This User Guide outlines many records associated with the Second World War held at the Archives. It is not an exhaustive list and references to wartime activities and attitudes can also be found in a wide range of general records for 1939-45, while local authorities’ records cover many aspects of the home front.

NB Access to records containing information of a sensitive personal nature, eg hospital and school records, is restricted. Please ask a member of staff for more details.

Please enquire in advance about access to any unlisted collections.

CIVIL DEFENCE (includes Air Raid Precautions (ARP) and Home Guard)

See also Industry & Economy section for ARP records relating to individual businesses

Gateshead

Blaydon UDC Clerks Department files, ARP list of personnel and application forms 1939-41 Ref T214/217

Felling, 21 Battalion Durham Home Guard (No 6 Group), papers including War Office notices, instructions, location sheets, command orders, correspondence, newspaper cuttings, photographs and postcards 1940-54 Ref AF.HG1 (unlisted)

Felling, Station Road Methodist Church Sunday School, Bill Quay, correspondence re use as first aid post 1940-45 Ref C.FE3/7

Gateshead Borough Council minutes, including Emergency Committee (Air Raid Precautions Committee) 1938-45 Ref CB.GA/13/1-2

Gateshead, notebook containing details of local rescue and emergency services and agencies in Gateshead 1939-45 Ref DX15/1

Ryton UDC minutes and records, including Allotments Committee minutes & clerk’s file 1939-45, ARP stock ledger 1938-41 Ref UD.RY/3, 17/1, 39

Winlaton, ARP Hallgarth Hall 1938-44 Ref T214/218

Newcastle

ARP Squad, Heaton Works, photographs 1939-40 Ref DX1235
ARP warden’s report book, Benwell 1939 Ref DX1347

Benton Methodist Church, correspondence re use of church property during the War 1939-46 Ref C.LO2/26/1

Gosforth UDC records including ARP Committee minutes 1939-45, ARP Sub-Committee minutes 1936-38, ARP files and correspondence 1939-46, Emergency (Invasion) minutes 1942, Auxiliary Fire Service correspondence 1940-47, surveyors plans: list and position of ARP services c1939 and ARP rescue and demolition sectors 1939-45 Ref UD.GO

Newburn UDC records, including Civil Defence and Engineering Committee minutes 1942-55, Fire Brigade and ARP Committee minutes 1937-41 Ref UD.NB

Newcastle City Council minutes, including General (ARP) Committee 1938-44, Civil Defence Working Group of Watch Committee 1938-45, Lord Mayor’s Emergency Committee 1939-40 Ref MD.NC

Newcastle City Council maps and plans, including temporary ARP accommodation and location of first aid posts 1938-44 Ref D.NCP

Newcastle City Council ARP records 1937-50, including Control Guide for Air Raid Wardens and manual of instructions concerning rescue and demolition Ref 604/83-89

Newcastle Education Dept records, including files re air raid shelter plans for various schools c1938f, ARP in schools and Government war occupation of schools 1939-40 Refs 486; 478; T67

Newcastle Public Assistance Committee records, including papers re firewatching arrangements at Newcastle General Hospital and Elswick Grange 1941-47, register of persons in receipt of civil defence medals 1946 Ref 359/813, 816

Newcastle City Police records, including Statutory Rules and Orders concerning the emergency situation 1939-40, Newcastle Police War Instruction Book March 1942, List of Special Constables June 1940, files re Air raid warnings 1938-45, Volunteer Defence Corps (Home Guard) 1940-42, Ringing of church bells in case of invasion 1940-43, Lighting regulations and exemptions 1939-45, Police duties in case of invasion 1941, invasion posters 1942, Air raid shelters 1939-45, ARP training 1940-45, Air raid precautions including exercises and reports on raids 1941-44, Detention orders re members of British Union of Fascists 1940-43, Protected places 1940-45, Control of maps 1940-44, Various defence regulations, including control of photography, firearms, town name signs etc 1940-45 Ref PA.NC

Newcastle Co-operative Society papers re Joint ARP Sub-committee 1941-44 Ref 120/111

Newcastle, Lemington Gardens Firewatching Committee records 1941 Ref DX164

Newcastle, Osbaldeston Gardens Firefighting Committee records 1940-42 Ref DX385/1, 2; 408 (unlisted)
Newcastle, Victoria Jubilee Girls County Secondary School, sketch plan of air raid shelters Ref E.NC56/3/1

