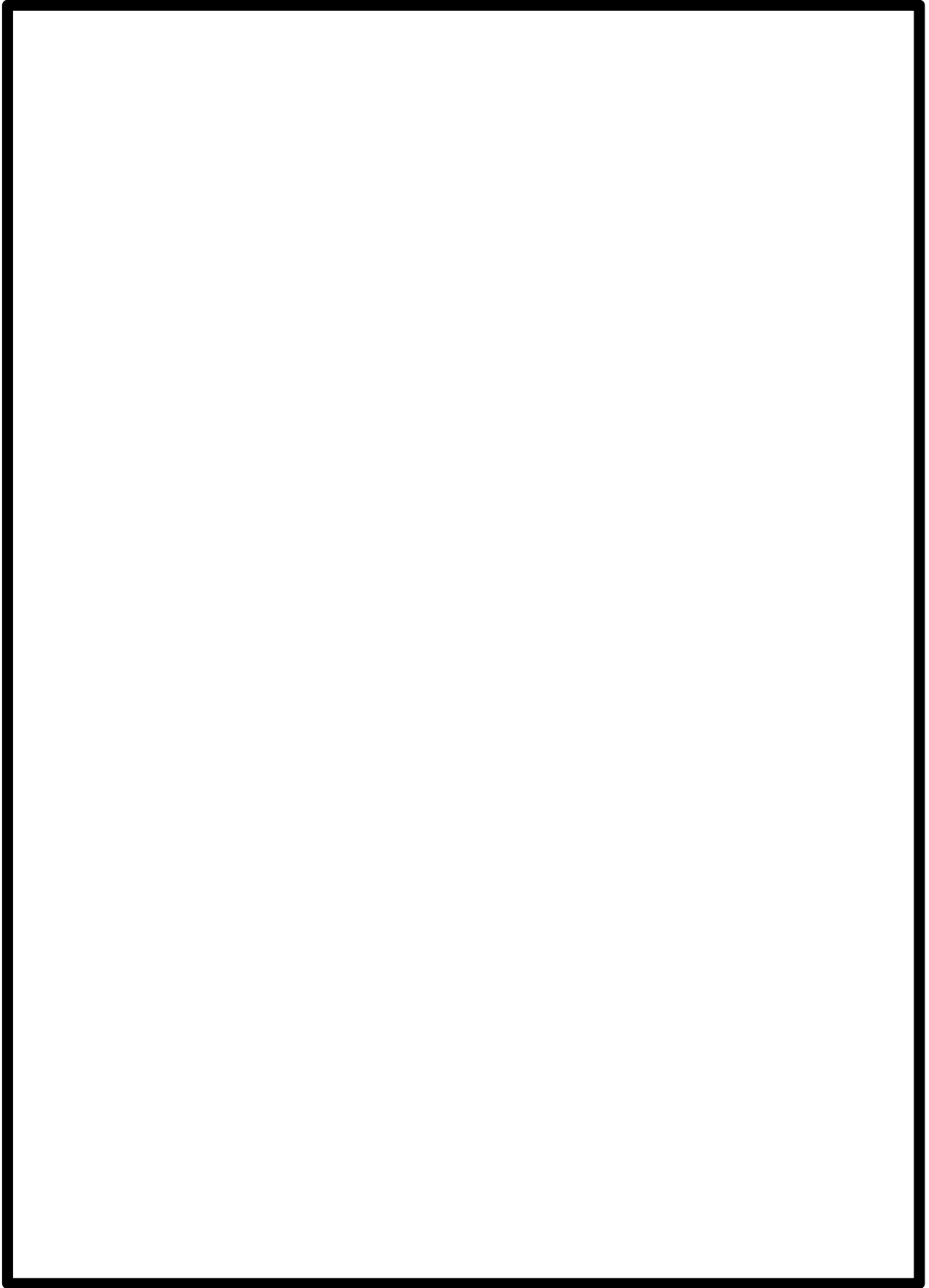
3. The American Army Camp.

In 1942, the Americans arrived in Britain to prepare for the invasion of Europe. The American camp in Nay-Upon-Halt was located in Brineton Field. Records from the time that the camp was constructed give very brief details of the features of the site. Using this information your job is to draw what you think the layout of the camp might have looked like from above.

The camp had the following:

- A large area for tents for the troops to sleep and shelter in.
- An area for huts for the Officers to sleep and shelter in.
- A canteen building big enough to hold 900 men with kitchens for meal preparation.
 - A dance hall
 - A shower block
 - A toilet block
- A large outdoor area for sport and exercise
 - A vehicle maintenance area.
 - An equipment store building
 - A food stores building
- A road that ran around the whole perimeter of the camp.
- Other roads fed off this to enable people in the camp to get to each of the features by vehicle.

The American Army Camp



4. Wartime Reflections Childrens' TV Channel name and logo.

Wartime Reflections TV is a new television company which has been set up in Nay-Upon-Halt. They are planning to launch a TV channel for children to learn about the war. The problem is they can't think of a name for the new channel or a logo. They have some ideas about what they want but they are looking for keen creative thinkers and designers to complete the task. Are you up to the challenge?

Here is some information from Wartime TV to help you:

- There will be cartoons about WW2.
- There will be character based shows (similar to Horrible Histories)
- There will be documentaries (presenters will take the viewers on a journey to explore different places).
 - There will be art and music shows.
- The channel name must help the viewer to understand that it is for children and that it is about WW2.
- The TV company would like the logo to be fun, colourful, and exciting but also in keeping with WW2.

Use the proposal form on the next page or your own paper to record your ideas.

Proposal for New TV Channel Name and Logo

Name of TV Channel

Reason for Choice of Name.

Logo Design

Reason for Choice of Logo

5. 'Nay-Upon-Halt in the Blitz' Museum Opening Ticket

A new museum is due to be opened in the village next year. The museum owners want to issue a special celebratory ticket to people visiting on the opening day. They need an amazing designer to come up with an idea of what the ticket should look like. That's where you come in! They want you to design the ticket for them. There are some things they would like included in the final design but the layout and look of it is up to you!

The museum owners would like the following to be included on the final ticket design:

"Nay-Upon-Halt in the Blitz Museum"

"Opening Day Limited Edition Ticket"

