

Thursday 6th May 2021

L.C. Can you research the Aycliffe Angels and
the role that they played in the war effort?

Starter – Conflicts over time

- Order these conflicts from earliest to latest:



Starter – Conflicts over time

- Now repeat this without the pictures:

Battle of Hastings

Vietnam War

World War I

American Civil War

World War II

Our Local War

- Does anybody here have a family friend or relative who was involved in World Warr II?
- Could you share this with the class?

The Aycliffe Angels – who were they?



The Aycliffe Angels



- ROF Aycliffe was an Ordnance Factory built in Aycliffe in the 1940's.
- 17,000 women from the local area worked here during the war.
- Their job was to fill shells and bullets, as well as make detonators and fuses for ammunition.
- Many people were killed or injured completing this work, as it was a dangerous job!

Why were they angels?

- The location was a secret – built in an area often covered in mist and fog...**why would this be important?**
- Many of the women were sworn to secrecy about their job...**why might this have been the case?**
- The factory was known as ROF 59 instead of its full name...**why would they want this to be kept a secret?**
- They became known as the "Aycliffe Angels" after a Nazi propaganda broadcast from [Lord Haw-Haw](#) threatened that "The little angels of Aycliffe won't get away with it" and promised that the [Luftwaffe](#) would bomb them into submission

"RES NON VERBA"

59

ROYAL ORDNANCE FACTORY

59

This is to Certify that

KATHLEEN TEARE

has attended a Course in Anti-Gas Measures at
the above Factory, and is qualified to become a
Member of the F.A.C.C. Party, Group

EXAMINER:

INSTRUCTOR:

Richard

Evans

Neave

SUPERINTENDENT

A.M.P.S. (B.P.C.)
P.A.T.S. OFFICE

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ROYAL ORDNANCE FACTORY, AYCLIFFE

Clock No. 51/553

6th July, 1945.

Dear *Miss Tomkin*

Consequent on the decision to close down Aycliffe as a Royal Ordnance Filling Factory, I must accordingly inform you that your services will not be required after your last working shift, week ending 14th July, 1945.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking you personally, and on behalf of the Ministry of Supply for your services to the factory in the past and to extend to you best wishes for the future. ~~Aycliffe has done a fine job during the last four years, and it is~~ largely due to the hard work and excellent team spirit of its workers. You may look back and be proud of your share in this great enterprise.

If in the course of your employment you have met with an injury, which has resulted in impairment of earning capacity, a form of claim for compensation will be supplied to you on application.

What must it have been like to work there?

- <https://www.newtonnews.co.uk/the-real-aycliffe-angels-and-their-impact/>

Could you describe the conditions?

Your Task

- Write an informal letter to a friend describing your day as an Aycliffe Angel.
- Include information about the conditions and activities completed.
- Write a job advert for a role at ROF 59.
- Include information about the skills needed to complete the tasks required.