



Forestry  
England

# Nissen Hut

Dalby  
Forest

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**14-18-NOW**

WWI CENTENARY ART COMMISSIONS





Long ago and far away

When the world was cold and the world was grey

Men were fighting in a war

Some were cold and some were sore.

They needed a place to rest their head  
A nice hot meal and a warm dry bed  
But as they went from town to town  
They had nowhere to settle down.





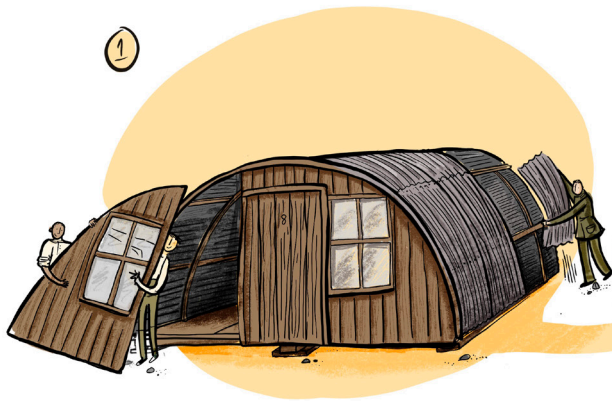
Then a man called Peter Nissen  
Had an idea. He said, "Now listen!  
I've made you all a hut from wood."  
And the men all said, "That sounds quite good!"

PETER NORMAN NISSEN

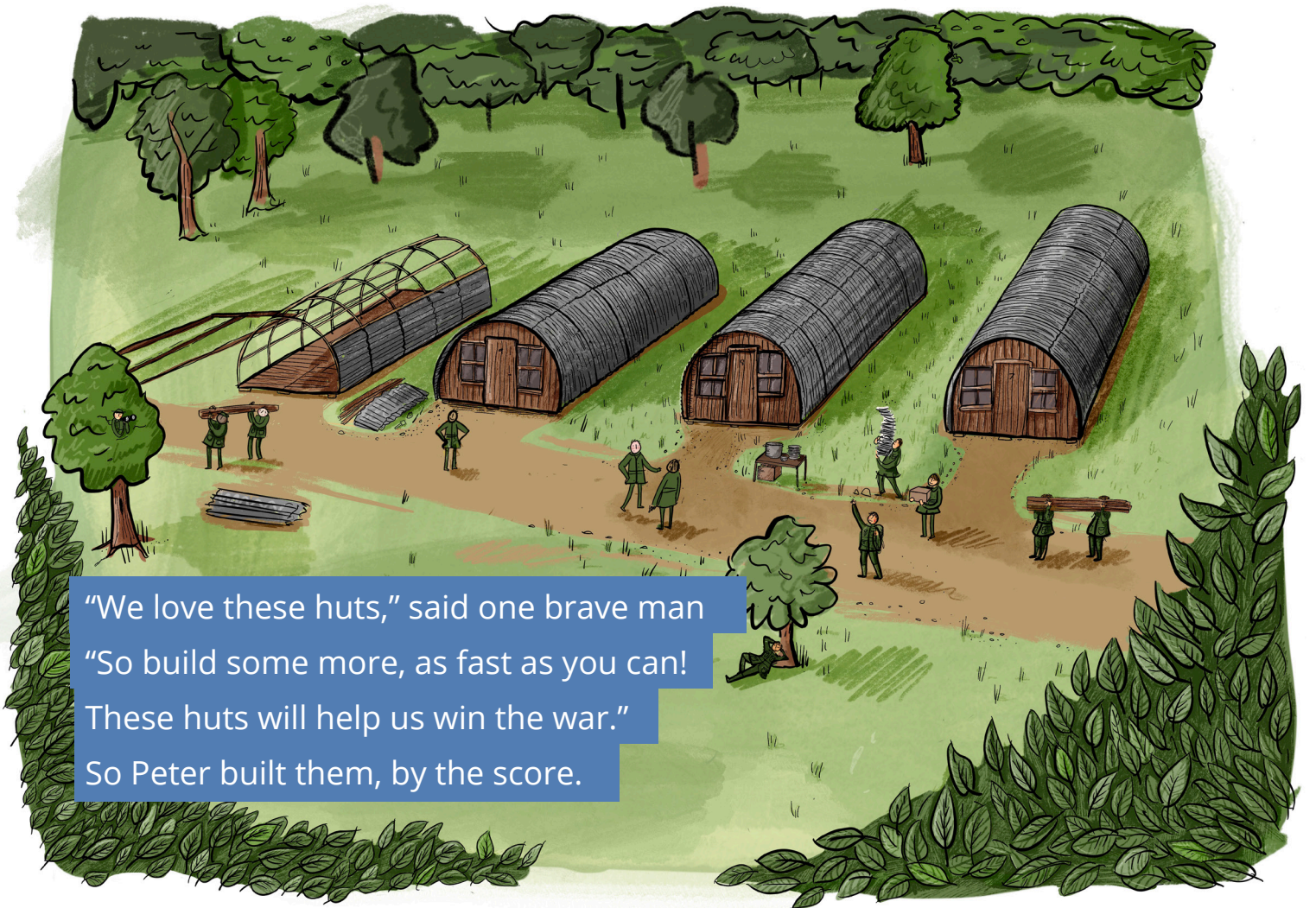


“It makes a lovely place to camp –  
But when it rains, we get quite damp.”