9th Battalion Northumberland Home Guard (Newcastle Central), orders, social events, photograph 1939-46 Ref DX1518

North Tyneside

North Shields, Percy Crescent & Cockburn Terrace firewatching and firefighting scheme 1941-44 Ref DX52/1-6

Tynemouth Borough Council ARP and wartime files 1938-45, including ARP personnel 1939-45, handbook of wartime information for use after enemy action April 1942 Ref T15

Tynemouth Borough Education Dept, file re shelters and trenches in Tynemouth 1941-48 Ref 629/97

Whitley Bay MBC, details of air raids and precautions 1939-45 Ref MB.WB/27/1

71st Northumberland Home Guard, Heavy Anti-Aircraft Battery, 'C' Troop, Monkseaton and Whitley Bay instruction course notebooks 1942-44 Ref DX1520

Northumberland Home Guard 7th Battalion (Tynemouth), notes on gas training 1942-1944 Ref DX413/5; Papers of Stanley Holmes, local councillor, Tynemouth 1940-1945 Ref DX1378

See also http://northshields173.org/ website about the bombing of a public shelter in North Shields 3 May 1941 (includes oral history contributions)

South Tyneside

Hebburn UDC, ARP Committee minutes 1938-41 Ref T18/115-117

Jarrow MBC, ARP Committee minutes 1938-46 (including Housing Repairs Committee 1945-46) Ref T10/65, 66

John Readhead & Sons Ltd, shipyard, Local Defence Volunteers and Home Guard records, including forms of enrolment in LDV 1940-41, record cards for 23rd Battalion Durham Home Guard Company 4 1940 and for 8th Battalion Durham Home Guard Company 4 c1940-41, lists of rifle numbers, clothing and equipment 1943-44, Account book 1942-44, Register of 8th Battalion DLI (Home Guard) No 4 Company (Readheads) c1943, List of Home Guard officers nd, information of certificates of service and dates of enrolment 1944, photograph of group of officers of 8th Durham Battalion Home Guard c1943 Ref 1061/1213, 1470-1484

South Shields Borough Council, minutes including ARP Committee 1938-45 Ref T179
South Shields Borough Treasurers Dept stock ledger for ARP equipment issued to police and fire brigade 1941-45 Ref T180/186

Sunderland

Sunderland Borough Council minutes, including ARP and Civil Defence Committee 1939-58 Ref CB.SU

Sunderland Borough Council Town Clerks Department files, including Invasion preparations 1942-45, Notes of lecture on role of ARP 1939, ARP Weekly Bulletins (National) 1939-45, Defence of Sunderland special correspondence 1939-41 Ref T170

Sunderland Borough Council Town Clerks Department files, including Civil Defence and Fire Prevention Orders, ARP scheme for Sunderland Docks and Corporation Quay, Civil Defence Fund, Civil Defence Corps ranks and badges, Police War Reserve general correspondence 1940-48 Ref 270

Sunderland RDC register of ARP personnel and particulars of service 1939-44, plans of Civil Defence depots 1939-45 Ref T12/282, 675

Sunderland Police, ARP handbook ‘Personal Protection Against Gas’ 1938 Ref T164/23

Hetton UDC ARP Committee minutes 1938-41 Ref T18/115-117

Houghton-le-Spring UDC records, including Civil Defence plans 1939-42 of proposed air raid shelters, warden’s post, control centre, map showing invasion preparations Ref UD.HS

Houghton-le-Spring, William Street Methodist Church, papers re Civil Defence Ref C.HS5/11

Joseph Carter & Sons, builders, Sunderland involved in rebuilding of air raid shelters during WW2 Ref DT.CAR

W & T R Milburn, Architects, Sunderland, plan of proposed air raid shelters at Seaburn 1940, School House, Castletown 1940 and at Carricks Head, Bedford Street, Sunderland 1942, ARP plan of sectors, Fulwell 1942 Ref DT.TRM/3/185, 4/10, 2/115, 9/2

Washington UDC Emergency Committee minutes 1941-44 Ref UD.WS/7

Bartram & Sons Ltd, shipbuilders, Sunderland Register of Home Guards and women workers 1943-1946 Ref DS.BM/2/34
General

First & Second World War papers, including ARP booklets, Home Guard circulars (4th Northumberland Hexham Battalion) 1915-46 Ref DX967/7

‘After the Raid’ issued by Ministry of Home Security 1940 Ref DX385/3

Farewell message from Regional Commissioner (Civil Defence) to Personnel of Northern Region, including synopsis of work of Civil Defence during the war, 1945 Ref DX875/4

