Worksheet 5 - Who looked after the soldiers in camp?

It was essential that the men were housed, fed, and kept healthy and happy while they were training to be soldiers, so the list of such people is endless.

Here are just a few of the 'helpers'...doctors, nurses, military training instructors, drivers, mechanics, engineers, cooks, farriers *, armourers* ... all of whom were likely to be soldiers themselves. Who can you add to this list?

Additionally* many civilian people were employed ... laying roads, building the huts, connecting the camp to water and electricity, supplying food, manning the post office, running the little railway or showing films in the garrison* cinema. Many local people also worked as nurses and porters in the camp's hospital. Can you think of any more?

THIS IS WHERE IT ALL HAPPENED

During World War I the camp was built in the fields below the badges on Fovant Down





2009

1916

It's hard to imagine that these two pictures are of the same place until you realise that they were taken almost a hundred years apart

With a partner, or even a small group, choose ONE of the 'helpers' mentioned above. Discuss amongst yourselves not only what that worker would need to do during a typical* day in their working life but also, if they wore uniform, what they would be dressed like. You may not all agree so you will sometimes have to compromise.* Once agreement is reached make a timetable of tasks for your chosen worker to follow. Don't forget they would need a break now and again.

After all your hard work each of you could draw a picture of your helper at work – or resting – which when put together would be like a comic strip. You could put captions* underneath or give your characters* speech balloons.

Alternatively* you might prefer to write about your chosen worker's normal day.

^{*} use a dictionary if you don't know the meaning of any words