

THE HISTORY OF WESTFIELD HEALTH THROUGH THE WAR YEARS 1939-1945 LOUISE PEARSON





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WESTFIELD HEALTH
THROUGH THE WAR YEARS
1939-1945

Louise Pearson
2009

CONTENTS

Prologue	Page 1
Westfield – How We Began	Page 3
Penny in the Pound Scheme	Page 4
Hospital Contributory Schemes	Page 6
Publicity Campaign	Page 7
Westfield Health 1939-1945	Page 8
New Firms and Offices 1939-1945	Page 34
The National Health Service	Page 36
Hospitals 1939-1945	Page 40
Million Pound Appeal Fund	Page 50
Westfield Services	Page 51
Key Westfield Figures 1939-1945	Page 60
Sheffield at War – The Sheffield Blitz	Page 63
Westfield Health – Timeline	Page 67
References/Bibliography	Page 74

PROLOGUE

Founded in 1919, Westfield started life as the Sheffield Consultative and Advisory Hospitals Council. It was formed to look at ways of helping the city's four self financing hospitals, The Royal, The Royal Infirmary, The Children's and Jessop Hospital for Women. All of which were desperately short of money after the First World War. In 1921 the Penny in the Pound Scheme was launched, to provide workpeople with free hospital treatment in return for a weekly contribution of a penny in each pound earned.

Evolving and growing over the years into Westfield Health, we have become one of the most successful and secure health insurers in the UK with almost 90 years' experience and over a third of a million policyholders throughout the UK now enjoying cover with us. Today, it is regarded as one of the leading UK health insurance providers.

This book traces the history of Westfield highlighting on the Second World War years, 1939 – 1945, investigating how the scheme originated, how it operated during the war, how the Scheme has grown and expanded over the years, how Westfield managed to continue its service during the war, how the city of Sheffield was affected by the war and how Westfield unlike many other contributory schemes continued to operate after the birth of the National Health Service in 1948.

RESOLUTION Adopted at a Meeting of the
Lay Members of the Boards of the Four
Voluntary Hospitals, 3rd July, 1919

LETTER OF
HONORARY MEDICAL STAFFS, DATED MARCH, 1919.

In view of the importance of the problems referred to in this letter and their bearing on the future work and usefulness of the voluntary hospitals in Sheffield, it is agreed the first step to be taken is :—

- 1.—*That a joint consultative and advisory council representative of the four voluntary hospitals, the Edgar Allen Institute and the University shall be constituted forthwith.*
- 2.—*That the Council shall consider and advise on all matters of general policy and other matters in which the voluntary hospitals as a whole are interested.*
- 3.—*That the Council shall be constituted as follows :—*

The Chairman and two members to be appointed by the Boards of Management and two members of the Honorary Medical Staffs of

The Royal Infirmary ;
The Royal Hospital ;
The Jessop Hospital for Women ;
The Children's Hospital ;
The Edgar Allen Institute

together with 5 representatives of the University and 5 members selected by the Council, including representatives of the employers and workpeople of the city. The Council when fully constituted to consist of 36 members.
- 4.—*That a constitution be drawn up by the Council defining its powers and duties, a draft to be submitted to the Boards of the Hospitals for approval.*
- 5.—*That as the city generally is so directly interested in the decisions of the Council, the Lord Mayor during his year of office shall be President of the Council, but the Council shall elect its Chairman and Secretary.*
- 6.—*That having regard to the concern which is felt in the city as to the inadequate number of hospital beds, the Council shall be formed at the earliest possible moment.*

WESTFIELD HEALTH – HOW WE BEGAN

The Sheffield Hospitals Council was officially constituted on 3rd July 1919 to meet a serious situation which had arisen in the city's Voluntary Hospitals. Following the First World War the four hospitals; The Royal, The Royal Infirmary, The Children's and Jessop Hospital for Women were all facing mounting annual deficits. There was a serious shortage of accommodation and no prospect of modernising, enlarging and re-equipping the buildings.

Something had to be done – the honorary medical staff at the hospitals suggested that a Joint Council should be formed, principally to tackle the financial difficulties after the First World War. They put their views into writing, produced a document to present to members of the Board and asked that a Joint Council should be set up. On 30th July, 1919, the organisation known first as the Sheffield Consultative and Advisory Hospitals Council, was launched. The title was later shortened to Sheffield Hospitals Council. The Council decided to concentrate on two objectives – to put the finances of the hospitals on a sound basis and to make the people of Sheffield, hospital health conscious.

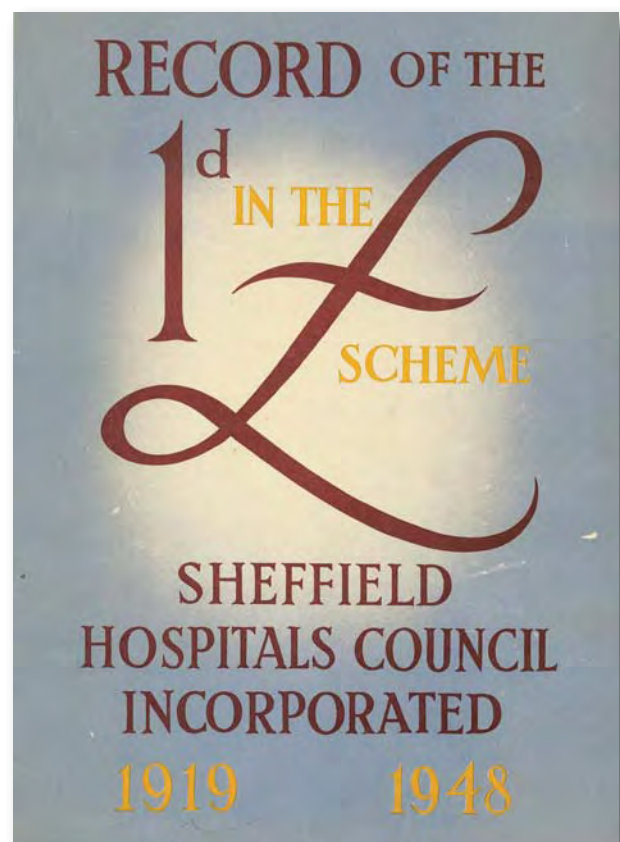
But it wasn't until businessman Fred Osborn, a member of the Council, stood up at a meeting on 9th April, 1920, and suggested a "Penny in the Pound Scheme" that the Council's efforts really started to pay off. The idea was ingenious. For every pound of their pay, employees would contribute a penny in return for free hospital treatment and their employers would contribute a third of any money raised. The Joint Council and the Boards of the four hospitals unanimously approved the Scheme.

The "Penny in the Pound" Scheme was introduced in April 1921, exactly a year after it had been proposed and was an immediate success. The Scheme quickly caught the imagination of the city's biggest firms, trade unions and principal employers associations. In the first six years of its existence, more than half a million pounds was raised.

Sir Henry Hadow, Vice Chancellor of Sheffield University, was elected Chairman, a position he filled with efficiency and distinction for 11 years.

He later retired from Chairmanship of the Council in 1930 and was succeeded by the Rt. Rev. Dr. Hedley Burrows, Bishop of Sheffield. Rt. Rev. Dr. Leslie Stannard Hunter succeeded the latter in 1939. Hunter guided the Council through the war years to its establishment on the new basis made necessary by the introduction of the National Health Service on 5th July 1948.

The Scheme was a great success and from 1921 until 1948 raised nearly five million pounds for local Voluntary Hospitals, helping to put their finances on a sound basis. The Scheme was one of the largest and most successful in the country and it has adapted and grown to become Westfield Health. The name Westfield Contributory Health Scheme was not constituted until 1974. Over its many years in service Westfield Health has raised and donated funds to a variety of regional and national hospitals. Not only have they increased the demand for hospital treatment, they have also improved the health of hundreds and thousands of people.



Record of the "1d in the £" Scheme – Sheffield Hospitals Council, 1919-1948.

PENNY IN THE POUND SCHEME – “1D IN THE £”

PENNY written as 1d

The penny was equivalent to just under a half of today's 1p and there were 12 pennies to a shilling. A 1d would buy you a daily newspaper and 2d a trip to the Saturday morning pictures.

Sheffield's 'Penny in the Pound' Scheme was run by the Sheffield Hospitals Council. In return for contributing one penny out of every pound they earned, members were entitled to receive free in-patient care at the Voluntary Hospitals associated with the fund. The fund meant that Sheffield's Voluntary Hospitals received a regular income and guaranteed hospital care for its members.



Mr. Fred M. Osborn

The author of this “1d in the £” Scheme, as it came to be called, was Mr. Fred M. Osborn. Osborn suggested it at a meeting on 9th April 1920, of a Special Finance Committee appointed to find ways of raising money for Sheffield's Voluntary

Hospitals. The Scheme was unanimously approved by the Joint Council and the Boards of the four main hospitals.

How did it work? In return for treatment at any Voluntary Hospital in Sheffield, workers would subscribe each week one penny for every pound they earned and the employers would add a third of the sum raised.

The Scheme was launched in April 1921 – exactly a year after it had been proposed – and was an immediate success. Local employers, traders and labour organisers and even the unemployed began to give their support to the proposal by contributing to the “1d in the £” scheme. It was, however, reported that several years of persistent propaganda were needed before the Scheme could be said to be approaching full development.

As soon as the success of the Scheme in Sheffield was assured, the Council began to look further

afield for support. An analysis of the addresses of patients at the four hospitals disclosed that many came from outside the city and from within an area of a 25 mile radius. The “1d in the £” Scheme expanded to Rotherham in 1941 and then to Barnsley in 1942.

In 1945 the “1d in the £” Scheme was beginning to face its final years. The Government intended to provide a National Health Service, towards the cost of which everyone would contribute and whose benefits would be available to all who wished to participate. The Government proposals for a National Health Service provided no place for the great contributory scheme as such, and the disappearance of this outlet for voluntary service.

From its foundation in 1919 until its termination in 1948, the Sheffield Hospitals Council financed Voluntary Hospitals and its contributors, by means of the sums received through its Contributory Scheme – known throughout history as the “1d in the £” Scheme.

‘The Sheffield “1d in the £” Scheme is admirably organised and administered and continues to hold a leading position among similar organisations throughout the country’

“1d in the £” Scheme Twenty-Fourth Annual Report 1945
– Sheffield Hospitals Council



+ SHEFFIELD VOLUNTARY HOSPITALS' **+**
'1d. IN THE £' CONTRIBUTORY SCHEME.

Sheffield Royal Infirmary. Jessop Hospital for Women.
 Sheffield Royal Hospital. Sheffield Children's Hospital.
 Edgar Allen Institute.

To Shop-keepers, Small Manufacturers, Casual
 Employees, Domestic Workers, and other
 Non-contributors.

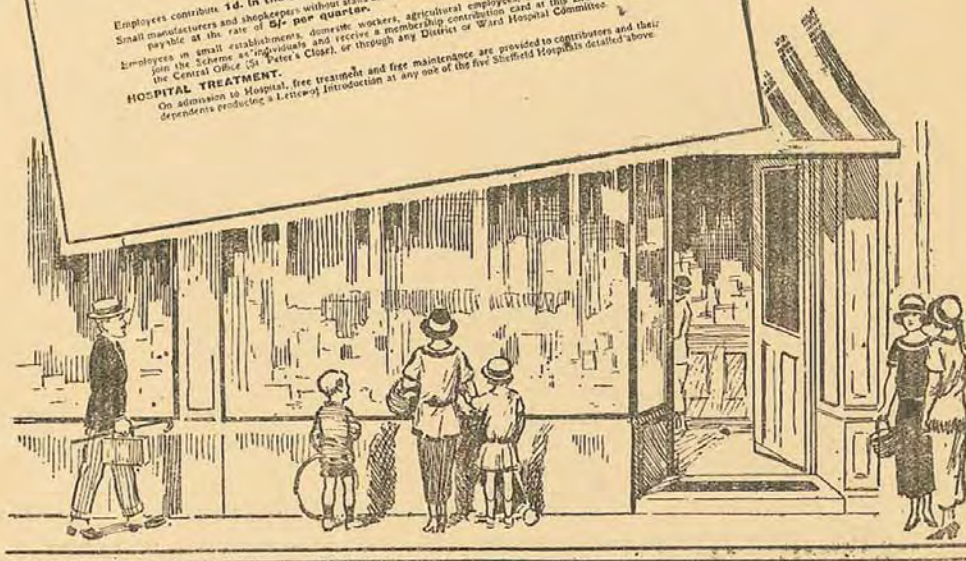
**CONTRIBUTIONS
 RECEIVED HERE**

Mr. _____ is authorized to
 receive contributions. _____
 Signed _____

Employees contribute 1d. in the £ of their earnings.
 Small manufacturers and shopkeepers without assets are asked to contribute not less than 20/- per annum,
 payable at the rate of 6/- per quarter.
 Employees in small establishments, domestic workers, agricultural employees, casual workers, etc., can
 join the Scheme as individuals and receive a membership contribution card at this Branch, or from
 the Central Office (St. Peter's Cloak), or through any District or Ward Hospital Committee.

HOSPITAL TREATMENT.
 On admission to Hospital, free treatment and free maintenance are provided to contributors and their
 dependents producing a Letter of Introduction at any one of the five Sheffield Hospitals detailed above.

THIS is a fac-
 simile of the
 Contribution Card
 which we shall be
 pleased to issue
 to all responsible
 Shopkeepers on
 request.



HOSPITAL CONTRIBUTORY SCHEMES

‘Hospital contributory schemes represent one of the most remarkable growths of mutual aid... They show the vitality of voluntary action in meeting newly-recognised needs even after the beginning of social insurance in 1911’

Book on Voluntary Action – Lord Beveridge

By joining one of these Schemes, a member of the public, however humble his earnings, can make a provision in time of health against a possible need in sickness, by contributing a weekly sum. They are a living testament to the close co-operation between the hospitals and the general public. Over ten million working men and women are members of these schemes and have a direct personal interest in the hospitals which they support out of their wages and to which they know they can look for help in time of sickness and trouble. A contributor can obtain treatment whenever or wherever the necessity arises.

Sheffield is proud of its Scheme. It was thought out and planned after the war boom in 1918, but it was launched with the commencement of the greatest slump in trade known by any living person. No place has been hit harder from a trade point of view than Sheffield, however, not a single solvent firm has withdrawn from the Scheme. The unemployed, previously connecting with contributing establishments, are treated as if in work, arrangements were made for them to pay 1d a week to the Scheme in order that they may be eligible to receive its full facilities. The destitute was extended and modernised and Sheffield can give quality in its hospitals services, which it claims are ‘Fine as Steel’.

‘Sheffield is fortunate in its Contributory Scheme, for a long pattern to the country and a source of great strength to the Voluntary Hospitals’

“1d in the £” Scheme Eighteenth Annual Report 1940
– Sheffield Hospitals Council

We must remember that Contributory Schemes are indeed a splendid example of voluntary effort. They help patients and hospitals alike and they foster interest and affection for the hospitals among the public. The amazing tool of membership of the schemes means that taking contributors and their dependents together, they are soundly assured of hospital treatment and certain ancillary service, free of any charge.

“Keep your face always towards the sunshine and the shadows will fall behind you.”—WHITMAN.

NURSING SERVICE.

“Our Mission is to Heal and Bless.”



AFTER CARE.
This patient being nursed by the Queen's nurse, is the wife of a contributor to the “1d. in the £” Scheme, and has recently been discharged from Hospital. She is suffering from Diabetes, and is having the new Insulin treatment.

The patient has to have the treatment before her breakfast and before her tea.

This means the nurse has to always pay her visits at stated times, and very regularly.

The patient has been on the Nurse's books for about two months, and has up to date had 132 visits. She is making quite good progress.

ONE YEAR'S WORK among CONTRIBUTORS.
During the year, cash grants amounting to £1,730 per annum have been made out of the “1d. in the £ Fund” to maintain the services of Qualified Nurses in Sheffield and District.

Returns and Statistics are not available for Nursing Service in the Outlying Areas.

Grants amounting to £529 have been made by the Sheffield Joint Hospitals Council to the Sheffield Queen Victoria District Nursing Association, Glossop Rd.

The Superintendent-Matron reported that during the past twelve months their Staff of Trained Nurses have paid 11,507 visits to 1,145 separate individual homes of contributors to the “1d. in the £” Scheme.

2,464 After-Care visits have been made to 526 patients discharged from the Voluntary Hospitals of Sheffield.

A large number of Appliances have been lent to contributors' homes, including Water Beds, Crutches, etc.

No request for Nursing Service has been refused.

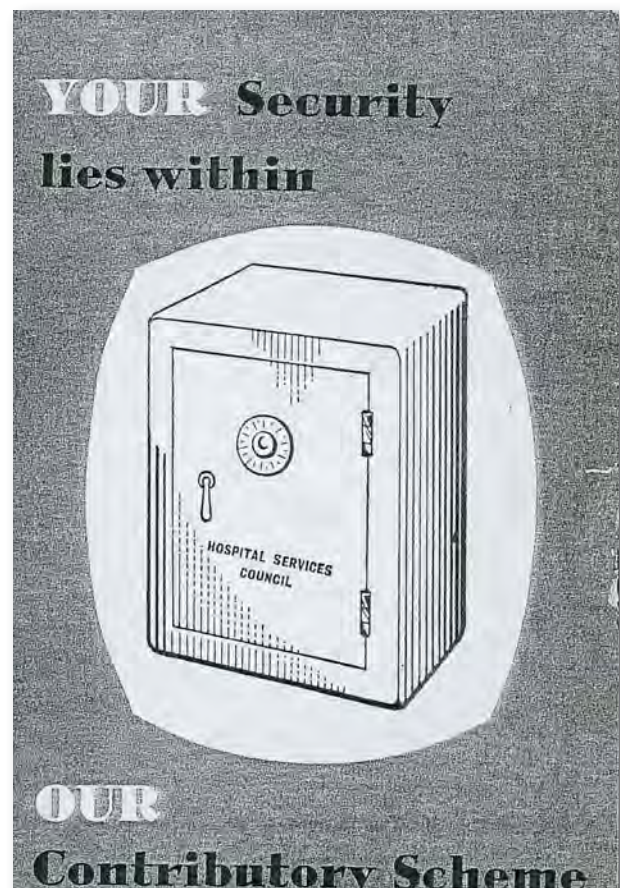
28

PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN

Important though the "1d in the £" Scheme was, it by no means dominated all of the Council's activities. Progress began to be made with the aim of raising an additional income of £100,000 a year for improving hospital accommodation and services. It was evident that the "1d in the £" Scheme would not bridge the gap, so the Council embarked on a vigorous publicity campaign through posters, leaflets and advertisement articles in the Sheffield's newspapers. The campaigns did have a limited success. For example, one helper suggested the erection of a purpose built bungalow, which could then be raffled for the benefit of the hospitals. Suggestions were also made to promote employee sweepstakes, lotteries and community events. One gentleman from a local church band even offered to put on a series of local concerts throughout the area to generate contributions. Hard pressed though it was for money, Westfield Health discreetly refused to accept them. However, contributions by the large number of unemployed men, who loyally made a weekly collection from the small wages they received for task work, were gladly accepted. In the early 1930s when unemployment rose to a high level, the men voluntarily agreed to pay a penny a week. By this means a substantial contribution was made to the Council's funds, and the men were able to continue their membership.



