**Then & Now: Summer Course 2018**

28 – 31 August 2018

Letters

Narrator 1 Today we don’t write as many letters as people did in the past

Narrator 2 We email, message, text, snap chat, Instagram, Facebook, Tweet

Narrator 3 This week we have been exploring letters of the past

Narrator 4 During the Great War of 1914 – 1918, the government encouraged letters to be written from home to the men fighting to boost morale

Narrator 5 The letters took 2 days to deliver

Group 1 Lucy’s Letters

Narrator 6 During the war, so many lives were lost and it was reported that there were 2 million surplus women

Narrator 7 That is women who had lost husbands, fiancés, boyfriends as well as brothers, fathers and sons.

Narrator 8 Men also returned to find women they had loved had moved on to someone else.

Narrator 9 This meant that at dances, people were without a partner.

Group 2 Without a Partner

Narrator 10 Patrick wrote a letter from home to his father about the Zeppelin Airships bombing raids

Group 1 Patrick’s letter

Narrator 11 Men fighting in Ypres, France wrote articles for the Wipers Times, a Trench magazine

Narrator 12 Wipers was soldiers slang for Ypres

Narrator 13 The magazine consisted of poems, reflections, in- -jokes and mock adverts

Narrator 14 It was a written in a humorous ironic style known as satire.

Narrator 15 This is a scene from the trenches of the satirical play ‘Oh What a Lovely War’

Group 2 The Wipers Times and Christmas Eve

Narrator 16 In 1942, the Andrews Sisters entertained the troops with Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy.

Group 1 Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy Dance

Narrator 17 On Friday 1 September 1939, the evacuation of children known as ‘Operation Pied Piper’ began

Narrator 18 Some families decided to leave the cities for the safety of their children but had to find their own places to live

Group 2 Whole family evacuation

Narrator 19 Some people living in the countryside did not like the children from the city moving in.

Group 2 Accepting evacuees

Narrator 20 Some families decided not to send their children and they remained together in London

Group 2 Remaining in the City

Narrator 21 Rationing of food items and other goods began in 1940 and ended in 1954

All 14 years later!

Narrator 22 Foods such as eggs, meat and butter were rationed more than others

Group 1 Please don’t take my butter6

Narrator 23 During the 1950s, the teenage revolution began

Letter Dear John. I’m so excited to tell you that I went to a dance hall yesterday and we heard the sounds of rock and roll live on stage for the first time. It was a singer called Tommy Steele. I think he’s going to be huge. I can’t wait for you to hear him. From Paul

Group 2 Jail House Rock

Narrator 24 Even though we don’t write many letters today, we are going to end with letters from 2018

Group 2 Letters Today