



Amy Hill Autograph Book Introduction



Photo by Hamilton,
Ralph Hill,

V.A. HOSPITAL, CLEVE HILL, DOWNEND.

Amy Hill was a VAD nurse.

Cleve House, then owned by Mr and Mrs Cave, was converted into a hospital and used throughout the war for convalescing soldiers.

It was staffed by Red Cross nurses of the local VAD or Voluntary Aided Detachment.

Here is Amy at home with her family. Amy is on the right in the darker dress; her sister Winifred is on the left and their mother Caroline Hill is in the front. One of her brothers' stands behind, possibly Arthur.

Amy lost two of her four brothers in 'The Great War' within weeks of each other, her eldest brother Arthur and her nearest brother Harold. She named her first son Harold.



Wounded soldiers would come off the hospital trains with the mud of Flanders still on them. Nurses like Amy had to clean them up and look after them. Some of them were only 17 years old or less, most were 19 years or older. Women were not allowed to fight, so this was something Amy could do.

Convalescing Soldiers This is one of the wards where Amy worked with some of the patients. These soldiers needed things to do to, Amy gave them her autograph book to write in.



Some wrote poems, others drew pictures and cartoons.



Some were too ill and shocked to write more than their name, regiment and where they were wounded. Look closely at the one in the nearest bed, there are very few smiles.



One of the drawings could be of this room, see the wall lamp and the notice behind the bed? It is in one of the drawings.

As they got better they were organised concerts and outings to aid their recovery.

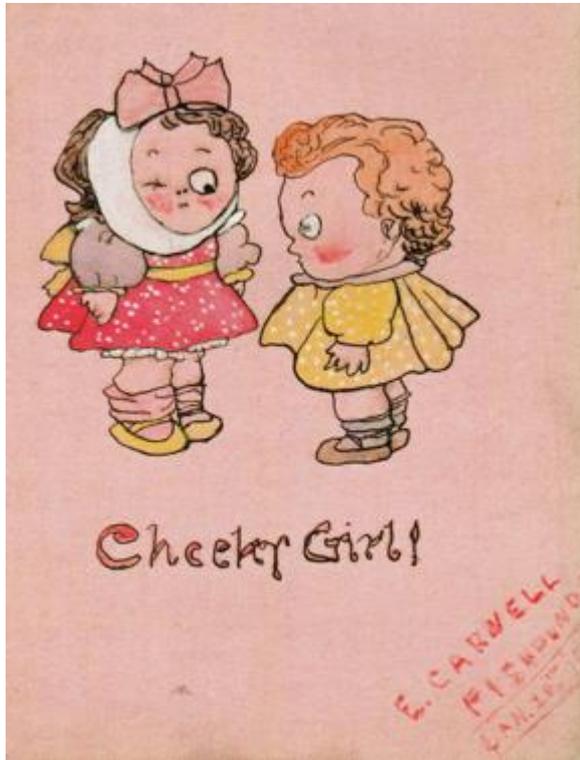
The Cleve Hill hospital was open throughout the war. For Amy it was an experience that coloured her life as she went on to marry one of the Australian soldiers she had nursed and lived most of her life in Australia.

[South Gloucestershire in the First World War Project Learning Resource.](#)

**Amy Hill Autograph Book
Cleeve Hill Hospital 1914 -1919**

“Cheeky Girl!”

Have a good look at this little cartoon. It was drawn by one of the soldiers who were convalescing at Cleeve Hill hospital in Frenchay during the First World War.



Two small girls are looking at each other. One has a bandage around her face, the other one looks cross.

They are drawn in the style of the Artist Mabel Lucy Attwell.

A bandage round the face usually meant toothache.

Activity: 1 English

Write a short story about what happens next to these two **or** what led up to this point?

Activity: 2 Art

Look up the illustrator Mabel Lucy Attwell. Which famous stories did she illustrate?

Draw your own postcard size cartoon in this style with the title:

‘Cheeky Girl!’

Or use this one to draw what happens next in a series of ‘strip’ cartoon images

Use:

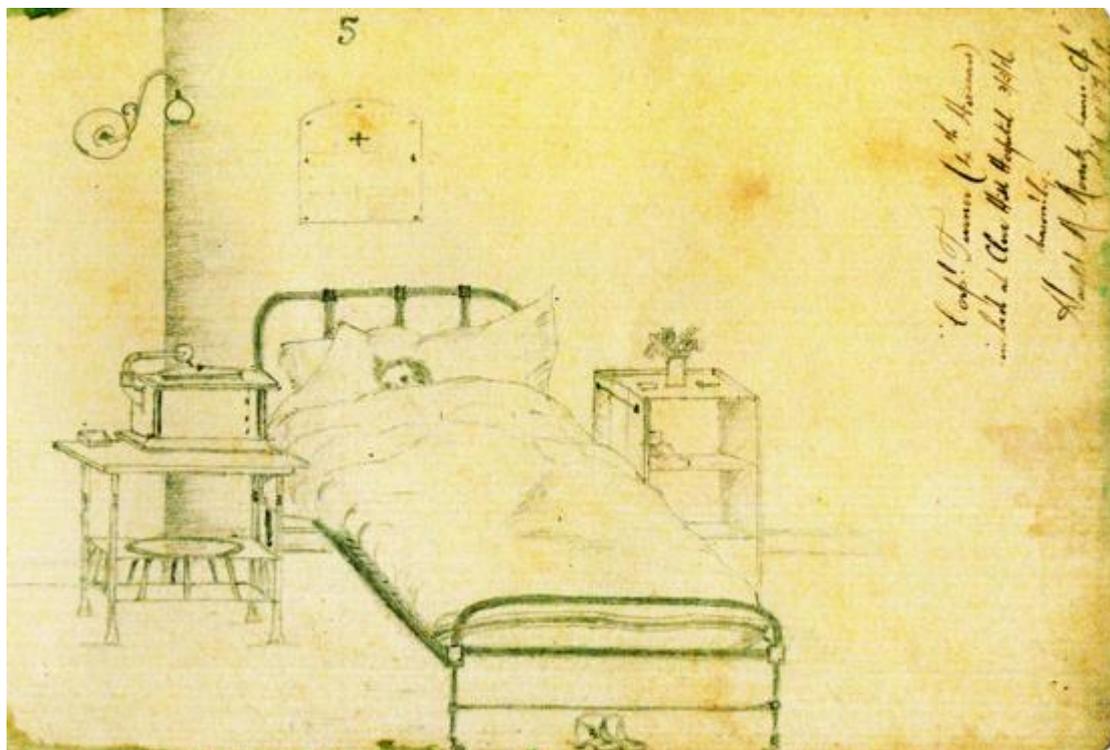
Coloured pencils or water colour pencils and coloured paper.

Amy Hill Autograph Book

Amy was a VAD nurse at the Cleeve Hill Hospital 1914 -1919

“Corporal Turner”

Have a good look at this little picture. It was drawn by one of the soldiers who were convalescing at Cleeve Hill hospital in Frenchay during the First World War.



This is an image of an injured serviceman who has come from a battlefield. It tells us a great deal about life in the Cleeve Hill Hospital.

The soldier is resting in a plain but clean and comfortable bed. Beside him is a table with a gramophone with the records on the shelf below. His boots are at the end of his bed. There are wild flowers in a vase on his bedside table with a few other odds and ends. There is a notice board over his bed and a wall light.

Activity: 1 English

Write a short story about the journey of this soldier from the battlefield to the hospital. Or tell us about the person who is drawing the picture, where is he and why is he there; is he a friend of this exhausted soldier?

Activity: 2 Art

Draw your own postcard size picture in this style. Look at the little details. Look at the shading that gives depth. Try to do your drawing from observation, so choose to draw something that is in front of you, maybe your bedroom.

Use:

Fine black pen, or pencil.

**Amy Hill Autograph Book
Cleeve Hill Hospital 1914 -1919**

“Do Not Expect Me Home Tonight”

Have a good look at this little cartoon. It was drawn by one of the soldiers who were convalescing at Cleeve Hill hospital in Frenchay during the First World War.



What is happening in this little sketch? A man is playing a banjo sitting on a punt in a river. There is a sign on the bank pointing ‘To the Weir’.

Is he in the town or country? Country as you can see the field, trees and hedges in the back ground.

Is it summer or winter? Summer as he has his jacket off.

What is a weir? It is a sort of ‘step’ in the water that creates a deep pool above and rapids as the water rushes over the top. It is for controlling the water levels for fishing.

Activity: 1 English

Write a short story about what happens next.

Activity: 2 Art

Draw your own postcard size cartoon in this style with the title:

‘Do not expect me home tonight’

Or use this one to draw what happens next in a series of ‘strip’ cartoon images.

Or create a ‘Flip book’ where the images change slightly over several pages that can be flipped to make it a moving image.

Use:

Fine black pen and Coloured pencils or watercolour pencils.

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“Lighting-up Time”

Have a good look at this little cartoon. It was drawn by one of the soldiers who were convalescing at Cleeve Hill hospital in Frenchay during the First World War.



What is happening in this little sketch? *A Nurse is giving comfort by lighting a cigarette for an injured soldier as he lies in his hospital bed.*

Would this happen in a hospital today? Why Not?

Do you think the patient looks happy? *Yes, he is smiling.*

Who do you think drew this picture and where was he and why was he there?

Is this nurse Amy Hill? *It could be.*

Activity: 1 English

Write a short story about what happens next. Or Write about the person who is drawing the picture.

Activity: 2 Art

Draw your own postcard size picture in this style. Maybe your own bedroom. Look at the little details of the tray and the chair and bed. Look at the shading that gives depth. Try to do it from observation, so draw what is in front of you.

Use:

Fine black pen, or pencil.

Amy Hill Autograph Book Cleeve Hill Hospital 1914 -1919

'Nothing Doing'

Have a good look at this little cartoon. It was drawn by one of the soldiers who were convalescing at Cleeve Hill hospital in Frenchay during the First World War. This little cartoon can tell us a lot about the rapid change of life for everyone at this time.