HMSO Civil Defence Training pamphlets nos. 1-9 Ref JA.FCD/7

ARP notebook compiled by F A Johnston of A Company 1939-45 Ref DX1199

Durham County Council Civil Defence records, demolition of air raid shelters 1946-63 Ref T169/1-11

WAR DAMAGE & CASUALTIES

Gateshead

Dunston Hill Hospital, admissions and discharges (men participating in WW2) Ref HO.DH/9

Whickham UDC, register of civilian casualties admitted to hospital 1941 Ref T213/200

Stannington, St Mary’s Hospital (Gateshead Borough Asylum), war casualties admissions register 1939-41 Ref 1957/33

Newcastle

Newcastle City Council minutes, including Air Raid Damage Emergency Repairs Committee 1940-45, Emergency (Health) Sub-committee 1941-45 Ref MD.NC

Newcastle Education Dept records, including file on war damage to schools (general) 1942-49, and plans for rebuilding and repair of war damage to schools c1941-45 Ref 486; 478

Newcastle Engineers Dept, war damage returns 1940-44 Ref T157/61

Newcastle City Police records, including list of air raids and street accidents in Newcastle 1938-43, unexploded bombs 1940-53, reports on air raids and other damage, leaflet on Government Compensation Scheme for war damage to property 1940 Ref PA.NC
Reports on air raid damage in Byker/St Peter’s area of Newcastle 1 September 1941 Ref 2239/1

Alexander Deuchar Ltd, papers re deferred repairs to licensed houses 1947-49 Ref DT.AD/11

North Tyneside

Longbenton UDC war deaths, emergency mortuary and burial arrangements April 1942 Ref T123/6

North Shields, St Columba United Reformed Church, correspondence re claim for compensation for damage due to enemy action Ref C.NS13/32

Tynemouth Borough Council wartime files 1939-45, including civilian deaths due to war operations 1936-46, notification of casualties 1940-45, damage to property 1940-45, map of bomb incidents 30 Sept 1941 Ref T15

Tynemouth Borough Council, bomb damage schedule arranged alphabetically by street indicating date and extent of damage 1940-45 Ref CB.TY/ES/1

Tynemouth Borough Education Dept file re war damage 1939-53 Ref 629/96

Tynemouth Borough Council, map showing location and status of bombs dropped 1940-43 Ref T383/345

Tynemouth Poor Law Union, register of admissions and discharges to Emergency Hospital 1939-46, correspondence re war damage, ARP rotas at hospital, transfer of patients etc 1939-45 Ref 1131/257-259, 270

Tynemouth Victoria Jubilee Infirmary, war casualty records inpatients 1939-48 and outpatients 1939-41 Ref 1913/43, 44

Whitley Bay MBC, files concerning air raids and civilian casualties admitted to hospital 1939-45 Ref MB.WB/27/1-2

Whitley Bay, Trinity Methodist Circuit, papers and photograph of war damage 1941-53 Ref C.WB3/9

South Tyneside

Boldon UDC records, including clerks files re civilian deaths due to war operations 1939-41, and council houses war damage 1944-50 Ref UD.BO

Jarrow MBC, air raid cost record 1940-43 Ref T355/1

South Shields Borough Council Engineers Dept, air raid damage reports Ref 218/411-414
South Shields, Ingham Infirmary, photograph album of air raid damage 1940-43 Ref HO.ING/23/11

Sunderland

Sunderland Borough Council, Town Clerk’s Dept files, including civilian deaths due to war operations 1939, 1943, air raid casualties – Ministry of Information announcements 1943, casualties lists 1943-45 Ref T170

Sunderland Borough Council, Clerk’s Dept files, including war damage to property 1939-40, restoration of war damaged properties, certificates as to persons rendered homeless by enemy action, war damage to buildings belonging to local authorities and public utilities Ref 270

Sunderland Borough Council, ARP property damaged cards, air raid casualties, air raid precautions 1938-44, reports on air raids 1940-45 Ref 209/106-113

Sunderland Royal Infirmary, admission and discharge register of service personnel and miners 1939-48, admission and discharge register of war casualties from overseas 1944-45 Ref HO.SRI/48

Ryhope General Hospital (formerly Ryhope Emergency Hospital), registers of casualties admitted to hospital 1940-48 Ref HO.RG/1

