

**Lesson Plan Women at War West Newcastle 1914-1918  
Taking Care of the Wounded**

	<b>Date:</b>
<b>Subject: Women and the Great War</b>	<b>Year:</b>
<b>Learning Objectives:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understand that women played an important part on the Great War</li> <li>Some occupations were traditionally thought of as women's, others where women participated for the first time</li> </ul>	<b>Success Criteria:</b> Understand that women played an important part in assisting the war effort. Analysing primary evidence. Empathising with the feelings of soldiers recovering from wounds.
<b>Key Questions:</b> Why did women volunteer to support the war effort? Why did Mollie keep an autograph book during her time as a nurse?	
<b>Starter Activity/ Introduction</b> Why might women volunteer to help in the war effort? What sort of jobs might they do? What would happen when more and more men were called away to join the services? How would this affect women? Why might someone keep an autograph book during the war?	<b>Resources</b> Discussion
<b>Main Activity</b> Mollie Ross joined the Voluntary Auxiliary Detachment (VAD). This organisation was set up to enable women to play a part in the war effort. At first many went into nursing or helped provide comforts for soldiers. As the war progressed, more and more men were called up to fight and women were needed to take over their jobs.  Explain how an autograph book is different from a diary. These are only three extracts from a much fuller autograph book that Mollie kept. Why might she have kept these?  What are the different attitudes to war do the poems and the cartoons present. Why would they want to write down their thoughts and feelings?  Using the internet, make your own collection of primary sources that you might include in an autograph book.	<b>Resources</b> Extracts from Mollie Ross' autograph book
<b>Plenary</b> <b>Class exercise:</b> Using the internet information construct a timetable for VAD duties from 7 in the morning though to the evening.	Internet Sources <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Voluntary_Aid_Detachment">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Voluntary_Aid_Detachment</a> <a href="http://www.redcross.org.uk/About-us/Who-we-are/History-and-origin/First-World-War/Volunteers-during-WW1">http://www.redcross.org.uk/About-us/Who-we-are/History-and-origin/First-World-War/Volunteers-during-WW1</a> <a href="http://www.edwardianpromenade.com/war/wwi-wednesday-becoming-a-vad/">http://www.edwardianpromenade.com/war/wwi-wednesday-becoming-a-vad/</a>

# CARTOONS

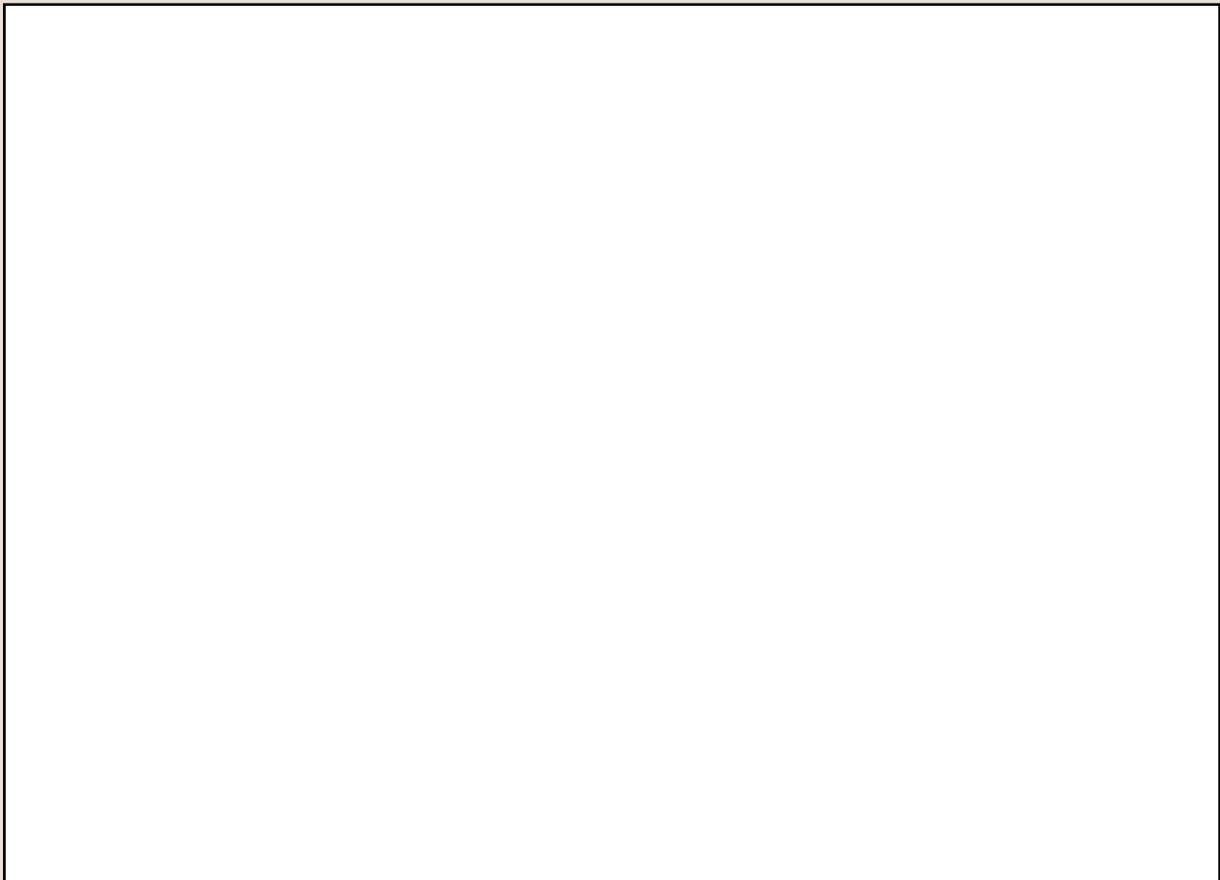


What do you think is meant by the phrase 'Say when!'?