Advertisement for Sheffield Newspapers. Both papers raise the awareness of the "1d in £" Scheme.



WESTFIELD HEALTH 1939

Key Facts

- On 3rd September 1939 Britain declares war on Germany
- Westfield offices were based at 52 Westbourne Road, Sheffield
- Rt. Rev. Leonard Burrows resigns from his duty of Chairman. Rt. Rev. Leslie Stannard Hunter becomes his successor. Hunter guides the Council through the anxious years of war to its establishment on the new basis dictated by the operation of the National Service Act of 1948
- Westfield continues to operate in service during the war years. Contributions totalled more than £100,000 per year
- Hospital staff, officials and local scheme members begin organising special Hospital Weeks and local summer village fetes to encourage contributions to the "1d in the £" Scheme
- Total amount received from "1d in the £" Scheme in 1939 was £198,042 1s 2d
- Total amount distributed to the Voluntary Hospitals in 1939 was £168,781 15s 5d

The Second World War took place over the years 1939-1945. During these years how did Westfield continue to operate during this uncertain time? Did Westfield keep its doors open or could the Scheme simply not operate under such uncertain circumstances?

On 3rd September, 1939, Britain declared war on Germany. The nation as a whole entered into a period of uncertain times, which affected all aspects of daily life. In 1939, The Sheffield Hospitals Council (Inc) offices were based at 52 Westbourne Road, Sheffield. The Chairman was Rt. Rev. The Lord Bishop of Sheffield – Leslie Hunter, Deputy Chairman was the iconic and visionary, Mr. Fred M. Osborn and Company Secretary was Mr. C. R. Crabtree. Hunter succeeded Rt. Leonard Hedley Burrows who passed away on 6th February 1940.

During 1939 the total income received was £198,042 1s 2d, compared with £197,689 15s. 2d in 1938, making an increase of £352 6s.0d. Even with the declaration of war and uncertain times ahead, Westfield still continued to provide a service to their contributors and Voluntary Hospitals. In 1939, the Scheme contributed £168,781 6s. 5d to the four Voluntary Hospitals.

'The income of the Council from the "1d in the £" Scheme and other sources for the year 1939 shows a small increase when compared with the amount received in 1938. In view of the unsettled state of the country during the last four months of the year, this must be regarded as extremely satisfactory'

"1d in the £" Scheme Eighteenth Annual Report 1939
– Sheffield Hospitals Council

In each yearly annual report Westfield clearly expressed its grateful thanks to all who have, in any way, helped in forwarding the work of the Council during the years 1939-1945, and to all contributors and managements for the continued support, interest and faith in the "1d in the £" Scheme.

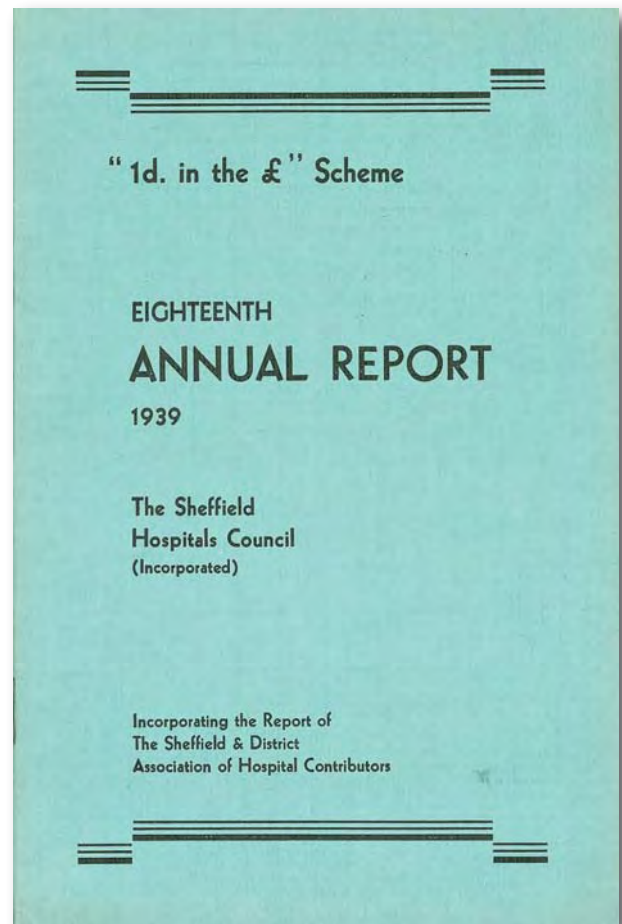
Even with war having been declared Council members agreed that for the duration of the war the "1d in the £" Scheme must still be run on the lines followed in recent years. And continue it did.

'That for the duration of the war, it be agreed that the "1d in the £" Scheme be run on the lines followed in recent years'

"1d in the £" Scheme Eighteenth Annual Report 1939
– Sheffield Hospitals Council

To help maintain the contributions to the "1d in the £" Scheme in such unusual and uncertain times, officials, members and voluntary hospital staff began organising special 'Hospital Weeks' and summer Fetes in local parks. These were all specifically arranged to encourage the contributions to the "1d in the £" Scheme. In 1939, a local parade were held at Ecclesfield, named the Ecclesfield Parade. Local fetes and parades took place at various areas across Sheffield such as Chapeltown, Mosborough, High Green, Anston and Hathersage. In total, they contributed over £1,153 to the "1d in the £" Scheme. The most contributions raised were at Anston with £150 collected. Their special efforts in helping to encourage this service were greatly appreciated and praised by Westfield. In addition to the financial benefits which resulted from the fetes, the publicity gained was of enormous value, as the Scheme was brought to the notice of people whose attention would not otherwise have been reached, such as self employed workers and domestic servants. Unfortunately, the outbreak and progression of the war caused the cessation of these activities. Up to the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939 more than £15,000 was handed over to the Council as proceeds from these events.

Even with the outbreak of the Second World War, the Scheme still continued to operate. Key services that Westfield provided such as Auxiliary services, The Convalescent Fund, Motor Ambulance Transport service, Christmas and Easter deliveries all continued to operate and still maintained their effective and efficient service.



"1d in the £" Scheme Eighteenth Annual Report 1939.



Roll of honour certificate awarded by the Sheffield Hospitals Council.

1939 – The Figures

Year 1939	Total
“1d in the £’ – total amount received	£198,042 1s 2d
Total amount distributed to Voluntary Hospitals	£168,781 6s 5d
Royal Infirmary	£72,648 8s 11d
Royal Hospital	£51,001 1s 10d
Jessop Hospital for Women	£22,717 15s 11d
Children’s Hospital	£13,221 1s 1d
Other Voluntary Hospitals	£9,192 18s 8d
New firms joined	141 new firms – 4,182 employees
Number of new Council Members	8
Number of Christmas gifts delivered Total cost	2,472 Christmas parcels delivered Total Cost – £378 13s 6d
Easter egg deliveries	No account of total number of eggs Eggs delivered on 8th April 1939
Ambulance Service Number of patients/miles run	38,411 patients 191,788 miles run
Travelling expenses paid – total amount paid to contributors	£1,126 16s 4d

WESTFIELD HEALTH 1940

Key Facts

- Sheffield city centre was hit by German Air raids. This became known as the Sheffield Blitz – 12th, 13th and 15th December 1940
- Jessop Hospital for Women was severely damaged from the Blitz
- Jessop Hospital for Women received the highest levels of funds from the “1d in the £” Scheme. With these funds, a new laundry boiler was constructed and plans for a new Maternity Unit were developed
- Voluntary Hospitals were put under continuous strain due to the heavy casualties from the bombings
- Sheffield and District Golf Clubhouses were used as temporary accommodation for patients in case of further damage to the Voluntary Hospitals
- 1940 was the highest year on record from contributions to the “1d in the £” Scheme. Totalling £226,002 (1s 11d)
- Total amount distributed to the Voluntary Hospitals in 1940 was £200,311 (10s 8d)

As the war was accelerating by the day and the prospect of a German air attack inevitable, Westfield began to implement a plan of action for all of the four main Voluntary Hospitals. This plan of action was titled ‘War Emergency Measures’. Westfield was constantly endeavouring to meet the obligations to the ordinary sick and injured and at the same time keep Sheffield’s main hospitals in a state of readiness to deal with an emergency situation. All hospitals were ordered to be kept in a state of preparedness for any calls which might be made upon it. The hospitals were prepared to evacuate all patients on wards on the upper floor for fear of air attacks. Upper and vulnerable wards were temporarily closed and the occupied beds in the other wards were reduced as a precautionary measure.

In 1940, Sheffield’s fear became a reality and the city experienced the first German air raids. The raids took place on the 12th, 13th and 15th December, 1940. This became known as the Sheffield Blitz.

Despite the devastation and chaos that the year 1940 brought, members still contributed £226,002 (1s. 11d) to the Scheme, an increase of £27,960 (0s. 9d) on 1939. Even with the war accelerating at a vigorous and hostile rate, the Scheme still maintained to deliver its services to the hospitals and to the people of Sheffield and its surrounding districts.

In 1940, the Scheme distributed £200,311 (10s. 8d) to the surrounding Voluntary Hospitals. The Sheffield Royal Hospital and Jessop Hospital for Women reported that in 1940 it was the largest collection of funds since the “1d in the £” Scheme was formed.

The Sheffield Royal Hospital reported:

‘The year 1940 saw the largest collection of funds since the “1d in the £” Scheme was launched. To have reached and exceeded the sum of £200,000 is a truly magnificent response to the efforts of all concerned. Strenuous efforts were made during the year to maintain the number of beds for the civilian sick when so many were occupied by service and air raid casualties’

“1d in the £” Scheme Nineteenth Annual Report 1940
– Sheffield Hospitals Council

With all hospitals under continuous strain, dealing with ordinary sick and injured patients they were also on guard for the fear of an air

attack. To help with any emergency situation, generous offers were made by certain Sheffield and District Golf Clubs. They proffered accommodation in their Clubhouses for the reception of patients in case of necessity. Obtaining the use of auxiliary accommodation also made plans. Arrangements were made at both Firbeck Hall and George Woofindin Convalescent Home for the use of their homes for any additional emergency patients.

In 1940 the Jessop Hospital for Women, like so many other well known hospitals throughout the country, had its beneficent work temporarily but considerably impaired as a result of indiscriminate bombing. Towards the end of the year the building was severely damaged externally and the interior was rendered unserviceable by the blast. During the raid, which lasted from dusk until dawn, a large number of incendiaries were successfully dealt with and when damage by high explosive bombs and blast made even the ground floor unsafe for patients, they were evacuated to the basement of the new building under great difficulty and danger.

“The hospital is now passing through a difficult period and the Board are making every endeavour to restore full facilities. Evacuation owing to damage to the main building means more units to maintain with consequent higher ratio of staff. The added cost will be great and will call for the whole-hearted support of all subscribers and contributors if the Jessop Hospital is to emerge from the war period with its great reputation unimpaired.”

“1d in the £” Scheme Nineteenth Annual Report 1940
– Sheffield Hospitals Council

The Jessop Hospital for Women suffered severely from a prolonged and heavy air raid. The hospital was saved from fire and the patients removed to safety without casualties owing to the courage and resource of all concerned.

In 1940 the hospital received a total amount of £26,752 by the “1d in the £” Scheme. This was the largest amount ever recorded. With these increased funds the hospital saw the construction of a new laundry boiler house and the development of a new maternity block. The site for a new kitchen and stores was due to be erected, but its development was postponed, because of heavy demands on services from the war.

On the morning after the first air raid, patients who were unfit to be sent home were transferred to the Firth Auxiliary Hospital at Norton. Soon after the raids the outpatient department was made sufficiently habitable to resume sessions and first aid repairs made some of the wards usable for casualty beds.

The Jessop Hospital for Women reported to the Board and to subscribers their utmost regret that the services of the hospital had to be temporarily curtailed at a time when high hopes were entertained that much needed extension of accommodation would be in full operation.

In the Jessop Hospital for Women there was a collection of staff labelled the Linen League. The Linen League processed all the laundry, material and garments for the hospital. Great as the wartime demands were upon the League’s time and service, the ladies of the Linen League did not relax their helpful efforts and they continued to supply clean material and garments for the hospital and its patients.

The year 1940 was one of strain and anxiety for the Voluntary Hospitals. Their resources were largely drawn upon by the Government to provide beds for possible casualties and at the same time the ordinary needs of the civilian population had to be met. Some like the Jessop Hospital for Women had to meet and overcome the strain of enforced evacuation owing to air raid damage and successfully carry on. Added to these trials the Jessop

Hospital for Women had the work and planning of years brought to a temporary halt by the restriction on enlarging and process development of the building.

In the 1940 Annual Report, Westfield strongly announced that the interruption in the hospital's progress was temporary and that they looked forward to the time when their carefully prepared plans of expansion and modernisation would be resumed.

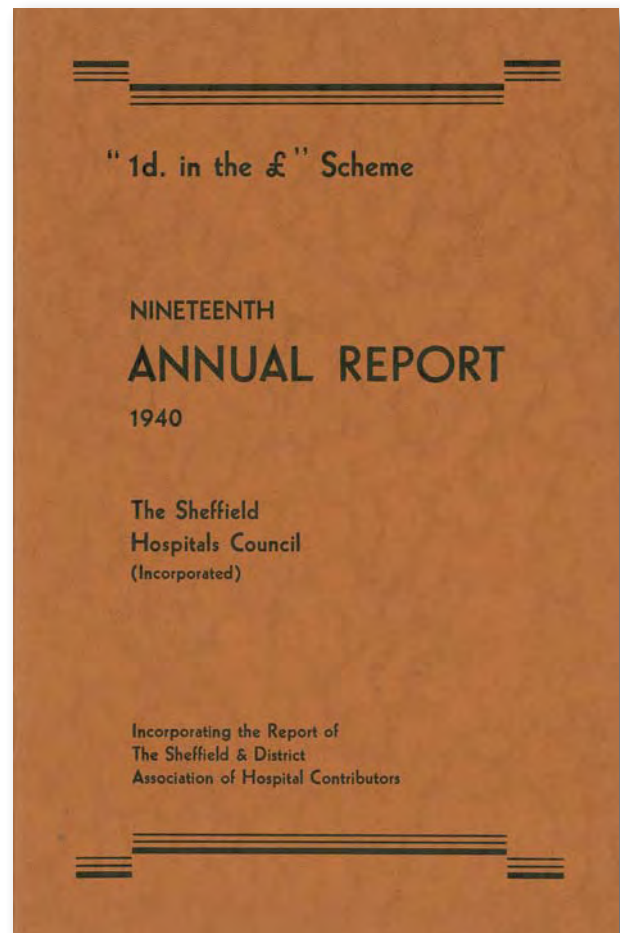
The Board also acknowledged all hospital staff:

'The Board would like to take this opportunity of paying tribute to the exemplary manner in which the members of the different staff (and volunteers) have carried out their duties in conditions of danger and difficulty.'

"1d in the £" Scheme Nineteenth Annual Report 1940
– Sheffield Hospitals Council

At Sheffield Children's Hospital two new clinics were inaugurated in April 1940. One for the treatment of rheumatism and the other for the correction of squints. The Clinic was under the control of Mr. A. B. Nutt an Honorary Ophthalmic Surgeon. From its inception in April, 167 patients availed themselves of its service and the total attendances to both Clinics numbered 1,586.

The hospital Board expressed their profound thanks to the Sheffield Hospital Council and to the members of the Contributory Scheme for their generosity and sustained efforts during a very difficult year. The year 1940 proved that it was vital that the Scheme still stayed in operation.



"1d in the £ Scheme" Nineteenth Annual Report 1940.

