



**HAZELWOOD  
AUXILIARY  
HOSPITAL**

# HAZELWOOD AUXILIARY HOSPITAL

***Date Built and Current Status:***

*1873 opened - 1950 demolished*

***History:***

*Holiday Home and YMCA  
Red Cross Auxiliary Hospital*

***Dates as Hospital:***

*3 November 1914 (arrival of first  
patients) to 31 December 1918*

***Address:***

*Ashley Road, Ryde, Isle of Wight*



Hazelwood House. Historic Ryde Society

Hazelwood was originally built as a holiday home where young gentlemen from the City could come to get some air and generally be looked after for a small weekly fee. It was the idea of Miss Peek, in memory of her uncle formerly the Sheriff of Middlesex and London and was named after Hazelwood, her country seat in Devonshire and was funded by gifts from her and her family and members of the Young Mens Christian Association (YMCA).

It was run by the management committee of members of Ryde YMCA and was opened in June 1873 by the 3rd Marquis of Cholmondeley; William Henry Hugh Cholmondeley who was president of Ryde YMCA.

As can be seen by the picture of the dining room (below), it was noted to be of “palatial character with a central spire and stood in extensive grounds, overlooking the railway”.



Hazelwood is recorded in Kelly's Directory of 1898 as Hazelwood Home of Rest & Recreation for Commercial Young Men (T.W. Morphey, secretary), Ashley Road.

A new wing was added in the 1900s along with central Post Office postbox built into the wall outside - which acted as an "aid memoir" to remind the young men to write home!

Between its opening in 1873 and 1913 44,882 men had taken advantage of the services offered at Hazelwood. Then after the outbreak of war in 1914 the War Office took over Hazelwood and it was used as a Service Convalescent Home.

The 3 November 1914 saw the first patients arrive.

On Thursday 17 December 1914 a concert was arranged by Mrs. G. W. Colenutt, for the wounded soldiers at Hazelwood. Among those kindly assisting with the programme were Mrs. H. S. Saunders, Miss Dawson, Mrs. Holt, Miss Cicely Quayle, Mr. Wallace Wheeler, and Mr. T. S. Mellanby.

On 22 March 1917 the Isle of Wight Times reported the following:

*"Hazelwood Hospital - The following gifts have been received at this hospital during the week: Cigarettes, Miss Stride; Soup, Mrs. Denman Murray; Puzzles, Miss M. Fardell, Miss E. Ryall; Dressings, The Joint War Committee, London; Slippers, Miss Baines; Papers and books, Mrs. Latto, Mrs. Stainer Brandy, Mr. Latto; Flowers, Miss Lawson. 14 patients were discharged during the week. The total in the hospital had reached 80"*

