

Reading beyond the classroom

History, Years 7 – 9

BYRCHALL
HIGH SCHOOL

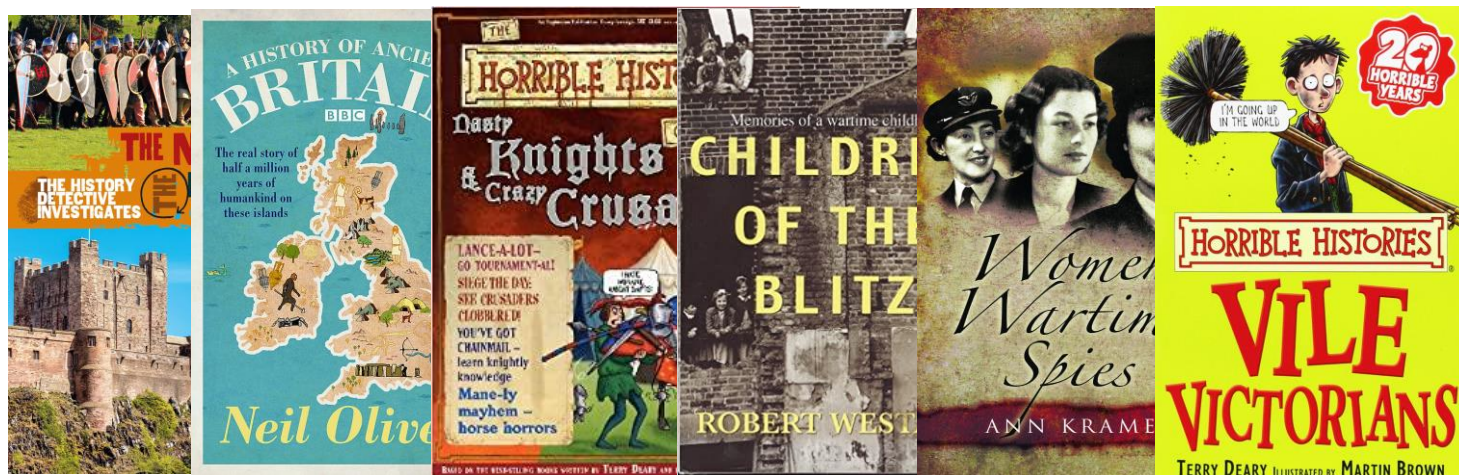
While in Years 7, 8 and 9 students should try and read a wide variety of books. Byrchall students will study local, British and world history. This will include learning about significant events, people and changes from the recent and more distant past. Students approach topics from a variety of perspectives, including political, religious, social, cultural, aesthetic, economic, technological and scientific.

You may find the following websites useful in helping to choose suitable reading material for your child:

<http://www.regentsprep.org/>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient>
<http://www.britishmuseum.org/learning/schools>
<https://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/>
<http://www.3dhistory.co.uk/index.php>
<https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/genres/factual/history>
<http://www.britroyals.com/>
<https://medievaleurope.mrdonn.org/>
<http://www.britishempire.co.uk/>
<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>
<http://www.localhistories.org/wigan.html>
<https://www.casebook.org/>
<https://www.kidzworld.com/>

These websites will provide you with recommendations from students, parents and critics across the country.

In addition to this, our recommendations follow below. These texts do not form part of our schemes of work so reading them will not spoil students' enjoyment of future lessons. They will most likely complement the work we do.



The Neolithic Revolution

Neil Oliver

A History of Ancient Britain

Much-loved historian Neil Oliver turns a spotlight on the very beginnings of the story of Britain; on the first people to occupy these islands and their battle for survival.

The Ice Ages has regularly interrupted human habitation in Britain for the best part of a million years.

The last retreat of the glaciers 12,000 years ago brought a new and warmer age and with it, one of the greatest tsunamis recorded on Earth which struck the north-east of Britain, devastating the population and flooding the low-lying plains of what is now the North Sea. The resulting island became, in time, home to a diverse range of cultures and peoples who have left behind them some of the most extraordinary and enigmatic monuments in the world.

Neil Oliver weaves the epic story through what is revealed by the artefacts of the past. It is the real story of Britain and of her people.

