

# World War II

## Timeline

1939		1940					1941		1945			1946	1954
1 Sept	3 Sept.	Jan.	May	July	Sept.	Oct.	May	June	April	May	May	March	July
German troops invade Poland. Evacuation begins.	Britain declares war on Germany.	Rationing begins.	Winston Churchill becomes new British Prime Minister.	The Battle of Britain begins.	The Blitz begins.	The Battle of Britain ends.	German air raid damages the House of Common.	Rationing of clothing began.	Hitler dies.	Germany surrenders to the western Allies.	VE Day	Evacuation ends	Rationing ends.

## What was the impact of WW2 and the Blitz on Britain?

### Evacuation:

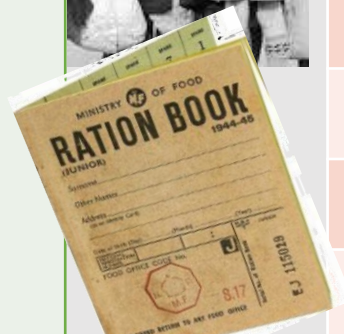
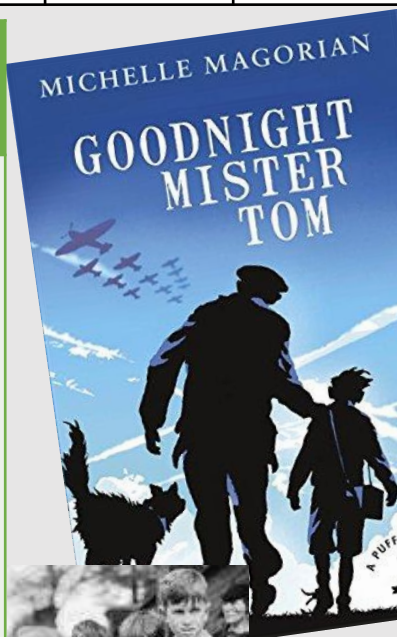
- Many children living in urban areas were moved temporarily from their homes to safer places, usually out in rural areas of Britain.
- The British **evacuation** began on Friday 1 September 1939. It was called 'Operation Pied Piper'.
- When the war was over, the Government began to make travel arrangements to return **evacuees** to their homes.

### Rationing:

- Supply ships bringing food and other goods to Britain were targeted by German bombers.
- This meant that there was less food for the people – whatever food was grown, produced or managed to enter Britain was **rationed** – people used Ration books during this time.

### Jobs:

- Many men fought in the war and so women were tasked to carry out much of the war work.
- Men who held jobs such as doctors or miners were not called up to join the army.
- Jobs undertaken by women during the war included mechanics, ambulance drivers and **air raid wardens**.



**Setting:** Little Weirwold

**Characters:** Tom Oakley, William Beech, Zach, Carrie, Ginnie, George, Mrs Beech, Sammy the dog

### Summary

When the Second World War breaks out, young Willie Beech is evacuated to the countryside. A sad, deprived child, he slowly begins to flourish under the care of kind old Tom Oakley. But then his cruel mother summons him back to war-torn London... Will he ever see Mister Tom again?



## Vocabulary

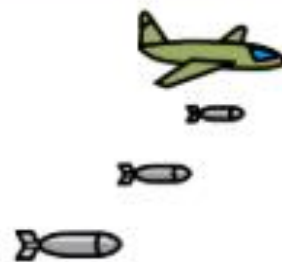
air raid (shelter)	evacuee	occupied
allied	haversack	propaganda
Anderson shelter	home guard	rationing
axis	invasion	rural
billet	Luftwaffe	urban
blackout curtains	mackintosh	warden
blitz	Nazi	wireless



British



German



blitz



air raid



ration



invasion



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evacuee



propaganda



urban



wireless



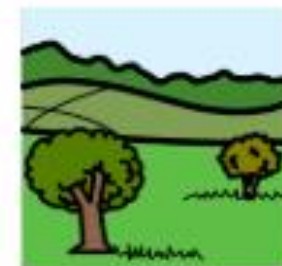
haversack



mackintosh



gumboots



rural