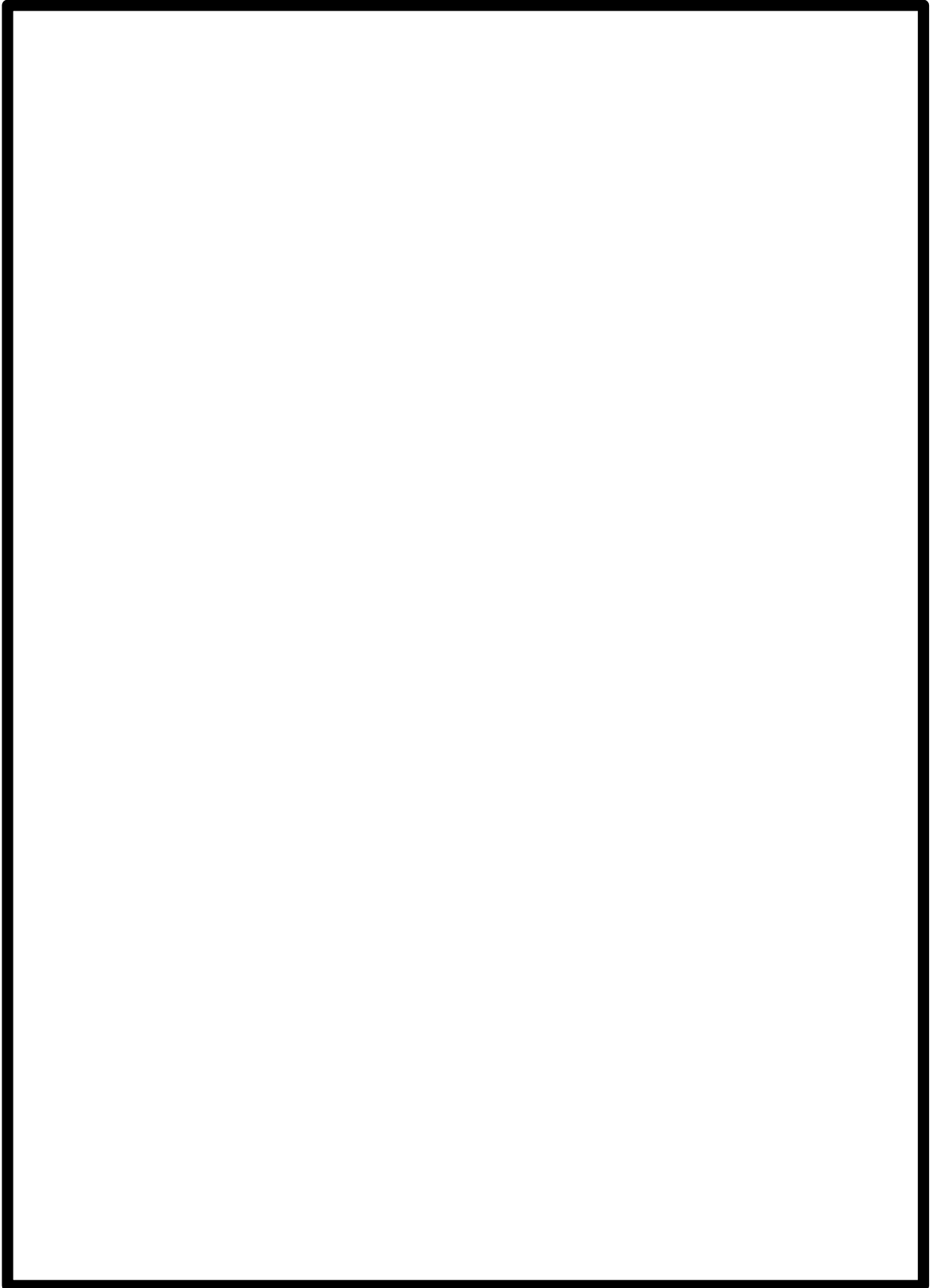
An image of an Air Raid Shelter

An image of an enemy aircraft flying high with bombs falling out from underneath it.

Buildings on fire

Use the template (in landscape) on the following page or your own paper to design the ticket.

Ticket Design Template



6. The Lost Christmas Card

One of the villagers has lost a handmade Christmas card they sent to their parents during the war.

Although it was meant to be a Christmas card, Terry Smith had to send his card home in January 1945 as he was sent into the Ardennes Forests in Belgium at the beginning of December 1944 in the Battle of the Bulge.

There was heavy fighting there and the men also had to cope with the terrible weather. The temperature was well below zero. Both sides had snowstorms, fog and rain to deal with.

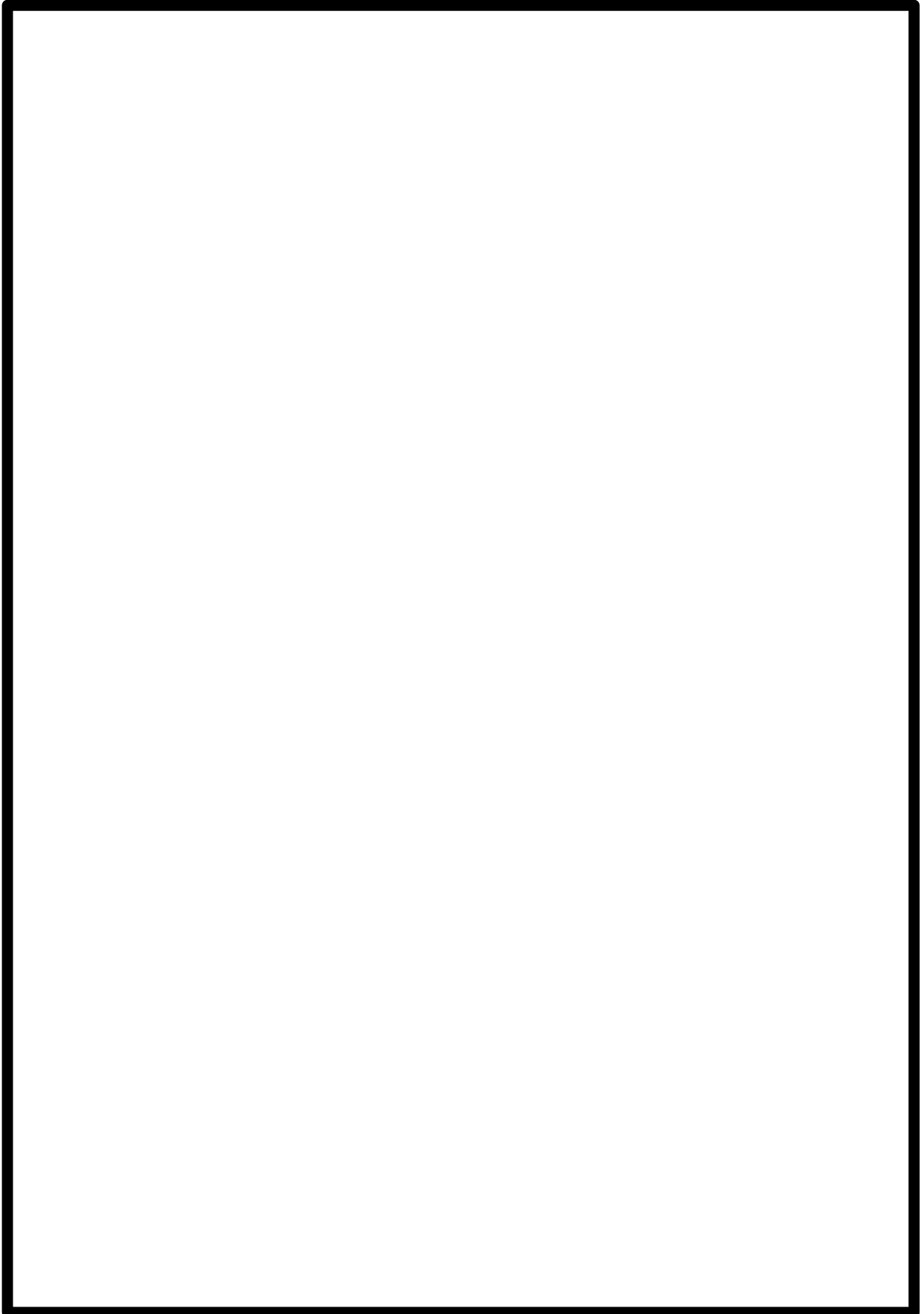
The only details Terry can recall about the front of his card is that he drew a picture of the scene in one area of the forest where snow covered the ground and the tall pine trees huddled closely together and stood frozen in time. There was a Deer some distance in front of him between the trees and he believes he included it in his drawing.

