

KILRONAN NURSERY



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Another Nursery in Woking during the war was at Kilronan, a house on the corner of Horsell Rise and Kettlewell Hill, which before the war had been the home of Adeline Palmer-Mearns.

By 1941 it had been turned into a Nursery with a number of photographs of the property surviving thanks to the fact that it was used in a promotion in the USA to try to get support for the Junior American Red Cross.

Here the three Hole sisters from London, Monica (aged 4), Marlene (3) and Josephine (aged nine-months), are accompanied by a nurse along the snowy streets of Woking in February 1941 to the Nursery, where they are greeted by the Matron.

The pictures, part of the "Ministry of Information 2nd World War official collection", were made by the Ministry of Information Photo Division Photographer and can be found on the Imperial War Museum's website.

After the war Kilronan was eventually turned into a school (in 1952) when the Cable House School moved to the site. It closed in 2003 and has subsequently been demolished and replaced by a small housing estate.



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Children can be seen enjoying the snow in the garden of the house in January/February 1941, although Harriet Hopkins (aged two) doesn't look quite so happy, possibly following a disagreement with one of her classmates (below right).

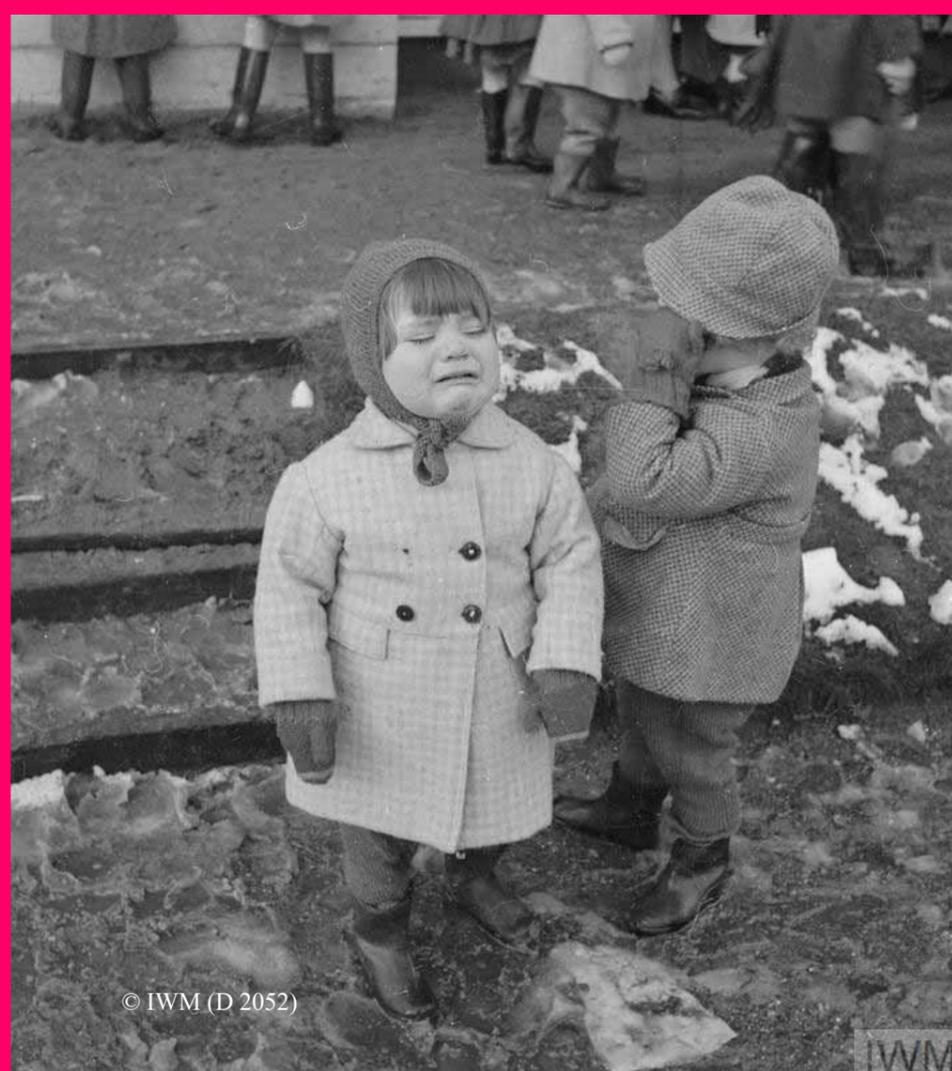
Below Left - A 'nurses-eye view' of six children in a pram in the snow.