What is happening in this little sketch? *A small boy is leaning against a lamppost with a bucket and shovel looking miserable.*

Is he in the town or country? *Town, we can see that because there are lots of cars and buses behind him.*
What do you think the bucket and spade was for? *Picking up horse manure from the street for him to sell.*
So why is he miserable? *Because there are no horses now, so he not will get any money that way anymore.*

Activity: 1 English

Write a short story about this street child. Imagine how old he might be, how poor he must be, where he lives and what he might do next.

Or write about something that has recently changed in your lifetime, for better or worse.

Activity: 2 Art

Draw your own postcard size cartoon with the title **'Nothing Doing'** Let it reflect changes that you have seen in your streets.

Use:

Black and white

Silhouettes

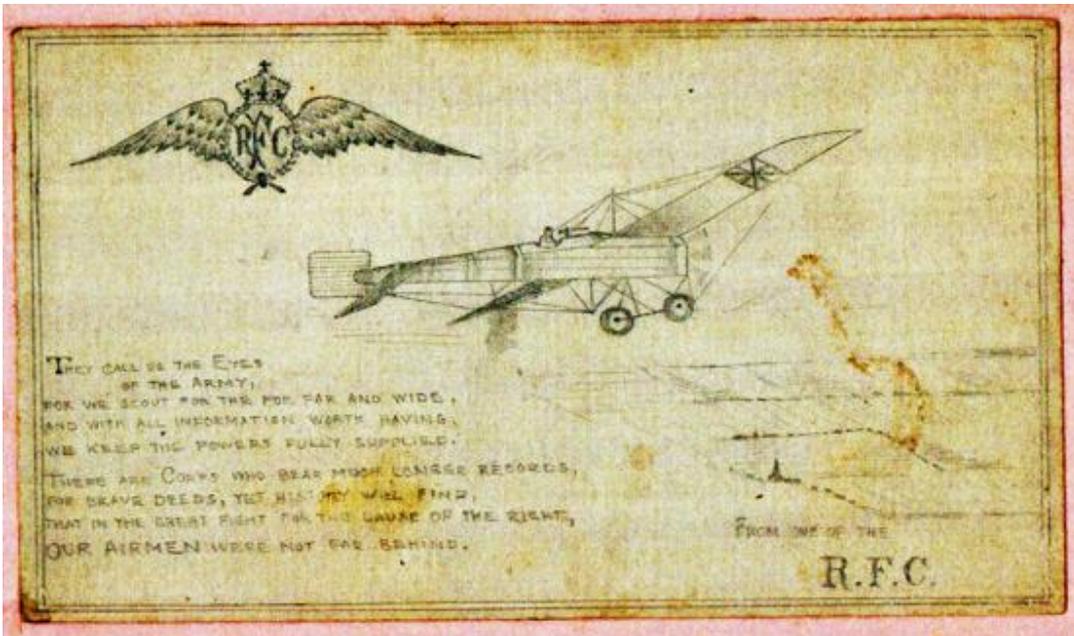
Advertising logos

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“Royal Flying Corps.”

Have a good look at this little picture. It was drawn by one of the soldiers who were convalescing at Cleeve Hill hospital in Frenchay during the First World War.



*They call us the eyes
of the army,
for we scout for the foe far and wide,
and with all information worth having,
we keep the powers fully supplied.
There are Corps that bear much longer records
for brave deeds, yet history will find
that in the Great fight for the cause of the right
our airmen were not far behind.*

This image and verse was created by someone very proud of the Royal Flying Corps. And the part they had played in the war. You can tell from this drawing that he was a pilot, he knew this plane very well and what the ground looked like from up in the air, a rare sight 100 years ago. The first planes had only started to fly about 10 years before this, so there were very few people who had handled a plane and seen this view. Go to this link to find out how lucky this chap was to even be alive.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1283972/Bravery-British-WWI-suicide-club-fighter-pilots-took-Germany-Red-Baron-15-hours-training-lasting-average-just-11-days.html>

Activity: 1 English

Write a short story about what you think it might have been like to be a pilot in the First World War
Or create a verse about why someone would choose to do something so dangerous.

Activity: 2 Art

Draw your own postcard size picture in this style, it is a line drawing. Look at the little details. Look at the shading that gives depth and perspective. Draw a vehicle, a motorbike, car or bicycle.

Use:

Fine black pen, or pencil.

[South Gloucestershire in the First World War Project Learning Resource](#)

South Gloucestershire in the First World War Project Learning Resources Feedback Form

To mark the centenary of the First World War 1914-1918 these learning resources have been created to assist teachers in show the impact of the First World War in this area and also how communities were changed.

Please tell us what you think of these resources or if you have any comments or further information about the First World War in this area do let us know by filling in this form.

Please return to: museums@southglos.gov.uk

Name-----

School -----Date -----

Did you find the resources easy to use? Yes/No

How do you think the resources worked with your class?

Other Comments-----

Thank you for your participation

This is an HLF project supported by South Gloucestershire Council. For more information and more learning resources on The First World War in this area please go to: www.southglos.gov.uk/.../ww1