Although it was late, it was a great Christmas gift to his parents – to know their son was still alive!

Terry would like you to try to recreate the card he created during that cold winter in 1944.

Use the template (in landscape) on the next page, or your own paper, to draw the image of the front of Terry's Christmas card.

Christmas Card Cover Template



7. The New Village Memorial Park

The local Council has agreed to pay for a new Memorial Park to be created at the edge of the village. They have been given lots of ideas by the villagers about what should be in it, but the council need an architect to design the park.

They are hoping you will be able to do the job!

The council want the park to include:

A statue of remembrance

A small area of woodland

A small beach and sea area (this could be a pond with sand around part of it)

A large flower garden

A wishing well

Pathways to walk around the park

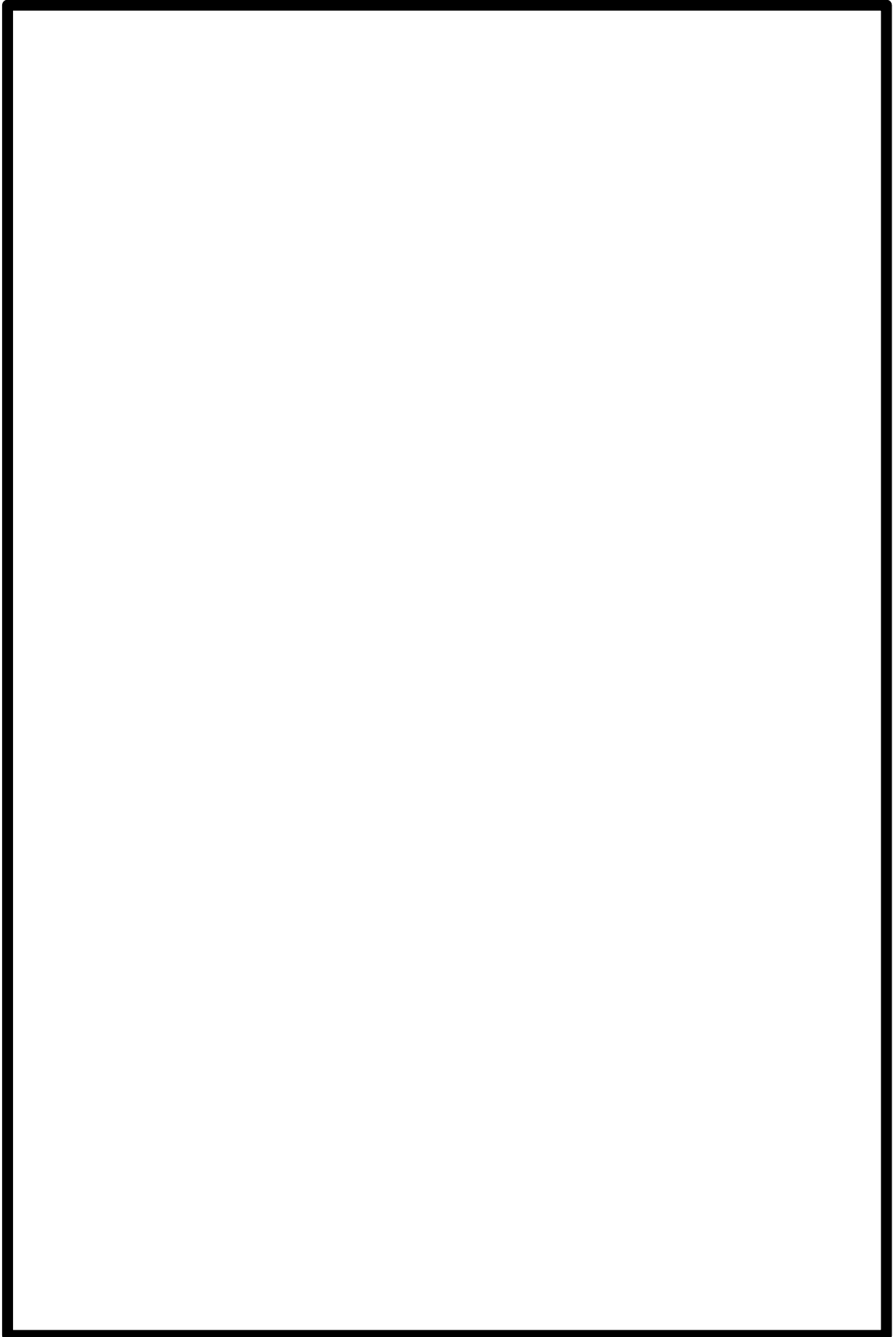
Benches

The council would like you to add an idea of your own to the plan too. What do you think will go well in the Memorial Park? Don't forget to add it to your design.

In order to fully understand the design, the council would like you to label each feature on your plan.

Use the template (in landscape) on the next page or your own paper to complete your design for the Memorial Park.

New Village Memorial Park



8. Football Club Mascot

Nay-Upon-Halt Football Club is hoping to have a new mascot for next season. Many men from the village, who served in WW2, played for the team, so the club wants a WW2 related mascot.

Your job is to design a character which could be turned into the new mascot. There are certain things the football club wants the designer to think about:

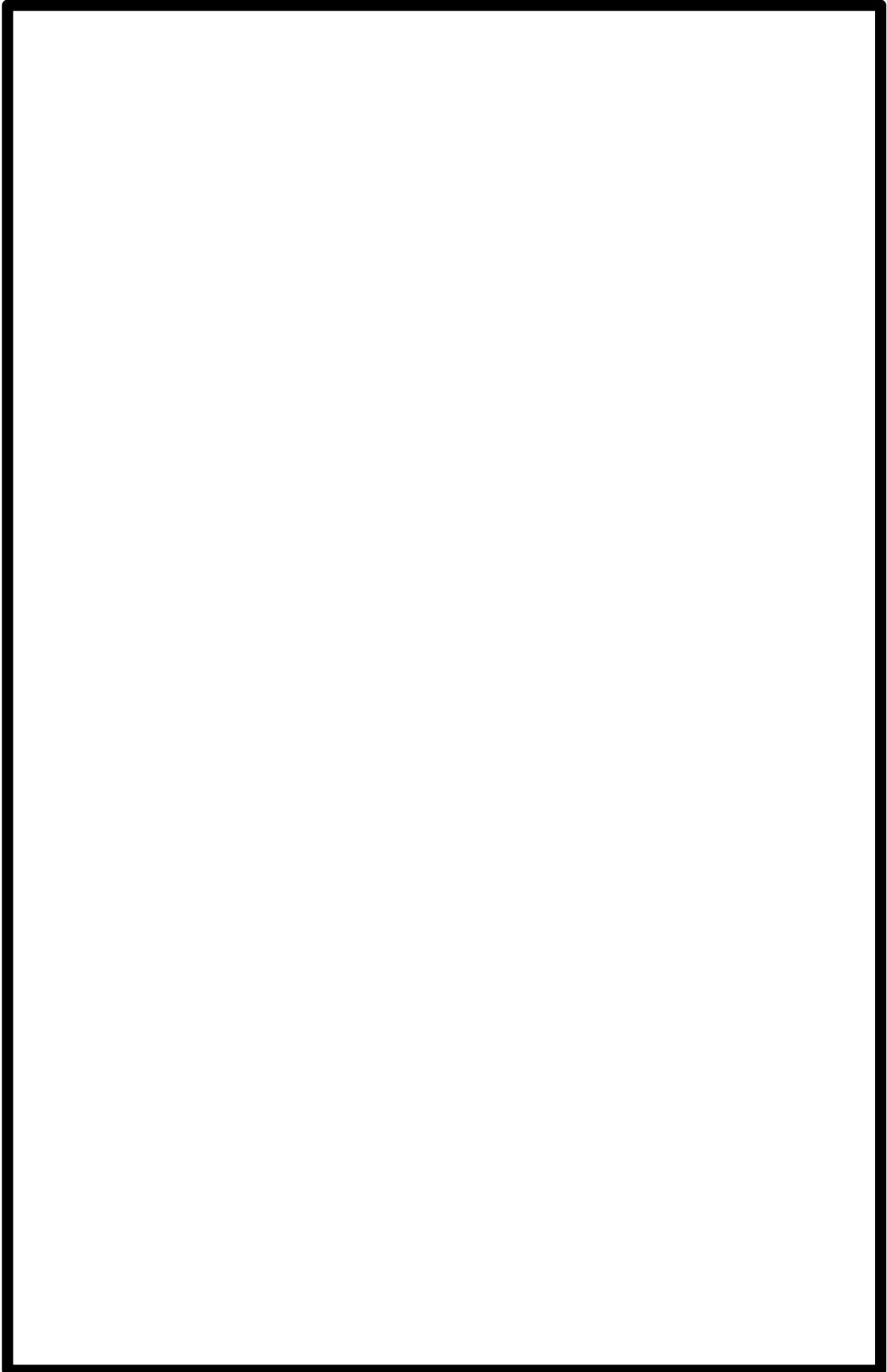
The Mascot:

- *Needs to appeal to very young children.*
- *Must not be carrying any weapons or injuries*
- *Does not have to be a fighting character but it could be (e.g. a soldier)*

The design of the mascot is only part of the job, the football club would also like you to name their new character.

Use the template (in portrait) on the next page or your own paper to complete your design for the mascot.

New Football Club Mascot



9. WW2 Shop Window Display

To mark the 80th anniversary of the end of WW2, the village shops in Nay-Upon-Halt are having a window display competition.

The owner of the Greengrocer's shop is not very confident when it comes to creating window displays, so she is looking for some help.

All of the shopkeepers in Nay-Upon-Halt are good friends and they are all looking forward to the competition.

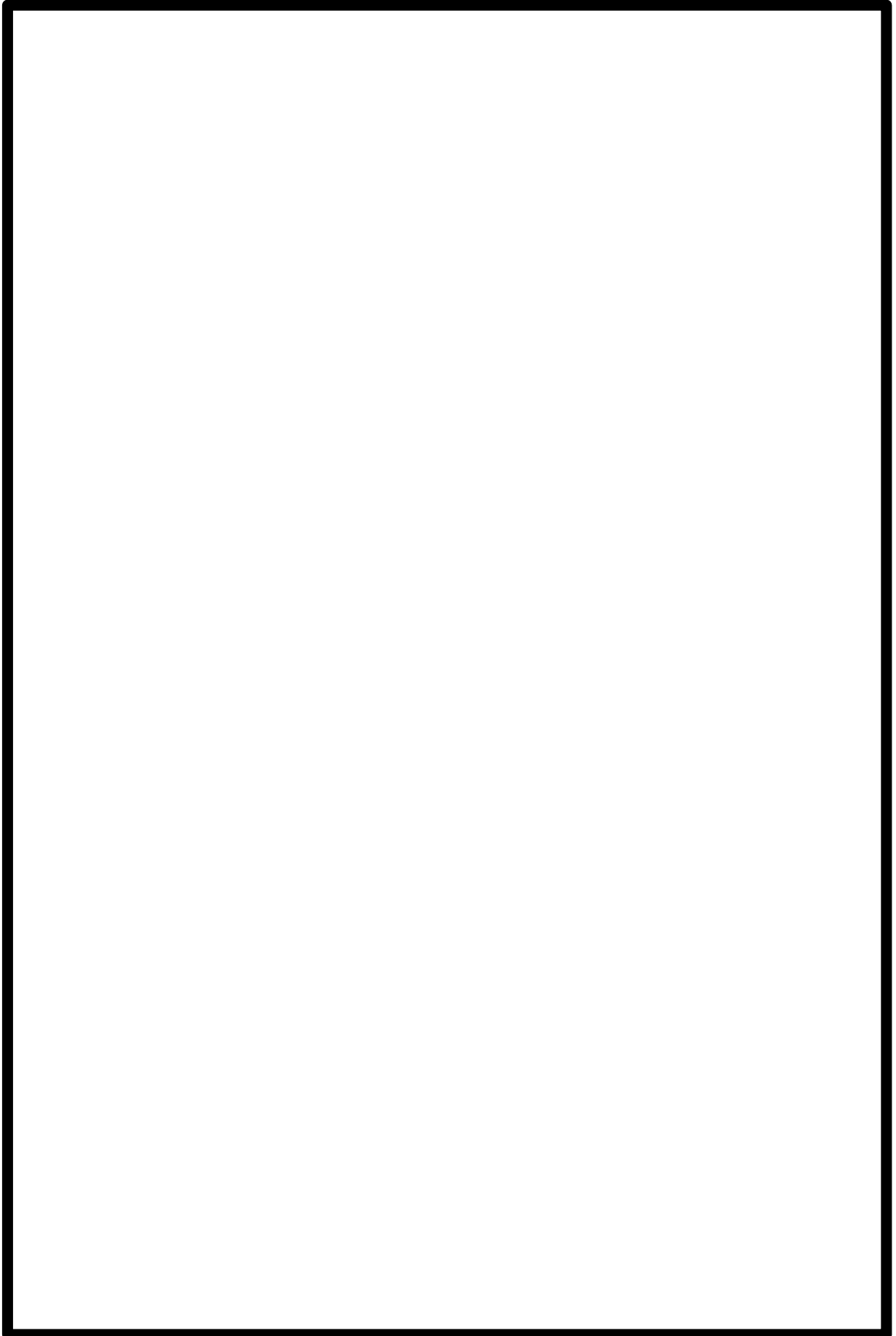
Can you help the owner of the Greengrocer's shop to design the winning window display?

The only condition she has put on the display design is that, as it's a shop selling fruit and vegetables, the display must be about the land in some way.

Good luck with your design!

Use the template on the next page (in landscape) or your own paper to complete the winning display.

WW2 Shop Window Display



11.TV Interview with village Veteran.

