



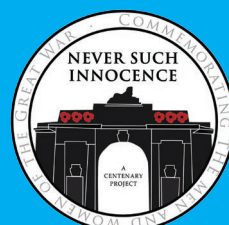
CWGC
Commonwealth War Graves Commission



Salonika Remembers

VISITING THE COMMONWEALTH
WAR GRAVES COMMISSION
CEMETERIES AND WAR
MEMORIALS OF **GREECE**

www.cwgc.org





CWGC
Commonwealth War Graves Commission

SECTION ONE THE CWGC AND **GREECE**

THE COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES COMMISSION AND **GREECE**

COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES COMMISSION

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) was created during the First World War to ensure that men and women of the Commonwealth forces who died during the two world wars would be remembered.

Today, CWGC commemorates **1,700,000** men and women who gave their lives in both world wars, by caring for their graves and memorials at more than **23,000** locations in 154 countries.

COMMON FEATURES OF CWGC WAR CEMETERIES INCLUDE...



Headstones to mark the graves

- Including regimental badge, name, religious symbol and personal inscription.



The Cross of Sacrifice

- represents the faith of the majority of those remembered here.



The Stone of Remembrance

- represents those of all faiths and none and is inscribed with words chosen by author **Rudyard Kipling** "Their Name Liveth For Evermore."

SECTION ONE THE CWGC AND **GREECE**

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission commemorates over **18,000** Commonwealth war dead of the two world wars and some 400 of other nationalities, who are buried or commemorated in twenty - five sites in Greece. The **6,000** who have no known grave are commemorated on four memorials to the missing.

WHAT DOES YOUR CLASS KNOW

? Have **you** visited any war graves or memorials in Greece?

? Do **you** know where the war graves from the First and Second World Wars (WWI and WWII) are in **your city**?

? What have **you** learnt about the First and Second World Wars in **Greece**?



Grave of a Greek Labourer

Grave of Macedonian Labour Corps



Australian grave

**Madam Harley grave
Lembet Road**





SECTION TWO THE FIRST WORLD WAR IN GREECE

Work with your group to complete the timeline?

Share your timeline with the class.

1915

1916

1917

1918

**Thessaloniki and the
First World War:**
Our City, 1915 – 1919

**Complete the speech bubbles below
with stories, information, thoughts
about WWI in your city? We will
share these with the class.**

RESEARCHING THE WAR GRAVES IN GREECE

QUESTION



Use the CWGC Database to find out who is commemorated in **Mikra British Cemetery, Kalamaria?**

The Mikra Memorial commemorates almost 500 nurses, officers and men who died when transport and hospital ships were lost in the Mediterranean, and who have no grave but the sea. What were the names of these ships?

RESEARCH

USING THE **CWGC** DATABASE

Using the **CWGC** Database

The CWGC database is really easy to use and can help you to find war casualties in cemeteries around the world.

1. Go to **www.cwgc.org**
2. Select Find a Cemetery and enter the name of cemetery
3. Click on View Casualty Record and choose someone from the list
4. Read the records attached to their Name

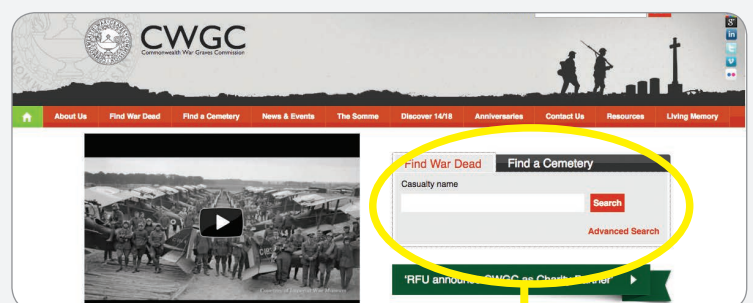
To find a specific name in a cemetery

1. From the CWGC website click on the Advanced Search button in the search box
2. Enter the surname, then the initial or forename, if known
3. If you know the name of the cemetery or memorial, enter the details in the box
4. Click search at the bottom.

The cemetery contains the graves of many nationalities, use the CWGC database to find the different regiments, nationalities and those female casualties buried and commemorated here.



Tip: You can then click on a specific cemetery and export a list of all those buried in that cemetery.



Tip: There are many other options in this search that will allow you to refine your search criteria. Feel free to explore the options in the box to see what you will find.



SECTION FOUR WHO AM I?

Write down the details for the soldier or nurse you have found.



How **old** am I?



Which **Regiment** did I serve with?



What was my **nationality**?



When did I **die**?



Where am I **buried** - you can find the grave reference on the database, write it here so you can locate your casualty when we visit the cemetery.