Ryhope Parish Council, air raid victims 1940-45 Ref T12

W & T R Milburn, Architects, Sunderland, plans for rebuilding and war damage repairs including plans showing bomb damage to Sunderland Working Men’s Building Society, Fawcett Street 1948, plans of rebuilding of St Barnabas Church after war damage, plans of proposed war damage repairs at Palatine Hotel, Borough Road Ref DT.TRM/6/180-184, 8/53, 2/164-225

Fenwick’s Brewery, Sunderland, photographs after bomb damage 1943 Ref DX141

Sunderland Club Ltd (Gentlemen’s Club) records, including schedule of war damage to club premises and repairs required 1941-42, list of club property lost or damaged in air raid 1943, correspondence re war damage to Fawcett Street premises 1947-48 Ref SX103

Sunderland, papers re war compensation for Methodist property 1946-53 Ref MC.SU1/12

Houghton-le-Spring, St Michael’s R C Church, list of those members of the congregation who lost their lives during WW1 and WW2 Ref C.HS2/42

Houghton-le-Spring, William Street Methodist Church, papers re war damage/repairs 1939-46 Ref C.HS5/11
MILITARY (including recruitment, servicemen, ex-servicemen)

Gateshead

Papers relating to the military career of Captain Lawrence Ashford of Gateshead 1935-52 Ref DX914

Letters written home by Trooper L Blackie (of Gateshead) of 43rd Royal Tank Regiment during his service at Barnard Castle, Penrith and camps in India 1944-47 Ref 1181

Papers of James Devlin, diver, of Gateshead, including correspondence re wartime service 1942-46, certificates of proficiency in Merchant Navy gunnery course and completion of salvage diving course 1942, newspaper cuttings concerning wartime wrecks in mouth of River Tyne DX459

Newcastle

Newcastle Education Dept correspondence files, including Territorial Forces – Attendances at Camps 1939, Further Education for demobilized men and women 1944-48 Ref 486/10693, 10670

Newcastle Public Assistance Committee, papers re employment of disabled ex-servicemen, British Legion etc 1940-46 Ref 359/818

Newcastle, Royal Victoria Infirmary, lay members of staff called up for military service 1939-45 Ref HO.RVI/105

Diary of W G Rutherford, RNVR, (of Gosforth?) on HMS Menestheus, Patroller, Agamemnon 1943-46 Ref DX259/1

Frank E Woodbridge of Benwell, wartime papers from time in Middle East in 1943, and in prison camps (also includes photograph of Hitler Youth Girls) 1940s Ref E.WEA1/57

Letters to Capt. EW Swan, RNR 1870-1948, mainly from fellow naval officers. WW2 content includes: war in Egypt and Libya, life in the WRNS Ref DF.EWS

Newcastle City Police records, including Returns to Army Record Offices of police and fire brigade personnel with mobilization obligations 1936-39, Police serving with HM Forces 1938-40, Location of military units 1942-48, Billeting of HM Forces 1939-45 Ref PA.NC

German plan, based on Ordnance Survey 6” to mile maps, of North East military targets: Byker and Walker 1942 Ref DX111

Photograph of the 206 Officer cadet training unit based in Newcastle 1944 Ref DX1613/1
North Tyneside

Commander Gladstone Blacklock of Tynemouth, photographs of service in Italy, Royal Naval Reserve 1944-45 Ref DX1233

Tynemouth Poor Law Union, Emergency Hospital Service, register and index of servicemen, evacuees, war workers and POWs admitted and discharged 1939-46 Ref 1131/257-259

German plan, based on Ordnance Survey 6” to mile maps, of North East military targets: South Shields and North Shields (also parts of Wallsend and Jarrow) 1942 Ref DX111

South Tyneside

German plan, based on Ordnance Survey 6” to mile map, of Hebburn and Jarrow showing military targets c1940 Ref 804

German plans, based on Ordnance Survey 6” to mile maps, of North East military targets: South Shields and North Shields (also parts of Wallsend and Jarrow) 1942 Ref DX111

Sunderland

Sunderland Borough Council, Clerk’s Dept files, including repatriated POWs from Germany 1943, ex-servicemen suffering from tuberculosis (Ministry of Pensions), service of medical officers with Forces Ref 270

German plan, based on Ordnance Survey 6” to mile maps, of North East military targets: Sunderland 1942 Ref DX111