As you already know, many men from Nay-Upon-Halt left their families behind to go off to war. Many did not return. However, there are four men, who survived the fighting in World War 2 and returned home to the village. Their details are given at the bottom of this page.

The new TV company wants to make a programme about one of the Veterans. Your job is to choose which one is most suitable. You'll need to think about whether or not they will be able to tell a good story or if they even want to! You'll also need to think about what might help you to tell their story (e.g. is there a particular place in the village you could record the interview that is relevant to their story?) You might want to include some props in the recording, ask the interviewee to wear something appropriate, or bring a personal item along to include. You then need to prepare some questions for them. The success of the interview is in your hands!

The Surviving Veterans of Nay-Upon-Halt

Terry Smith

Terry was called up at the age of 18 in 1939 and joined the Royal Army Medical Corps. He trained in Aldershot, England before serving briefly at a military hospital in Ireland during the Blitz. He treated many civilians in Ireland who were caught up in the air raids.

In 1944, Terry and many others from the Medical Corps were put on a small craft and sent across the English Channel to Normandy on D-Day. It was their job to treat the wounded soldiers after they had landed on the French beaches. They had to do this whilst under heavy fire from the Germans defending the shoreline, and whilst still feeling the effects of sea sickness!

Terry went on to serve throughout the rest of the war, including the Battle of the Bulge - treating men with awful injuries.

Although he could tell some amazing stories about the war, Terry doesn't like talking about it very much as it upsets him. He is happy to talk about his training, the daily life of the soldier, and what rationing was like, but he is uncomfortable with anything else. His wife says he has hidden his medals away.

John Irving

John joined the RAF at the end of 1939. He was put through very rapid training to become a Spitfire Pilot.

John was on constant stand-by during the Battle of Britain, facing enemy aircraft in the skies above Britain everyday for months. Many of his friends were killed in these 'Dogfights' and John believes his lucky mascot 'Lucky Joe' (a small bear knitted by his Gran), kept him safe. He still has 'Lucky Joe' to this day. He keeps him on his fireplace at home and thanks him everyday for keeping him safe all those years ago.

He named his Spitfire 'Merryn' after the street he grew up on in the village. His whole family lived on Merryn Road. They were very close. John was one of six men from the family who went to war and was the only one to return. He still lives in the same house he left to go off to join the RAF.

John is happy to talk about his wartime experiences and although he finds it hard talking about the friends and family he lost, he also wants to keep talking about them as it means they are still remembered.

Bruce Williams

Bruce worked on Banner Joist Farm before reaching the age of 18 in 1943. He then joined the Navy and served on HMS Howe.

Bruce was an Engineer and was responsible for helping to maintain the battleship to ensure it was able to continue operations. HMS Howe served in lots of different places on very important operations. The places in which she served included Italy, Russia, and later on, off the Japanese coast.

The ship was a target for Japanese kamikaze pilots. One day they had a lucky escape when one of these planes struck the Howe but bounced off without exploding!

Bruce used to spend a lot of time as a child learning to fix things at his Grandfather's house in Nay-Upon-Halt. That is where his interest in engineering came from.

Bruce is very happy to talk about his wartime experiences.

Gerald Green

Gerald served as part of the King's Shropshire Light Infantry in France in 1939. They advanced into Belgium but were then forced to retreat to Dunkirk. During the last days of May 1940, as one of the last units to be evacuated from the port, they saw and experienced some of the most difficult times during the rescue of the troops, which ended on the 4th June. Gerald remembers the retreat and feeling like he was going to be captured and taken prisoner.

Gerald and his unit then spent the next three years in Britain helping to protect the country against the expected German invasion. He has lots of stories about what was done in this country to try to stop the Germans from landing here, as well as tales of times when people believed the Germans had actually invaded!

Gerald later went on to serve in Africa against the German Afrika Corps and was injured in fighting on the way to Tunis. He was brought home and discharged from the army on medical grounds.

Gerald is very happy to talk about his wartime experiences.

WW2 Veteran Interview Planning Form

Name of Veteran:

Reason for choosing this particular Veteran:

Location to be used for the interview:

Reason/s for your choice of location:

Will you use any props in the interview?

If so, which props will you need and how will you use them?

My Top Ten Questions For the TV Interview With My WW2 Veteran.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

12. Evacuees Suitcase

A diary written by a child, who was evacuated to Nay-Upon-Halt during the war, has been discovered in the loft above the Village Hall. One of the pages is mainly unreadable but the parts that can be read show that the entry was about what the child had packed in their suitcase to bring with them.

Draw what you think the suitcase looked like (including colours) and list 10 items you would have packed if you were the evacuee. The list should be ordered with the most important item at the top and the least important at the bottom.

Explain your choices for the top three items and compare them with someone else.

Use the form on the next page to complete this task, or your own piece of paper if you prefer.

Suitcase Design

10 Items Inside

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

Reason for Top 3 Item Choices

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

13. The Time Capsule and the Photograph

A time capsule from the Blitz was discovered during the building of the new museum. There were ten things inside including a photograph album. One of the photos shows part of the village after it was hit during an air raid.

Draw a picture of what you think the photograph looked like in as much detail as possible.

Once you have completed and coloured your drawing, list the other nine things that were found in the time capsule.

Use the template on the next page or your own paper to complete your image and object list.

