

War Artists and Poets

The Great War affected many people. Doctors realised that creativity helped people.

Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae was inspired by his service during the war to write On Flanders Fields.



In Flanders' fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place, and in the sky
The larks, still singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.
We are the dead. Short days ago
we lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
loved, and were loved, and now we lie
in Flanders fields
Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

Alfred Munnings a Suffolk artist couldn't enlist because he was blind in one eye. Instead he helped process the Canadian troops on their way to France. Photography was very basic in 1914 -1918. You would have to stay still for several minutes. The Canadian troops wanted to record their contribution to the war so they asked Alfred Munnings to join them in France to paint the troops.



This is one of Alfred Munnings paintings of the Canadian Forestry troops building trenches.

Write a poem or draw a picture of what its like staying home during the Covid 19 Pandemic.