General

British Medical Association North of England Branch, Local Medical War Committee records 1937-47, including files re service recruitment, conscription, recruitment of women 1939-45, re Home Guard medical officers 1940-44, re evacuees 1939-46, release of doctors for military service 1940-47, conscription of doctors 1940-43 Ref AS.BMA2

Papers re Tyneside Scottish Brigade, 1919-45 Ref 1931/92-97

Burma Star Association, Tyneside & District Branch, records Ref SX56

No 131 (Tyneside) Squadron Air Defence Cadet Corps, minutes and photographs 1939-47 Ref AF.ATC1

Photograph of HMS Scylla in action with King George VI on board c1942 Ref DF.STR/33/12
Typographical Association, address book turned into photograph album of members who served in the armed forces 1940s Ref TU.TA/15

INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY

Gateshead

Clarke Chapman Ltd, Gateshead, records, including plan of air raid shelters and claim for compensation due to requisition of hut Ref DS.CC1

Gateshead & District Tramways Co, notices re allowances to employees affected by war 1939 Ref 1994

North East Trading Estates Ltd, Team Valley Trading Estate, records re wartime provisions 1939-45, arrangements and orders in event of German invasion 1941-44, location of ‘alien firms’ 1941, schedules of air raid shelters and trenches at Team Valley Ref 1395/61, 63-75

Newcastle

Tyne Improvement Commission records, including index of ships arriving and sailing 1940-46 (H M ships), files re ARP docks 1938-45, compulsory military training and registration of seamen 1939-41, port regulations 1939-46, air raids 1941-42, mine-watching and V day holidays 1941-46 Ref 148/1183; 894/308-315

NEI Parsons Ltd, Heaton Works, photographs of ARP squad 1939-40 Ref DX1235

Employment papers of William Lee, Newcastle Electric Supply Co, including wartime evacuation Ref DX967/6

North Tyneside

Swan Hunter & Wigham Richardson Ltd correspondence files, including Essential Works Order 1941-46, war damage 1944-53, requisition and war damage 1939-54 Ref 1826

South Tyneside

R & W Hawthorn Leslie & Co Ltd, Newcastle & Hebburn, Monthly Board meetings and reports – some information on wartime activities, including names of Armed Service members, bombing raids, Home Guard etc 1938-54 Ref DS.HL/1/9
R & W Hawthorn Leslie & Co Ltd, Home Guard photograph and certificate of service 1943-46 Ref 1804

John Readhead and Sons Ltd, South Shields records, including account of air raid damage at shipyard 1941-43, report on shipyard planning and control 1941, modifications to shipyard layout 1943, photographs of shipyard 1939-43 including visit of King George VI 1943, Local Defence Volunteers and Home Guard records (listed in detail in Civil Defence section above) Ref 1061/1148-1151, 1209, 1485-1488

Reyrolle Ltd, Hebburn, wartime papers, including military contracts, security of the works, and visits by and employment of foreigners Ref DS.REY/33, 35, 36

Sunderland

Bartram & Sons Ltd, Sunderland, records, including correspondence with the Admiralty 1940-45, licenses to build ships – issued by the Admiralty 1942-57, official orders re Admiralty and Ministry of War Transport, applications for permission to leave the employment of Bartram & Sons Ltd (in accordance with the Essential Work Order 1941) 1941-43, papers relating to the War Effort Savings Scheme 1940-45, lists of absentees 1940-42 Ref 990

River Wear Commissioners, Port Emergency Committee files 1939-45, including trading with the enemy 1939, training and resettlement of disabled persons 1941-44, war weapons week 1940-44, airborne/seaborne raids 1942-44, civil defence 1941-46; ARP files 1938-47, including civil defence of North and South Docks 1942, disposal of unexploded bombs 1940-43, blackout 1939, location of ARP shelters 1940; Second World War files 1939-48, including reserved occupations file 1941-46, papers re employment of workmen by RWC during war 1941-46 Ref 202/1350-1490

Sunderland Borough Council, Clerk’s Department files, including war work for Sunderland workshops and factories, holidays for Corporation staff and workmen during wartime, number of staff and workmen employed in 1939 and 1946, Schedule of reserved occupations and protected work (Ministry of Transport Circular) Ref 270

Wear Shipbuilders’ Association, minutes 1939-45 Ref EM.WS/1/11, 12

HOME FRONT

Gateshead

Gateshead Savings Committee minutes 1939-47 Ref G.SAV1

Dunston Hospital, National Savings Campaign certificates of honour 1943-44 Ref HO.DH/6/1-2