Photograph of Nay-upon-Halt After an Air Raid

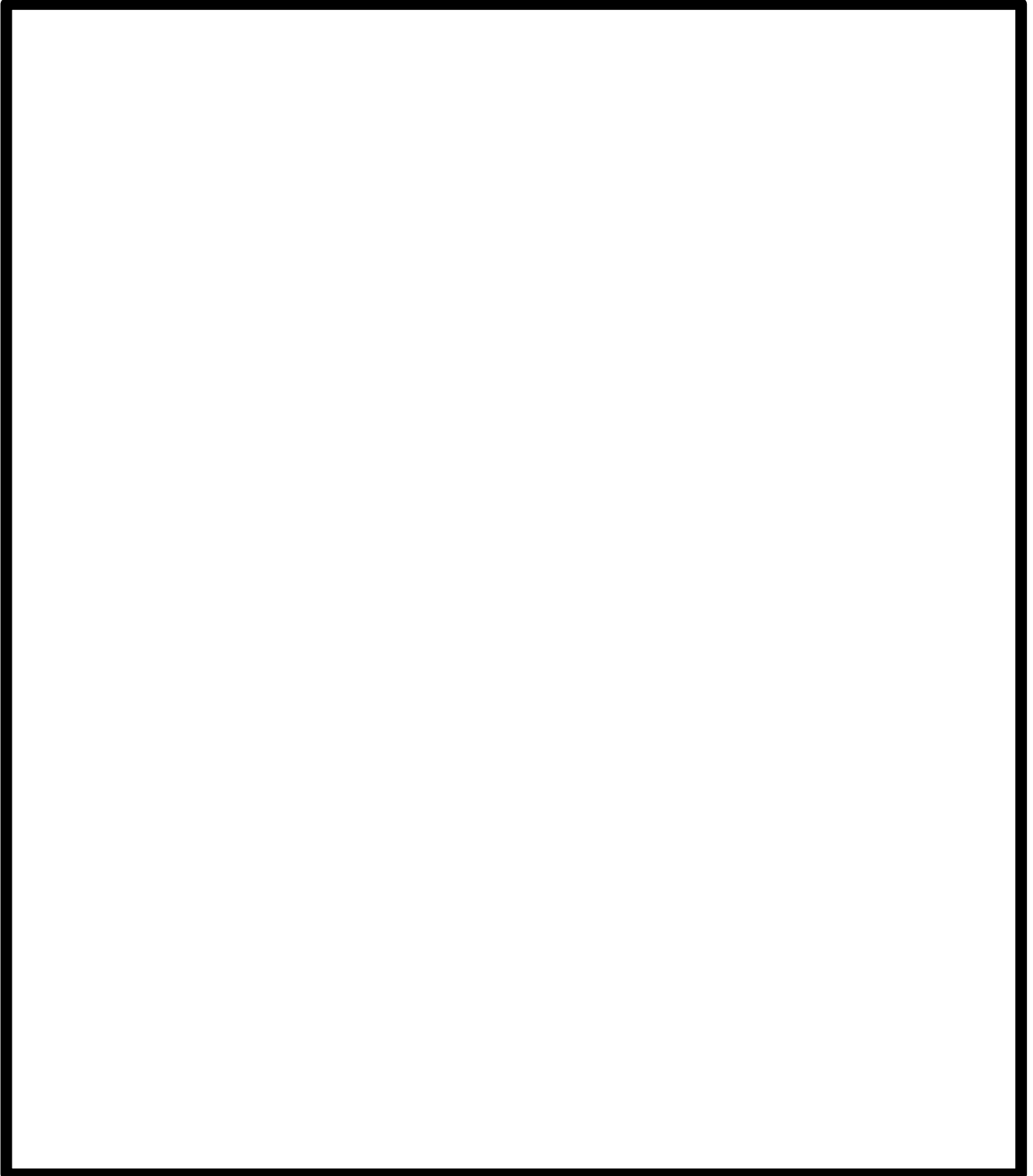


Other 9 Objects Inside the Time Capsule

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.

14. New Adventure Playground

A new adventure playground for the youngsters is to be built in the village. The council would like it to be WW2 themed. Design the playground.



15. Re-enactment Calendar

The local re-enactment group want to make and sell a WW2 calendar. Design the pictures for each month of the year to be published in the calendar.

Use the template provided or create your own to complete the calendar images.

January

February

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March

April

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May

June

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July

August

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September

October

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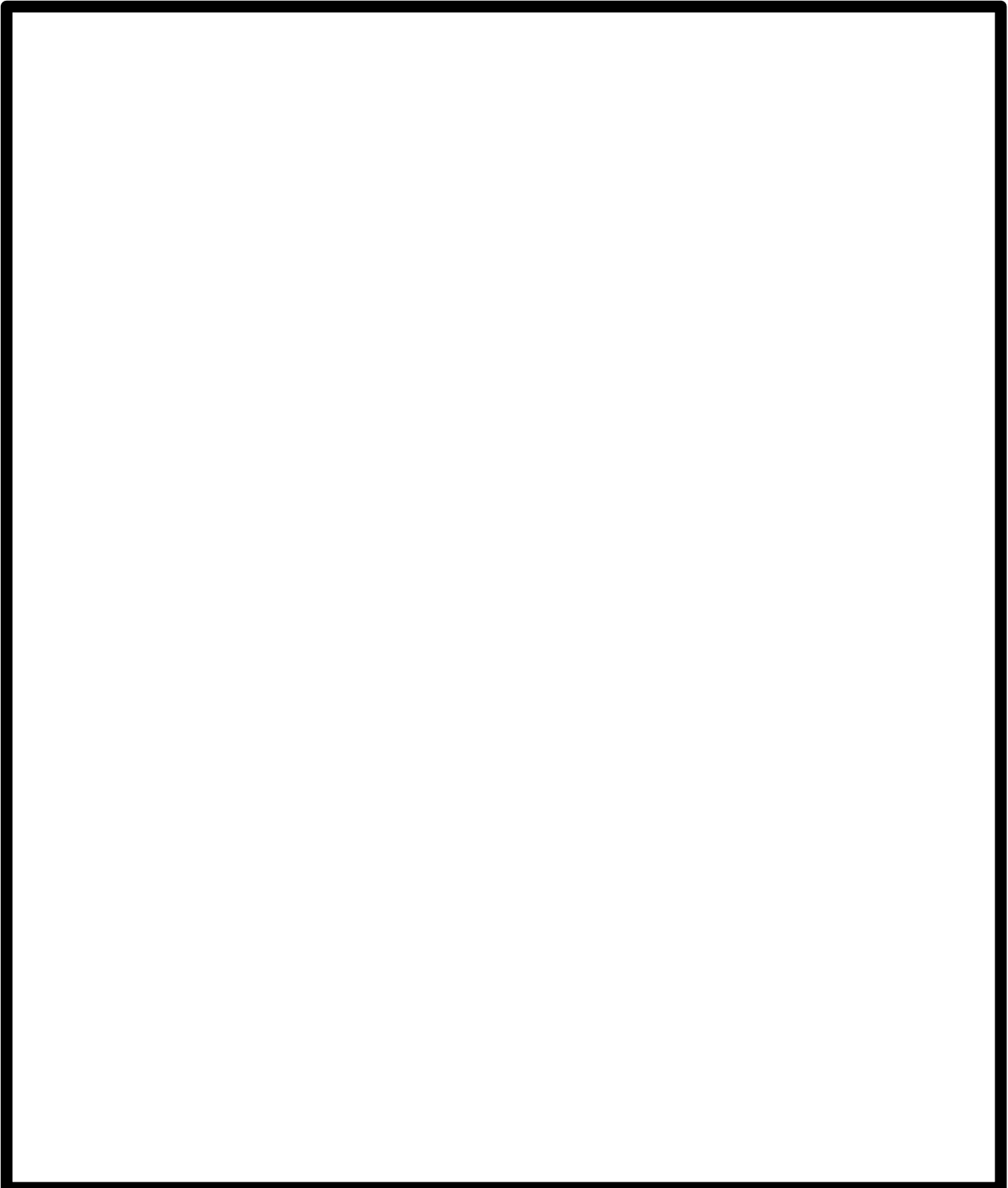
November

