

ABOUT : 1930's

- 1936** - In October of this year, a group of 200 dignified unemployed workers, walked 300 miles from Jarrow in the North East of England, down to Parliament in London, to highlight the difficulties of living with 70% of people in their region, out of work.
- 1936** - King Edward VIII abdicates from his role as King, in order to marry the American socialite, Wallace Simpson, who was about to be divorced for a second time. She was not regarded as a suitable consort for the King of England. His brother Albert became King in his place, who was better known as George VI.
- 1937** - Frank Whittle was a test pilot for the RAF and saw the potential for planes to fly higher and faster, perhaps using gas turbine engines. This led to the development of the Jet Engine. In 1937 his first jet engine was tested on the ground. This new technology was however pursued in Germany and America first, and it took the outbreak of WW2 before the RAF backed its development here.
- 1939 - 1945** - After Nazi Germany's invasion of Poland in 1939, Britain and France declared war on Germany. Italy and Japan also became involved on the German side, known as 'Axis', against Britain and its commonwealth countries, Russia and America, known as the 'Allies'. Over 60 countries in all, became involved in this war, which claimed the lives of approximately 50 - 60 million people.

The Great Depression of the 1930's, resulted after the Wall Street Crash in America. America called in its loans and put up trade barriers, making exporting to the US very difficult. Lack of investment across many traditional industries in Britain, including shipbuilding, coal and steel, led to massive unemployment - up to 2.5 million. This happened mainly in the industrial north of the country. By contrast, people living in the south, working in the new chemical and automotive industries remained quite affluent.

THE 1930's - *more information...*

FURTHER INFORMATION

If you want to find out even more about the 1930's, use the links below :

Life in Britain - <http://www.localhistories.org/1930slife.html>

The Depression - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/history/mwh/britain/depressionrev1.shtml>

WW2 - <http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/Britain.html>

The Abdication - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edward_VIII_abdication_crisis

The Jet Engine - <http://www.britannica.com/biography/Frank-Whittle>

(This document may need to be saved to a hard drive, before the links will operate)