

1



Front of House World War I

Harewood House was a convalescence hospital for officers during World War I and World War II. A convalescence hospital was where soldiers were sent to be treated for less-urgent injuries and illnesses. They were sent to Harewood to rest, relax and recover in their own time.

The Lascelles family lived in the East Side of the House while the officers and nurses took over the West Side of the House. They used many of the family's grandest rooms, including the Gallery and the Dining Room, as they had the most space for the officer's beds. The fancy wallpaper and paintings in these rooms were boarded up to protect them from any damage!

2



Archery border World War II

Harewood was the perfect place for a soldier's recovery. Country air, beautiful scenery and fun activities worked wonders for their wellbeing. Officers enjoyed sports like golf, cricket and football on Harewood's grounds and in World War II they put a ping pong table on the Terrace!

In the warmer weather, sunbathing on the Terrace (or on the patch of grass next to it) was also a way soldiers liked to relax. The grand ladies of the House did not enjoy this showing of extra skin, but Princess Mary encouraged it as part of the soldier's recovery!

3



Lake World War II

Soldiers were known to borrow the family's boat to take a trip out on the Lake. They would relax by taking in the glorious scenery and the amazing wildlife near the water. Some even hunted for giant pike and would take the fish back to the kitchen for the cook to prepare for their supper.

4



Terrace World War II

Nursing and household staff lived in the attics on the top level of the House. VAD (Voluntary Aid Detachment) nurses and trained nurses slept in separate areas.

Trained nurses would give out most of the medical care, like examining patients and cleaning a wound. VAD nurses would give the soldiers more general care, but would also help out with the cooking, cleaning and general running of the hospital.

In World War I, VAD nurses and soldiers weren't encouraged to chat and socialise, but these rules were dropped over time (as you can see!)

During wartime, you would also see doctors, matrons, orderlies and a colonel or two walking through the House.

5



Rose Garden (near the Walled Garden) Interwar (1920's)

During wartime, the beautiful gardens at Harewood moved from growing flowers to food. The Walled Garden (then called the Kitchen Garden) grew many varieties of fruit and vegetables and fish and deer could be caught on Harewood land.

The House was still expected to take part in rationing, so the cooks kept many jams, chutneys and cupboard foods to keep the soldiers well fed throughout the year. They believed that good, wholesome food would help with the soldiers' recovery.

Harewood at War Scavenger Hunt

Teacher Guidance

Explore Harewood and its magnificent grounds + gardens by finding the locations of some of our favourite wartime photos.

Use the map and the images on the back of this page to look carefully at the details in the picture to find the exact spot where the photo was taken!

Visit the church to see our World War I and World War II memorials.

Challenge:
Can you recreate some of the pictures with your classmates?