Alex Frith and Ian McNee

Prehistoric Britain

This book takes you on an adventure from the age of dinosaurs to the Roman Invasion. It describes when and how people first came to Britain, and includes information on the Bronze Age, Iron Age, Celts and the mysteries of Stonehenge.

Joshua Pollard

Neolithic Britain

The Neolithic story began around six thousand years ago when major changes occurred in the human occupation of the British Isles, making it one of the most fascinating periods in prehistory. Previously people had been dependent upon fishing, hunting and to some degree the keeping of domestic livestock. However, with the sudden appearance of agriculture and new technologies the British Isles would never be the same again.

The Norman Conquest

Peter Rex

1066: A new history of the Norman Conquest

A revolutionary retelling of the most important event in English history - the Norman invasion of 1066. The Norman Conquest is the single most important event in English history. On this invasion and 'regime change' pivoted the second millennium of English history.

Terry Dreary

Horrible Histories - The Stormin' Normans

Readers can discover all the foul facts about the STORMIN' NORMANS, including why Norman knights slept with a dolly, which pirate hung up his eye-patch and became a saint and why Crusader ships were defended with barrels of pee.

The stories are factual, but they are retold with such vivid humour and delicious silliness that even the least historically minded person will be chuckling along gleefully.

Philip Parker

The History Detective Investigates: The Normans and the Battle of Hastings

Follow Sherlock Bones on the detective trail and find out more about The Normans and the Battle of Hastings. I'm certain you will find the answers to all of your burning questions.

Terry Deary

"Non-Fiction". The Cut-throat Celts

The cut-throat Celts may have been a riotous rabble armed with swords and spears, but they knew how to make the Roman army's blood run cold! Discover the fearsome facts about the wild warriors who fought the Romans naked while collecting human heads! You'll discover: Why weird Celt warriors fought with no clothes on; how to preserve your enemy's brain; how to play gruesome Celtic games and what the dreadful Druids did to their strange sacrifices.

John Farman

The Very Bloody History of Britain: The First Bit!

This book could change your ideas about history for ever!!

Do you know why the Celts got the best girls? Or who had his portrait painted after he was dead? And have you any idea who planned the first Channel Tunnel? From the dawn of civilization to the end of the Second World War, it's all here in the factually accurate and hilariously funny Very Bloody History of Britain.

The Crusades

Terry Deary
Crusaders

The Horrible Histories Collection: Nasty Knights and Crazy

Do you want to learn how to become a nasty knight? Or a crazy crusader? Well, read this book. Here you'll discover how the knights gallop in and out of history; have a close encounter with Henry V and Peter the Hermit; how to joustin' time and attend Knight School.

Alan Ereira and Terry Jones *Crusades (BBC books)*

Did you know that in 1095 Pope Urban II called upon all Christians to march under the banner of the Cross and save their brothers in the East from the advance of Islam? This vision of crusading Christianity dominated the events of the next two centuries and brought together people of all ages and backgrounds, sworn to spread Christianity and wrest the Holy Land from the Infidel.

Thomas Asbridge *The Crusades: The War for the Holy Land*

This is an authoritative, accessible single-volume history of the brutal struggle for the Holy Land in the Middle Ages.

In the eleventh century, a vast Christian army, summoned to holy war by the pope, rampaged through the Muslim world of the eastern Mediterranean, seizing possession of Jerusalem, a city revered by both faiths. From Richard the Lionheart to the mighty Saladin, from the emperors of Byzantium to the Knights Templar, Asbridge's book is a magnificent epic of Holy War between the Christian and Islamic worlds, full of adventure, intrigue, and sweeping grandeur.

King John and the Magna Carta

Graham Steel *King John (an underrated King)*

A thought-provoking analysis of the key issues of King John's reign. With its thought-provoking analysis of the key issues of King John's reign, such as the loss of the French territories, British achievement, Magna Carta, relations with the church, and civil war, King John: An Underrated King presents an engaging argument for rehabilitating the reputation of King John. Here you will re-evaluate the reign of King John by analysing timelines, maps and diagrams.

Terry Deary *The Horrible Histories Special: Cruel Kings and mean Queens*

This book gives the reader the horrible historical facts on all our shocking sovereigns, from William the Conqueror right up to Lizzie the Last. It includes foul but fascinating facts on horrible habits, ghastly palace ghosts and the dreadful royal doctors of days gone by. Some of my favourite facts are: a king who died after falling off the toilet; why people thought King John was a werewolf and why Queen Anne's feet were covered in garlic.