1940 – The Figures

Year 1940	Total
“1d in the £” – total amount received	£226,002 1s 11d
Total amount distributed to Voluntary Hospitals	£200,311 10s 8d
Royal Infirmary	£88,254 9s 9d
Royal Hospital	£59,438 4s 7d
Jessop Hospital for Women	£27,061 9s 6d
Children’s Hospital	£16,054 19s 2d
Other Voluntary Hospitals	£9,502 7s 8d
New firms joined	98 new firms – 1,224 employees
Number of new Council Members	4
Number of Christmas gifts delivered Total cost	Limited number of parcels delivered due to the Sheffield Blitz
Easter egg deliveries	No account of total number of eggs Eggs delivered 28th April 1940
Ambulance Service Number of patients/miles run	39,427 patients 189,569 miles run
Travelling expenses paid – total amount paid out	£1,002 5s 0d

WESTFIELD HEALTH 1941

Key Facts

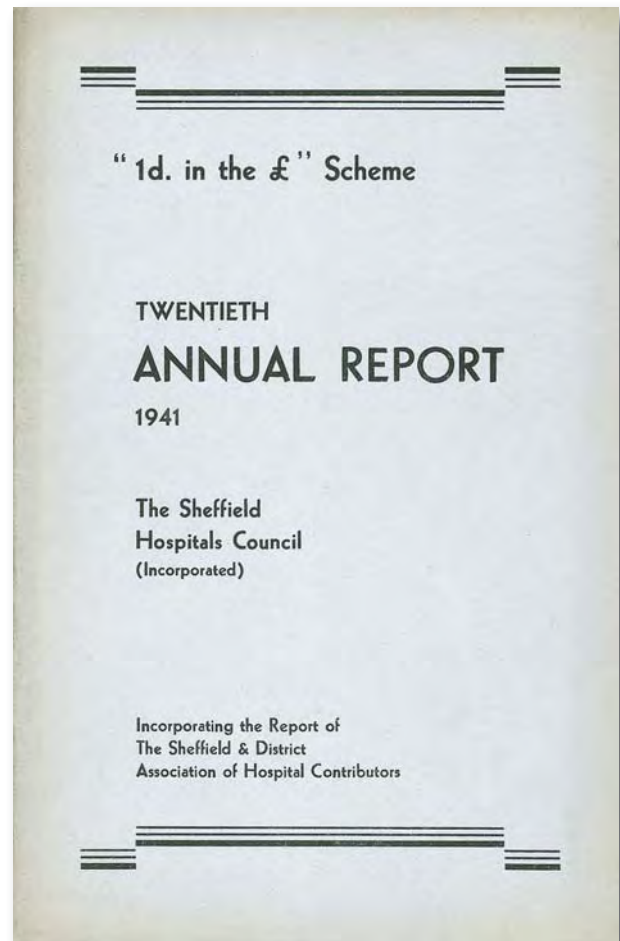
- Westfield creates war 'Reserve Funds' for the Voluntary Hospitals
- The Rotherham Contributory Scheme is established
- Total amount received from "1d in the £" Scheme in 1941 is £258,719 (4s 6d)
- Total amount distributed to the Voluntary Hospitals in 1941 is £229,046 (15s 5d)

With a nation still at war and Sheffield left recovering from the devastating aftermath of the Blitz, Westfield and the Executive Committee of the Contributors' Association decided to make recommendations to the Voluntary Hospitals for the creation of 'Reserve Funds'. These 'Reserved Funds' would be used to cope with any more unforeseen bombings and also to tackle any problems which may have to be overcome at the conclusion of hostilities. Recommendations were also made to the Voluntary Hospitals to increase amounts received from private subscribers and donors.

Despite the chaos that had hit Sheffield the previous year, the contributions received amounted to £258,719 4s 6d, an increase of £32,717 compared to 1940. This proves that Westfield still continued to function and serve the Voluntary Hospitals and community of Sheffield under all circumstances.

Rotherham Contributory Scheme

As soon as the success of the Scheme in Sheffield was assured, the Council began to look further a field for more support. An analysis of the addresses of patients at the four hospitals disclosed that many came from outside the city and from within an area of a 25 mile radius. So, 1941 saw the extension of the "1d in the £" Scheme by the formation of a Contributory Scheme for the Borough of Rotherham and the surrounding area. Most of the Council's contributing establishments in the district were immediately transferred to



"1d in the £" Scheme Twentieth Annual Report 1941.

the Rotherham Scheme. Mr. A. Clarke resigned his position at the Council in consequence of the formation of the Rotherham Contributory Scheme.

SHEFFIELD HOSPITALS COUNCIL (Inc.)
Comparative Statement of Income (Actually Received) and Distribution for the Years, 1939, 1940 and 1941.

	1939			1940.			1941		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Employers and Employees	195	499	8 7	223	891	9 2	256	960	8 3
Donations, Subscriptions & Collections	2542	12 7		2110	12 9		1758	16 3	
	£198042	1 2		£226002	1 11		£258719	4 6	

DISTRIBUTION.

	1939			1940			1941			
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	%
Hospitals Council :										
Administration ...	5054	15 5		4875	14 7		4696	12 1		2.16
Publicity ...	1538	13 2		1405	7 5		1438	19 11		.62
A.R.P. ...	183	14 10		176	7 3		524	11 3		.08
	6777	3 5	3.42	6457	9 3	2.86	6660	3 3	2.57	
Council's Services :										
Ambulance Service ...	9000	0 0	4.54	9000	0 0	4.00	11500	0 0		4.45
Convalescent Service ...	7330	3 10	3.70	4563	4 8	2.01	4572	13 7		1.77
Municipal Hospitals ...	5026	11 2	2.54	4394	5 8	1.94	4664	2 1		1.80
Emergency Medical Services	—	—	—	—	—	—	832	10 0		.33
Contributors' Travelling Expenses ...	1126	16 4	.57	1002	5 0	.44	939	12 2		.36
Blood Transfusion Service	—	—	—	273	6 8	.12	503	8 0		.19
	29260	14 9	14.77	25690	11 3	11.37	29672	9 1	11.47	
Total Expenditure :										
Distribution to Voluntary Hospitals :										
Royal Infirmary ...	72648	8 11		88254	9 9		101969	0 4		
Royal Hospital ...	51001	1 10		59438	4 7		65125	14 0		
Jessop Hospital ...	22717	15 11		27061	9 6		31910	17 2		
Children's Hospital ...	13221	1 1		16054	19 2		19797	12 2		
Edgar Allen Institute ...	8000	0 0		8200	0 0		8800	0 0		
Other Voluntary Hospitals	1192	18 8	85.23	1302	7 8	88.63	1443	11 9	229046	15 5 88.53
	£198042	1 2	100%	£226002	1 11	100%	£258719	4 6	100%	

"1d in the £" Scheme Twentieth Annual Report 1941.

1941 – The Figures

Year 1941	Total
“1d in the £” – total amount received	£258,719 4s 6d
Total amount distributed to Voluntary Hospitals	£229,046 15s 5d
Royal Infirmary	£101,969 0s 4d
Royal Hospital	£65,125 14s 0d
Jessop Hospital for Women	£31,910 17s 2d
Children’s Hospital	£19,797 12s 2d
Other Voluntary Hospitals	£10,243 11s 9d
New firms joined	99 new firms – 1,980 employees
Number of new Council Members	0
Number of Christmas gifts delivered Total cost	No record of how many gifts were delivered Total cost was £508 8s 6d.
Easter egg deliveries	26,453 eggs were delivered. Record year
Ambulance Service Number of patients/miles run	40,215 patients 223,069 miles run
Travelling expenses paid – total amount paid out	£939 12s 2d

1942 – The Figures

Year 1942	Total
“1d in the £” – total amount received	£291,528 12s 6d
Total amount distributed to Voluntary Hospitals	£256,086 15s 5d
Royal Infirmary	£117,317 2s 10d
Royal Hospital	£70,964 13s 3d
Jessop Hospital for Women	£36,791 5s 11d
Children’s Hospital	£20,122 3s 5d
Other Voluntary Hospitals	£10,891 10s 0d
New firms joined	92 new firms – 1,322 employees
Number of new Council Members	6
Number of Christmas gifts delivered Total cost	No record of how many gifts were delivered Total cost was £487 6s 7d
Easter egg deliveries	8,689 eggs were delivered.
Ambulance Service Number of patients/miles run	44,397 patients 231,749 miles run
Travelling expenses paid – total amount paid out	£939 12s 2d

Barnsley Contributory Scheme

In April 1942, after protracted negotiations, the Council entered into an agreement with the Beckett Hospital, Barnsley, for the extension of the "1d in the £" Scheme to the borough of Barnsley and the surrounding districts from which the Beckett Hospital drew its patients.

Many local and much larger firms had been contributing to the Sheffield Scheme for some years, but under the terms of the new agreement they were transferred to the new Barnsley Scheme. The office in Barnsley was based at 8 Regent Street. The Council invited Mr. W. H. Newton, Chairman of the Beckett Hospital, Barnsley and Mr. H. Pickering, a member of the Board of the hospital to become members of the Council. Mr. W. S. Green was appointed as organiser and a

Control Committee under the chairmanship of Councillor A. E. McVie, with an Executive Sub-Committee presided over by Councillor C. Dransfield was set up.

Progress was slow at first, but in due course most of the chief firms and organisations were enrolled and voluntary committees were formed in villages throughout the area. During the first year the Scheme was operated in the Barnsley area the income totalled approximately £30,000, but this sum was increased considerably in the ensuing years.

In order to help contributors from all the Schemes in the district to receive treatment at hospitals where it was most convenient, agreements were made between the Council and respective Contributory Schemes on a reciprocal basis.



Beckett Hospital – Barnsley

BARNSLEY COMMITTEES



Mr. A. E. McVIE, J.P.
Chairman, Control Committee, 1943-1948



Mr. J. SAMPSON
Chairman, Control Committee, 1949



Mr. C. DRANSFIELD
Chairman, Contributors' Committee, 1943-1949

The Beveridge Report 1942

In December 1942 the first issue of The Beveridge Report was circulated. In this year Westfield began to give very careful consideration to the report and the impact that it would have on their future. To extend the scope of their enquiry into the report, a Sub Committee was developed. The Sub Committees function was to produce an interim report which would directly highlight the future problems confronting the Scheme.

Its author, Sir William Beveridge, presented the Beveridge Report to the British Parliament in November 1942. It provided a summary of principles necessary to banish poverty and 'want' from Britain. The paper proposed a system of social security which would be operated by the state and to be implemented at war's end.

In 1945, Clement Attlee and the Labour Party defeated Winston Churchill's Conservative Party in the general election. The new Prime Minister, Attlee, announced the introduction of the Welfare State as outlined in the 1942 Beveridge Report. This included the establishment of a National Health Service in 1948, with free medical treatment for all. A national system of benefits was also introduced to provide social security, so that the population would be protected '*from the cradle to the grave*'.

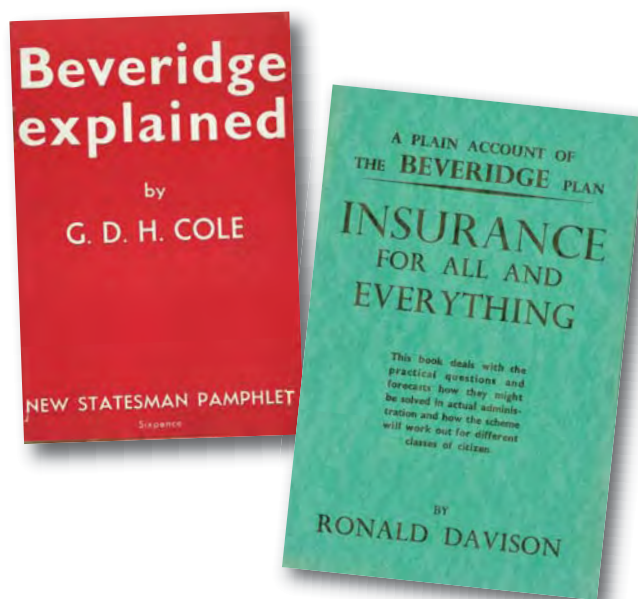
The report was commissioned to look into ways that Britain should be rebuilt after the Second World War. Beveridge recommended that the Government should find ways of fighting the five 'Giant Evils' of Want, Disease, Ignorance, Squalor and Idleness. Beveridge argued for social progression, which required a coherent Government policy. His argument was based on social surveys that had been carried out between both world wars. These surveys covered topics of poverty as well as old age and low birth rates. The problem of a diminishing population, Beveridge argued, made it 'imperative to give first place in social expenditure to the care of childhood and to the safeguarding of maternity'. Other areas covered were unemployment, disability and retirement. A large section of the report describes the economic situation and his

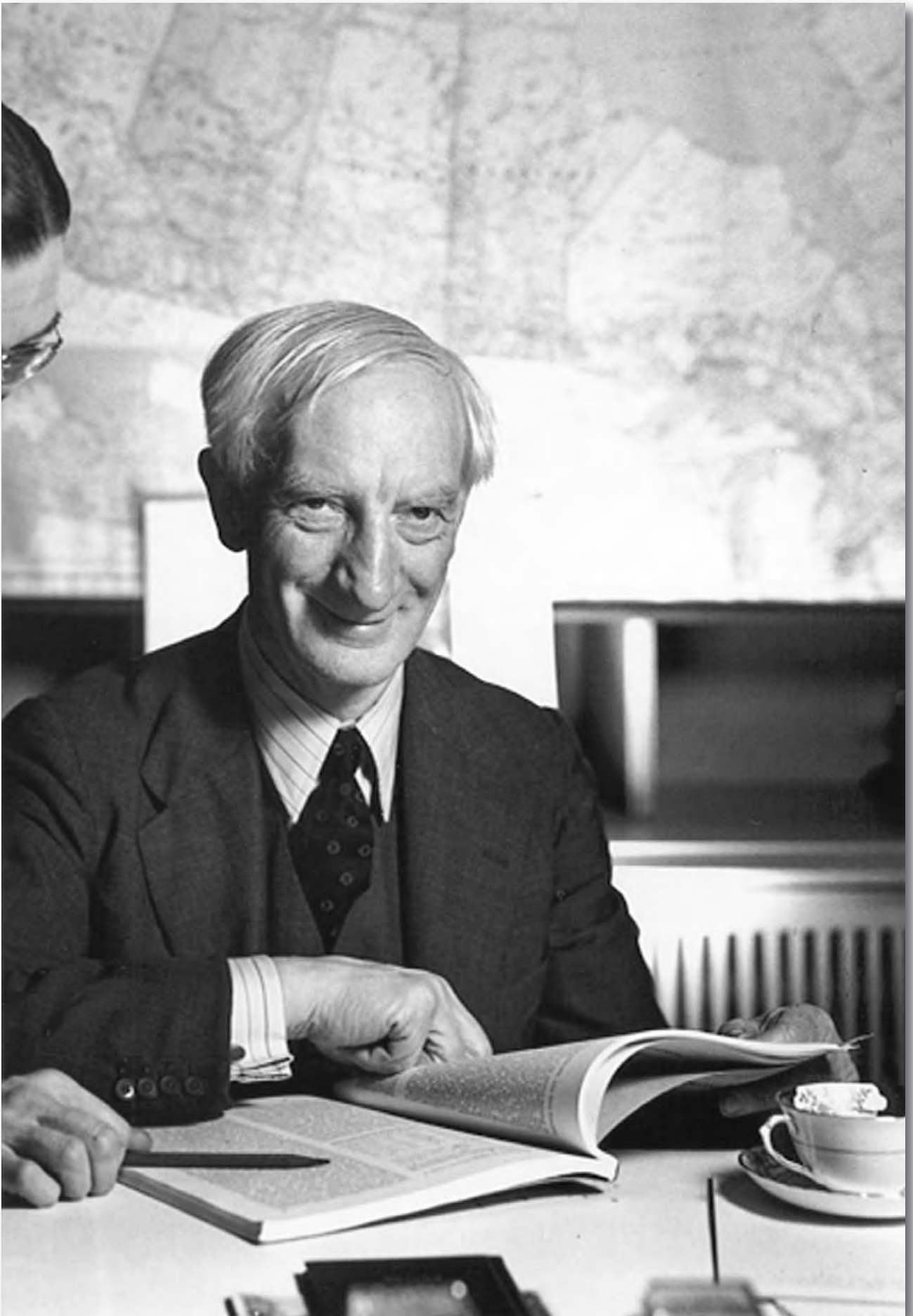
vision for provisional rates of benefit and contribution and how they might be managed.

It considered the whole question of social insurance, arguing that want could be abolished by a system of social security organised for the individual by the state. Beveridge recommended the establishment of a National Health Service, national insurance and assistance, family allowances, and stressed the importance of full-employment.

The principal outcome of the Beveridge Report led to the establishment of a system of social security and the National Health Service after the war. Even in today's society the ideas that were outlined in the Beveridge Report are still considered to provide the foundation of the modern Welfare State.

Beveridge was a British economist and social reformer. He was born in Bengal, India in 1879, he passed away on 16th March 1963.





Sir William Beveridge.

WESTFIELD HEALTH 1943

Key Facts

- Barnsley Contributory Scheme making slow progress
- A new Standing Committee is formed to act on behalf of the new Barnsley Contributory Scheme to increase the number of contributors
- The Government 'White Paper' on the National Health Service is issued
- Total amount received from "1d in the £" Scheme in 1943 was £325,647 (19s 7d)
- Total amount distributed to Voluntary Hospitals in 1943 was £287,389 (9s 9d)

In 1943 it was reported that the contributions received during the year showed a substantial increase. The Scheme received an increase of £35,258 12s. 5d compared to 1942. This was

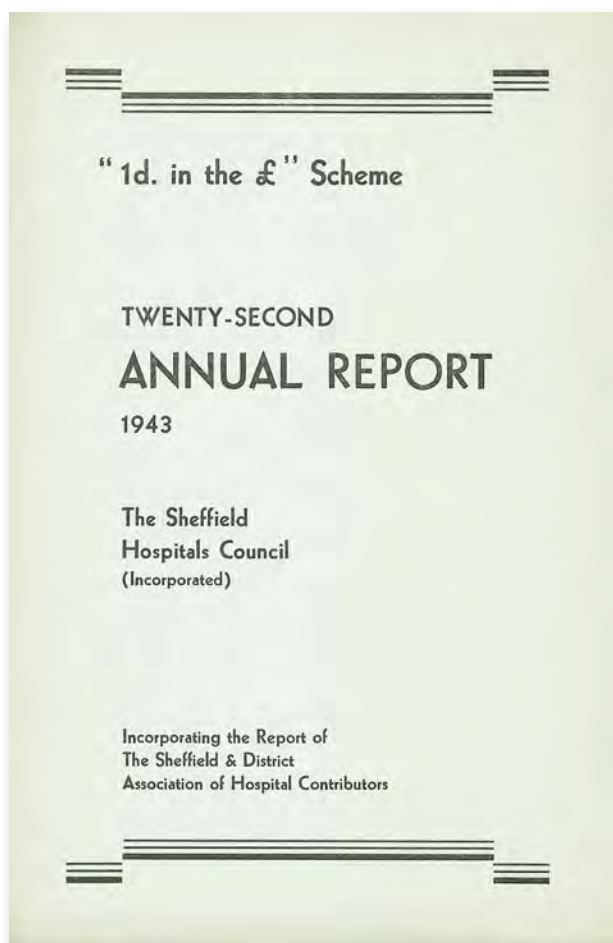
the first year in which the increased amounts received from the Barnsley area had been brought into account.