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Sister Morley and a nurse serve lunch to the children with some obviously appreciating the food more than others.

Mary Dean (right) needs a helping hand from the Sister, whilst Florence Lewes (left - closest the camera) seems to be enjoying the soup or stew - although sixteen-month old Michael Hamilton (below) does not appear to be quite as keen as the others.



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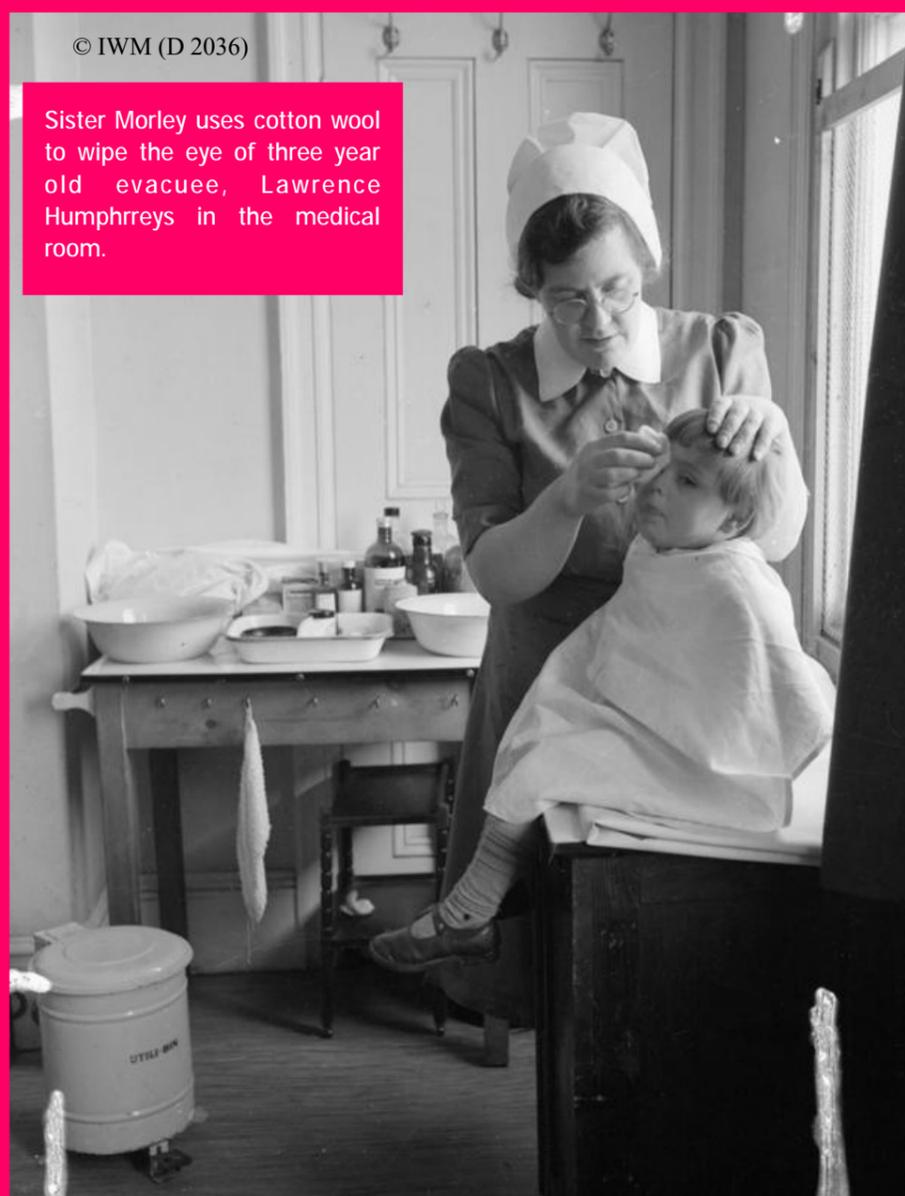


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Katheleen Hanly (aged 4) is wrapped in a towel in the bathroom at Kilonan. Baths were apparently taken just before bedtime at 5pm.

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Sister Morley uses cotton wool to wipe the eye of three year old evacuee, Lawrence Humphreys in the medical room.



The children are getting prepared to go out, with one nurse helping a child on with a shoe.

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Mary Dean sits on a chamber pot, surrounded by cots, in the dormitory of Kilronan Nursery in Woking, Surrey, in preparation for bedtime.

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4½ year-old Maureen Hamilton sits up in her cot in the sick room, reading a book and playing with a toy.



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Children sleeping in the high-sided cots in the dormitory with some of their belongings being kept in baskets below.



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