Danny Danziger *1215: The Year of Magna Carta*

Surveying a broad landscape through a narrow lens, *1215* sweeps readers back eight centuries in an absorbing portrait of life during a time of global upheaval, the ripples of which can still be felt today. At the centre of this fascinating period is the document that has become the root of modern freedom: the Magna Carta. It was a time of political revolution and domestic change that saw the Crusades, Richard the Lionheart, King John, and—in legend—Robin Hood all make their marks on history.

The English Civil War and Oliver Cromwell

Alan Macdonald *Horribly Famous: Oliver Cromwell and his not-so Civil War*

Surely everyone knows that Oliver Cromwell gave King Charles I the chop and clobbered the Cavaliers with his Roundheads, but in this book readers will discover all the fascinating facts that they didn't know. Some of my favourite's are: how Oliver cancelled Christmas and banned swearing.

Terry Deary.
the Chop

The Horrible Histories Collection: The Slimy Stuarts: Charlie gets

The story of a Stuart King who started out short - and ended up shorter! Here you will discover all of the fascinating facts about the Stuarts; take a peek at the front page newspaper 'The HP Source' and learn about the king's in the House - of Commons! Or see the monarch make a mess of an arrest in Parliament, Of course, it is filled with gore *and cats and dogs of war. It will certainly make you laugh!*

Blair Worden

The English Civil Wars: 1640-1660

This book will provide you with a sprightly narrative account of what happened in the wars, why it happened and what the consequences have been. It will cover not just the conflict of 1642-46 which the term is usually used to describe, but the wider upheaval up to 1660, including the second civil war, the execution of the king, the rule of the republic and the rule of Cromwell, and the return of the monarchy. It will also present the conclusions of the fertile research and controversies of recent decades.

Diane Purkiss

The English Civil War: A People's History

This captivating book tells the story of the bloody conflict from the perspective of those involved: the people.

The narrative draws on new sources such as letters, memoirs, ballads and plays to bring to life the Roundheads and Cavaliers, the foot soldiers, war widows and witch finders of one of the most significant turning points in British history, culminating in Oliver Cromwell's triumph and the execution of Charles I.

Tudor portraits

Terry Deary
King

Historical Tales: Tudor Tales: The Thief, the Fool and the Big Fat

A family of street performers wins a pile of gold when they are summoned to perform for King Henry VIII, but just as quickly they lose it again to save themselves from being hanged.

Here we explore the infamous world of the Tudors through the eyes of children who could have lived at the time. These stories feature real people and take place in some of the most recognisable Tudor settings.

Andrew Langley

History of Britain: The Tudors 1485 – 1603

This series provides an examination of British history which is designed just for children! You will investigate the past and appreciate the key concepts of continuity and change.

Jennifer Ruby

Costume in Context: The Tudors

Unearth the major fashion developments of the Tudors, from the rich and powerful to the downright poor.

This book tells us about the Tudors, whose great celebrities led Britain out of its medieval chaos. The magnificence of Henry VIII can still be seen at Hampton Court. The words of William Shakespeare can be heard every night in theatres. Sir Francis Drake's voyage around the globe left its discoveries marked on our maps. When we peep a potato, flush the toilet or buy a lottery ticket, we are enjoying a part of our Tudor heritage.

The British Empire

Terry Deary

Horrible Histories: The Barmy British Empire

The Barmy British Empire gives you the brutal facts about how Britannia ruled the waves - from infamous antics in India to dreadful deeds down under.

An evenly represented account of the atrocities the British implemented against the areas they conquered, and the atrocities that the natives implemented against each other or on the British. As always, the fun facts are entertaining and sometimes horrifying.

T O Lloyd

The British Empire 1558 – 1995

This is an extensive survey of the entire history of the British Empire. Here you learn about the full sweep of expansion and decolonization from the voyages of discovery in the reign of Queen Elizabeth I to the achievement of independence in the second half of the twentieth century. The final chapter "The World after the Empire," examines the important contemporary events countries of the former empire, such as South Africa, Canada, Hong Kong, and Australia.