It was reported that the Scheme had progressed rather slowly in the Barnsley area, but progress had been considered satisfactory, despite some opposition from certain quarters. The actual income received from the Barnsley area during 1943 was £29,948 18s 7d. £22,000 was then distributed to the Board of Beckett Hospital.

During the year 1943, the Council set up a new Standing Committee known as the Barnsley Control Committee, to act on behalf of the new Council in Barnsley. The Committee were co-opted representatives to the Board of the Beckett Hospital in Barnsley, and various other organisations in the town. The Committee was to act on behalf of the new Scheme to increase the number of contributors.

1943 saw the issue of the Government 'White Paper' on the introduction of the National Health Service following the publication of the Beveridge Report. In the Commonwealth of Nations, 'White Paper' is an informal name for a Parliamentary paper enunciating Government policy. 'White Papers' are issued by the Government and their main objective is to lay out policy, or propose action on a specific topic of concern. In 1943, the Government issued a 'White Paper' explaining the vision of how the Government were going to build a modern and dependable National Health Service for post-war Britain. With the 'White Paper' publication and the Beveridge Report the previous year, both documents received very close attention from Westfield, the Voluntary Hospitals and the Area Committee of the British Hospitals Association as they all needed to address what changes lay ahead.

1943 was a very uncertain year for Britain and for the Scheme. The war was still accelerating at a vigorous rate with Italy and America now entering into the conflict and the proposed functions of the National Health Service were beginning to lay their foundations.



"1d in the £" Scheme Twenty-Second Annual Report 1943.

SHEFFIELD HOSPITALS COUNCIL (Inc.)
Comparative Statement of Income (Actually Received) and Distributed for the Years 1941, 1942 and 1943.
INCOME.

	1941			1942.			1943.			
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
Employers and Employees Donations, Subscriptions & Collections	256	8	3	289	14	5	322	8	2	
	17	16	3	20	13	1	29	3	5	
	£258	19	4	£291	528	12	325	647	19	7

DISTRIBUTION.

	1941			1942			1943.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Hospitals Council :	469	12	1	506	7	4	575	19	7
Administration	143	19	11	175	18	3	219	18	6
Publicity	52	11	3	41	6	9	42	17	2
A.R.P.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	66	6	6	72	38	12	83	4	15
	£115	0	0	£140	0	0	£130	0	0
Council's Services :	45	7	7	56	17	9	54	2	4
Ambulance Service	46	4	2	58	2	4	89	15	1
Convolescent Service	8	2	0	11	2	0	9	5	0
Municipal Hospitals	9	12	2	10	14	8	10	3	2
Emergency Medical Services	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Contributors' Travelling Expenses	9	12	2	10	14	8	10	3	2
Blood Transfusion Service	5	3	3	5	0	0	5	0	0
	23	0	12	28	0	3	29	8	14
	29	6	7	35	4	1	38	2	7
	£29	6	7	£35	4	1	£38	2	7
Total Expenditure :	117	3	17	117	3	17	116	5	7
Distribution to Voluntary Hospitals :	65	12	14	70	9	13	70	4	19
Royal Infirmary	65	12	14	70	9	13	36	5	4
Royal Hospital	31	10	17	36	9	15	29	3	2
Jessop Hospital	19	7	12	20	12	3	22	15	0
Children's Hospital	8	0	0	9	2	6	9	6	3
Beckett Hospital, Barnsley	14	4	11	16	2	10	16	2	10
Edgar Allen Institute	22	9	15	25	6	8	23	8	14
Other Voluntary Hospitals	25	8	7	29	1	6	28	7	4
	£116	5	7	£117	3	17	£116	5	7
	1.77			1.74			1.74		
	.67			.60			.60		
	.13			.14			.14		
	2.57			2.48			2.48		
	4.45			4.80			4.80		
	1.77			1.94			1.94		
	1.80			2.00			2.00		
	.33			.38			.38		
	.36			.37			.37		
	.19			.19			.19		
	11.47			12.16			12.16		
	101	9	4	101	9	4	116	5	7
	65	12	14	70	9	13	70	4	19
	31	10	17	36	9	15	36	5	4
	19	7	12	20	12	3	29	3	2
	8	0	0	9	2	6	9	6	3
	14	4	11	16	2	10	16	2	10
	22	9	15	25	6	8	23	8	14
	25	8	7	29	1	6	28	7	4
	£116	5	7	£117	3	17	£116	5	7
	116	5	7	117	3	17	116	5	7
	36	5	4	36	5	4	36	5	4
	29	3	2	29	3	2	29	3	2
	9	6	3	9	6	3	9	6	3
	9	6	3	9	6	3	9	6	3
	88	2	5	88	2	5	88	2	5
	32	5	6	32	5	6	32	5	6
	100			100			100		

1943 – The Figures

Year 1943	Total
“1d in the £” – total amount received	£325,647 19s 7d
Total amount distributed to Voluntary Hospitals	£287,389 9s 9d
Royal Infirmary	£116,584 5s 7d
Royal Hospital	£70,744 19s 7d
Jessop Hospital for Women	£36,584 4s 9d
Children’s Hospital	£29,395 2s 6d
Beckett Hospital, Barnsley	£22,015 0s 0d
Other Voluntary Hospitals	£12,065 14s 4d
New firms joined	66 new firms – 1,139 employees
Number of new Council Members	0
Number of Christmas gifts delivered Total cost	No record of how many gifts were delivered Total cost was £522 12s 7d
Easter egg deliveries	No record of eggs being delivered
Ambulance Service No of Patients /miles run	46,078 patients 212,914 miles run
Travelling expenses paid – total amount paid out	£1,033 12s 2d

WESTFIELD HEALTH 1944

Key Facts

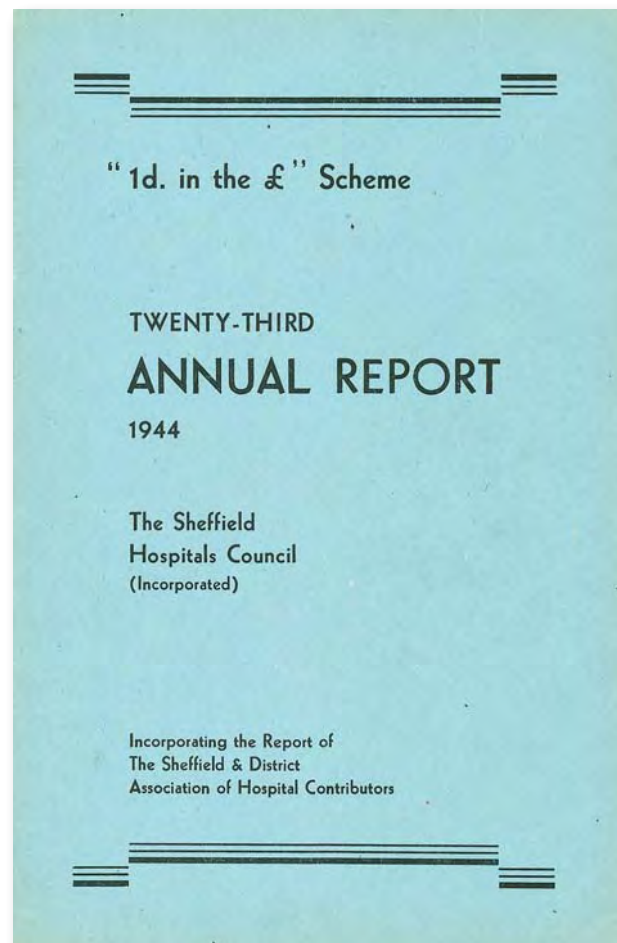
- Reports show that the Barnsley Contributory Scheme is still making very slow progress
- Britain enters into a period of uncertainty and fear, as the national press begin reporting on German and Soviet progression
- The 23rd Sheffield Hospital Council Annual Report was only five pages long, compared with the average 12 pages
- Total amount received from "1d in the £" Scheme in 1944 was £342,510 (13s 5d)
- Total amount distributed to Voluntary Hospitals in 1944 was £303,953 (13s 9d)

In 1944 the "1d in the £" Scheme progressed to a record level and the total amount distributed to Voluntary Hospitals was the highest amount donated in the history of the Scheme. It was reported that the contributions received during 1944 showed a substantial increase over the previous year. The actual amount received was £342,510 (13s 5d). There was an increase of £17,495 (1s 2d) compared with the previous year. This amount was also the highest amount recorded during the six war years.

However, despite the record level of funds and contributions, 1944 was deemed a very slow and uneventful year. The Annual Report for the year was only five pages long; this was predominately low considering the average number of pages was 12.

The results for 1944 for the Barnsley area again were not so good as originally anticipated. It was reported in Westfield's 23rd Annual Report that 'there were certain causes beyond our control, which have caused a diminution of contributions'.

Even across Britain, the nation as a whole was experiencing a period of depression and pessimism. The nation was still at the height of war, uncertain when it would end and the number of casualties and the loss of loved



"1d in the £" Scheme Twenty-Third Annual Report 1944.

ones was continually increasing. The national press were also reporting on the progression of the Germans and Soviets. Germany were quickly obtaining power over large parts of the Eastern Bloc: Hungary, Romania and Yugoslavia. The fear that there was a possibility the Allies may lose the war swept across Britain, forcing the nation into a period of fear and uncertainty. Local hospitals were also still under strain dealing with returned injured soldiers as well as the local sick and injured.

1944 – The Figures

Year 1944	Total
“1d in the £” – total amount received	£342,510 13s 5d
Total amount distributed to Voluntary Hospitals	£303,953 13s 9d
Royal Infirmary	£122,430 8s 4d
Royal Hospital	£74,434 12s 3d
Jessop Hospital for Women	£38,375 0s 8d
Children’s Hospital	£25,547 12s 9d
Beckett Hospital, Barnsley	£28,059 10s 0d
Other Voluntary Hospitals	£15,106 8s 2d
New firms joined	89 new firms – 1,137 employees
Number of new Council Members	0
Number of Christmas gifts delivered Total cost	No record of how many gifts were delivered Total cost was £531 6s
Easter egg deliveries	No record of eggs being delivered this year
Ambulance Service Number of patients/miles run	47,763 patients 226,014 miles run
Travelling expenses paid – Total amount paid out	£1,155 19s 9d

WESTFIELD HEALTH 1945

Key Facts

- On 8th May 1945, the Allies accepted Germany's surrender, about a week after Adolf Hitler committed suicide
- The Allies were victorious, and, as a result, the Soviet Union and the United States emerged as the world's leading superpowers. This set the stage for the Cold War, which lasted for the next 45 years. The United Nations was formed in the hope of preventing another such conflict
- 8th May 1945 – Winston Churchill announces VE Day (Victory in Europe Day) to celebrate the end of the Second World War. Street parties were held all over Britain to celebrate the end of the war
- Westfield had offices at Westfield Terrace, Sheffield, 8 Regent Street, Barnsley and 9 Grove Street in Retford
- New Plastic and Jaw Unit erected at the Royal Hospital
- Westfield supply the Children's Hospital with a grant for £19,000 and the Jessop Hospital for Women £10,000. These grants were for a post-war reserve fund
- Westfield began preparing for the formation of the NHS and the disablement of the "1d in the £" Scheme.
- Termination of arrangements with the Auxiliary Hospitals
- Total amount received from "1d in the £" Scheme in 1945 was £331,738 (19s 3d)
- Total amount distributed to Voluntary Hospitals in 1945 was £284,685 (11s 11d)

With the termination of the war with both Germany and Japan and the turnover from munitions of war to peacetime production, Westfield already anticipated that there would be a decrease in the contributions compared with the previous year. Although there was no serious reduction in the number of contributors, the weekly contributions had

been reduced owing to the cessation of piecework and weekends.

The actual amount contributed from the "1d in the £" Scheme was £332,767 (4s. 4d), compared with £342,510 (13s 5d) in 1944, a decrease of £10,723. This was the first year that the Council received a decrease from the previous year. Due to this decline, the Voluntary Hospitals received a lower amount than the previous year.

The Royal Infirmary and the Jessop Hospital for Women reported a decrease in income due to the fall in ordinary payments from the "1d in the £" Scheme, though The Jessop Hospital for Women was granted £10,000 for post-war reserve purposes and it also saw the extension of 300 beds. The Jessop Hospital for Women also pushed forward their plans for the erection of a new Teaching Block. Sheffield Children's Hospital also received a grant for £19,000. This grant was to the credit of a post-war reserve account.

In 1945, The Children's Hospital also saw the formation of a new Department of Child Health. This department was in conjunction with the University of Sheffield. The activities of the Department would deal with not only the diagnosis and treatment of children's diseases, but also with the prevention and promotion of child health. The Department was also to be used for the training of medical students and for giving post-graduate experience to qualified doctors. With this new Department, the Scheme donated £1,000 to the cost of new surgical training appliances. This was funded by contributions to the "1d in the £" Scheme.

In 1945, Westfield issued the following statement in its 24th Annual Report:

'In echoing the nation's thankfulness for the blessing of peace heralded by the victorious end of the war, the Voluntary Hospitals look back with no little

satisfaction on the contribution the hospitals made during the war years in treating the sick and injured amongst the civilian population and in tending to the needs of our wounded fighting men from all the battle fronts. Our gratitude that no longer will there be convoys of wounded arriving at our gates is truly deep – but the battle against disease still goes on.'

In 1945, the Royal Hospital established a new special department of surgery known as the Plastic and Jaw Unit. Surgeons and technicians, all specially trained for this highly skilled work and with the experience gained

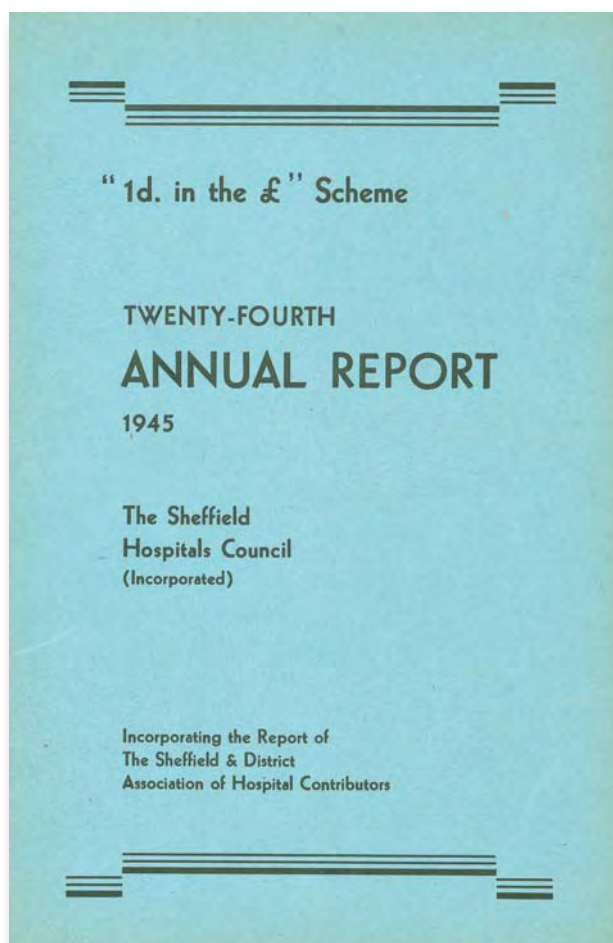
from the treatment of casualties of war, were appointed to work as a team in the repairing of damaged bone and tissue. The unit was also responsible for the treatment of burns. During the war years, such units were set up as part of the emergency medical service. It was believed that this was the first department of its kind to be established by a Voluntary Hospital.

In 1945 Sheffield saw the establishment of a Central Preliminary Training School for Nursing. It took several years to secure a new establishment for the School, though in 1945 a large house in Ranmoor Park Road was purchased. The nurses were to spend the first three months of term in the Training School and their course of study included lectures, demonstrations and theoretical and practical nursing classes. The course afforded an introduction to the hospital wards and at the same time it gave both the candidate and the hospital authorities an opportunity to find out whether the student nurse was likely to adapt herself to hospital routine.

Along with the termination of the war, the close of year also saw the termination of arrangements made in the early days of the war for the treatment of patients in Auxiliary Hospitals such as Fireback at Buxton and High Wray in Sheffield. The Auxiliary Hospitals played an important part during the war years as they provided much needed support and additional help to the local Voluntary Hospitals.

In 1945, the beginning of a new building for a new accident department alongside Orthopaedic Wards at the Royal Infirmary Unit was delayed. Unfortunately, the delay of the build was unavoidable due to the conclusion of the war and also not being able to obtain the Ministry of Health's permit to proceed with work.

In 1945 the Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust on behalf of the Minister of Health conducted a hospital survey. The survey highlighted that Sheffield was inadequate in the numbers of the available consultants in the area. The surveyors noted that Sheffield must expand and improve by offering services for a population estimated between 600,000 and 700,000. The survey also highlighted the relationship between poor health and diseases to social background.



"1d in the £" Scheme Twenty- Fourth Annual Report 1945.

In 1945, Westfield began preparing for the changes that lay ahead – the introduction of the NHS and the evident disablement of the “1d in the £” Scheme. In Westfield’s 25th Annual Report they addressed the changes ahead of them. Westfield assumed belief that transferring ownership and responsibility of the Voluntary Hospitals to the Government would result in a discouragement of local interest in the hospitals. They felt that a remotely situated body of governors who may not even know the geography of the hospital and the staff who comprise the entity of the hospital can efficiently control it. They believed every hospital should have its own individual management board made up primarily of local people who know the hospital, its traditions, its internal needs, its patients and its staff.

‘No hospital can be effectively controlled by a remotely situated body of governors who may not even know the geography of the hospital, much less the medical, nursing and lay staff who comprise its human entity’

“1d in the £” Scheme Twenty-Fifth Annual Report 1945
– Sheffield Hospitals Council

Westfield felt that only this way will local interest in the service be maintained and only by the retention of local interest and service will human and personal aspects of the national hospital service be assured.

With the NHS not coming into operation until 1948, the Scheme fully understood that it was too early to comment further upon the NHS Bill.

