

# THE HOME FRONT

## HIDDEN HISTORIES OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR

### CORNER SHOP

Corner shops were often decorated with the flags of Britain's allies. French, Russian, Belgian and Serbian flags were the most popular. In many towns flag days and fetes were held to raise money for Belgian and Serbian refugees.



Toy soldiers manufactured by W. Britain featuring the machine gun section

Shopkeepers liked to place war-time souvenirs in the window to attract customers. Children's toys in the window often had a war-time theme. Instead of doll's houses, there were miniature hospitals. For boys there were war-themed jigsaws, miniature soldiers and toy guns as well as books about great military heroes.

Sweets were in short supply in the second half of the First World War, as sugar was rationed due to submarine attacks on British shipping. However, when the war ended a new sweet called Peace Babies went on sale, made by Bassett's. These became known as Jelly Babies.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that in 1914 there was an Ulster chocolate fund, raising money to send chocolate bars to the troops?