

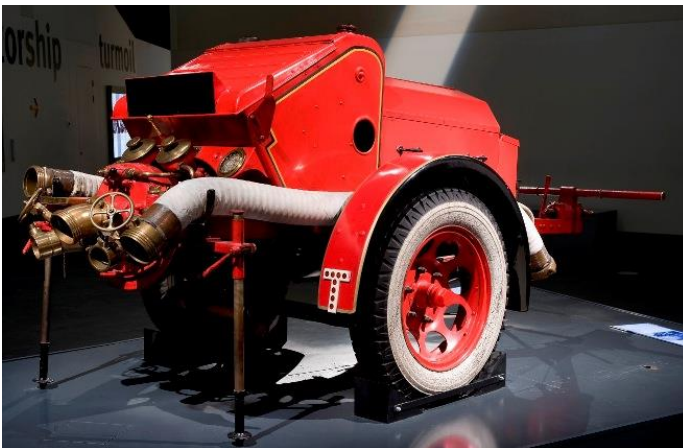
Blitz Trail

The information in *italics* does not appear on the students' print out.

1. Fighting fires



Can you find the Fire Fighting Trailer Pump?



What is it?

Look at the text panel to find out.

It was used to put out fires during the Second World War.

Who or what pulled it?

A vehicle. Two members of the Fire Service could pull it for short distances.

What would it be like to pull it? Circle words from the list.

Hard Tiring Easy Fun Difficult



Did you know?

During the Second World War, Hovis, the flour and baking company owned the site that the museum now stands on. The wooden grain silos on this site burned to the ground during the Trafford Park Blitz in 1940.

The word 'auxiliary' means 'extra' or back up'.

Why did Britain need an 'extra' fire service during the Second World War?

Fires could spread quickly from building to building and so additional people with extra equipment were helpful.

There were full-time and part-time positions within the AFS. Members of the AFS might have included older men who could not enlist, those in full-time work who may be free to volunteer in the evening, women and factory workers.

The AFS supported regional fire services until 1941 at which time they were merged and became the National Fire Service. Experienced fire fighters were kept back from military service as fire-fighting was considered a 'reserved occupation'. Men and women could also be conscripted into the fire service.



This photograph shows volunteers of the Auxiliary Fire Service (AFS).

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2. The Blitz

'Blitz' is short for *Blitzkrieg* which is German for 'lightning war'.

The German air force was called the Luftwaffe. Some areas were bombed more than others.

Circle the places you think were bombed.

Airfields Docks Factories Countryside



Can you find this shelter?

What type of shelter is it?

Look at the text panel.

Fire Watching was a dangerous job staffed by civilian volunteers who would have taken refuge in a Consol shelter during a raid. The shelters were designed to protect from bomb splinters and the effects of the blast, rather than being able to resist direct hits.

This sort of shelter was found on the roofs of factories.

Can you list any other kinds of shelters?

Anderson shelter (in back gardens)

Morrison shelter (inside the house)

Public Service shelters (positioned throughout major cities)

People also took cover from air raids in Underground stations, in cellars and crypts of churches.

3. ARP wardens

Lots of people helped protect Britain from the Blitz as well as the Fire Service, such as ARP wardens.

What does ARP stand for?



Air Raid Precautions

Members of Butetown's 'International Warden's Post' at work

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ARP wardens were civilians, everyday people who had not joined the armed forces. They volunteered to become wardens in order to help protect people and buildings in their area. Gas masks were issued to everyone in Britain during the Second World War. Though Britain prepared for gas attacks, gas was never dropped on Britain.

How would you feel about being an ARP warden?

Use your own words or choose from the list below.

Frightened

Proud

Excited

Responsible

Angry

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