The Industrial Revolution

Terry Deary

Horrible Histories: The Vile Victorians: Horrible Histories

Queen Victoria was the ultimate Victorian, and she was 'not' amused. Luckily YOU will be splitting your sides as you discover how disgusting the Victorians really were. They may have looked all prim and proper, but they were a jolly naughty bunch. Lots of Victorians could be vicious and violent and villainous - VILE, in fact. So read on to see: when the first public loo was flushed and what terrible tricks Victorian urchins played on posh people. They were a vile bunch!

Stan Yorke
Wheels

The Industrial Revolution explained; Steam, Sparks and Massive

The story of how machines changed the face of industry and farming in the 18th and 19th centuries. New sources of power, better manufacturing methods and expanding transport systems brought fantastic changes affecting every walk of life. Man and machine worked side by side to produce iron, coal and cotton cloth on a scale never before imagined. New sources of power, better manufacturing methods and expanding transport systems brought fantastic changes affecting every walk of life. Man and machine worked side by side to produce iron, coal and cotton cloth on a scale never before imagined.

Stewart Ross

The Industrial Revolution

This volume tells the story of the revolution that created the modern, industrial world in which we live today, charting the move of industrialisation from 1850 in Western Europe and the USA, right up to the end of the 19th century when it reached Russia and Japan. It meets National Curriculum Standards for: Science: Science as Inquiry Social Studies: Global Connections Science, Technology, & Society Time, Continuity, & Change.

John D. Clare

Industrial Revolution – I was there

Describes the dramatic technological, industrial, and social changes brought about by the Industrial Revolution in America and Europe. We learn about how a technological revolution which transformed society throughout the world and which some historians believe is still continuing today.

Jack the Ripper and Victorian London

Maxim Jakubowski

The Mammoth Book of Jack the Ripper

Enlisting in the hundred-year-old debate about the identity of the world's first serial killer, this Mammoth investigation introduces the facts of the famous case and presents some of the most convincing, if conflicting, theories of the murderer's identity. This volume collects not just all the key factual evidence but also 20 different arguments as to the identity of Jack the Ripper, such as that advanced by Patricia Cornwell. Contributions are from the world's leading Ripperologists, including William Beadle, Melvyn Fairclough, Martin Fido, Shirley Harrison, James Tully and Colin Wilson.

Stewart P Evans and Keith Skinner *The Ultimate Jack the Ripper Sourcebook: An Illustrated Encyclopaedia*

Public interest has never waned in the hunt for the identity of the serial killer known as Jack the Ripper. This volume has been written to help those interested in researching all the documentary evidence pertaining to the case at any level. Providing an overview of the crimes and the police investigation, the two editors have collated all the known official records, supplemented by important contemporary information, to produce an encyclopaedia of Ripper research. It includes Home Office documents offering new leads as to the character and possible identity of Saucy Jack.

Donna Bailey

Victorians (History Insights)

This book is the complete companion of the Victorians. It's packed with pictures and authentic detail. It offers an insight to everything considered Victorian: home life, food, clothes, shops, medicine, education, work, transport, empire and religion.

The World Wars

Terry Deary

Horrible Histories: The Frightful First World War

This book takes a humorous take on the First World War as does all the other books in the series. It is split up chronologically by each year including the first shot, total war, the Somme, mud and exhaustion. Timelines are used well to get events in order. It is a very creative book that uses a range of captions, mixed media like poems and newspaper reports. The reader is really taken into the mind-set of the people at the time with a lot of interesting random facts.

Terry Deary

Horrible Histories: The Woeful Second World War

This book presents the dire details of a war that affected almost everyone - from old men joining the Dad's Army to the 12 year olds defending Berlin to the bitter end. Find out who made a meal of maggots, or which soldiers were so smelly their enemies could sniff them out.

Ruth Brocklehurst and Henry Brook *The World Wars: In association with the Imperial War Museum*

A remarkable reference book on the two most important conflicts of the 20th Century; World Wars 1 and 2. It provides detailed accounts of the causes and effects of each war, as well as describing their main battles, innovations and leaders. It is illustrated with dramatic photographs and detailed colour maps. It is Internet-linked to provide young learners with the opportunity for further independent research.

Robert Westall

Children of the Blitz: Memories of Wartime Childhood

A collection of letters and stories sent to Westall following the publication of his children's novel, "The Machine Gunners". The letters were from people who really were the "children of the Blitz" for whom air raids, bombs, gas masks, and evacuations were both hair-raising and exciting.

