CAVALRY

British 1st Reserve Cavalry Regiment on manoeuvres, 1914 Courtesy of the Council, National Army Museum

Australian, British, New Zealand and Indian members of the Imperial Camel Corps in the Middle East, 1918

British cavalry awaiting orders on the Western Front, May 1917

Russian cavalrymen using their horses as shields on the Eastern Front, winter 1941-1942

Polish lancers on exercise before the outbreak of war in 1939 © Alpha Press

The Cheshire Yeomanry on patrol in Syria, summer 1941. This was the last time a mounted British Army cavalry unit saw action.

Northern Alliance cavalry, Afghanistan, 1996

© Patrick Robert/Corbis

The Household Cavalry on parade during Her Majesty The Queen's eightieth birthday celebrations, April 2006. The British Army still uses mounted cavalry for ceremonial purposes.

© Daniel Berehulak/Getty Images

TRANSPORT

British soldiers trying to rescue a horse-drawn water cart which has become stuck in mud, Ypres, August 1917

A wounded man is helped down from a pack mule, Italy, September 1943

COMMUNICATION

A RAF messenger pigeon, 1942. Pigeons were carried by the RAF in case radio communication failed or aircraft were shot down.

Baby pigeons, 1918

A pigeon being released from a tank, France, 1918. Tank crews sent battle reports by pigeon during the First World War.

Three messenger pigeons which have each lost a leg, June 1918. Pigeons were often badly injured by gunfire and gas, but with careful nursing, many recovered.

A British Army dog and his handler demonstrating how pigeons could be carried, 1940

© Corbis

A German messenger dog leaping over a trench on the Western Front, May 1917. An estimated 30,000 dogs served with the German Army in the First World War.

A soldier placing a message into a container on the collar of a British messenger dog, 1917

LIFE SAVING

Sadie, a British Army sniffer dog, Kabul, Afghanistan. Sadie detected a bomb planted outside the United Nations headquarters in Kabul, saving 200 lives.

© The Sun

US Marine sleeping while guarded by his dog. Pacific, September 1944.

Attack dog being trained by the Royal Army Veterinary Corps in Kuwait, March 2003

© Getty Images

A Chinese soldier training a dog with a skipping rope at a military base, January 2006

© China Daily/Reuters/Corbis

A dog wearing a radiation suit being put through its paces at a Russian dog training school, June 1993. The facemask contains a radio so that the trainer can give the dog instructions in battle situations.

© Sergei Mamontov/AFP/Getty

A giant pouched rat picks up the scent of a suspected antipersonnel mine, Mozambique, 2004

© Reuters

Bobs, a British dog, locates a mine in Normandy, 1944

A mine-dog, Jasper, has his ear bandaged by a member of the Royal Army Veterinary Corps, 1944 Soda the pig sniffs out an anti-personnel device in southern Israel, September 2003. Pigs have been found to have a superior sense of smell to dogs and are easier and cheaper to train.

© Getty Images

Welsh sheepdog, Ricky, (above) was wounded in the face while mine-detecting in Holland in 1944. Despite the death of the section leader and his own injuries, Ricky carried on with the task of mine clearance, winning a PDSA Dickin Medal for his bravery and devotion to duty.

The most successful Soviet mine-dog during the Second World War was a mongrel called Zucha who on one occasion located 2,000 mines in just 18 days.

In Britain during the Second World War, dogs were used to locate casualties of German bombing and V weapons attacks. One of the most successful was Rip, a stray found and adopted by Civil Defence workers. In 1941 his work was recorded by a Ministry of Information photographer.

Rip demonstrating how he would alert a Civil Defence air raid warden to the fact that a person or animal might be buried beneath the rubble of a blitzed house

Rip on top of the debris of a bombed house. He had been found homeless and starving in Poplar, London at the height of the Blitz in 1940.

Rip showing the photographer how he helped rescue casualties. He was awarded the PDSA Dickin Medal in 1945 'for locating many air raid victims during the Blitz of 1940'.

Rip surveying a blitzed area of Poplar. Five other dogs were awarded the PDSA Dickin Medal for rescuing casualties during the V1 flying bomb and V2 rocket attacks, 1944-1945.

On 7 and 21 July 2005, London's transport system came under terrorist attack. Metropolitan Police dogs were used on both occasions to search underground stations and buses.

© Getty Images

Following the Tavistock Square bus bomb attack on 7 July 2005, Metropolitan Police dog Jake secured a safe route for the emergency services and helped search and clear the bus and surrounding area

© Reuters/Dylan Martinez

On 11 September 2001, the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon in Washington DC were attacked by Al Qaeda terrorists. Dozens of search and rescue dogs were used by the emergency services in the aftermath of the attacks.

Top to bottom

Rescue dog being winched out of the ruins of the World Trade Center after the terrorist attack. Over 150 dogs had to be rescued from the Twin Towers by the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

© Getty Images

New York Police Department Canine Officer Peter Davis and his dog Apollo. Apollo was the first search and rescue dog on site after the collapse of the World Trade Center.

© Getty Images

Apollo with guide dogs Roselle and Salty who rescued their owners Michael Hingson and Omar Rivera from the 78th and 71st floors of the World Trade Center. All three were awarded the PDSA Dickin Medal. Apollo's award was accepted on behalf of all New York search and rescue dogs.

© Richard Drew/AP/EMPICS

The World Trade Center shortly after being hit by two hijacked airliners

© Sean Adair/Reuters/Corbis

Endal, a Canine Partners for Independence dog, with his owner Allen Parton who was severely injured during the 1990-1991 Gulf War. Since 1997 Endal has helped Parton re-build his life. In May 2001 Endal was awarded the PDSA Gold Medal for devotion to duty.