**ARRIVAL OF WOUNDED AT RYDE.**  
The three score of convalescent wounded men who arrived at Ryde on Wednesday had a grand reception. They were greeted with three ringing cheers on disembarking at the Pier, and as they proceeded down the Pier on the electric railway interested and sympathetic folk and children waved handkerchiefs and flags. The Mayor, who, with other people in the town and district, lent his motor-car, and took away the first batch to Hazelwood amidst enthusiasm. The men, who wore their now familiar blue hospital dress, were in the best of spirits and thoroughly appreciated the kind reception. The men's detachment of the British Red Cross V.A.D., with their stretcher party, assisted in the removal of the men from the Pier to Hazelwood. This very admirable place, which has been taken over by the War Office, is being managed by the women of the Ryde Red Cross V.A.D. If one is to judge by the demand for various games, &c., the soldiers at Hazelwood will have a pleasant time at Ryde. The names of the wounded are: Furgie, 1st Cameron Highlanders; Mason, 1st Queen's; Perrett, 14th Battery R.F.A.; Law, 2nd Welsh; Drew, 2nd Welsh; Purdie, Cameron Highlanders; Pippard, 2nd Yorks; Stanger, 15th Hussars; Gura, 13th Battery R.F.A.; Shaw, 36th Brigade R.F.A.; Chamberlain, 3rd Coldstreams; Cotton, 105th Battery R.F.A.; Duke, Portsmouth Battalion; Pearson, 2nd Northants; Ferguson, 1st Camerons; Webb, Royal Sussex; Gould, 1st Grenadiers; Wooding, 1st Lincolns; Hemson, Royal Warwick; Ford, 2nd Rifle Brigade; Pte. Brett, 2nd Worcesters; Smith, 2nd Royal Berks; Harris, 2nd Leinsters; Matthews, 2nd K.R.R.; Keeley, Royal Horse Guards; Pte. McCann, Cameron Highlanders; Lce.-Cpl. Gee, 1st S.W.B.; Pte. Snow, 1st Royal Fusiliers; Pte. Warrington, Grenadier Guards; Pte. Mustoe, 1st Gloucesters; Pte. Spink, 1st Queen's; Corpl. Walls, 2nd K.R.R.; Pte. Speechley, 3rd Northants; Lce.-Corpl. Barnes, 1st Royal Berks; Dr. Gilbert, R.G.A.; Bgr. Herrington, R.F.A.; Gr. Dodds, R.G.A.; Pte. O. Young, Coldstreams; Pte. Bass, Grenadier Guards; Gr. Pearce, R.F.A.; Lce.-Corpl. Johnson, Royal Berks; Pte. Ross, Cameron Highlanders; Gr. Jones, R.G.A.; Driver Farrow, A.S.O.; Gr. Castle, R.G.A.; Gr. Smith, R.G.A.; Gr. Lawrence, R.G.A.; Corpl. Benger, 1st Wilts; Gr. Parkin, 4th Hants R.G.A.; Pte. Hayes, 4th Middlesex; Pte. Scutt, 2nd Wilts; Pte. Atkinson, 1st Lincolns; Pte. Wilson, N. Lancs.; Pte. White, 2nd K.R.R.; Pte. Parsons, 1st Queen's; Gr. Smith, R.F.A.; and Lce.-Corpl. Bean, 2nd Welsh. Gifts of papers, fruit, walking-sticks, cigarettes, tobacco, and magazines have been received from Miss Stanton, Mrs. Williams, Miss K. Evans, Mr. Walter, Col. Metcalfe, Mr. John L. Barton, Mrs. Hathway, Nurse Hicks, Mrs. Bfigstocke, Mrs. Daubuz, and Mrs. Pearce Foster. Gifts of money for providing tobacco, fruit, and newspapers for the wounded at Hazelwood may be left at the County Press office, Union-street, or at Dr. Davies, Belmont, George-street.

A sewing machine was donated to the hospital in July.1918. The Isle of Wight Observer 6 July 1918 recorded – *“Hazelwood Hospital – Mrs. T. G. Tanton wishes to thank all those who so kindly contributed to the cost of the sewing machine required for this hospital. Mrs. Tanton is the widow of the late Mr. T. G. Tanton of Auckland, New Zealand, and for several years formerly resided at Salsette, on the Strand, Ryde and being on a visit here, very kindly took up the collection for the above.”*

Mrs Florence Fetherstonehaugh the wife of General Richard Steele Rupert Fetherstonehaugh was vice-president and organiser of the hospital. Ellen Pottinger one of their servants also worked at Hazelwood as a nurse.

Princess Beatrice the Island's Governor and daughter of Queen Victoria paid visits to Hazelwood; the Fetherstonehaugh's were personal friends of Princess Beatrice and of her mother The Queen.

On 6 March 1918 Florence was invested with an MBE by the King for her work at Hazelwood; she died in 1920 with Richard dying in 1932.

The future of Hazelwood became uncertain in 1933 when it closed for the winter season for the first time since it opened. Although no official decision had been made it looked like it would not re-open again, efforts had been made to sell the building with Dr Barnardo's Homes and Co-operative Union being possible purchasers.