December

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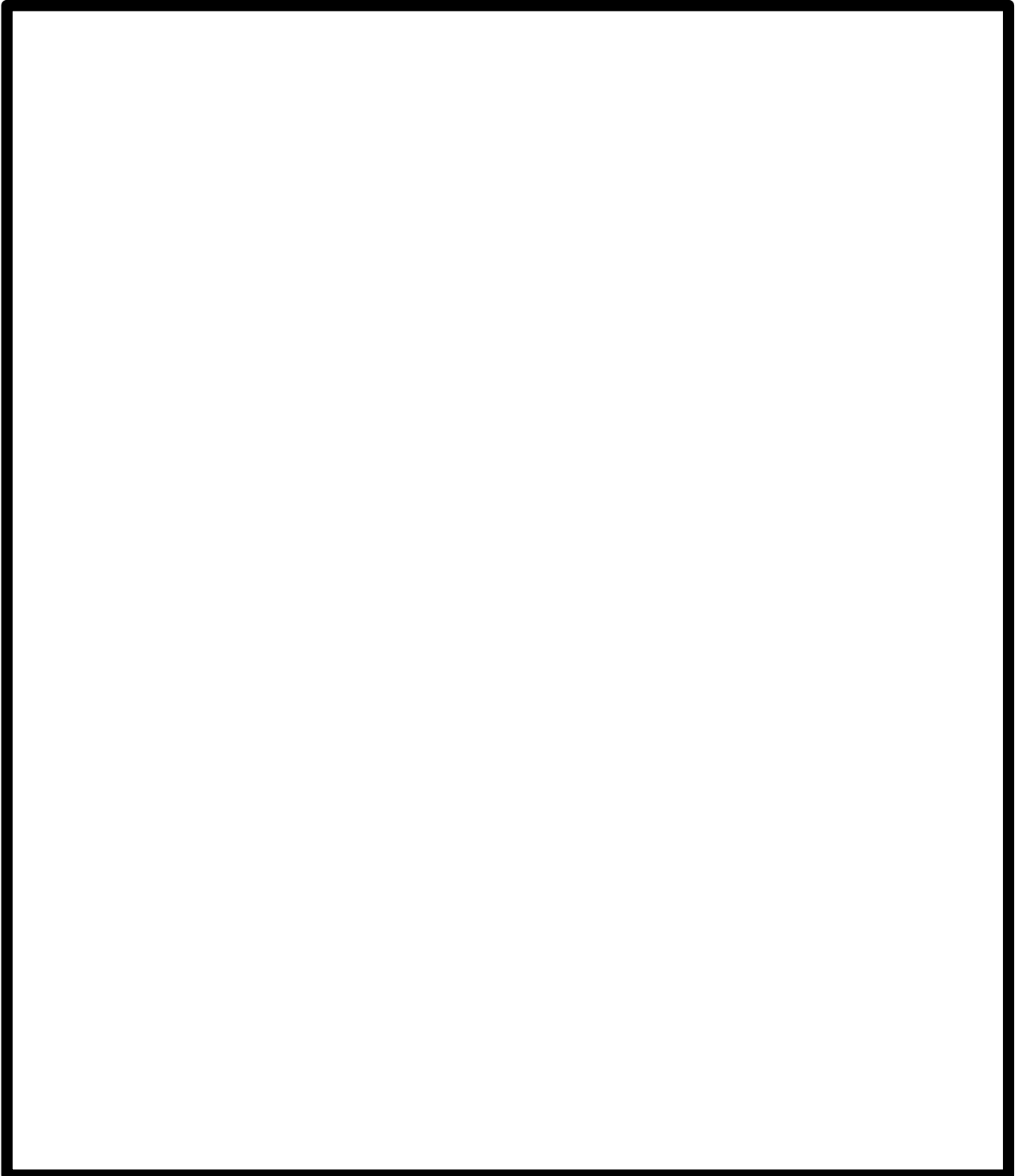
16. Banner Joist Farm Museum Entrance Sign

. Banner Joist Farm, at the north end of the village, was home to 8 members of the Women's Land Army during the war. The current farm owner is opening up a museum on the site to celebrate the work of the Land Army. Design the farm entrance sign.



17. A Mother's Speech

Jane Greenway, a local mother, wrote a speech to present to Winston Churchill, to try to stop her son and the other young men from the village from being called up for war. Write the speech you think Jane gave to the Prime Minister. It was at least half a page in length, although some residents say it was exactly a page of A4.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thick black border, intended for the student to write their response to the prompt above.

18. You be the Judge!

A local soldier ran away from the war and went back to Nay-Upon-Halt. He was arrested and put before an Army Court. Read what had happened to him in the war to make him want to run away (see the report below), then you be the Judge! Write your own report using the template to show your decision of what should happen to the man.

Bernard Henshaw's Service Record.

Bernard was serving on the front line with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry in France in 1944. He had spent several days under continuous heavy shell fire from the Germans. A large number of shells landed very close to Bernard and, like many others, he became extremely frightened. Some of the shells exploded so close to him and his friends that they were thrown off their feet on many occasions and their hearing was damaged.

On the sixth day of shelling, Bernard couldn't cope with it any longer and he ran away. He spent the next three days making his way back to the beaches in Normandy. He secretly climbed aboard a ship heading back to England and the safety of Nay-Upon-Halt.

By the time he got home, the Army were looking for him. He could not control his nerves and his hands trembled all the time. He did not like loud noises and could not talk about what had happened to him. Two days later, an Army Officer arrived at his house and Bernard was arrested and put on trial for going 'Absent Without Leave'.

What should happen to Bernard after the court has heard the report?

Should he:

Be found guilty of wilfully abandoning his post and be sent to Prison?

Be found guilty but sent back to fight and not have to go to jail?

Be freed on medical grounds and allowed to return home with no further action taken against him?

Complete the Verdict Report Form on the next page or create one of your own.

Bernard Henshaw's Court Verdict Form

Proposal	Your answer
Should Bernard be found guilty of wilfully abandoning his post and be sent to Prison?	
Should Bernard be found guilty but sent back to fight and not have to go to jail?	
Should Bernard be freed on medical grounds and allowed to return home with no further action taken against him?	
Write a speech to read out in the court to explain your decision. You may wish to add details from his Service Record to support your conclusion.	

