WORLD WAR 2

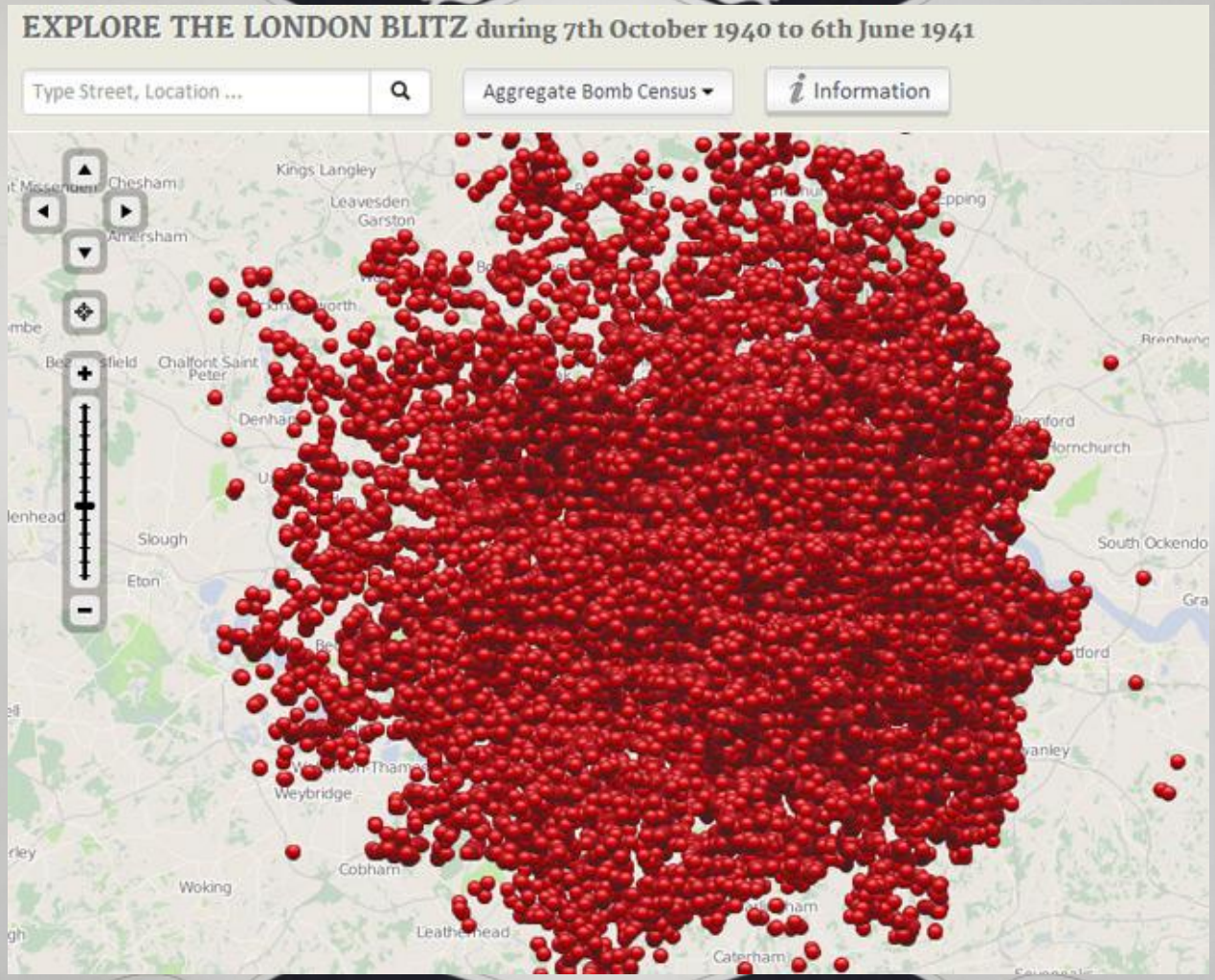
Evacuation

WHAT HAVE WE ALREADY LEARNT ABOUT EVACUATION?

Evacuation

Evacuation: The Facts & Figures

Evacuation was introduced in 1939 – the government decided that the cities were simply too dangerous for children.


EXPLORE THE LONDON BLITZ during 7th October 1940 to 6th June 1941
Type Street, Location ...
Aggregate Bomb Census
Information
Kings Langley
Chesham
Leavesden
Garston
Amersham
Chalfont Saint Peter
Slough
Eton
Weybridge
Cobham
Woking
Leatherhead
Caterham
Hornchurch
South Ockendon

Evacuation: The Facts & Figures

One and a half million children and pregnant women were sent to live in the countryside.

A smaller number of children (perhaps 10,000) went to other countries such as Canada, Australia and the United States.

