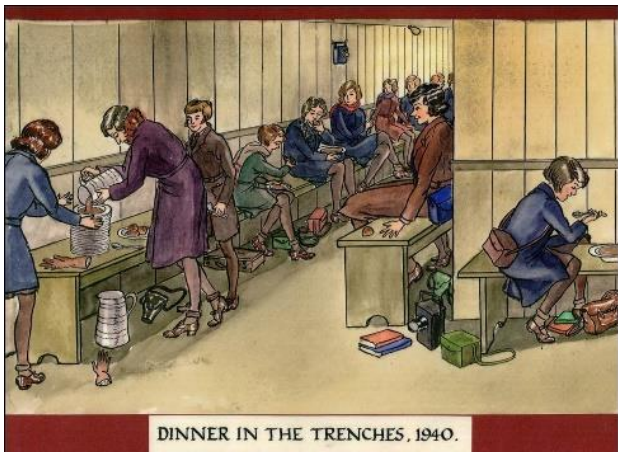




## A Schoolgirl's War Mary Smith

Mary Smith was a secondary school headteacher until 2014 and has recently produced a book entitled 'A Schoolgirl's War'. This tells the story of school life in the south during WW2 and features the recently discovered and exquisite art work of a WW2 school art teacher. She set out to document in paint and pencil the lives of school children and their teachers as the war unfolded. I don't think there is a similar collection of paintings anywhere. Her work features in paint the disrupted schooling, air-raids, doodlebugs, and underground lessons in shelters which were experienced by so many children.

Mary's talk includes a selection of these paintings, together with some anecdotes from wartime pupils.



DINNER IN THE TRENCHES, 1940.

(Photographs courtesy of Maidstone Girls Grammar School and Mary Smith)