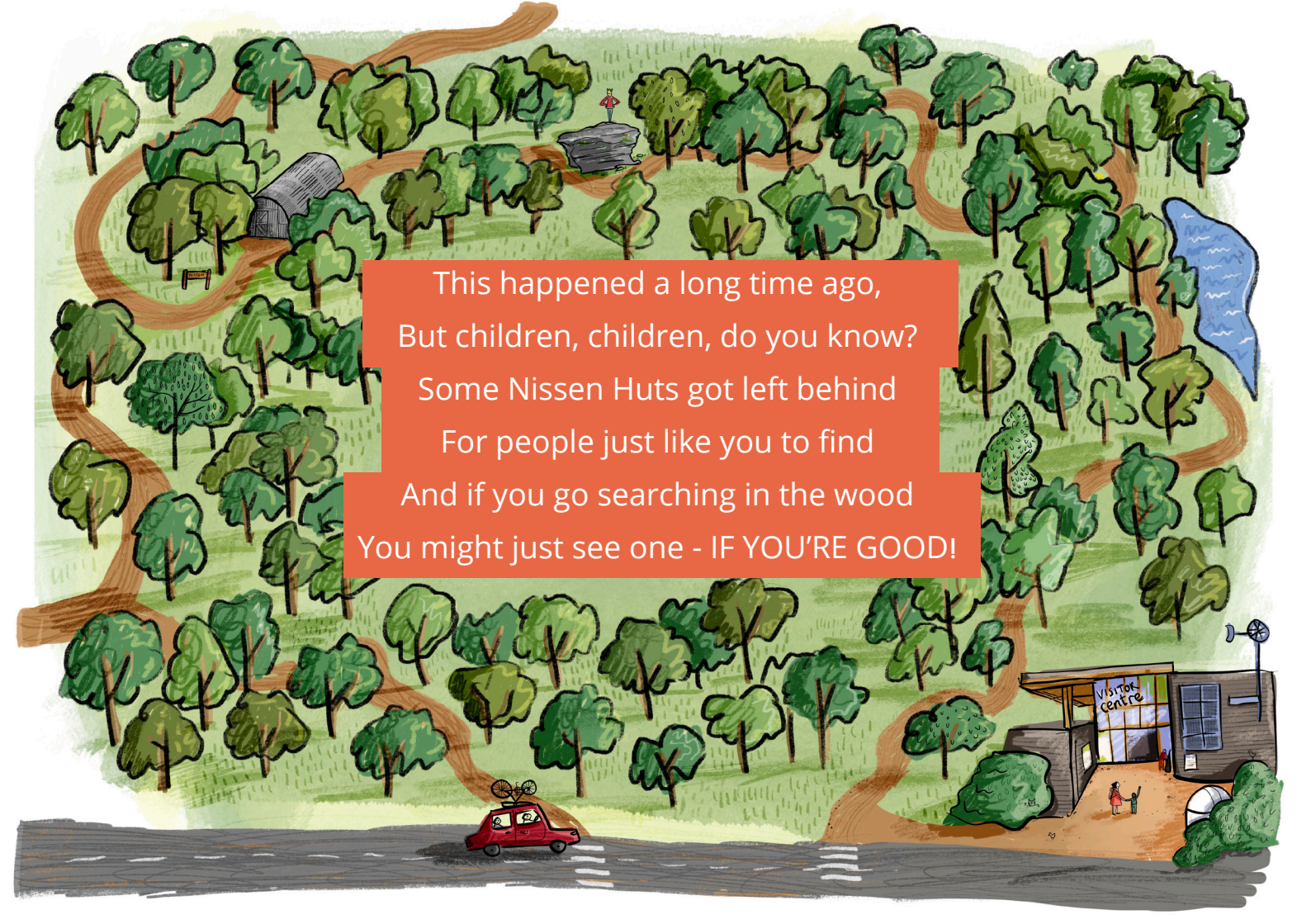
So Peter made the roof from tin  
To stop the rain from getting in.



And now the part that's really clever -  
He built the hut to last forever!  
It came to pieces, bit by bit  
So men could lift and carry it  
And take it with them where they went  
A sort of super-duper tent!



"We love these huts," said one brave man  
"So build some more, as fast as you can!  
These huts will help us win the war."  
So Peter built them, by the score.



This happened a long time ago,  
But children, children, do you know?  
Some Nissen Huts got left behind  
For people just like you to find  
And if you go searching in the wood  
You might just see one - IF YOU'RE GOOD!





# Timeline

1871

Peter Nissen is born



1916

April 1916, Peter invents the Nissen Hut. In September that year, the hut goes into production



1918

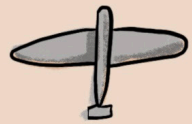


Peter Nissen awarded the DSO. The First World War finishes, Peter Nissen is granted a patent



1930

Peter Nissen dies



2016

100 year anniversary of the invention of the Nissen Hut



1914

Outbreak of the First World War

1917

The hut is redesigned to use non-combustible insulation. During the war, at least 100,000 huts are produced, including 10,000 hospital versions

1919

The Forestry Commission is created

1939 - 1945

Second World War. Patent is waived for war production. Large numbers of Nissen Huts produced

2018

Launch of Dame Rachel Whiteread's Nissen Hut sculpture - George Nissen - Peter Nissen's great grandson attends