

Harewood and the Great War



Pupils, parents and staff may be interested to learn more about one of Harewood's links to the Great War of 1914-1918. These photographs were taken a hundred years ago from a spot near our school gates looking towards the lodge entrance to the grounds of Harewood House.

Despite the lack of traffic lights, white lines and islands, the location is instantly recognisable. Missing from our modern view though are the two pale objects on either side of the lodge. These are German howitzers from the Great War. They were two of thousands of captured or surrendered artillery pieces which were distributed as trophies to cities, towns and villages across the country. Many people saw them as glorious symbols of a hard-won victory while others regarded them as unwanted reminders of death and loss. Many were quickly sent for scrap but these two lasted until 1940 when they were sent to a scrapyard in Bradford as part of the war effort and only a handful remain today.

Dr James Taylor