The building was used as a billet during World War II for the royal marines and a gun emplacement was mounted on the roof. Additionally there were several ammunition dumps scattered around the grounds. During an air raid on 4 February 1943 a German Focke-Wulf 190 was strafing the town when it dropped bombs that struck the house. Casualties were four marines and a number of other people were injured. The house was left in ruins as can be seen from the photograph on the following page.





Photograph: islandeye.co.uk

The building remained empty until the 1950s when it was finally decided to demolish it. It then became a residential close for a number of new buildings. The photograph below has been inset with how it would have looked then and now.



In Memoriam BOB@ wootton

This story was submitted to the People's War Site by Megan Morley

*It was the year 1942, about the end of November. I had David my eldest son with me on November 12th and had been told to get gas masks for him at the district nurse's home at Monkton Street, Ryde. I had collected it and was making my way home with the box perched on the pram. I'd got to Quarry Road when I heard planes. I looked up and saw planes, coming in low from ahead of me and one had flames at the wings. I then heard the 'tat tat' of machine guns. I grabbed David from the pram and rushed into the shop on the left, went right through and under the stairs. The siren had not gone, but there were loud bangs and then the siren went. I was there for about 5 minutes when a railway man came in and asked was there a lady with a baby here? Anyhow he said its O.K., I've stopped the pram going down the hill. I'd not put the brake on.*

*When the all clear sounded, I got David back in the pram and made for home. Going up Well Street, I was told that bombs had been dropped in the Weeks Road area. Knowing my husband Joe's mum was a cripple and in bed I was very worried. I went straight down to her, she was O.K. but all the windows and ceilings were damaged. Later Joe's dad found some lino and tacks and covered up the damage done due to this disaster. We cleared as much of the mess the best we could. This was caused by the bomb blast, dropped over Haylands way. I can't remember if that was when YMCA House was taken over. 'Hazlewood' was damaged and a lot of army soldiers were killed or not. I know that land mines were dropped at night which flattened the school and a lot of cottages. My friend May was killed there, that was in Church Street, later renamed St Michaels Avenue in Haylands.*

## List of Volunteers at Hazelwood Auxiliary Hospital

Name	Duties
Aldred , Hilda	Ward Maid
Austen, Jessie	Ward Maid
Aytoun, Eliza Clara Rutherford	Nurse
Balders, Mabel	Ward Maid
Barton, Minnie	Ward Maid
Bates, Mabel Lilian	Nurse
Becker, Florence Theodora	Nurse
Blake, Rachel	Ward Maid
Blunt, Kathleen Harriett	Ward Maid
Boger, Dorothy	Nurse
Boger, Margaret	Ward Maid
Bolitho, Rosselle	Ward Maid
Bousfield , Violet	Nurse
Bruce, Hilda Turing	Ward Maid
Du Boulay, Nina Joan	Ward Maid
Buck, Eva	Nurse
Bunting, Gertrude	Ward Maid
Burt, Pearl Louisa Picquetnet	Ward Maid
Burt, Ruby Mary Steuart	Nurse
Buxton, Phyllis D	Ward Maid
Byng, Nora	Nurse
Carey, Norah Madeline Alice	Nurse
Carter, Henrietta	Hall Porter & Nurse
Carter, Phyllis	Ward Maid
Carter, Sybil	Ward Maid
Cawse, George F	Orderly
Clark, Dorothy	Nurse
Clarke , Judith A	Ward Maid & Nurse
Clifford, Ada Martha	Nurse
Cochrane, Jeanie	Ward Maid
Cochrane, Mary	Nurse
Colenutt, Kate	Organising Concerts & Accompanist
Collins, Lillian Jessie M	Ward Maid, Hall Porter & Nurse
Craven Hall, Madeline	Ward Maid
Dambrill, Amy Worthington	Nurse
Dashwood, Helen Gladys	Nurse
Davies, Gwynedd	Ward Maid
Dawson, Marion	Nurse
Du Boulay, Rhoda Mary	Ward Maid
Dunkin, Madeline Susan	Pantry Work
Farmer, Jessie	Ward Maid
Firth, Lilly	Nurse
Firth, Mary M	Nurse
Foster, Vera	Nurse
Fraser, Joan	Ward Maid