Despite Westfield’s worries and concerns, they vowed that they would give their full support to the Bills aims to retain the opportunities of individuals to service, and support by voluntary methods the hospitals for which they had done so much and in whose support they had so loyally laboured. Westfield also announced that they hoped that the Government and their National Health Bill would meet the claim and adequately provide for all.

‘It seems at the time of writing this Report that the Government’s proposal for a National Health Service provides no place for the great contributory schemes, as such and the disappearance of this outlet for voluntary service and giving is one of the effects of the proposals much to be deplored’

“1d in the £” Scheme Twenty-Fifth Annual Report 1945
– Sheffield Hospitals Council

During the years 1939-1945, Westfield still operated and ran an effective and smooth service. Each year saw new establishments, new members, higher numbers contributing to the famous “1d in the £” Scheme and over £1,730,251 was distributed to the four Voluntary Hospitals. Westfield Health is a leading example of an organisation that never gave up and proved beyond belief that nothing can stop the great people of Sheffield providing for the city they are so proud of.



Celebrating the end of the War. VE Day celebrations 1945.

Statistics for 1945.

1. Average daily number of occupied beds	1,058
2. Average daily number of available beds	1,360
3. Total number of Staff, including Nurses	1,505
4. Total number of In-patients admitted to the four Voluntary Hospitals (equal to 380 per week and 54 per day)	19,768
5. Total number of Children, Unemployed and Necessitous In-patients admitted, unable to pay towards maintenance	5,298
6. Cost of In-patient Service to Children, Unemployed and Necessitous Poor	£52,980
7. Casualties (equal to 925 per week and 132 per day) ...	48,135
8. Out-patients (equal to 1,975 per week and 282 per day)	102,724
9. Total number of Out-patient and Casualty attendances (equal to 10,563 per week and 1,509 per day)	549,286
10. New Patients (equal to 3,281 per week and 469 per day)	170,627
11. Average total number (daily) of persons always in residence in Hospital (patients and staff)	2,563
12. Actual number of patients on Waiting Lists, waiting for Hospital Beds at December 31st, 1945	2,812
13. Number of new patients treated at the Edgar Allen Institute for whom the Hospitals Council is responsible	3,787
14. Number of attendances	126,487
15. Actual payment to the Edgar Allen Institute	£13,061
16. Patients sent to Convalescent Homes and Special Hospitals by the Hospitals Council	1,266
17. Amount paid for Rail Fares to Convalescent Patients	£812 11 6
18. Amount paid for maintenance of Convalescent and Special Hospital Patients	£4,700 15 2
19. Number of patients carried by the Council's Ambulances	53,706
20. Number of miles run	248,562
21. Amount refunded to necessitous contributors for travelling costs to Hospitals	£1,034 1 1
22. In-patients in Hospitals and Convalescent Homes ...	21,034

	Voluntary Hospitals.		E.A.	
	Casualties.	Out-Patients.	Inst.	Total.
Out-patients and Casualties ...	48,135	102,724	3,787	154,646
Attendances	112,356	436,930	126,487	675,773

1945 – The Figures

Year 1945	Total
“1d in the £” – total amount received	£331,738 19s 3d
Total amount distributed to Voluntary Hospitals	£284,685 11s 11d
Royal Infirmary	£97,532 16s 0d
Royal Hospital	£59,155 7s 9d
Jessop Hospital for Women	£40,708 6s 0d
Children’s Hospital	£45,734 2s 4d
Beckett Hospital, Barnsley	£25,385 0s 0d
Other Voluntary Hospitals	£16,169 11s 11d
New firms joined	142 new firms – 4,098 employees
Number of new Council Members	0
Number of Christmas gifts delivered Total cost	No record of how many gifts were delivered Total cost was £569 16s 1d
Easter egg deliveries	No record of eggs being delivered
Ambulance Service Number of patients/miles run	53,706 patients 248,562.4 miles run
Convalescent fund – Number of patients who received treatment	1,134
Travelling expenses paid – total amount paid out	£939 12s 2d

NEW FIRMS AND OFFICES 1939-1945

This is a tradition that has not changed because even in 1939 the Council were still enrolling new firms into the "1d in the £" Scheme. With the continued improvement in trade in Sheffield, Westfield succeeded in enrolling over 727 new firms into the Scheme during the years 1939-1945 and 15,089 employees! This proves that Westfield still continued working and making the sale even when the country was at war!

Summary of New Sales 1939-1945

Year	No. of new firms joining	No. of employees	Acceptance forms – small traders who pay £1 per annum
1939	141	4,189	338
1940	98	1,224	127
1941	99	1,980	115
1942	92	1,322	127
1943	66	1,139	123
1944	89	1,137	87
1945	142	4,098	153

Contributions by Employees and Employers to the "1d in the £" Scheme between 1939-1945

Year	Contributions by employees and employers
1939	£198,042
1940	£226,002
1941	£258,719
1942	£291,528
1943	£325,647
1944	£342,510
1945	£331,738

THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

The NHS was born on 5th July, 1948, out of a long-held ideal that good healthcare should be available to all, regardless of wealth.

The Government intended to establish a National Health Service for the nation, with its main focus to improve health among the people of Britain. The Service was to provide for everyone all the medical advice, treatment and care they may require. For the first time in history, hospitals, doctors, nurses, pharmacists, opticians and dentists were brought together under one umbrella to provide services that were free for all at the point of delivery. This was a momentous achievement as the system was based on principles unlike anything that had gone before in health care. In the same way, it was hard for people in 1948 to see what a national health service was going to mean for them and for future generations. It was the first time, anywhere in the world, that completely free healthcare was made available on the basis of citizenship and need rather than the payment of fees or insurance premiums.

The man who brought the Health Service into being was Aneurin Bevan, a Welsh miner who became a Labour politician. Bevan handed the responsibility for healthcare and housing by the new Prime Minister, Clement Attlee, in the first post-Second World War government.

The National Health Service Bill was read in March 1946 and the first National Health Service Act was passed the following November, to come into operation on 5th July, 1948. This was the first time since Westfield's formation in 1919 that its future was potentially threatened.

The NHS was born out of a ideal that good healthcare should be available to all, regardless of wealth. The NHS was founded at the time when massive innovation was occurring, some stimulated by the war. Pharmaceuticals were creating new drugs, antibiotics were becoming more advanced and ultrasound was built upon wartime electronics. The National Health Service started in 1948 in

a society weary but disciplined by war, and accustomed to austerity.

Initially it seemed offering free medical services to all, would render contributory schemes such as Westfield's largely irrelevant. Prior to the establishment of the NHS, hospital contributory schemes provided a cheap form of health insurance to low income families. The Beveridge Report, published on 2nd December 1942, is a remarkable state paper and its eager reception by a public totally absorbed in war has been even more remarkable. The Beveridge Report provided that, after this war, every citizen, rich and poor, young and old, shall be covered by insurance benefits or allowances, together with services in kind in all the emergencies of life, such as sickness, unemployment, retirement in old age and death. On 5th July, 1948, Bevan and Beveridge got their wish and our healthcare changed forever.

Lord Beveridge raised the standard and the modern contributory scheme, of which Sheffield was a pioneer, demonstrated that a weekly contribution by all should ensure the means of providing for all. The British hospital contributory schemes have developed during the inter war years to the point where, through the accumulation of small weekly contributions from a mass membership, they provided substantial proportions of hospital income.

With the introduction of the NHS and the transference of the Voluntary Hospitals under the National Health Service Act, the main purpose of the "1d in the £" Scheme and of the Contributors' Association ceased. It was however, decided that a Convalescent Home Service and a Special Purposes Fund should be created in order to provide amenities for patients and staff in hospitals, to assist in the provision of research and for providing other facilities not financed by the National Health Service Act.

Working alongside the NHS

The war years of 1939-1945 saw the gestation of today's NHS. The start of the Welfare State and the National Health Service in July 1948 led to a depressing fall in income for the fund. Contributory Schemes in many other towns and cities ceased to operate – but not Westfield! The only schemes with a chance of survival were those which were large and well founded and who could find further reasons for attracting membership. Most of the contributory schemes that continued to operate lost many members when the NHS began to provide free hospitalisation for the nation. In 1948, the number of schemes in existence totalled over 400. Westfield was a fighting survivor. Many of the Schemes across Britain terminated with the establishment of the NHS and its promise of free universal hospital care. However, Westfield was a fighting survivor who chose to carry on.

Many subscribers did withdraw their membership but thousands decided, like the Scheme, to carry on, being conscious from the outset that many desirable features of a health service were not going to be provided by the NHS – a situation which would be underscored

in 1951 when NHS charges were introduced for prescriptions, dental services and glasses. By the 1950s it became apparent that the NHS was struggling to provide everything everyone wanted. People of all ages were not impressed with NHS spectacles, they wanted something more fashionable.

The introduction of free medical services within the National Health Service and state control of hospitals did not spell the end of contributory schemes. Even Lord Beveridge himself and Aneurin Bevan, who formulated the detailed plan for the NHS, recognised the importance of maintaining the spirit of mutual aid. The Council maintained this spirit with a penny per week scheme to provide convalescent benefits, free hospital amenities and medical research. In 1956 an extended scheme of general benefits was introduced – the forerunner of the Westfield Schemes today.

A minority of contributory schemes remained in existence post-1948. Westfield Health was one of them. The total sum raised by the scheme by 1948 exceeded £5,00,000. Many schemes evolved into provident associations offering private health insurance; others remained committed to the provision of low



Fundraising Dinner, Cutlers' Hall, Sheffield, date unknown.



Labour Health Secretary Aneurin Bevan, who began the NHS on 5th July 1945.



Aneurin Bevan greets a patient, 1945.

cost benefits to a blue collar clientele and continued to be known as Hospital Contributory Schemes.

With the inauguration of the NHS and the transference of the Voluntary Hospitals under the National Health Service Act, the main purpose of the "1d in the £" Scheme and the Contributors' Association ceased. It was, however, decided that a Convalescent Home Service and a Special Purposes Fund should be created in order to provide amenities for patients and staff in hospitals, to assist in the provision of research and for providing other facilities not financed by the National Health Service Act.

It was also reported that under the National Health Service Act many of the original contributors' representatives were elected by the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board to sit on the Management Committees set up to manage the hospitals in Sheffield and surrounding district.

So how far has the Council been able to carry out its ambitious objectives set up in its original Constitution prior to the introduction of the NHS?

In 1921, when the first Executive Committee was elected, there were 960 organisations contributing to the "1d in the £" Scheme, with approximately 100,000 contributors. At the end of 1947 there were over 3,800 contributing establishments, with 360,000 contributors. In 1923, the income of the Hospitals Council was £88,688 and in 1947, the income had reached an astounding total of £402,698. In the 27 years in which the Scheme had been operating over five and a half million pounds has been received.

It can truly be said that the Contributors' Association, and the dedicated contributors to the "1d in the £" Scheme during its relatively short life of 27 years, have played an extremely important part in securing for the citizens of Sheffield and the surrounding districts an increased hospital service which was beyond the dreams and expectations of those who attended the very first meeting in November 1921.

'Under the National Health Service Act in 1946, the "1d in the £" Scheme will be discontinued and the Board wishes to record its deep appreciation of the indispensable work which has been carried out over 25 years'

"1d in the £" Scheme Twenty-Fifth Annual Report 1945
- Sheffield Hospitals Council

was launched in 1919. The Sheffield Hospitals Council was formed to manage it and also to act as agents and advisors to the Voluntary Hospitals on matters affecting hospital policy. In addition to providing financial support for the hospitals, the Contributory Scheme provided in some measures for Ambulance transport, Convalescent service, and other Ancillary services.

The Hospitals Council consisted of representatives, not only of the Voluntary Hospitals, but also of practically every phase of opinion in the city. It had 90 members, and held its meetings monthly. In conjunction with the Council was the Sheffield and District Association of Hospital Contributors, of which every contributor to the Scheme was a member. This organisation works in close co-operation with the Hospitals Council and had direct representation on the Board of Management of the Voluntary Hospitals and the Hospitals Council. The offices were in Westfield Terrace, adjacent to the Royal Hospital.

In Sheffield a public outcry greeted the 1943 'White Paper' on the NHS. The people of Sheffield were fearful they would lose their excellent hospital service that they had loyally contributed to the success of.



Jessop Hospital for Women, Sheffield.



Children's Hospital, Sheffield.



Sheffield Royal Infirmary.

The Royal Infirmary

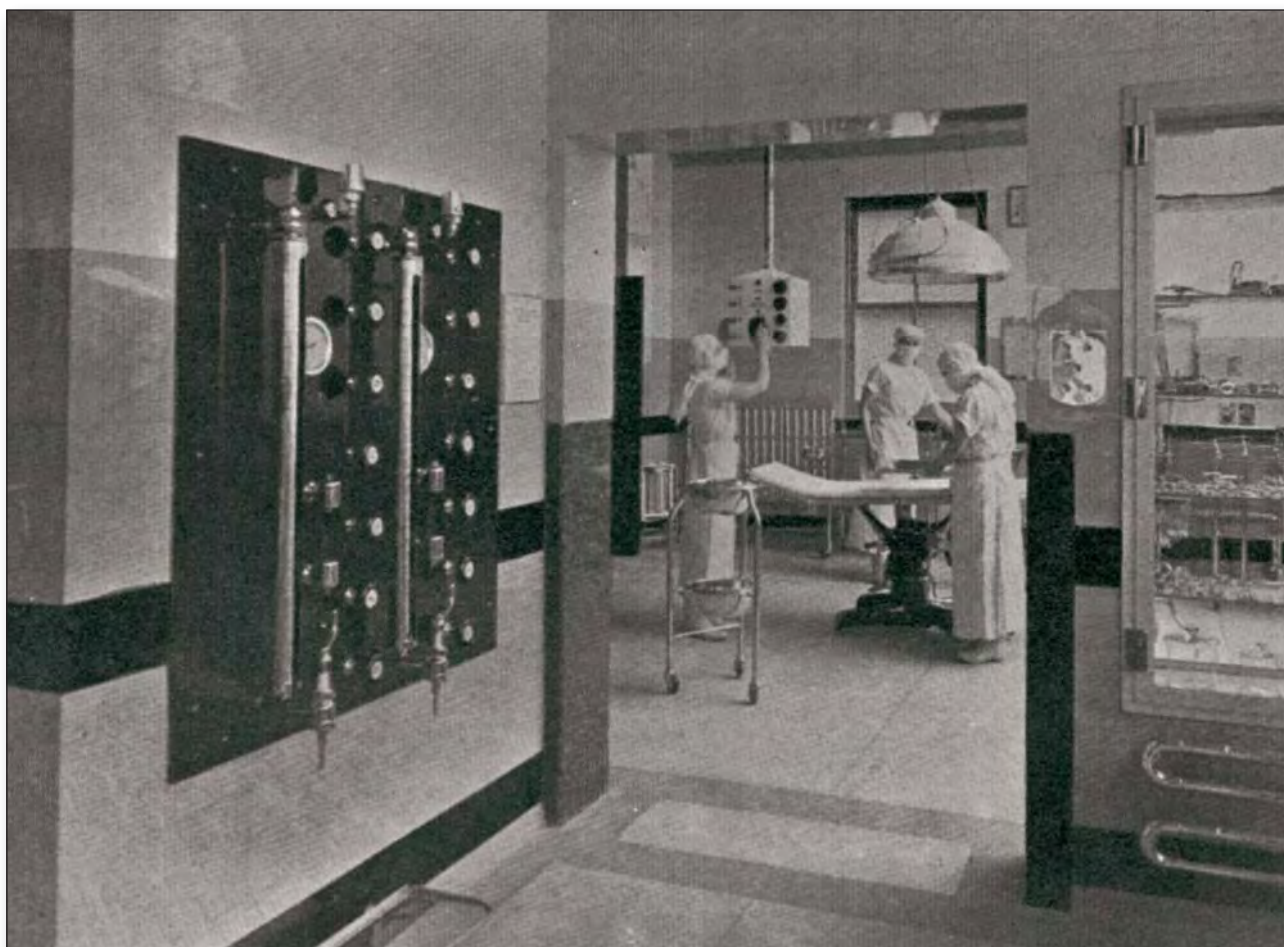
Originally named the General Infirmary when it was built in 1792, the hospital was built by J. D. Webster & Son and many of the establishment's features made it unique. Before its construction, well-known hospital architects were invited to submit designs for the new hospital. It had an innovative octagonal outpatients' department and a tiled waiting room. It adopted the 'Royal' label after a visit by Queen Victoria in 1897, followed by the opening of a new nurses home in the same year. The hospital closed in 1980, with many of the original buildings being demolished. The original block was renamed Heritage House and was a Grade II listed building. However, despite its history and heritage a Tesco supermarket now occupies the site.

In 1939, both the Sheffield Royal Infirmary and the Royal Hospital were amalgamated into one institution. This was regarded as an epoch in the hospital movement in the city. In 1945, the Royal established a new special department of

surgery known as the Plastic and Jaw Unit. During the war years, such units were set up as part of the emergency medical service. It was believed that this was the first department of its kind to be established by a Voluntary Hospital. These extensions and vast improvements to all the Voluntary Hospitals during the war years would not have been possible without Westfield and the dedicated contributors to the "1d in the £" Scheme.

'The contributory scheme supported by employers and employees in the city and neighbourhood has enabled these extensions at the Voluntary Hospitals to be maintained at high pitch of efficiency.'

"1d in the £" Scheme Eighteenth Annual Report 1940
- Sheffield Hospitals Council



Operating Theatre, Royal Infirmary.



Royal Infirmary Waiting Room.



The Royal Infirmary.

The Jessop Hospital for Women

The Jessop Hospital for Women was opened in 1878 with funds from Thomas Jessop (1804-1887), one of Sheffield's eminent and wealthy steel barons. It was built to replace the old Sheffield Hospital for Women, which had only 9 beds. The building cost £26,000 – *a lot of money at the time* – all paid for by Jessop. Initially, it had 57 beds, and was built in the classic Victorian style. Much progress and expansion followed and in 1939, at the outbreak of the Second World War, there were beds for 151 patients. During the War, it suffered severe bomb damage from the German air raids in December 1940. However, with continuous voluntary contributions, rebuilding speedily got underway. The hospital continued to grow and progress during the war years and by 1943, the new extensions were completed and this

enabled 217 beds to be in full use. The hospital also saw the addition of a further 10 beds in 1944.

