KNOWING WAR TO APPRECIATE PEACE

La Grande Guerra a Piedi, Nicolò Giraldi

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Class 5ALS

Liceo scientifico Albert Eintein, Cervignano del Friuli

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English journey,

STEP BY STEP:

* Stazione di Charing Cross (Dartford)
* Darren Valley
* Horton Wood
* Fawkahm Green (ragazza di un pub)
* Stansted
* Sevenoaks (Rosemary)
* Stansted Hill
* Seagrove Wood
* Ryarsh
* Birling
* Maidstone
* White Rabbit
* Sandling Road
* Sainsbury Road
* North Downs
* Detling
* Thurnham
* Mesen
* Broad Street
* Hollingbourne
* Ringlestone
* Doddington
* Newnham
* Feversham
* London Road
* Canterbury Road
* Rough Commons
* Canterbury
* Dover

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| **NICOLO’ GIRALDI – LA GRANDE GUERRA A PIEDI** | | | | |
| Place | Visible signs | People’s perceptions | Nicolò Giraldi’s perceptions | Page |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Dartford station of Charing Cross | A monument dedicated to the Great War fallen (statue of a soldier) | // | “There is a soldier statue. Under it I felt small.” | 15 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Horton Wood | Cross (little memorial) | // | “The small memorials are the only references to the English soldiers in England. The army was not authorized to repatriate the bodies, so the cemeteries are scattered all over the European continent, in the frontline where they had been fighting.” | 17 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Sevenoaks | // | Rosemary and Robin tell about the way people lived the memory of the Great War in Kent. | // | 20 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Chiesa di Saint Mary | Signs of the conflict in Saint Mary's church. | The reverend of Saint Mary Church | // | 23 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Stansted Hill | War Memorial | // | // | 23 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Maidstone | // | Interview to Ernie Brennan (National Children Football Alliance director).  “I saw the place where German and English’s soldiers played football on Christmas eve.” | // | 27-28 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| North Downs | Old English incisions | // | // | 31 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Ringlestone | Few crosses | // | “Maybe that place did not offer Giorgio V what the other places had done” | 33 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Doddington | // | // | “The only souls of Donnington are the twelve guys who died during the first world war...” | 34 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Newnham | Memorial | Kenneth, Bob Fryer and Dave Hawkins | // | 37 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Canterbury | Heritage Museum (Great War Exhibition) | Interview to Craig Bower. (WHO IS HE?) | // | 42 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Dover | Dover Museum | Interview to Lynda Pearce  (WHO IS SHE?) | // | 45 |

PERSONAL REFLECTION:

Nicolò Giraldi decided to write his diary “La grande Guerra a piedi” in memory of his grandfather who fought during the First World War. His journey is the recording of his walk from London the UK.

We met Nicolò Giraldi and we interviewed him. During the meeting he told us (the students of our class) the First World War was not fought in England ad, indeed he did not find many traces. The bodies of dead soldiers could not be repatriated so today there are not war cemeteries about WWI in England.

Anyway, during his journey Nicolò Giraldi found memorials and monuments in honour of dead soldier.

In addition, he met and interviewed Ernie Brennan the National Children Football Alliance director. The idea for his association came from the story of the German and English soldiers that played football together during the Christmas eve despite belonging to different armies.

The message of Nicolò Giraldi’s diary is “knowing war To appreciate peace”. It underlined the importance of memory as a means to promote peace.