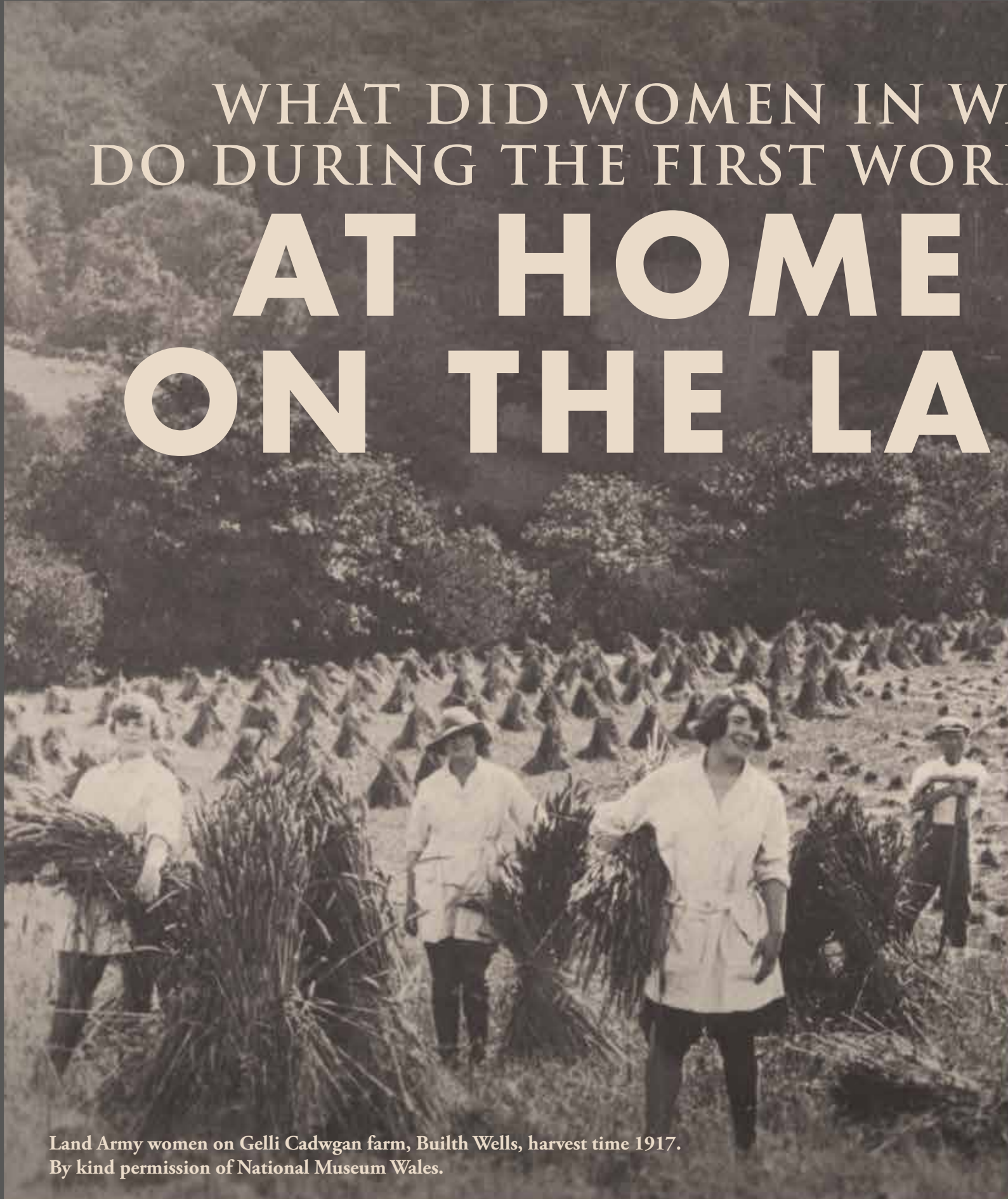


# WHAT DID WOMEN IN WALES DO DURING THE FIRST WORLD WAR?

# AT HOME & ON THE LAND



Land Army women on Gelli Cadwgan farm, Builth Wells, harvest time 1917.  
By kind permission of National Museum Wales.

Women and girls had always worked on family farms in Wales. However the loss of many young men to the army meant that women's labour was needed if there was to be enough food for the country. From **1915** Women's War Agricultural Committees encouraged women workers, and in **1917** the Women's Land Army was formed. Other women filled men's jobs on the buses, on trams and clearing rubbish. Many women made jam and preserved fruit for the army, and everyone sewed and knitted 'comforts for the troops'.

## EDITH HAINES

(née Spridgeon),  
one of the first bus  
conductresses  
in Swansea.



[womenandwar.wales](http://womenandwar.wales)  
[menywodarhyfel.cymru](http://menywodarhyfel.cymru)

ARCHIF MENYWOD CYMRU  
WOMEN'S ARCHIVE WALES



## 1915

National Registration Card for **Elizabeth Jones** of Tyddyn y Bedd, Bethel, in Caernarfonshire. On 15th August 1915 all 15-65 year old men and women had to be recorded for possible national service.



## 1916

**Beatrice Cope** and her son **Eric**, of Trellech, Monmouthshire. Eric was killed on the first day of the Battle of the Somme, 1st July 1916, aged 18.