In 2001, the hospital was closed and moved to a newly built maternity hospital at the rear of the Royal Hallamshire Hospital. Today the Jessop Hospital for Women is a leading training school for midwifery as well as providing more than 170 beds. It is known that all babies born at Jessop Hospital for Women receive a certificate stating they are '*truly made in Sheffield*'.



Jessop Hospital for Women, Sheffield.



Plate No. 10. New-born baby is unimpressed by the charming waiting room at the Jessop Hospital furnished by the Council

Information Handbook – Sheffield & District Convalescent & Hospitals Services Council.

The Royal Hospital

Built in 1922 and later demolished in 1981, the Royal Hospital stood close to where our offices stand today. The Zion Chapel on Westfield Terrace was converted into the hospital's outpatient department in 1927, with the future Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain performing the official opening ceremony. The hospital was demolished in 1981, when the Northern Counties Housing Association built their offices on land behind the chapel, but the chapel itself was restored to its former glory and incorporated into the structure of the new building.

The Sheffield Royal Hospital reported:

'The year 1940 saw the largest collection of funds since the "1d in the £" scheme was launched. To have reached and exceeded the sum of £200,000 is a truly magnificent response to the efforts of all concerned. Strenuous efforts were made during the year to maintain the number of beds for the civilian sick when so many were occupied by Service and air raid casualties'



The Royal Hospital.

Sheffield Children's Hospital

The original premises for Sheffield's Children's Hospital at Western Bank in 1880 were two converted semi-detached houses. Since those days the hospital has been regularly extended and improved. In 1946, a grant of £5,000 was made to the hospital for the formation of a new Teaching Unit known as 'The Stephenson Block'. Further to its development, a new outpatient department opened in 1959 and today the hospital has more than 160 beds. In 1946, the funding towards the hospital was discontinued. This pivotal moment was recorded in the twenty-fifth Annual Report.

Other Sheffield Hospitals

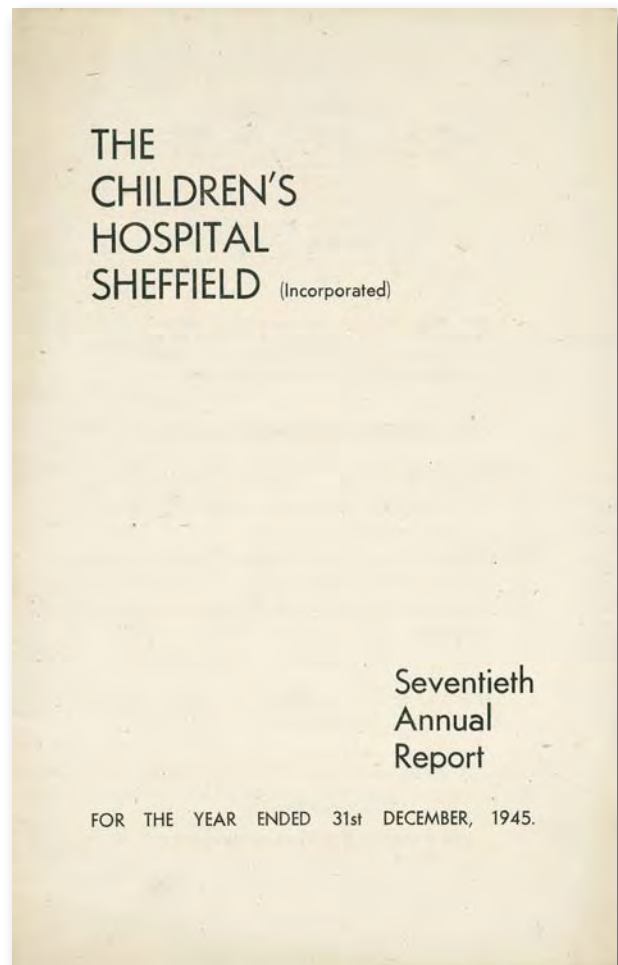
Other local hospitals within the Sheffield area are: Lodge Moor, Nether Edge, Northern General and The Royal Hallamshire. Some of the hospitals are still in operation today, providing key services to the city of Sheffield.

Lodge Moor

Lodge Moor was originally built for the smallpox epidemic of 1887, and was considered by many as an isolation hospital. In fact, it housed a specialised spinal injuries unit. A film service for patients was provided by Westfield and run on a voluntary basis. The hospital was closed in 1981.

Nether Edge Hospital

Founded in 1842, originally named Ecclesall Bierlow Workhouse. The hospital originally started out as workhouses for the poor and sick, later developing as recognised hospitals. During the Second World War, part of Nether Edge was engulfed by flames during the Sheffield Blitz. The hospital did not suffer any damage, though the Ambulance Service was unable to make the necessary calls to the area. Nether Edge today serves mainly as an administrative centre.



The Children's Hospital Annual Report from 1945.



Information Handbook – Sheffield & District Convalescent & Hospitals Services Council.

Northern General

Similar to Lodge Moor, The Northern General originally started out as a workhouse for the poor and sick. During the war years it was named City General Hospital. The hospital is now one of the region's biggest, spanning over 95 acres. It has over 1,100 beds and employs more than 5,500 staff. The hospital houses highly reputed geriatric and psychiatric facilities and offers a wide range of specialist services including orthopaedics, renal, heart and lung services and a state-of-the-art, purpose built spinal injuries unit.

Royal Hallamshire

Awarded the 'Royal' prefix in 1979 after the other two 'Royals' had closed. The Hallamshire was conceived as a teaching hospital in 1938. The war delayed the project's opening until 1957. The hospital consists of three main interlinked buildings, the most significant being the monolithic 21 storey concrete structure. The hospital can be seen from just about anywhere in the city. The main building was opened in 1979 by HRH Prince Charles, Prince of Wales. Today, the Hallamshire is one of Sheffield's best known landmarks; it is a superb modern facility with more than 700 beds.

The Hospitals' Role in War Time

Twice in the twentieth century, the Voluntary Hospitals have helped the nation in a severe crisis. First it was in 1914-1918 (the First World War) and then in 1939 when the clouds of war again began to gather over Europe. The Government, with the object of providing an Emergency Medical Service to cope with the air raid casualties and the intake of wounded from the battlefronts, immediately consulted the Voluntary Hospitals of Great Britain. When the Second World War broke out, the structure had already been agreed. The hospitals released the necessary staff, doctors and nurses, technicians and administrators. They put x-ray, surgical and technical apparatus at the disposal of other hospitals throughout the

country. Emergency hospitals were established in schools and elsewhere. Over and above this, Voluntary Hospitals reserved a proportion of their beds for the reception of air raid victims, transferred war workers or service casualties. During the war medical services were highly organised. In addition to the hospitals, there were first-aid centres and mobile first-aid parties. Women played a large part in the medical services, including driving ambulances during the bombings.

The Hospitals and The NHS

After 5th July, 1948, the Voluntary Hospitals were all combined under a Board of Governors, a teaching group known as the United Sheffield Hospitals. Many opposing the introduction of the NHS felt that the blending of the hospitals meant abandoning precious local tradition and would lead to a lack of spirit and care for their Voluntary Hospitals.



*If you are over 17 . . .
. . . and wish to train as a nurse
at the*

ROYAL INFIRMARY

— or —

ROYAL HOSPITAL

— or —

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

WRITE to :-

**PRINCIPAL, SCHOOL OF NURSING,
CLARKE HOUSE, CLARKE DRIVE,
SHEFFIELD, 10** *For illustrated brochure*

MILLION POUND APPEAL FUND

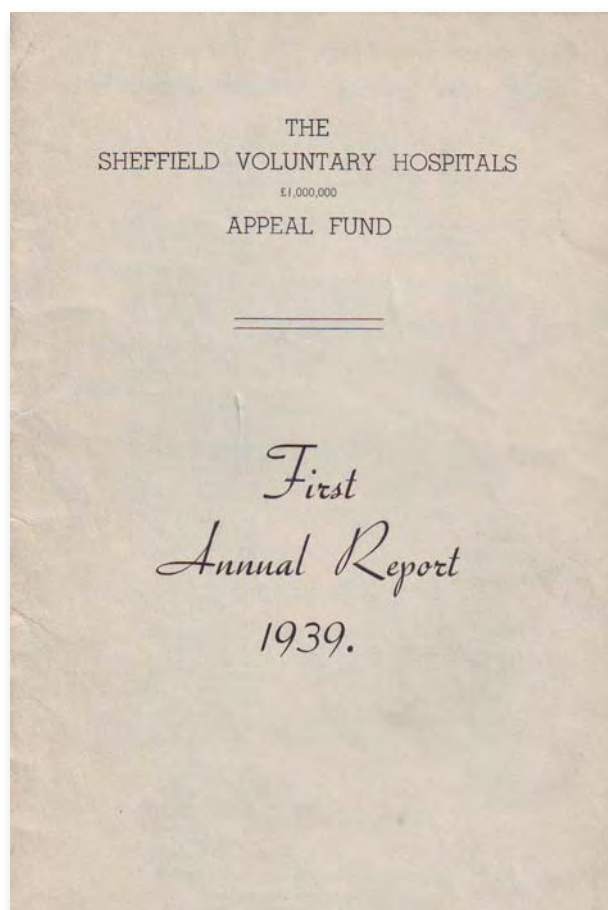
The Million Pound Appeal Fund was launched in July, 1938, by the Duchess of Gloucester under the chairmanship of Mr. W. R. S. Stephenson, with the object of raising £1,000,000 to finance a new maternity block at the Jessop Hospital for Women, an outpatients department and nurses home in the Children's Hospital, and the building of a completely new general hospital on a site near to Sheffield University. The new site was to enclose a Radium Centre, Cancer Research Laboratories, and a complete Orthopaedic Block.

The million pounds required was to be raised by employers in Sheffield and district, contributing a third, another third from employees and others who joined the 'League of Hospital Builders', and subscribed a penny each week for seven years, and the remaining third from private subscriptions and legacies.

In July, 1938, the new nurses home opened at the Jessop Hospital for Women and the new boiler house and laundry was completed and in use by October 1940. As a result of the war, the new maternity block was not opened for patients until September 1943, and even then the exterior had a 'war time' finish only. In 1940, the Jessop Hospital for Women reported that the combined appeal should continue, even though the main objectives of the Scheme could not proceed during the war.

In January, 1939, arrangements were made with the Sheffield Hospitals Council to undertake the accountancy of the fund as well as providing an office for it in their own building. On 6th September, 1939, the Committee resolved to press forward with the Appeal in spite of the war situation created by the war. They felt that the urgent character of the work, and the excellent response received would justify their decision.

Between 100,000 and 200,000 subscribers gave a penny a week during the life of the Appeal and employers gave very substantial aid. In addition, a gentleman named Alderman Graves donated £100,000 for the development of the Radium Centre. The amount raised by the appeal up to 31st December 1948, was £487,785 10s 4d. Although the million target was not reached, two thirds of it had been raised – an unbelievable achievement in war time.



The Sheffield Voluntary Hospitals First Annual Report.

WESTFIELD SERVICES

Each year saw the work of the Council grow as conditions permitted it to develop another of its main objects, the co-ordination of policy of the four Voluntary Hospitals. Ambulance Transport Service and Convalescent treatment were deemed the most important services.

The Ambulance Service

The Ambulance Service was inaugurated in 1924, it had 2 ambulances, both of which were loaned by the British Red Cross Society. The Council's ambulances were used within a radius of 20 miles for admission, discharge and treatment cases attending voluntary hospitals in the city. It then became possible for the Ambulance Service to assume responsibility for the conveyance of patients to and from nursing homes in Sheffield and the immediate district. The Council was anxious that contributors should receive the benefits of the Scheme in cases of illness or accident away from home, whether at work or on holiday, and agreements were made with other contributory schemes and hospitals throughout the country that any charges for treatment or maintenance should be sent to the Council instead of to the contributor.

As the Ambulance Service was progressing, arrangements were made with the Boards of Guardians in Sheffield that cases unable to obtain admission to Voluntary Hospitals because of a shortage of accommodation should be allowed to occupy beds in the City General and Nether Edge Hospitals. The importance of the agreement was confirmed when Sheffield was targeted by German air raids in December 1940.

In 1939, 38,411 patients were carried and 191,788 miles were covered. When the Blitz hit Sheffield, the Ambulance Service was put under extreme pressure and many ambulances were sometimes unable to reach casualties due to fires and building destruction. The evacuation of patients from the four main hospitals and the horrific affects of the air raids, increasingly taxed the service. Costs to maintain the service considerably increased as



A Record of 1923.

the war gathered momentum. In 1943, the Service increased its miles per run, carrying 46,078 patients over 212,914 miles.

Sadly in 1940 an ambulance was destroyed by enemy action and both the driver and attendant were killed. It was reported that members of the Jewish Community in Sheffield made a very generous donation of £675 for the purchase of an additional ambulance.

The Service was pivotal to the city during the war years. Each year during 1939-1945 it carried 309,997 patients to the nearest Voluntary Hospitals, a staggering total of 1,523,665 miles!

Convalescent Fund

Convalescent – recovering from an illness or medical treatment

In return for a contribution of only 1d a week Westfield would provide a contributor with a fortnight in a convalescent home. The treatment would include full maintenance costs, rail fare and £1 per week pocket money. Westfield reserved several beds at convalescent homes across the country and the main homes used were at Southport, Woodhall Spa, Bridlington, Buxton, Harrogate and Mablethorpe. A large proportion of patients were sent out to George Woodfindin Home at Mablethorpe. From May to the end of October, patients would be transported by coach, starting in Barnsley and with further pick-ups at Sheffield and Rotherham before proceeding to Mablethorpe. A stop was made at Market Rasen on the outward journey for lunch and on the return journey for tea.

To ensure that high standards of accommodation and service were being maintained, members and officials of the Convalescent Committee were sent to various homes to inspect their conditions. To make the patients' stay more comfortable the Council provided many amenities at the homes including billiard tables, television sets, reading materials and comfortable chairs and beds. The Council also purchased crutches and sick room equipment for hire to contributors. Grants were also made to local hospitals towards the purchase of surgical appliances.

In 1939, the Convalescent Fund Committee reported that the number of persons receiving convalescent treatment had decreased compared with the previous year, principally due to the outbreak of war. During the war years the number of patients receiving the convalescent fund dropped from 1,694 patients in 1939 to 1,266 in 1945. The Convalescent Fund did continue its service during the war years and even survived after the introduction of the NHS. In 1949, one penny per week would still provide a contributor with a fortnight in a convalescent home.



Plate No. 1. Convalescent Patients off to the sea

Information Handbook – Sheffield & District Convalescent & Hospitals Services Council.



Plate No. 2. The George Woodfindin Convalescent Home, Mablethorpe



Plate No. 2. Games Room at Mablethorpe Home

Information Handbook – Sheffield & District Convalescent & Hospitals Services Council.



Plate No. 3. The Hunstanton Convalescent Home

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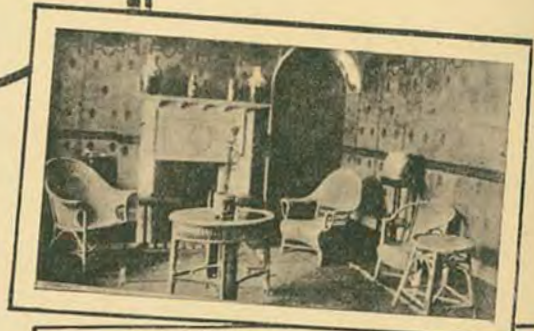
Information Handbook – Sheffield & District Convalescent & Hospitals Services Council.

" Earth changes, but thy soul and God stand sure."—RABBI BEN EZRA.

CONVALESCENT FUND.

After-Care and Samaritan Service.

A few intimate
glimpses of
Convalescent Homes
on the Sheffield
Hospitals list

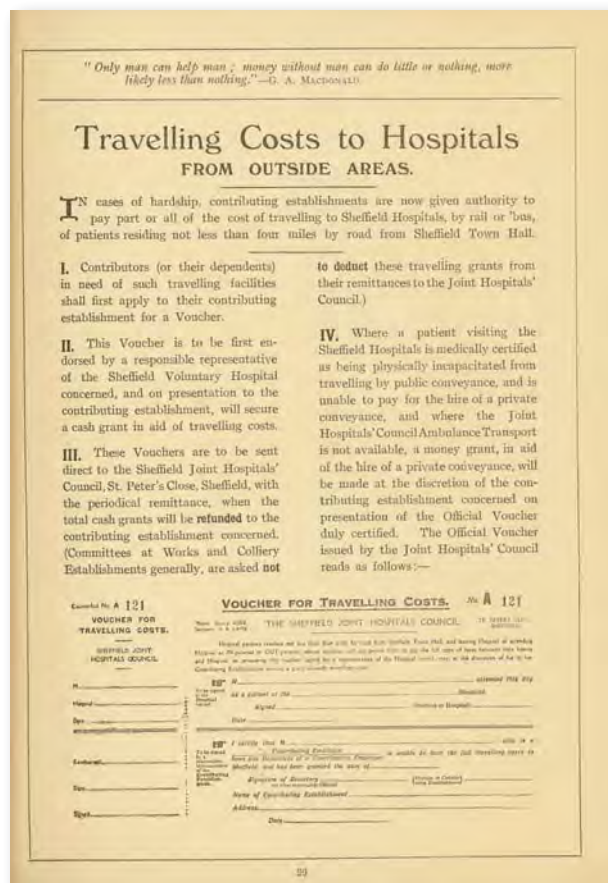


Sheffield Patients sent to one of the Council's Homes.

Travelling Expenses

Westfield provided contributors and their families with travel expenses for those residents who lived outside the city boundary. These payments were made to those travelling to outpatient departments at the Voluntary Hospitals and the Edgar Allen Institute. The contributor would receive a travel voucher, but they were only issued to patients who were in need of assistance according to the rules and regulations governing the vouchers. During the war years, the service still continued to operate efficiently and effectively.