SECTION FOUR WHO AM I?

POEM

The Soldier

*If I should die, think only this of me:
That there's some corner of a foreign field
That is for ever England. There shall be
In that rich earth a richer dust concealed;
A dust whom England bore, shaped, made aware,
Gave, once, her flowers to love, her ways to roam,
A body of England's, breathing English air,
Washed by the rivers, blest by suns of home.*

*And think, this heart, all evil shed away,
A pulse in the eternal mind, no less
Gives somewhere back the thoughts by England given;
Her sights and sounds; dreams happy as her day;
And laughter, learnt of friends; and gentleness,
In hearts at peace, under an English heaven.*

Rupert Brook

(Died 23 April 1915,
commemorated by
the CWGC on the
Greek Island of Skyros)



WHAT CAN YOU FIND OUT ABOUT THIS POET?

? What does the poet **think** about dying in war?



Are there famous **Greek poets** who wrote about war? Are there similarities and differences between the way they documented their experience?



SECTION FIVE REMEMBRANCE

? What is **remembrance**?



? Is it **important** to **remember** those who died?



? Should **everyone** be remembered in the same way?

Look at the photographs from your teacher, can you talk about them in your group?

EQUALITY

War dead are commemorated uniformly and equally, irrespective of military or civil rank, race or creed.

SECTION FIVE REMEMBRANCE

SYMBOL AND RITUAL:

Can you find out what these symbolise and how they are used for remembrance?



Poppies



Marigolds



Forget me nots



Tulips



Laurel



Strelitzia

CREATIVE RESPONSE

Poetry:

Poetry is a powerful way of expressing your feelings and many soldiers wrote poetry about their experiences. You can write a poem for your serviceman or woman.

Wreath Laying

You could make a wreath for your soldier; can you research the flowers of remembrance that would be most suitable?



Which symbols and flowers are used in Greece for remembrance and why?



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SECTION FIVE REMEMBRANCE

NEVER SUCH INNOCENCE – SALONIKA REMEMBERS

Never Such Innocence is a charity which engages young people in the British Isles, and beyond, with the First World War centenary through poetry, art and music. During our fourth and final year (2017/18), we want to inspire children across Thessaloniki to think creatively about the events that happened on their doorstep 100 years ago.



We are inviting children aged 9-16 to submit poems, artwork or songs inspired by the events of the First World War. We want to encourage schools to visit their local Commonwealth war graves to stimulate and inform their responses to the competition.



We produce free resources for schools, including a comprehensive resource pack which provides a child-friendly journey through the war and includes information about fronts all around the world. This resource will be updated to include a section on the Salonika Campaign and will be published this September to coincide with the official competition launch.

PLANNING YOUR VISIT:

HOMEWORK IDEAS:

You will visit a CWGC cemetery, work together to plan what you will do to remember. Will you:

Hold an event

☐ Yes ☐ No

Make a presentation

☐ Yes ☐ No

Read a poem

☐ Yes ☐ No

Lay a wreath

☐ Yes ☐ No

Play music – like The Last Post?

☐ Yes ☐ No



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SECTION SIX VISITING THE CEMETERIES AND WAR MEMORIALS

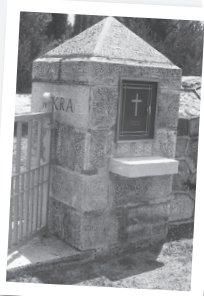
VISITING MIKRA BRITISH CEMETERY, KALAMARIA

When you arrive at the cemetery, can you find the cross of sacrifice and the stone of remembrance?



“There is no reason why cemeteries should be places of gloom”.

Sir Frederic Kenyon, 1918



INTERPRETING A HEADSTONE



Religious Emblem

Most CWGC headstones include a religious icon, like the Christian cross, Jewish or Muslim emblems.

Personal Inscription

Graves were made more individual by personal inscriptions. With a limit of 66 letters the words chosen were often religious or messages of loss from the family.