Evacuation: The Facts & Figures

Many children stayed away from their homes for the full six years that the war lasted – and only saw their parents occasionally.

They were often not sent to the same place as their brothers or sisters.

Evacuation: The Facts & Figures

Some children enjoyed the experience; they got to try a new way of life, ate better food in some cases, and were away from the danger, bombs and pollution of London

Evacuation: The Facts & Figures

For other children, it was a time of great hardship.
Not all of the families that took children in were nice.

Many children from the big cities were poor and this surprised their new families.

Some children were rude and this upset the kind people who had offered to take them in.

38,000

children never saw their parents again after evacuation

That's roughly equivalent to **every child in Middlesbrough** under the age of 18 never seeing their parents again

- Some were fostered by their countryside families
- Some stayed in the countries they were sent to
- Some had no-one to return home to

Evacuation: Keeping in touch

How did children keep in touch with their families?

- Did they have telephones to use?
- Email?
- Could they visit?
- Facebook?

- No. Letters were the only way.

Gnosall Stafford
Feb 1941

My Dear Mum and Dad I hope you are safe and well. We had a half-holiday on Tuesday afternoon because it was Pancake Day I like Gnosall. I came in the bus with Mrs Tagg. She says there is room for my dolls pram if you can send it for me please. I know a lot of children in Gnosall School all in my class from Ramsgate

love from Sheila xxxxxxxxxxxxx

Gnosall Stafford
[illegible]th Feb 1941
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we had a half-holiday on Tuesday afternoon because it was Pancake Day I like Gnosall. I came in the bus with Mrs Tagg. She says there is room for my dollspram if you can send it for me please. I know a lot of children in Gnosall School all in my Class from Ramsgate
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Where do you think this boy was writing home from?

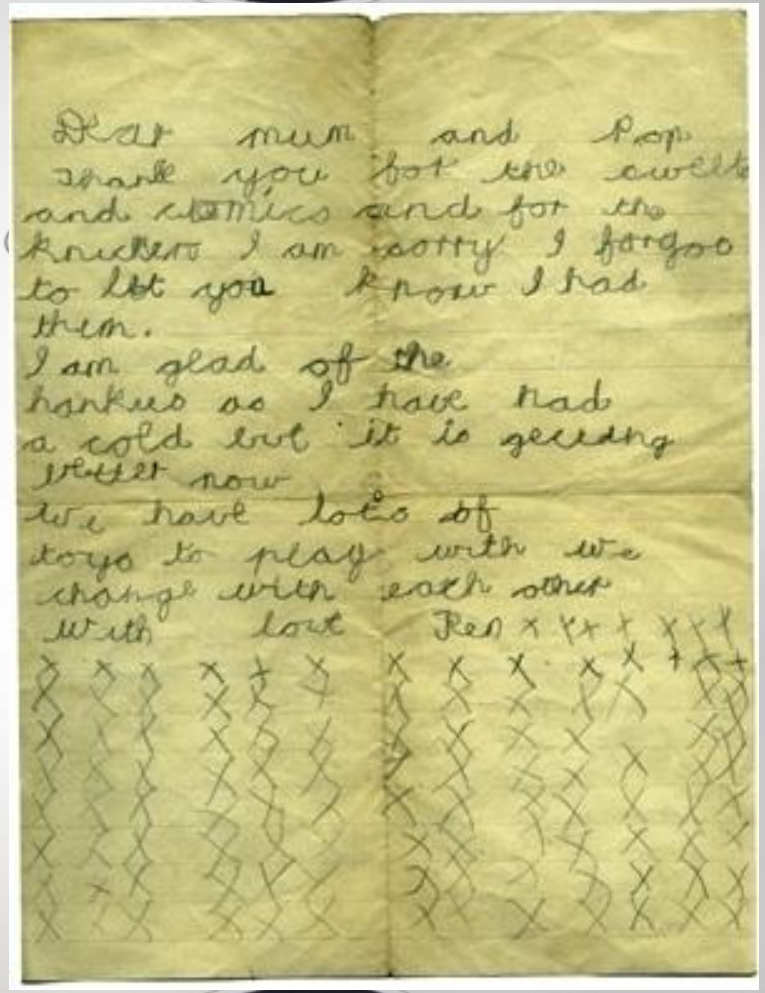
Canada

Do you think the letters home were sad, or happy?

What news did the children send?

What would they ask about?

Do you think they liked writing letters?


Dear mum and Pop
thank you for the cwelt
and comics and for the
knickers I am sorry I forgoo
to let you know I had
them.
I am glad of the
hankies as I have had
a cold but it is getting
better now
We have lots of
toys to play with we
change with each other
With love Ren x x x x x x x x
x x x x x x x x x x x x x x

LO:

To write an evacuee letter home from the countryside