In 1944, £1,155 (19s 9d) was paid towards the cost of travelling expenses of contributors and their families. This highest number of expenses was paid during 1939-1945. The lowest amount paid out was in 1941, with only £939 (12s 2d).



A Record of 1923.

Total Amount Paid to Contributors for Travelling Costs between 1939-1945

Year	Contributions by employees and employers
1939	£1,126 (16s 4d)
1940	£1,002 (5s 0d)
1941	£939 (12s 2d)
1942	£1,040 (14s 8d)
1943	£1,003 (12s 2d)
1944	£1,155 (19s 9d)
1945	£1,034 (1s 1d)

Christmas Time 1939-1945

When World War Two broke out in September 1939, it was not uncommon in Britain to hear the remark, 'It'll all be over by Christmas!' – just as people had said that World War One would be over by Christmas 1914. Unknown to the people of Sheffield at this time, there would be five Christmases before May 1945, when this war would be 'all over'.

In 1925, contributors were invited to donate to a specific fund where the total amount would be used for providing gifts to patients and nurses in Voluntary Hospitals at Christmas. On each Christmas morning, individual gifts were provided for patients and full-time nursing staff. This exceptional service required the purchase, packing and distribution of nearly 9,000 gifts annually. Each year, Sheffield Rotary Club and local volunteers contributed to the packing and distribution of all Christmas gifts, without this voluntary help it would not have been possible to carry out what was recognised as an extremely important part of

the Hospital Service. The packing and purchasing of 9,000 gifts is no light task and the cost of the presents alone was in the region of £5,000.

In 1939, Sheffield Rotary Club kindly agreed to deliver and distribute Christmas gifts to all patients and nurses in our hospitals. On Christmas morning over 2,472 parcels were handed out.

Christmas gifts to hospital patients in December 1940 presented unusual difficulties because due to the air raids. Sadly, all books and large toys were destroyed and the premises of many of the Rotary Club members suffered considerable damage, it meant that Rotarians were unable to arrange for the packing and transport. Fortunately the books were obtained from another source and members of the Hospital Council staff and one member of the Rotary Club packed up the parcels in the Nurses' Recreation Room at the Sheffield



Plate No. 7. Voluntary helpers pack Christmas gifts for patients

"It is not required of every man and woman to be or to do something great; most of us must content ourselves with taking small parts in the chorus, as far as possible, without discord."—HENRY VAN DYKE.



Lord Mayor's Fund—Hospitals' Xmas Parcels.

XMAS Morning is ever a happy time in the life of the Hospitals, and once again, with the willing help of the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, the tradesmen of Sheffield and many generous friends, not forgetting Father Christmas and his tiny Fairies, the Joint Hospitals' Council has been able to provide 1,200 gift parcels so that each patient in the Hospitals had a Xmas morning parcel of suitable gifts.—**Not Forgotten** by their more fortunate neighbours and friends outside the Hospitals at Yuletide.

Royal Infirmary on Saturday afternoon and Sunday 21st and 22nd December. Five members of the Rotary Club acted as Father Christmas on Christmas morning.

The year 1968 saw the end of the Christmas presents delivery system. It was replaced with cash grants to full-time nurses, group secretaries and matrons. The cash grants

could be used at Christmas for gifts for patients to provide seaside holiday or recreational accommodation. Even when Sheffield encountered the Blitz in December 1940, Westfield still managed to deliver Christmas presents and treats for patients.



Photo: Sheffield Newspapers Ltd

Plate No. 8. Voluntary helpers packing Christmas gifts—assisted by the Civic Heads



Plate No. 9. Not forgetting the children's wards!

Easter Egg Delivery 1939-1945

As well as delivering Christmas gifts each year, the Council also distributed Easter eggs to patients in Sheffield Voluntary Hospitals. The Council worked directly with Lady Harewood's Committee in the delivery of the Easter eggs. Each year Westfield donated money for the egg collection to go ahead even during the war years.

The Council and the Rotary Club worked closely together each year to make sure that both Christmas gifts and Easter eggs were delivered to patients all through the war years. In particular in 1940, when Sheffield went through the first of the air raid attacks, the Sheffield Council made sure that the egg collection was successful.

'The date of the collection has been fixed for Monday April 28th, and in view of the unprecedented situation it is hoped that everyone will make a special effort to ensure that the collection is as successful as possible. The eggs will be doubly welcome this year'

"1d in the £" Scheme Eighteenth Annual Report 1940
- Sheffield Hospitals Council

Until the introduction of rationing in 1940, a collection of eggs was made each spring and distributed to the hospitals, providing a valuable addition to their stores. Donors also provided cash directly, which in 1941 alone enabled the Council to purchase 16,607 additional eggs.

The Hospital Cinema Service

Sheffield Hospitals Council went on to introduce the Hospital Cinema Service, in 1951 to provide patients at many city hospitals with this popular form of entertainment. The service covered over 20 different hospitals and gave an average 26 shows a week or 1,350 a year. Each show consisted of a full-length feature film, a current newsreel and one or two shorts. The average attendance at the shows was just over 20 but sometimes a show was given for as few as 2 patients. An average of 300 shows a year were also given in the Barnsley Hospital district. The total cost of the service was about £4,500 a year including the hire of films, travelling expenses and the maintenance and replacement of equipment.



Plate No. 5. Patients enjoying a cinema show

Information Handbook - Sheffield & District Convalescent & Hospitals Services Council.



Plate No. 6. Voluntary Projectionist receives certificate at 10,000th show. Fir Vale Infirmary 3rd March, 1960.

Information Handbook - Sheffield & District Convalescent & Hospitals Services Council.



Plate No. 6. Regular cinema shows given in hospitals by voluntary projectionists

Information Handbook – Sheffield & District Convalescent & Hospitals Services Council.

Other Amenities

As well as the regular services, the Council received frequent requests from hospital authorities for the provision of additional amenities, they were unable to provide through the NHS. All such requests were sympathetically considered and dealt with, having regard to their relative urgency and the availability of funds. The range of items provided was very wide. Items such as television sets (over 200 provided since 1948), radio sets, library books, toys and games, garden seats, flower vases and music equipment.



Plate No. 9. Two of the 200 T.V. sets presented

Information Handbook – Sheffield & District Convalescent & Hospitals Services Council.

KEY WESTFIELD FIGURES 1939-1945



Sir W. Henry Hadow.



The Rt. Rev. Leonard Hedley Burrows.



The Rt. Rev. Leslie Stannard Hunter.

Who were our leaders guiding Westfield through the war years?

Presidents The Lord Mayors of Sheffield

Chairmen Sir W. Henry Hadow, M.A., C.B.E., J.P., Vice Chancellor; University of Sheffield (1919-1930)

The Rt. Rev. Leonard Hedley Burrows, D.D., Lord Bishop of Sheffield (1930-1939)

The Rt. Rev. Leslie Stannard Hunter, D.C.L. Lord Bishop of Sheffield (1940-1949)

Deputy Chairman Mr. F. M. Osborn (1922-1949)

Secretaries Mr. C. R. Crabtree (1926-1949)

Mr. Fred M. Osborn

Joined the Board in October 1912 and was later made Deputy Chairman in 1922. Osborn, along with The Rt. Rev. Dr. Leslie Stannard Hunter, led the Sheffield Hospitals Council during the war years. Osborn took a deep interest in the work of hospitals and the hospital movement in Sheffield and its surrounding districts. He was very prominent in the formation of the Hospitals Council of which he was Vice Chairman. Osborn actually coined the famous phrase the "1d in the £". Osborn also took great interest in local charitable work. In 1932, he threw his great energies and ability into raising £100,000 for a new x-ray Department at the Royal Hospital. He also campaigned for better living accommodation for nurses. Osborn's efforts proved visible by the establishment of The Miners' Welfare Block, The Zachary Merton Convalescent Home and The Nurses Home Tapton Court. Between 1932 and 1939 Osborn had single handedly raised £80,258 (18s 3d) in 1932 to an astonishing £207,438 (19s 2d) in 1939. All monies went solely on the development and improvement of the Voluntary Hospitals and for hospital staff and patients.

Sadly in 1949, Osborn asked the Board for his resignation as he felt that his health would prevent him from satisfactorily fulfilling the duties of both offices. The Board accepted his resignation with the most profound and sincere regret. Osborn was succeeded by



Mr C. R.C. Crabtree.



Mr Fred Osborn.



Mr Percy Malby.

Mr. P. Malby (1950-1959) the following year.

The Three Chairmen

Sir W. Henry Hadow, M.A., C.B.E., J.P.
Vice Chancellor; University of Sheffield
1919-1930

The Rt. Rev. Leonard Hedley Burrows, D.D.
Lord Bishop of Sheffield
1930-1939

The Rt. Rev. Leslie Stannard Hunter, D.C.L.
Lord Bishop of Sheffield
1940-1949

Upon completing his term of office as Vice Chancellor of Sheffield University in 1930, Sir Henry Hadow retired from the Chairmanship of the Council in 1930. He had directed its affairs with outstanding success through its most difficult years and was able to lay down the reins of office in the knowledge that it was firmly established. His colleagues felt that there must be suitable recognition of his great service. At a memorable meeting in June 1930, Mr. Fred M. Osborn presented Sir Henry with a pair of old Sheffield plate candlesticks and an album with the names of the Council and Executive Committee.

Sir Henry was followed as chairman by another vigorous personality who had long been associated with the hospital movement – Dr. Hedley Burrows, Bishop of Sheffield. In his

case, too, it was only retirement from office in 1939, and departure from the city that caused him to relinquish his association with the Council.

He was succeeded in the following year by the Bishop of Sheffield, Rt. Rev. Dr. Leslie Hunter. Hunter guided the Council through the anxious years of war to its establishment on the new basis dictated by the operation of the National Service Act of 1946.

Charles Gall

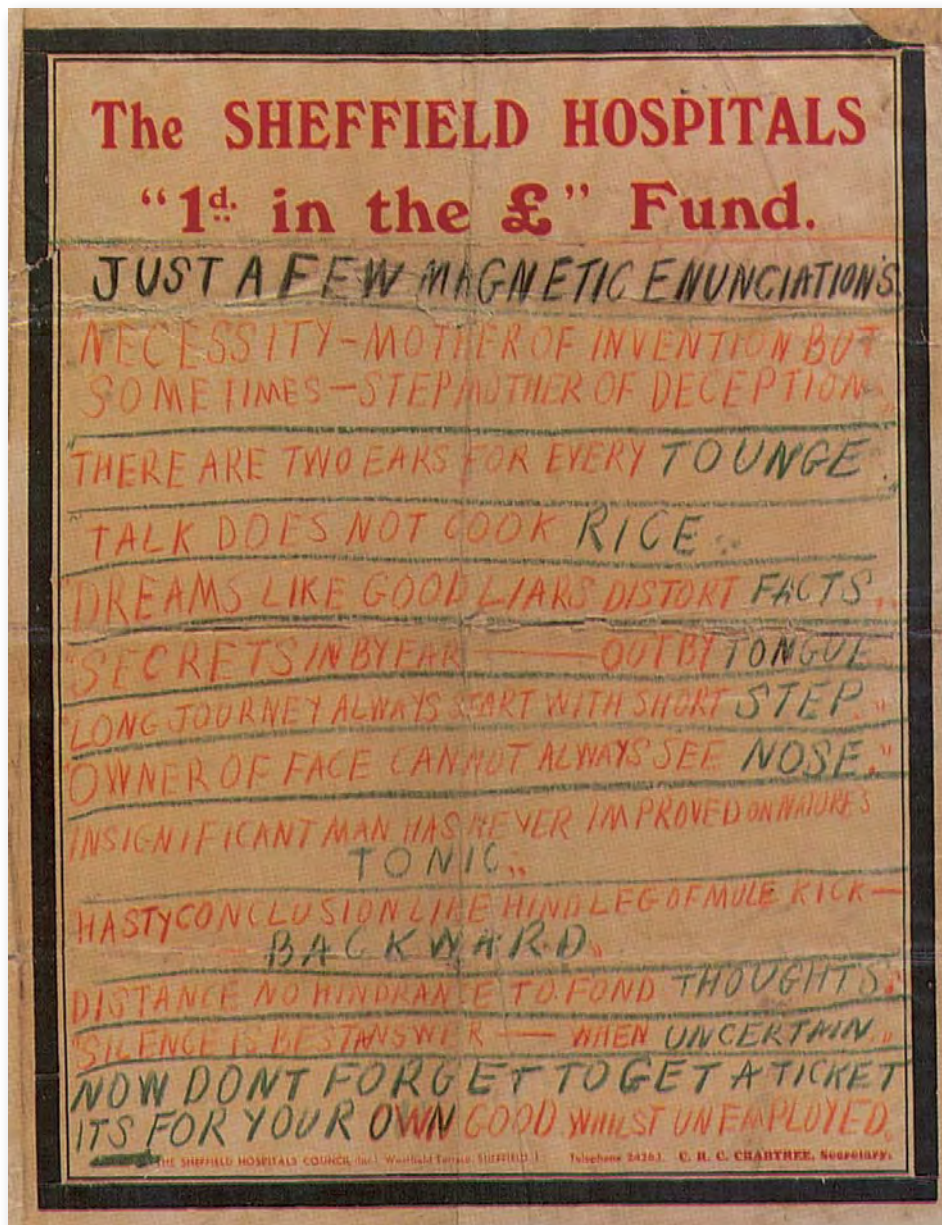
Westfield owes its success to the energy and dedication of countless individuals but there is one man whose achievements occupy a special place in our history. His name was Charles Gall. For more than 12 years he stood outside labour exchanges in Sheffield with his collection box, collecting pennies from the unemployed who had just received their dole money. The unemployed were able to receive the same benefits, such as free hospital treatment, as those who had jobs. In all weathers, week after week, he was there dedicating himself to the Scheme. Unemployed himself, he plunged whole heartedly into the hospital movement to keep his mind active and the community of Sheffield together as it faced the dark era of the Second World War. Charles Gall became celebrated for his cheery manner and his home made posters and placards, which he always carried around with him.

Between 1933 and 1947 Charles Gall personally collected more than 400,000 pennies for the Sheffield Hospital Council. In 1933, Gall famously collected a penny from the Duke of Windsor. During a state visit to Sheffield, the Duke came across the enthusiastic Gall and was happy to make a contribution to the fund.

Charles Gall was one of life's great characters and he is fondly remembered even today. His tireless work and drive has helped lay the foundations for the future success of Westfield.



Charles Gall.



One of Charles Gall's celebrated handwritten posters.

SHEFFIELD AT WAR – THE SHEFFIELD BLITZ

Blitz: the German word for lighting.

When war was declared on 3rd September 1939, the people of Sheffield entered a period which was to leave few lives untouched. In the city almost overnight, war brought changes to all aspects of day-to-day living. Sheffield was regarded as one of the most vulnerable areas in Britain because it was liable for a German attack.

The Sheffield Blitz took place over three nights – 12th, 13th and 15th December 1940 as the Germans dropped nearly 450 high explosive bombs, land mines and incendiaries. In total over 693 lives were lost, 1,500 were injured, 40,000 were made homeless and 3,000 homes were demolished with a further 3,000 badly damaged. A total of 78,000 homes suffered damage.

The modern world is still living with the consequences of the Second World War, the most titanic conflict in history. Just over 69

years ago on 1st September 1939, Germany invaded Poland without warning. By the evening of 3rd September, Britain and France were at war with Germany and within a week, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and South Africa had also joined in. The world had been plunged into its second world war in 25 years. Six long and bloody years of total war, fought over many thousands of square kilometres. From the hedgerows of Normandy to the streets of Stalingrad, the chamber camps in Auschwitz, to the coral reefed islands of Pearl Harbour and the local streets of Sheffield, it involved every major world power in a struggle for global domination. At its end, more than 60 million people had lost their lives and most of Europe and large parts of Asia lay in ruins.

The collective nature of the war effort was held to have produced profound social change: pre-war divisions of class, wealth, status and power were set aside in favour of a new social cohesion which developed from the common



Fitzwilliam Street, showing air raid damage with Royal Hospital in the background.



Sheffield High Street, before and after the Blitz.

experience of war and the shared aim of defeating the enemy. As the British faced the invasion scare of 1940, the Luftwaffe attacked urban centres and the nation prepared for the long hard struggle on the road to victory, rich and poor, male and female, majorities and minorities alike submerged their differences and stood united as one.

Throughout the 1930s Sheffield's world famous steel industry had been struggling. In the grip of recession, jobs and pay were in decline. The country's rearmament in the build up to the war and the constant demand for reinforcements meant the Steel City could stoke the furnaces once more.

As a major producer of armaments in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, Sheffield has had a continuous involvement with war. Munitions, aircraft parts and armour plates were all produced in Sheffield factories. The 'Steel City' was a vital cog in the Allied war effort and the city's vast industrial sector teemed with factories. The immense steel industry, churning out everything from

bayonets to tank armour, with the surrounding coal mines feeding the factories, made Sheffield an obvious target for enemy air raids. The bombing of Sheffield by the German Air Force was tactically inevitable. Steelworks began running at full capacity making all imaginable tools of war and Sheffield's contribution to the armament of the British forces was massive. Over 693 fatalities resulted from the air raids on the city.

Sheffield Blitz

The Sheffield Blitz is the name given to the worst nights of bombing in Sheffield during the Second World War. It took place on 12th and 13th December 1940. In 1940, Sheffield was a city of about 560,000 people and contained many heavy industries, primarily centred on steel and armaments.

The first major raid on Sheffield came on 12th December 1940, a clear night, two nights away from a full moon, and with a crisp frost reflected in the moonlight. Sheffield, codenamed '*Schmelztiegel*' (Crucible) by the Germans, was the target that night and 406 aircraft were allocated for the raid, 336 later claimed to have bombed the city. At 7.00pm the first sirens were heard around the city, and the first aircraft flew in from the south, coming up the Sheaf Valley. Soon fires were burning at Abbeydale, Brincliffe Edge, Moorhead, Glossop Road and Park Hill. Effectively, the pathfinders had created a ring of fire with the city centre in the middle. The fire services found it extremely difficult to fight the fires.