Gateshead Borough Council, War Bonds Committee 1940-42 Ref CB.GA/56
Newcastle

Newburn UDC British Restaurants Sub-committee minutes 1943-44 Ref UD.NB/18/2

Newcastle City Council, Advisory Committee to Local Fuel Overseer minutes 1939-40 Ref MD.NC/5

Newcastle City Council, Wartime Day Nurseries Sub-committee minutes 1941-45 Ref MD.NC/99/25-28

Newcastle City Council Town Clerk’s Dept files, including wartime administration of the Quay 1939-44, papers and regulations re billeting, communal feeding etc 1940-45, papers re evacuation and emergency centres 1941-43 Ref 376

Newcastle Education Dept correspondence files, including Town Clerk’s reserve and stocks for British Restaurants 1943-45 and Emergency Feeding Centres 1942-45 Ref 486/10666, 10672

Newcastle City Police records, including fuel rationing 1941-50, situation reports on air raids, morale and general conditions in Newcastle 1939-45, National Pigeon Service 1939-45, voluntary food organizers 1943-44, entertainments 1939-40, trams and public service vehicles 1940-43 Ref PA.NC

Newcastle Public Assistance Committee records, including papers re emergency rest and feeding centres 1939-45, relief for shipwrecked persons landed in England 1940, casuals of military age seeking admission to Poor Law Institution 1941, ENSA entertaining service patients at Newcastle General Hospital 1944, VE Day celebrations 1945-46 Ref 359/794-827

Newcastle Dental Hospital and School, Salute the Soldier fundraising nd Ref HO.NDE/50

Newcastle, Royal Victoria Infirmary records, including Northumberland and Durham War Needs Fund 1947, photograph of staff and patients outside Northumberland War Hospital (St Nicholas Hospital, Gosforth) nd Ref HO.RVI/171/3, 210/11

Personal papers of Blechynden family of Newcastle, including identity cards 1940, 1943, ration books 1939-40 and evacuation cards c1940 Ref 1314

Benton Methodist Church, circulars and papers re Emergency Feeding Centre 1940-43 Ref C.LO2/26/2

Gosforth Central Ladies Bowling Club, certificate awarded for services rendered in the making of hospital supplies during WW2 c1945 Ref SX65/5/1
North Tyneside

North Tyneside Coordination Committee (included under Newcastle Public Assistance Committee), papers re care of the homeless, billeting, emergency measures, minutes etc 1942-44 Ref 359/802-803

South Tyneside

Jarrow MBC, Allotments Committee minutes 1935-44, Community Feeding Centre Committee minutes 1942-46, Wartime Nurseries Committee 1942-46 Ref T10/68, 69, 72, 126

Jarrow MBC, Treasurer’s Department, community feeding ledger 1941-48 Ref T23/209

South Shields Borough Council files, including wartime allotments 1939-45, Dig for Victory campaign 1943, Red Cross Victory Week 1944, occupation of schools by the military 1940-43 Ref T95

South Shields Borough Council, Community Feeding sub-committee minutes 1941-47 Ref T179/456

South Shields, Ingham Infirmary, record of ration points used 1944-53 Ref HO.ING/46

Sunderland

Log book of Sunderland Flying Boat JM679, presented to Boldon Savings Committee to commemorate their success in the ‘Wings for Victory’ savings campaign 1943 Ref UD.BO/11

Sunderland Borough Council Clerks Dept files, including honouring of the DLI June 1944, holidays for corporation staff and workmen during wartime, requisitioning of property, community kitchens and emergency feeding centres, number of staff employed in 1939 and 1946, war savings – Salute the Soldier and Wings for Victory, coordination of welfare schemes for the troops 1940-44, allotments 1937-42, Emergency Hospital Scheme, RAF Benevolent Fund Appeal 1943, Mayor’s Air Raid Distress Fund 1943 Ref 270

Sunderland Borough Council files, including foodstuffs etc 1939-45 Ref T170

Sunderland RDC records, including community feeding register 1943-47, Air Raid Victims Fund Committee 1940-45, Housing and War Emergency Plans including shelters 1941 and British Restaurant 1942 Ref T12/285, 497, 674

Murton Methodist Church, papers re building including use as community feeding centre 1931-45 Ref C.MU3/5

Washington UDC, British Restaurants file 1941-47 Ref UD.WS/26/22
General

Concert programmes for ENSA, National people’s concerts and local theatres 1940-45 Ref 2578 (unlisted)