Nigel Kelly

The Era of the Second World War

Focusing on the World War II era, this is one of a series, modular in structure, which offers teachers the flexibility to design their own scheme of work at Key Stage 3 of the National Curriculum.

R.G. Grant

The Holocaust

In an absurd belief that Jews were a threat to the German people, the Nazis planned to seek out and kill every Jewish man, woman, and child living in Europe. How had such a belief arisen? How was the plan developed and put into action? What was the experience of people in the ghettos and extermination camps? What happened in the end, and how is the Holocaust remembered? This book shows events from the points of view of German perpetrators and onlookers and of Jewish survivors.

Ann Kramer

Women and War

This book discusses the role of women from the Allied countries during World War II, including those who served in the armed forces, those who took over men's jobs at home, and more. From Mata Hari through to Noor Inyat Khan, women spies have rarely received the recognition they deserve. They have often been trivialised and, in cinema and popular fiction, stereotyped as vamps or dupes. The reality is very different. As spies, women have played a critical role during wartime, receiving and passing on vital information, frequently at considerable risk. Often able to blend into their background more easily than their male counterparts, women have worked as couriers, transmitters and with resistance fighters, their achievements often unknown. Many have died. Ann Kramer describes the role of women spies during wartime, with particular reference to the two world wars.

Terrance Dicks

World War II (Good, Bad and the Ghastly)

A collection of sometimes tongue-in-cheek accounts of the lives and wartime exploits of such key World War Two figures as Hitler, Churchill, Rommel, Montgomery, Vera Lynn, Leni Riefenstahl, Eisenhower, Anne Frank.

Ken Hills

World War II

This text covers World War II, telling how the nations of Europe were torn apart, how millions died in combat and in concentration camps, and how the first atom bombs came to be dropped. It also looks at the nations involved in the war and the alliances and friendships which they eventually built.

Fiction books

Rosemary Sutcliffe

The Shield Ring

Viking resistance to the Norman conquest set in and around Buttermere.

Tony Bradman

Anglo-Saxon Boy

A story of 1066 woven around Magnus, young son of the Earl of Wessex.

Henrietta Branford

Fire, bed and Bone

Branford's Guardian Children's Fiction Prize-winning novel is a moving narrative about injustice, upheaval and survival in fourteenth century Britain. From the point of view of a devoted and sought-after hunting dog, her story focuses on the societal tension and oppression that lead to her beloved masters Rufus and Comfort being arrested for heresy during the Peasants' Revolt, and how she must then struggle to raise her puppy Fleabane and forge a life away from the cruel landlord and violence happening all around her. Ultimately an uplifting story about loyalty and hope.

Berlie Doherty

Treason

Will Montague is a page to Prince Edward, son of King Henry VIII. As the King's favourite, Will gains many enemies in Court. His enemies convince the King that Will's father has committed treason and he is thrown into Newgate Prison. Will flees Hampton Court and goes into hiding in the back streets of London. Lost and in mortal danger, he is rescued by a poor boy, Nick Drew. Together they must brave imprisonment and death as they embark on a great adventure to set Will's father free

Frances Hardinge

A Skinful of Shadows

When a creature dies, its spirit can go looking for somewhere to hide.

Some people have space inside them, perfect for hiding.

Makepeace, a courageous girl with a mysterious past, defends herself nightly from the ghosts which try to possess her. Then a dreadful event causes her to drop her guard for a moment.

And now there's a ghost inside her.

The spirit is wild, brutish and strong, but it may be her only defence in a time of dark suspicion and fear. As the English Civil War erupts, Makepeace must decide which is worse: possession – or death.

Catherine Johnson

Freedom

12-year old Nathaniel is a slave, sent to England. Life in London is tough and Nat seizes the first opportunity to escape. He hears the story of The Zong, a ship where the crew murdered 133 slaves.

Nina Bowden

Carrie's War

It's wartime and Carrie and her little brother, Nick, have been evacuated to Wales to live with grumpy old Mr Evans, and his timid mouse of a sister. Their friend Albert is luckier, living in Druid's Bottom with the strange Mr Johnny and Hepzibah Green who tells wonderful stories. Gradually they begin to settle into their new surroundings, but the Carrie does the worst thing that she ever did in her life ...

'A people without knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots'

Marcus Garvey (Jamaican Publisher)