There was little that hospitals could do during the raid because it was difficult for casualties to reach them. The hospitals were, however, affected themselves. In addition to the damage and casualties at Nether Edge, the Jessop Hospital for Women was hit and was evacuated. The Royal Hospital in West Street was also affected by blast.

The morning of 13th December brought a clearer picture of the devastation. Much of the city centre and surrounding areas were destroyed. Many people were trapped in wrecked buildings. Clearing the rubble away took time and there were delays in briefing



The Marples Hotel, the morning after the Blitz, 13th December 1940.

earth moving equipment to the city. It took nearly 12 days to clear the Marples Hotel, following its direct hit. Much of the city was without gas and about 50 per cent of homes had no electricity. Communications were severely disrupted, such as trams and bus routes. Occasionally rescue work and unexploded bombs, many with time-delay fuses, hampered clearing up.

On the first night of the Blitz bombs fell on the city centre rather on the industrial east end. On the night of 12th December, the first bombs fell about 7pm and the last bomb fell at 4am.

The Marples Tragedy – 1940

On 12th and 13th December 1940, Sheffield was hit with two air raids. A single bomb killed at least 70 people, many of whom were sheltering in the cellars of the Marples Hotel in Fitzalan Square. After incendiary bombing,

numerous fires broke out in the surrounding streets. At 11.44pm the Marples Hotel took a direct hit. The bomb ploughed through the upper floors of the building, only detonating on floor level impact right above the cellars. 70 people were killed in the Marples Hotel and sadly some were never found.

Operation Crucible

At the beginning of September 1940, German air power was redeployed on a new mission. The alternative plan became known as the Blitz, and consisted of the systematic bombing of British cities, particularly industrial centres like Sheffield, and busy shipping ports like Liverpool. Cities such as Coventry, Southampton, Birmingham and Bristol had all been hit with single target raids at intervals of about a week. The people of Sheffield expected their fate, but couldn't know when it would befall them.



Sheffield High Street.

The attack on Sheffield was code named Crucible by the Germans. The Germans' main intention was to destroy the factories along the Don Valley. However, because of low cloud and poor weather conditions, the Germans began dropping bombs all across the city. At 7pm the first sirens began to sound, though by 9pm high explosives had been dropped and flames engulfed the city. At 10.50pm a 500kg bomb fell on the C&A department store completely levelling the building. When the fires were finally extinguished there were scenes of devastation everywhere. Department stores, homes, schools, cinemas, and concert halls and even Sheffield United's, Bramall Lane football stadium was badly damaged. The steelworks were, however, largely untouched. Bombing on the last night hit some targets on the Industrial East but Sheffield's industry escaped relatively unscathed.

The Germans flew by a beam, an early kind of radar. This was fixed on a point and then the German bombers flew down the beam to their target. Interception of enemy radio beams indicated that Sheffield was the objective. However, the British had found a way to bend this beam instead of the point the Germans had chosen, which was the Duke of Wellington pub on Carlisle Street, the bombers flew straight to the city centre instead. This saved the steel works and the industrial armament factories, but it instead threw the city centre into chaos and killed many people.

Sunday 15th December 1940

The target for the second December raid was the industrial east end, which had escaped the first attack. 135 aircraft were sent to bomb Sheffield, but with deteriorating visibility and the risk of fog at their bases, some were delivered to less distant targets.

The task of clearing up continued. Damage had been caused to 82,413 of the city's 150,449 houses and shops and some were beyond repair. Some of this damage was relatively minor (broken windows, damaged rooves) but, because of the number of repairs needed and the shortage of materials, it took many months to restore houses. Many areas were without gas and water for weeks, with gas not being fully restored until 29th January 1941. Cold and draughty houses, coupled with the bitter winter of 1941, made living conditions very unpleasant and undoubtedly led to a number of premature deaths, particularly among the elderly.

Sheffield's experience of war in 1939-1945 went, of course, far beyond the experience of air raids. Labour was mobilised to a massive degree and war work in steelmaking, munitions and engineering involved considerable numbers of women. The intensity of the Blitz brought the experience of war to Sheffield's doorsteps. A combined total for both raids was 693 killed. These totals exclude servicemen killed in the raid.

In true Westfield spirit the Scheme still continued to operate during this difficult time. The commitment and drive to continue the exceptional service to the people of Sheffield during the war years must never be forgotten. It speaks volumes about an organisation when it still continues to provide its services to the Voluntary Hospitals and to its contributors even through the devastation of the Sheffield Blitz. We as present employees must respect our past colleagues and recognise the work they continued to deliver during what was an uncertain and difficult period of time.



WESTFIELD HEALTH – TIMELINE

Westfield starts life in rented, Victorian offices in Church Street, Sheffield on 3rd July, 1919, as the Sheffield Consultative and Advisory Hospitals Council, later to become the Sheffield Hospitals Council. It has grown and developed to become one of the leading health insurance providers in the country.



1920s

- 1921** Fred Osborn, a Council Member, came up with a great idea to beat the financial crisis – a “Penny in the Pound Scheme”. Its simple aim was to give working people free hospital treatment in return for a weekly contribution of a penny in each pound earned. Employers added a third of the sum raised.
- 1922** Mr. C. R. Crabtree joined the Council as a cashier. He later became Company Secretary during the Second World War.
- 1925** Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress helped the Joint Hospital Council distribute over 1,200 Christmas gifts to children in Sheffield’s local hospitals. All courtesy of Westfield.

1930s

- 1930** Sheffield Hospitals Council was allocated £500 from the gate receipts of the FA Charity Shield match between Arsenal and Sheffield Wednesday.
- 1938** The Million Pounds Appeal is created in July 1938. The Appeal’s objective was to raise one million pounds for the development of various departments and buildings for the four Voluntary Hospitals. In 1948 the appeal was discontinued.
- 1939** 3rd September – Britain declares war on Germany following Hitler’s invasion of Poland on 1st September.
- 1939** The Council continues to operate in service during the war years. Even during the slump of the 1930s and the outbreak of the Second World War, contributions totalled more than £100,000 per year.

1940s

- 1940** Rationing begins in Britain. In preparation, the Council purchase an additional 16,000 eggs for the Easter egg delivery for patients in the Voluntary Hospitals.
- 1940** 9th October, Winston Churchill becomes Prime Minister of Britain
- 1940** 12th, 13th and 15th December – The Sheffield Blitz. German aircraft drop over 450 high explosives bombs, land mines and incendiaries on the city. During these air raids 693 lives were lost, 1,500 were injured, 40,000 were made homeless and 3,000 homes were demolished with a further 3,000 badly damaged. A total of 78,000 homes suffered damage.
- 1941** Rotherham Contributory Scheme was formed.
- 1942** In April 1942, after protracted negotiations, an agreement was entered into with Beckett Hospital, Barnsley, for the extension of the “1d in the £” Scheme into the Barnsley area.
- 1945** 7th May Germany surrenders unconditionally to the Allies in Rheims, France at 1.41am.
- 1945** 9th May, Adolph Hitler commits suicide.
- 1945** The Allies form the United Nations, which officially came into existence on 24th October 1945.
- 1946** A grant of £5,000 was made to the Children’s Hospital for the erection of a new Teaching Unit known as ‘The Stephenson Block’.

- 1946** The disablement of the "1d in the £" Scheme.
- 1947** Charles Gall established a special place in Westfield's history by regularly standing for 24 years outside the city's labour exchanges collecting thousands of pounds for the Sheffield Hospitals Council.
- 1948** 5th July, the introduction of the National Health Service and free hospital treatment. At this stage much of the Council's work is rendered unnecessary. It continues to stay in business by using subscriptions from individuals to provide places in convalescent homes for recuperation after illness or hospital treatment.

1950s

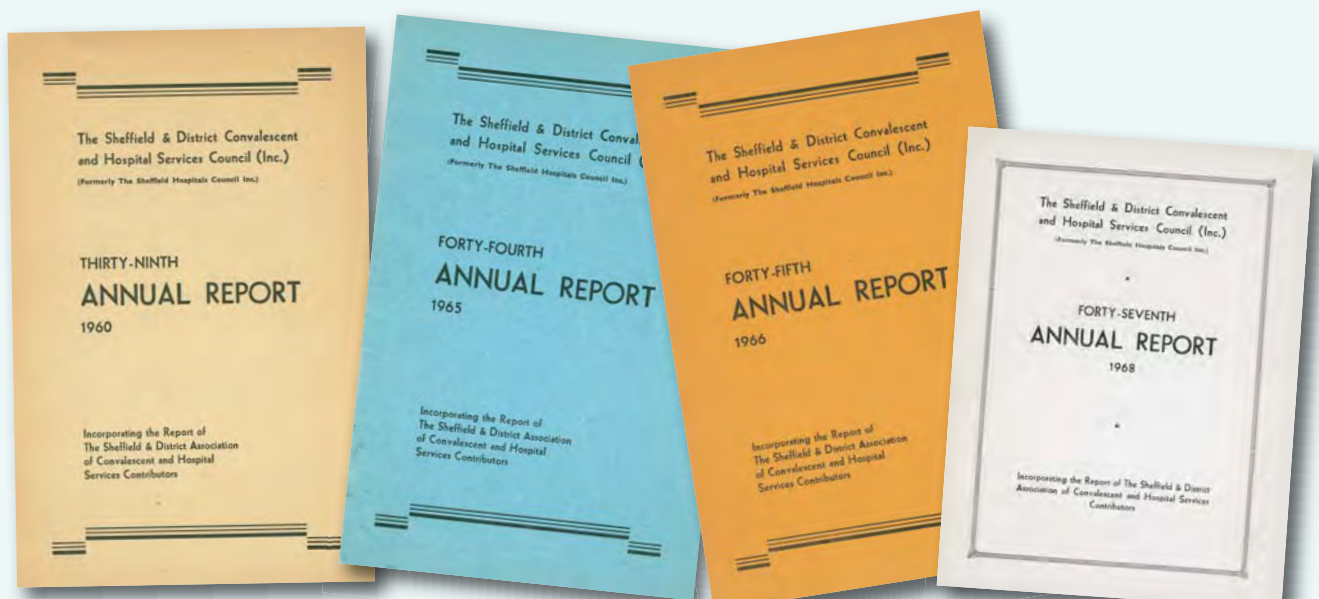
- 1950** In March, Sheffield Hospitals Council Chairman, Dr. J. Clark presents Sheffield School of Nursing with a grand piano.
- 1951** Westfield introduced the Cinema Service. Each show consists of a full-length feature film, the current newsreel and one or two 'shorts'. Men and women who give their services voluntarily project the films. Between 1951-1957 7,000 films were shown to 175,000 patients.
- 1956** An extended scheme of general benefits was introduced, the forerunner of Westfield's schemes of today.
- 1959** There were 34,400 contributors in the Scheme and income for the year totalled over £74,000.

1960s

- 1963** Benefits were available to contributors for 6d per week and the range of benefits included hospitalisation, spectacles, dentures and specialist fees.
- Grants for spectacles, dentures and surgical appliances were available to contributors for six pence (6d) per week.
- 1967** The Sheffield Hospitals Council recorded its 100,000th scheme contributor.



Peace of mind 6d a week.



Collection of front covers of 1960s Annual Reports.

1970s

1973 On 7th April, the Council moves into its purpose built offices – Westfield House in Division Street, Sheffield.



THESE girls can feel well pleased with the modern, well-lighted general office in which there is plenty of room for expansion of the work of the Hospital Services Council.

'Dream' office gives space and dignity

THIRTEEN people and 36 stone stairs used to be an embarrassment to the Sheffield and District Convalescent and Hospital Services Council.

Many of those who called at the council's offices in Division Street to pay contributions or collect benefits were either old or infirm and, in some cases, both.

The 36 stairs that led to overcrowded and cramped offices did nothing to ease their problems.

And if more than a dozen contributors turned up at any one time, the remainder had to wait on the pavement until someone vacated valuable space.

But those days are over. Embarrassment has turned to pride now that the council has moved into Westfield House — its prestigious new office block — next door.

No longer is it the poor relation of Sheffield's business community.

Here in an atmosphere resembling a modern banking or building society office, customers can conduct their business in space, light, warmth, and dignity.

The four-storey block is the end of a dream that was first visualised in 1948, but it wasn't until three years ago that the first concrete steps were

taken to make it become a reality.

After obtaining the site on a 99 year lease from the corporation, plans were drawn up, the contract was put out to tender, and work started in December 1971.

The council now occupies the ground floor and part of the first, leaving some 16,000 square feet for future expansion and letting.

The council has done everything possible to give its staff of four men and 18 women, working conditions that have been denied them in the past.

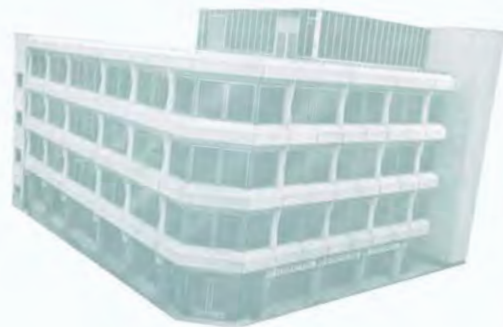
The offices and corridors have wall-to-wall carpeting, and an attractive dining area with cooking facilities means they can have lunch and breaks in comfort without having to wait in some crowded restaurant.

And what of the contributors? For them, the council has provided a spacious reception area with seating, and a long service counter means they can conduct their business in privacy and with speed.

Over the years, the council has operated from first St Peter's Close, Westfield Terrace, Orchard Street, Church Street and then the 36 steps offices in Division Street.

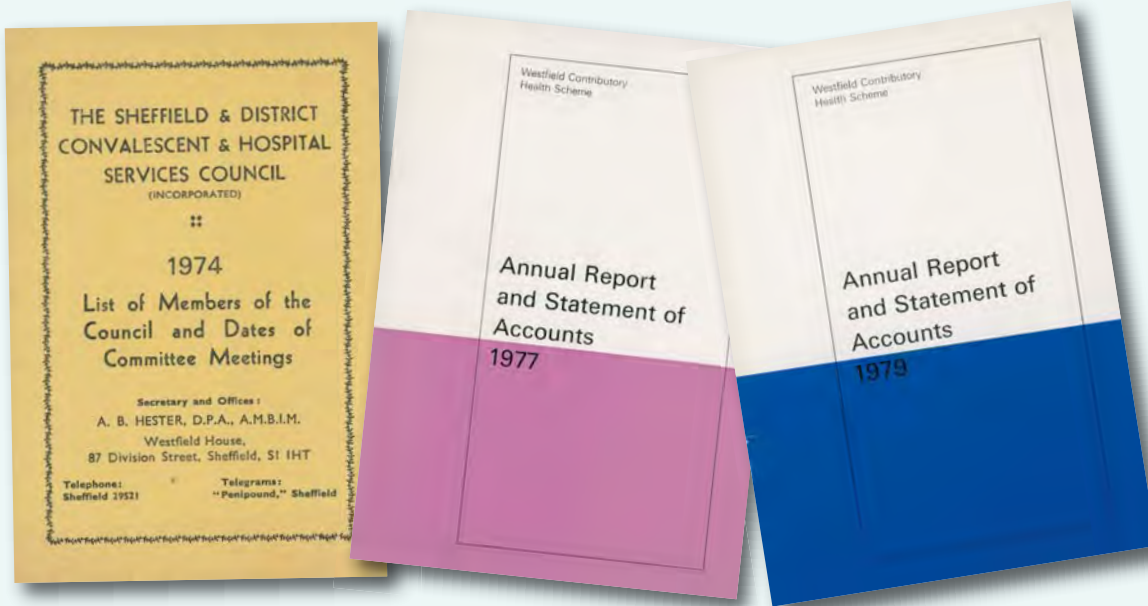
But in Westfield House, it has long last found a permanent home.

"We shall be here for a very long time," says council secretary Mr Brian Hoster.



Official opening of "Westfield House"—
new offices for the Sheffield & District Convalescent
and Hospital Services Council (Inc.)
by the Lord Mayor of Sheffield
(Alderman Mrs. Martha Trafford)
7th April, 1973

Official opening of Westfield House,
7th April 1973



Collection of front covers of 1970s Annual Reports.

1974 The Council changes its name to Westfield Contributory Health Scheme.

1974 More than 64,000 members claimed a total of £734,000 under Westfield's 10p a week scheme.

1976 For the first time the Scheme paid out over one million pounds in benefits.



The Westfield building



Collection of front covers of 1980s Annual Reports.

1980s

- 1985** Graham Moore joined Westfield Health as Chief Executive.
- 1987** The introduction of the 45p, 85p and £1.30 schemes.
- 1989** The Berlin Wall was demolished, unifying East and West Germany. The Wall was erected following the Second World War.



Mr Graham Moore.

1990s

- 1991** The introduction of the Super Gold Scheme. £2 per week would offer a comprehensive range of 15 different benefits, including complementary treatments, personal accident and accidental death benefit.
- 1994** Jill Davies joined Westfield as Sales Executive West Midlands.
- 1994** Westfield celebrate 75 years in service.
- 1997** Westfield donate over £231,000 to local hospitals and charities. Donations include a £25,000 ultra sound scanner for Nottingham City Hospital and £65,000 for a mobile classroom at Sheffield Life Education Trust.
- 1998** National Health Service is 50 years old.



Mrs Jill Davies.

The logo for Westfield Health features a stylized graphic of three overlapping, curved lines in yellow, green, and blue, resembling a plant or a flame. Below this graphic, the words "westfield" and "health" are written in a dark blue, sans-serif font, with "westfield" on the left and "health" on the right.

westfield health

2009 – The Future

Westfield Health has come a long way since its inception in 1919 when its doors first opened. The Scheme is now one of the most successful and secure health care insurers in the UK with almost 90 years' experience and more than a third of a million policyholders enjoying cover with us. Westfield is a not for profit organisation that is dedicated and proud of our contributors, our staff, our history and our future.

In July 2008, Mr. Graham Moore stepped down from his full-time duties as Chief Executive; his replacement was Jill Davies.

In 2009, Westfield will be uniting together to celebrate its 90th year in business and we will also be marking the 70th anniversary of the Second World War.

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