Why might soldiers and sailors make a joke of some of the dangers they faced?

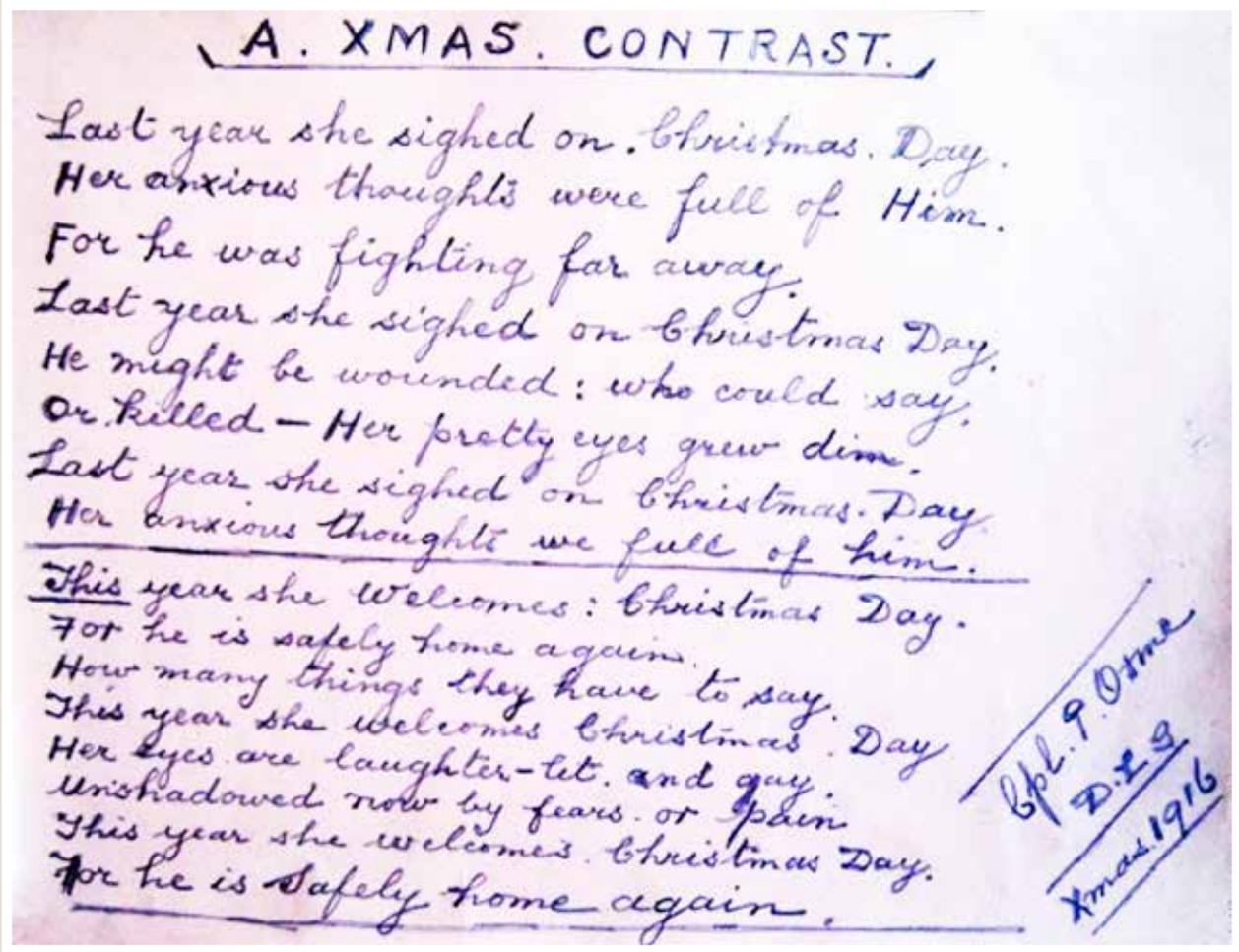
Draw your own cartoon of how some soldiers made a joke of the dangers in war.

Draw your own cartoon of how some soldiers made a joke of the dangers in war.



# CHRISTMAS POEM

Mollie collected poems, writings and drawings from the soldiers she nursed and put them into her autograph.



This is a very **sentimental** poem.

How does the writer, Corporal Orme, try to capture your sympathy?  
Underline the words and phrases he uses.

Why does he write this poem on this particular day?

Is this poem **optimistic** or **pessimistic**?

Write a second verse in which the soldier is killed.

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# MOLLIE ROSS

## Voluntary Aid Detachment (VAD)



Here is a picture of Mollie. She is the tall girl, second from right. She is wearing her VAD uniform. The other two young women are her sisters (Ena on the left and Kathleen on the right). The soldier is unknown. What was the VAD?