Wartime diaries of Mrs A Meader 1939-46 Ref DX769

Sales brochure for The Hartley Device to allow driving in the blackout 1940 Ref DF.FL (unlisted)

Identity cards 1943, 1955 Ref 1684/6, 7

Ministry of Home Security, social club No 1 region, invitations to parties 1943-45 Ref DX875/3/1-4

EVACUATION

Gateshead

Gateshead Borough Council, Education Committee minutes 1939-45 Ref CB.GA/12/23-29

Whickham UDC, registers of persons billeted in Whickham 1940-45 Ref T213

Newcastle

Newcastle City Council, Billeting Tribunal and Sub-committees minutes 1939-48, Ref MD.NC/17

Newcastle City Council, expenditure on government evacuation scheme 1939-40 Ref T219

Newcastle City Council, Education Committee minutes 1939-45 Ref MD.NC/56/9-16

Newcastle Education Dept records, including various correspondence files re evacuation 1938-45, expenditure on evacuation 1940-45 Ref 486; 478; T78

Newcastle Medical Officer of Health Annual Reports 1939-45 Ref MD.NC/PH/1/1/1939-1943 (also included in the printed Proceedings of Newcastle City Council available in the Searchroom library)

Newcastle Public Assistance Committee records, including papers re evacuation 1939-45, lists of children evacuated 1939 Ref 359/808-811

Newcastle, Royal Victoria Infirmary, list of volunteers for evacuation duty 1939-43 Ref HO.RVI/105
Papers on evacuation in event of a War Emergency 1939, including evacuation registration forms for Newcastle Ref DX385

North Tyneside
Tynemouth Borough Council, Education Committee minutes 1939-45 Ref T70/131-133
Tynemouth Medical Officer of Health Annual Reports 1939-45 Ref T22/23; T209/2/7-13

South Tyneside
Boldon Medical Officer of Health Annual Reports 1939-45 Ref UD.BO/65/4
Jarrow Medical Officer of Health Annual Reports 1939-45 Ref T28/56-58
South Shields Borough Council, Education Committee minutes 1939-45 Ref T179/176,177
South Shields Borough Education Dept newscuttings 1939-45 Ref 487/117, 118
South Shields Medical Officer of Health Annual Reports 1939-45 Ref 1822/1/10, 11

Sunderland
Sunderland Borough Council, Clerk’s Dept files, including billeting and requisitioning of properties for persons rendered homeless Ref 270
Sunderland Borough Council, Education Committee minutes 1939-45 Ref CB.SU/17/17-20
Sunderland Rural District Council, billeting registers 1940-45 Ref T12/283-284
Hetton Medical Officer of Health Annual Reports 1939-45 Ref 220/221
Houghton-le-Spring Medical Officer of Health Annual Reports 1939-45 Ref UD.HS/29/12,13
Washington Medical Officer of Health Annual Reports 1939-45 Ref UD.WS/49/16-22

General
Northern Traffic Area, Evacuation Scheme, nd [c1938-39] Ref 1824
Note of payments due from Mrs M Gatoff for billeting of evacuated children 1942 Ref DX694/2
Records of Miss Norah Cunningham, teacher in Wallsend, including correspondence during evacuation with school to Boulmer in Northumberland, ARP card, civil defence card etc 1939-42 Ref DX995/4

Papers of Mrs E Henderson of Fawdon, including letters and postcards re evacuation to Carlisle 1939-40 Ref 1386

See also User Guides 15A – 15E for guides to evacuation records for individual schools. Newcastle headteachers were instructed by the LEA to use different logbooks during the war.

FOREIGN NATIONALS

Newcastle

Newcastle City Police correspondence re internment of aliens (including Scandinavian seamen) 1939-42, incident involving Italian POWs c1945 Ref PA.NC/5/24, 43

Newcastle Public Assistance Committee, papers re requisition of MS Pilsudski tied up in the Tyne and arrangements for billeting of Polish refugees on board 1939-40, file on Latvian refugees Ref 359/811, 533

North Tyneside

Tynemouth County Borough internment of aliens 1940 Ref T15/265

South Tyneside

South Shields Borough Council, file on war refugees 1940 Ref T95/56

Sunderland

Sunderland Borough Council, Town Clerk’s Dept files, war refugees 1940-42 T170/30