Endal is the only dog in the world able to feed a card into a cashpoint machine. He can also empty the washing machine and helps with the shopping. Endal has received numerous awards including Dog of the Millennium, and has been filmed nearly 300 times.

© Courtesy Allen Parton

ANIMAL AID

A National Air Raid Precautions for Animals Committee volunteer rescuing a cat from a bombed out house, November 1940. NARPAC worked to reunite animals with their owners or to find them new homes.

© Alpha Press

Army Veterinary Corps staff operating on a horse, Middle East, 1918

A Bedouin girl with a lamb in Kuwait shortly after the 1991 Gulf War

© John Walsh/World Society for the Protection of Animals

A member of the Women's Land Army using a plough drawn by two underfed horses. In the First World War thousands of horses were requisitioned for the war effort. Those remaining for farm work were usually in poor condition, overworked and undernourished.

An abandoned monkey at Baghdad Zoo, 2003. During the fighting for Baghdad, the zoo was looted and 650 of its animals slaughtered.

© Jérome Sessini/In Visu/Corbis

A cow being treated for a bullet wound, Kosovo, 1999

© World Society for the Protection of Animals

Marjan, a 50 year old lion at Kabul's ruined zoo, January 2002. Despite the efforts of an international animal rescue mission, Marjan, who was half blind, lame and toothless, died on 24 January 2002.

© Reuters/Corbis

Abandoned cows killed during the Allied advance against German forces in Normandy, summer 1944

© Getty Images

Camel victims of the 1990-1991 Gulf War oil pollution. The Gulf War was the first conflict in which environmental pollution was scientifically assessed.

© Greenpeace/Jim Hodson

An oil covered bird, Persian Gulf, 1991. Following his invasion of Kuwait, Saddam Hussein ordered the pumping of millions of gallons of crude oil into the Persian Gulf.

© Jacques Langevin/Corbis

Mandor, a Siberian tiger which belonged to Saddam Hussein's son Uday, at Baghdad Zoo, April 2003. Mandor was left starving and neglected after the zoo had been attacked and looted.

© Reuters/Corbis

Cats sheltering in a railway arch during the London Blitz, November 1940

A pet cat, Little One, wearing a National Air Raid Precautions for Animals Committee identity tag giving details of her owner

Airedale dogs modelling three types of British gas masks. Gas masks for dogs were on sale in 1939 for £9 each.

© Getty Images

A caged cockatoo rescued by civil defence workers following a V1 flying bomb attack in July 1944

A shop assistant demonstrating a blackout coat for dogs, spring 1940

Tommy the tortoise who was wounded by anti-aircraft shrapnel during a German air raid on London in September 1917

Beauty, the wire-haired terrier mascot of the PDSA Animal Rescue Squad, and Irma, a German shepherd, were both awarded the PDSA Dickin Medal for their rescue work.

© Courtesy of veterinary charity PDSA

A mobile PDSA unit providing emergency veterinary treatment in a badly bombed part of London during the 1940-1941 Blitz

© Courtesy of veterinary charity PDSA

MASCOTS

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, with the Irish Guards and their Irish wolfhound on St Patrick's Day, 17 March 1994. In 1902, the Irish Guards were presented with their first wolfhound mascot by the Irish Kennel Club.

© Tim Graham/Corbis

Sergeant Ballbag, mascot of 6 Platoon, C Company, Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment

© Courtesy of the Army Memorial Museum, Waiouru

Pincher, the cat of HMS **Vindex**, one of the Royal Navy's first aircraft carriers

A British officer with two pet canaries, 1918. Canaries were also used to detect poison gas in the First World War.

Cheetah mascots of a South African Air Force bomber squadron, 1941

The kitten mascot of the aircraft carrier HMS Eagle, 1956

A British Army Veterinary Corps officer at Salonika with his pets which included two jackdaws, a wild goose, a wolf cub and a German shepherd dog, August 1916

Winnie the bear, the mascot of the 2nd Canadian Infantry Brigade, and the inspiration for Winnie the Pooh

© Colebourn Collection, Provincial Archives of Manitoba

Harry the pigeon, Iraq, 2003. Harry was accidentally shipped to Iraq in a consignment of ration packs and was only discovered when army quartermasters unloaded the supplies.

© Corbis

Roger, the station mascot of RAF Rochford, August 1942. Roger's owner had been posted missing in action and he was then adopted by other American pilots serving with the RAF.

A member of the Auxiliary Territorial Service waiting with her pet dog at a London railway station, 1944

A Palestinian soldier stroking a kitten, June 1982

© Reza; Webistan/Corbis

ALL CREATURES

A mouse being inoculated with penicillin as part of a British research programme, 1943

A guinea pig being exposed to disease as part of a germ warfare experiment in the US, 1946

© Corbis

A goat being shaved ready for the application of anti-flash ointment before the atom bomb test at Bikini Atoll, July 1946 © Corbis

Laika, the first dog to orbit the earth, November 1957. Laika died during the space flight of Sputnik II.

© Getty Images

Sam, a rhesus monkey, being prepared for a space flight in 1959

© Getty Images

K-Dog, a bottlenose dolphin, trained by the US Navy to seek out underwater mines, March 2003

© Getty Images

Zak, a California sea lion, has been taught by the US Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center to locate and tag undersea objects that might threaten naval forces

© Getty Images