19. The Ripped Up Letter

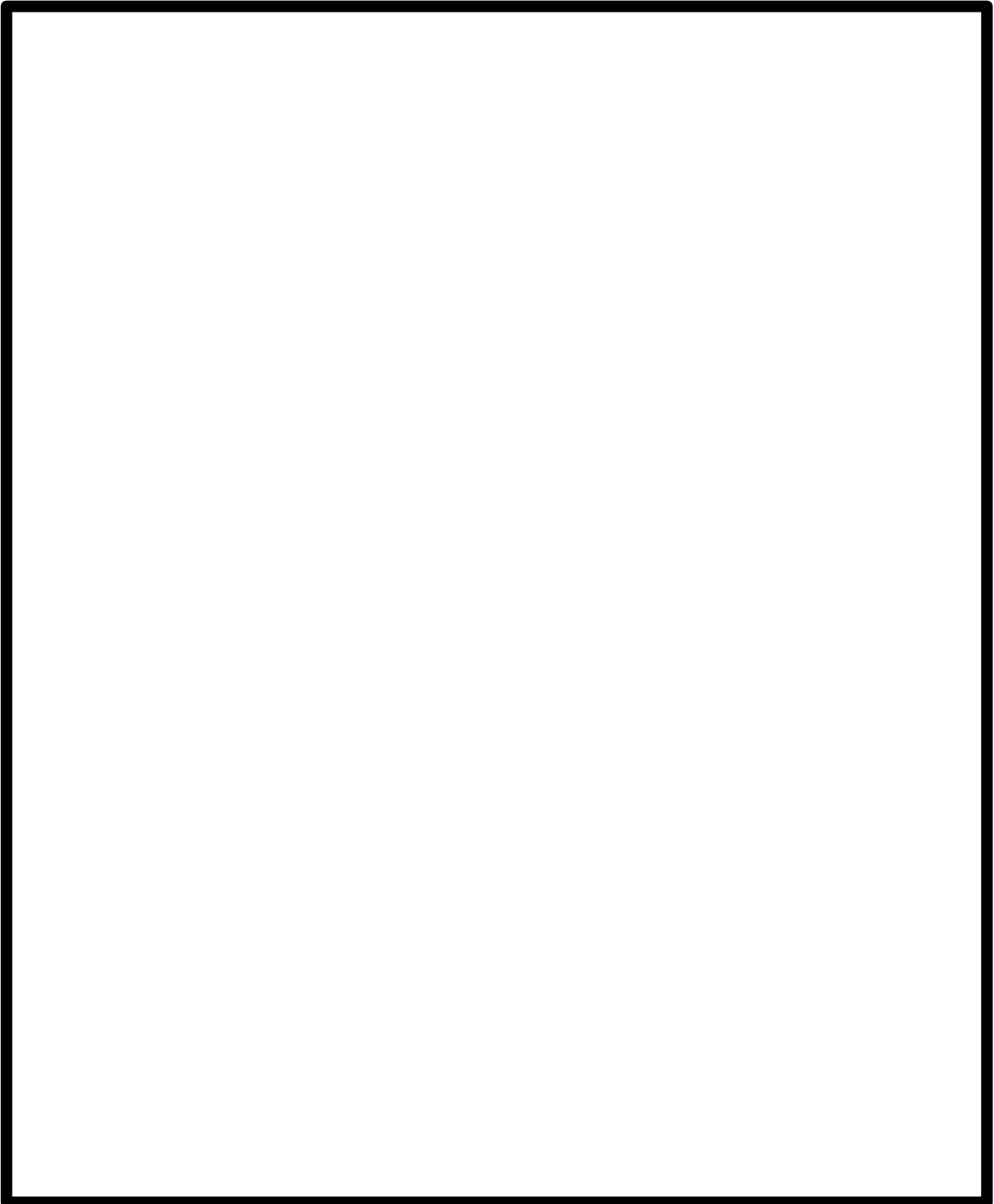
In 1942 an Italian Prisoner of War began working at Banner Joist Farm. He exchanged letters with his family at home in Italy whilst he was held as a prisoner in England. One of those letters was translated into English but was then ripped up. The letter has been handed into the farm by a local resident. However, there is a problem. The short letter looks like it has been put back together in the wrong order.

Can you re-write the letter below so it can be read correctly? You may discover a wartime secret.

Thank you for It is so you will become Be at the
and say to the man for you in England. your last letter.
and life is ok for you in England.
"France is nice at this time of year." Good luck!
Perhaps All is well here church gate at midnight.
a farmer when the war is over. great to hear you're well
Dear Enzo

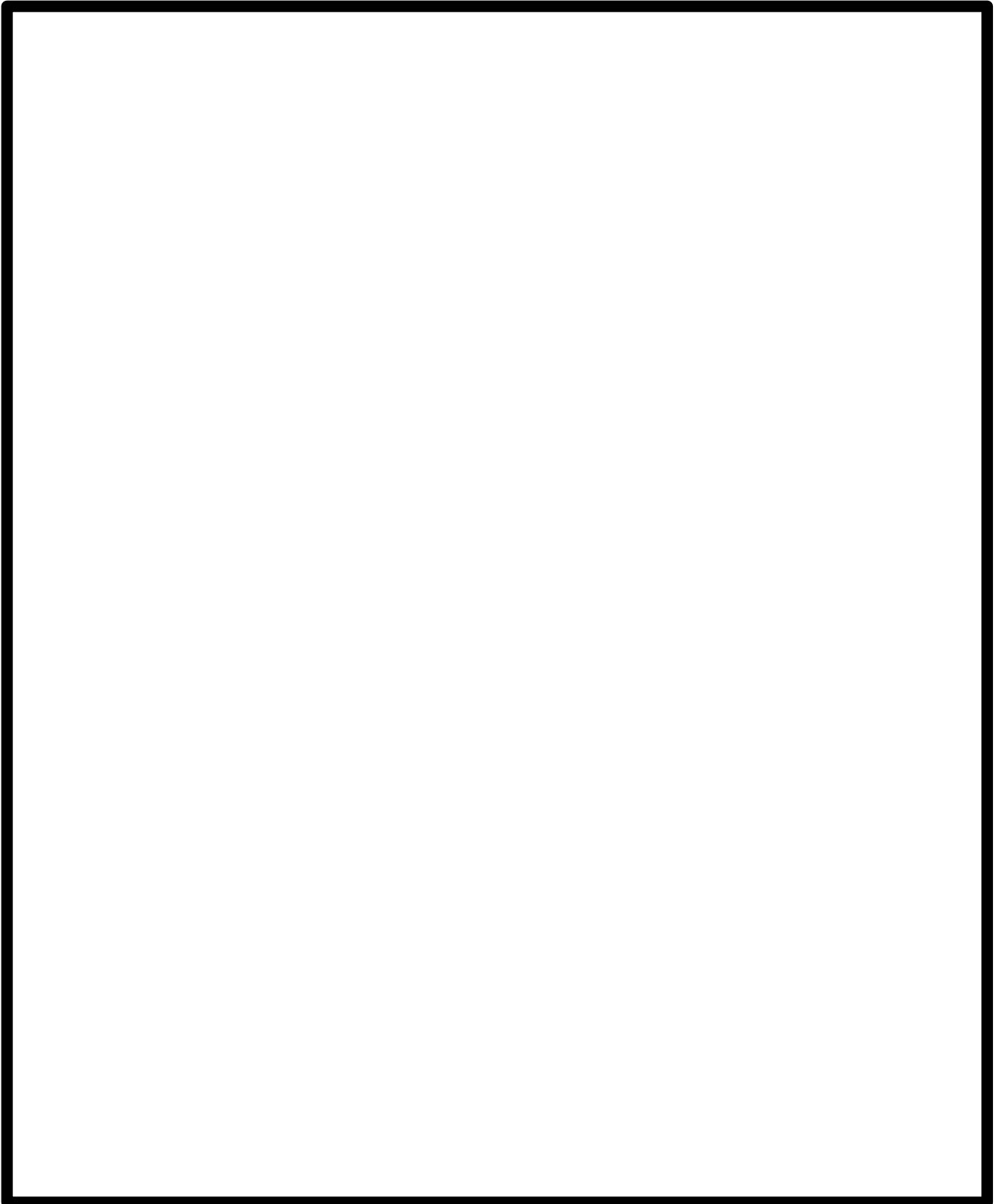
20. The VE Day Cake

The end of the war was marked by huge street parties in the village. The Vicar's wife made a huge VE Day cake for the whole village. It was the biggest cake anyone had ever seen and was beautifully decorated with an end of war theme. Design what you think the cake looked like.



21. A Homecoming Song

The women of the Land Army at Banner Joist Farm wrote a homecoming song for the men of the village, who were returning from war. The problem is that the lyrics have been lost and nobody can remember the name of it. Write the homecoming song and give it a title.



If you enjoyed this activity pack from Wartime Reflections, why not see what else we have to offer by visiting our website.

www.wartimereflections.co.uk