PEACE CELEBRATIONS & COMMEMORATIONS

Gateshead

Kibblesworth & Lamesley, Welcome Home Fund minutes 1944-46 Ref CHX38
Newcastle

Newcastle, Dilston Road Methodist Church, minute book of ‘Welcome Home’ Committee for returning troops 1946 Ref 1023

Newcastle Education Dept, correspondence files re peace celebrations 1945-47 Ref 486/10664

Newcastle Public Assistance Committee, papers re VE Day celebrations Ref 359/827

North Tyneside

Tynemouth Borough Education Dept, file re VE and VJ Day celebrations 1945-47 Ref 629/98

South Tyneside

Hebburn UDC, Forces Welcome Home Fund Committee minutes and correspondence 1944-49 Ref T17/67

Sunderland

East Rainton Methodist Circuit Welcome Home Fund accounts 1944-46 Ref C.ER1/10

WAR MEMORIALS & ROLLS OF HONOUR

Gateshead

Gateshead, papers relating to survey of war memorials carried out 1992-93 Ref SX37

Newcastle

Charlewood Curry, architects, Newcastle, plans and photograph album of war memorials at various churches in north east Ref DT.CC

Gosforth UDC, War Memorial Fund file 1918-50 Ref UD.GO/39/41

Newburn UDC, file re war memorials at Throckley and Newburn 1933-52 Ref UD.NB/20/57

Newcastle, Haymarket, postcard showing St Thomas’ Church and War Memorial, nd [c1950s] Ref DX665/1
Newcastle, Leazes Park Synagogue, photograph of unveiling of war memorial 1949 Ref C.NC65/24 [NB Access requires depositor’s consent]

Newcastle, Moor Line & Walter Runciman & Co Remembrance Book 1939-45 Ref DX1054/1

Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, roll of honour 1939-45 Ref 1577/26

Thomas Hedley, soap manufacturers, employees roll of service 1939-1948 Ref DX1598
North Tyneside

North Shields, Ralph Gardner School, presentation of sundial to school in 1957 in memory of pupils who died during WW2 Ref E.NS1/14/24

Northumberland Village Homes, Whitley Bay, photograph of war memorial in honour of boys and girls educated in approved schools who served and died in WW2, nd [c1950s] Ref CH.NVH/4/28

Shiremoor, St Mark’s Church and War Memorial, photographs 1960s Ref DT.CC/362, 400

Tynemouth Borough Council Clerk’s Dept files, including Cullercoats War Memorial 1947-66, Roll of Honour of Civilian War Dead in UK 1939-45 Ref T35/162, 195

Sunderland

Ryhope Parish Council War Memorial Committee 1945-50 Ref T12/498

Silksworth & Tunstall Joint War Memorial Committee records 1932-53 Ref CP.SI

Sunderland Borough Council Clerk’s Dept files, including Sunderland War Memorial & Inscription for 1939-45 War, British Empire Nurses War Memorial Fund, Memorials to civilian war dead Ref 270/4360, 4721, 6689

Washington UDC, file re War Memorial 1947-63 Ref UD.WS/25/2

POST-WAR PLANNING

Gateshead

Gateshead Borough Council, special committee minutes, including post-war reconstruction Ref CB.GA/59/3

Ryton UDC, files re post-war housing 1943-56 Ref UD.RY/17/19, 20
Newcastle

Newcastle Education Dept, correspondence files re further education for demobilized men and women 1944-48 Ref 486/10670

North Tyneside

Longbenton UDC, file re post-war housing 1937-46 Ref 643/135

South Tyneside

Boldon UDC records, including clerk’s files re Post-war Housing Programme 1943-56 and Post-war Housing Progress Reports 1945-48 Ref UD.BO

Jarrow Department of Employment, papers relating to a conference of Local Employment Committees held at Newcastle to discuss post-war reconstruction Ref G.EMP2/20

Sunderland

Sunderland Borough Council, Post-war Planning Committee minutes 1943-44 Ref CB.SU/45

Sunderland Borough Clerk’s Dept files, including general post-war planning and reconstruction correspondence, proposed post-war reconstruction of corporation owned hospitals, post-war housing 1944-48, Town and Country Planning – reconstruction of blitzed towns, post-war planning and development reports by committee Ref 270

MISCELLANEOUS

Article from the Journal newspaper about holocaust survivors among local families 1994 Ref JD.JRC/23 [NB Access requires depositor’s consent]

Freeboard periodical survey of ships 1945-46 (some former German ships) Ref DX1011/1

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