## List of Volunteers at Hazelwood Auxiliary Hospital

Name	Duties
Gardner , Dorothy May	Sister
Gordon, Margaret	Ward Maid
Grant, Miriam	Quartermaster
Gregory, Angel Emily Vernon	Ward Maid
Gregory, Jessie Harriett	Ward Maid
Grimes, Helen	Ward Maid
Haggar, Amelia Mary	Sister
Hampshire, Ellen	Nurse
Hayles, Margaret Annie	Nurse
Holmes, Clara Isabella	Nurse
Jackson, Cicely Margaret	Ward Maid
James, Edith	Ward Maid
Joy, Bessie	Nurse
Kerridge, Arthur Frederick Alexander	Orderly
Kinsey, Millicent Ruth	Nurse
Lander, Hilda	Nurse
Lawson, Muriel Frances	Hall Porter
Leggett, Mary	Ward Maid
Lewis, Maude Louisa	Ward Maid
Locke, Betty	Ward Maid
Loring, Cicely Catherine Schonswar	Nurse
Mann, Maud	Sister
Mellor, Muriel Mary	Ward Maid
Milne Home, Katherine Mary O'Bryen	Ward Maid
Moorhouse, Kathleen Denison	Ward Maid
Morphey, Sarah Anne	Housekeeper
Morris, Gladys Capel	Ward Maid
Morson, Adela Francis Maud	Nurse
Murray, Isabella	Nurse
Newnham, Emma Harriet Grace	Kitchen Assistant
Nixon, Olive M	Ward Maid
Nutt, Dorothy Mary Gascoigne	Ward Maid
Osborne, Constance	Nurse
Pentelow, Doris	Nurse
Philpott, Margaret	Ward Maid
Plummer, Ralph P	Orderly
Pottinger, Ellen	Ward Maid
Purnell, Ivy	Ward Maid
Purnell, Vera Gladys	Nurse
Quayle, Cicely	Ward Maid
Rabbitt, Marie Josephine	Sister
Ready, Josephine	Nurse
Ready, Sybil	Nurse
Rooke, Hilda	Nurse
Rooke, Lilian Persis	Commandant



