

Title **Heritage Schools Project**

The Beaufort War Hospital: why did Glenside Hospital become an auxiliary hospital and what did this mean?

Location The Beaufort War Hospital was formerly Glenside Hospital which was formerly the Bristol Asylum. The site is now part of UWE and UWE allows the former chapel to be used as Glenside Hospital Museum. It is located at UWE Glenside Campus, Blackberry Hill, Stapleton, Bristol BS16 1DD	Theme
Resources Cd / stick containing <ul style="list-style-type: none">• photo/postcard resources• British Army Medical Services – Hierarchy Chart• Bristol and the War publication, Dec 1915 “Beaufort War Hospital”• Accessible writing on background to hospitals and the Red Cross during WW1 Resources available through the Red Cross on auxiliary hospitals and VADs Glenside Hospital Museum where there will be a World War 1 exhibition from summer 2014	Line(s) of enquiry <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What was an auxiliary hospital? Do I understand how the British Army organised its war medical services and the hierarchy of management ?• What was the role of the Red Cross/Order of St John within this and what was the role of the VADs?• Why was Glenside Hospital brought into service as an auxiliary hospital later than others?• Do I know all the jobs that had to be done within the Hospital and who did them?• The men who came here did so to convalesce. Do I know what this means and why they were called by the public “Convalescent Blues”? What was their story? This could be done through the eyes of a Belgian or Australian soldier instead of a British one .• What were conditions like at Beaufort Hospital? What activities were laid on to improve their recovery?• Can I now say why the recovery rate was so good and why was this important to the Army?• Can I interrogate the postcards and write about one soldier’s life before, during and after being at the Beaufort Hospital? This could be in a variety of forms eg diary extracts over months or years.• What happened to the Beaufort Hospital after the War?
Websites www.glensidemuseum.org.uk www.redcross.org.uk/WW1 (auxiliary hospitals during the First World War) www.iwm.org.uk/learning/resources www.bbc.co.uk/schools/worldwarone/teacher Google Earth to locate the site today. www.wellcomeimages.org The Wellcome Library – Frederick Cayley Robinson – artist. “Convalescent Blues” – detail from his Acts of Mercy : The Doctor 1	Challenge <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Link with the art work of Sir Stanley Spencer who worked at the Beaufort Hospital as a medical orderly. His paintings at the Sandham Memorial Chapel in Burghclere, Hampshire were influenced by his time at the hospital. (Glenside Museum has information on this)• A focus on the Australian, New Zealand and Canadian soldiers who convalesced at the hospital: what were they doing there and what was life like for their families left at home?
Visits/Visitors To the Chapel (now Museum) from Sept 2014 for the WW1 exhibition with a theme “Postcards from a War Hospital” Contact Stella Man (07968 869840) email: involvingresidents@gmail.com Also The Red Cross might be able to do school visits in relation to their work in auxiliary hospitals / VADS	Historical Skills and understanding KS2: knowledge and understanding of history within a secure chronological framework ask and answer more complex questions about the past increasingly proficient and effective use historical enquiry and selection of evidence increasing awareness of different ways the past is represented and interpreted

	<p>KS3 : demonstrate detailed knowledge of a specific period of history studied in depth use a range of criteria to evaluate and explain the significance of events in their historical context frame an historically valid enquiry of their own related to the key concept of significance explain how and why contrasting arguments and interpretations of the past have been constructed</p>
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Background information

- The Bristol Asylum in Fishponds was established and opened in 1861 in line with medical reasoning at the time that asylum patients were more likely to recover in spacious, well-appointed environments with plenty of fresh air than in overcrowded restricted central city sites.
- Consequently when the Medical Corp needed far more space for convalescing soldiers after 1914 than expected Glenside was an ideal location. Preparations had already been in hand by the JWC so formal opening was quickly and efficiently carried out. It opened as an auxiliary hospital on 24/05/1915.
- The commandant was Lady Beaufort of the Beaufort Estate, hence the name.
- Under the commandant was a very precise structure to ensure the effective convalescence of the soldiers so they could, as far as possible, return to active service, almost always with a different regiment.
- Wounded soldiers from Britain, allied Europe and the Commonwealth arrived at Temple Meads Station and were taken to the hospital in ambulances driven by VADs. The whole process was caring and very efficient and highly commended by the soldiers.
- Between 1915 and the end of the War there were 29,000 patients at the hospital.
- Primary sources include: postcard photographs, newspaper reports, paintings, letters, hospital records (but not of individual patients) and artefacts.
- A project remembering the time Stanley Spencer spent at Beaufort Hospital has been done by the Glenside Museum and could prove useful. However, although the Chapel is now the Museum, there is no general access to the rest of the former hospital site which is part of UWE.