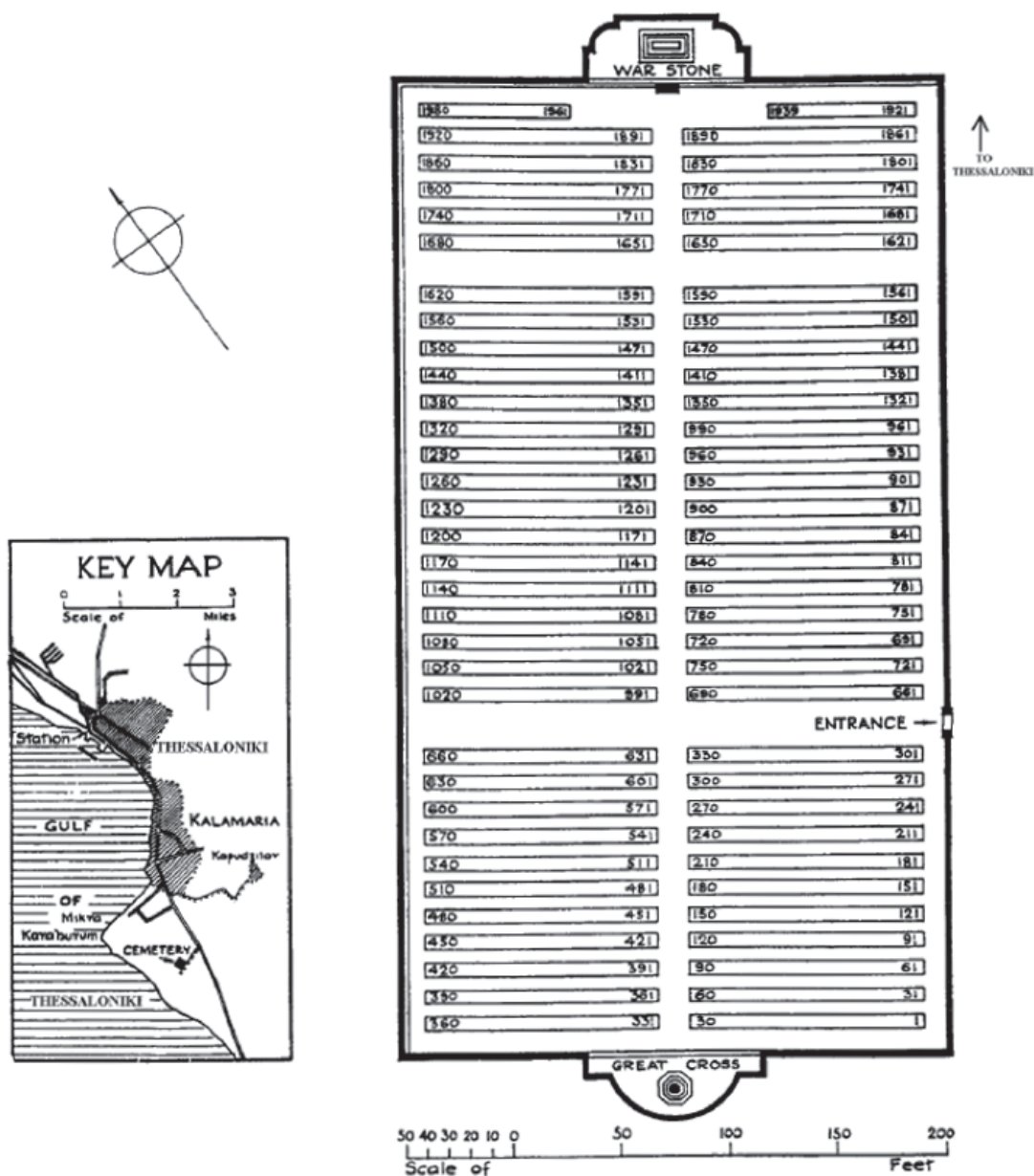
National Emblem or Unit / Regimental badge

Originally the headstones were carved by hand, now all headstones are made by computer aided machinery. Details of the individual will normally include the military number, name, rank, military awards, regiment, date and age of death.

SECTION SIX VISITING THE CEMETERIES AND WAR MEMORIALS

Can you find the grave of the soldier that you wrote about in section 4?

Use the cemetery plan to navigate your war around the cemetery.





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SECTION SEVEN REMEMBER - ACTIVITIES AT THE CEMETERY

DRAWING WAR GRAVES



Can you find a place to read your poem for your **serviceman** or woman?



Sketch some of the **symbols** you found on the war graves. Did you find **different religious** badges?

Notes. What did you find and who did you learn about? Share your discovery



IDEAS

You can take photographs and build a **remembrance collage** from your research.

You could leave flowers for your **serviceman** or **woman**.

SECTION SEVEN REMEMBER - ACTIVITIES AT THE CEMETERY

After your visit You can create a presentation for your school or family and tell them about the war graves in this cemetery

Write about your experience and how it made you feel.

Will you visit the grave of your soldier again? Will you tell others about them too?



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The **Commonwealth War Graves Commission** and **Greece**

**For more information contact:
The Community Engagement Team**

Email: community@cwgc.org

Visit: www.cwgc.org



Twitter: @cwgc



Instagram: [commonwealthwargraves](https://www.instagram.com/commonwealthwargraves)



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