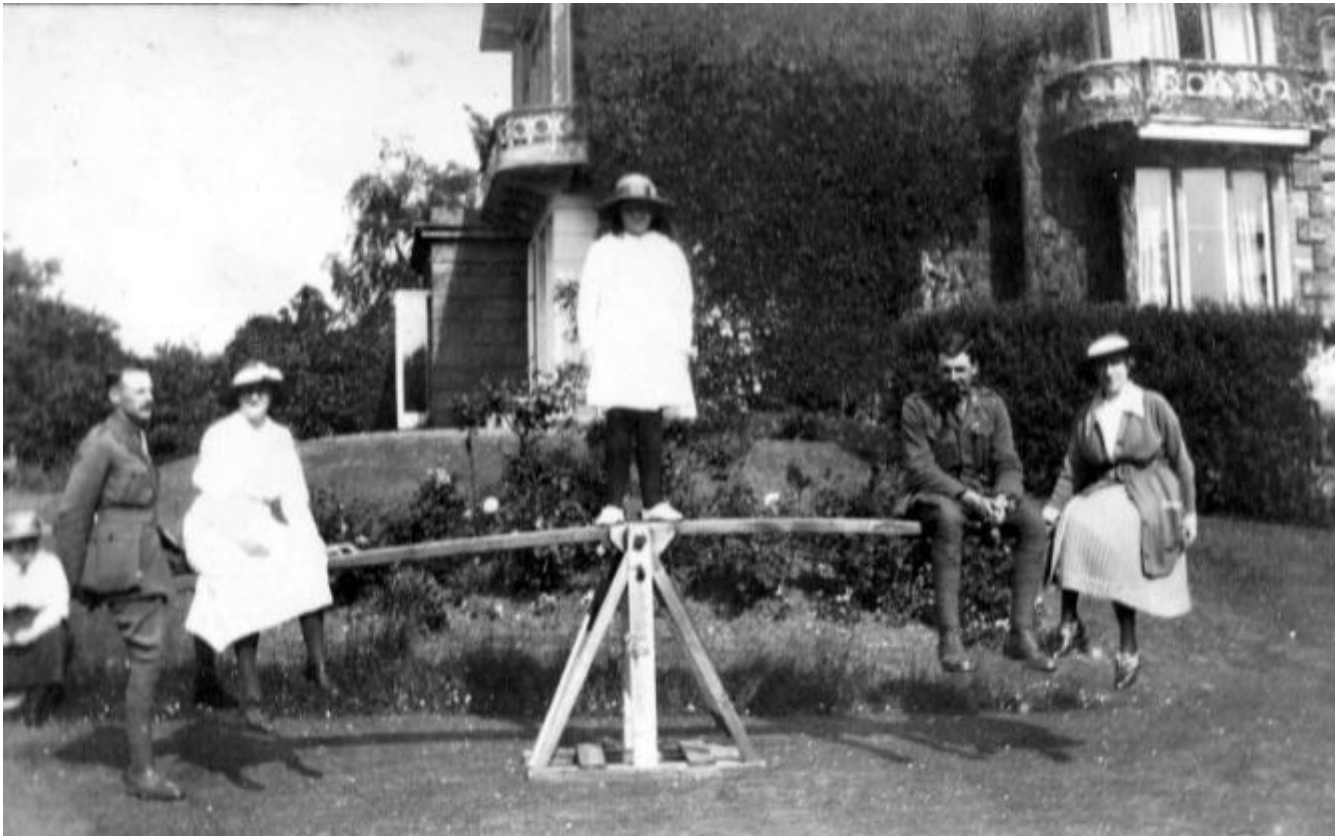
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<b>Name</b>	<b>Duties</b>
Salwey, Henrietta	Sister
Scott Hewett, Norah	Ward Maid
Simeon, Joan	Ward Maid
Steward, Alice	Sister
Stowell, Annie D	Secretary
Swaine, Charles S	Orderly
Thomas, Edwina	Ward Maid
Thorman, Jessie	Ward Maid
Turner, Anne	Nurse
Turner, Ellen	Nurse
Vibart, Anna Mabel	Matron
Wade, Edith	Nurse
Wade, Henry	Hall Porter
Wade, Katherine Anita	Ward Maid
Wade, Violet	Ward Maid
Weldon, Violet	Nurse
Welsh, Clara	Ward Maid
West, Dorothy	Nurse
Williams, Eva	Nurse
Williams, Florence	Nurse
Williamson, Albert Edward	Hall Porter
Withinshaw, Maude	Nurse
Woodruff, Aline	Nurse
Woodruff, Marjory	Ward Maid
Woodruff, May	Ward Maid
Wooll, Mildred Emmeline	Nurse
Yeo, Honorie M R	Ward Maid
Yeo, Selina F I	Ward Maid



William Jacobs (Honorary Secretary of the Ryde Branch of the YMCA - 1878-1903)

Photographs taken 20 June 1916



Mr Fox	Winifred Mary Rhodes	Phyllis D Buxton (?)	Captain Pittis	Cicely Quayle
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Back Row	Phyl (Phyllis D Buxton ?)	Daddie	Miss Dickson	
Front Row	Mr Fox	Winifred Mary Rhodes	Captain Pittis	Cicely Quayle



Back Row	D Kirby	Kathleen Frances Coates	Miss Ellen Francis (Fanny) Harvey	Miss Brodie	Amy Miller
Middle Row	H Swinhoe	Gladys Capel Morris	Winifred Mary Rhodes	Mrs Isabella Murray	J Woolrych
Front Row	Maude Withinshaw	Anna Mabel Vibart (Matron)	Lilian Persis Rooke (Commandant)	Mrs Mabel Lee White	H Woolwych