

The Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital Nurses League.

Charity number 290546

93rd Annual General Meeting

Minutes of 93rd Annual General Meeting held in Benjamin Gooch Hall on 13th May 2023

Present – Mike Surkitt-Parr (President) Hilary Barker (Treasurer) Ann Copsey (Membership Secretary) Doreen Betts (seniors) Chris Parfitt (Joint Editor) Margaret Allcock (Heritage Lead) Mary Dolding. Elizabeth Blaxell. Jan Beart. Tessa Holmes (Secretary) and 57 members (number to be conformed)

Apologies for absence – Sondra Gorrick (Joint Editor) and 77 members had sent apologies.

Mike Surkitt-Parr welcomed attendees to the 93rd AGM and introduced Chaplain Joanna Parker who led the service for members. The hymns of 'Lord of the Dance', 'God be in my Head' and 'Love Divine all Loves Excelling' were enjoyed and the reading this year was delivered by Heather Parle. A collection was undertaken and the sum of £188.10 was collected and will be donated to 'Essentials' a charity led by the Chaplaincy team of NNUH for staff of the hospital who are experiencing hardship in 2023. This cause was chosen by our speaker, Dr Lucy Arora.

The AGM commenced at 14.25 with the lecture. Mike Surkitt-Parr welcomed this year's speaker Dr Lucy Arora who is Associate Director of Education for Nurses, Midwives and Health Professionals at NNUH. A very interesting and enlightening lecture entitled 'Ways into Nursing' followed which provoked interesting questions from the floor with the newly created Nursing Associate qualification, which was first validated by the NMC in 2018. This is a foundation level degree, and it was suggested by a member that it could be likened perhaps to the old Enrolled Nurse qualification. A two-year programme which sees entrants paid at Band 3 as they are sponsored by the NNUH whilst undertaking the course through an apprenticeship grant. This also provides the nurses as Trained Nursing Associates and whilst being paid at Band 4 to undertake a further 2 years training to become Registered nurses. Dr Arora explained that this route has seen far better staff retention and is a joint training initiative between the NNUH and the UEA, University of Suffolk. 'Return to practice' and 'Supported Practice Programmes' for those nurses who are subject to a 'Conditions of Practice order' from the NMC are also offered.

The International Recruitment Programme has seen a reduction in the vacancy gap in our region and the NNUH has seen 305 nurses achieve NMC Registration by this route since 2005.

Mike Surkitt-Parr thanked Dr Arora for her most interesting lecture.

President's address – Mike Surkitt-Parr again welcomed members who had been unable to attend the AGM and Reunion in-person since 2019. During this time the business of the Nurses League had continued with the Trustees meeting via Zoom. This past year has seen the League represented at the Edith Cavell Service with the wreath laid in 2022 by our retired President Mary Dolding. The Betty Lee Lecture in October 2022 was the first lecture to take place since the passing of Betty Lee and saw some of her family members present at the lecture and the first Presentation of the Betty Lee Award was made to the Nurse/Midwife who had submitted the best Thesis. The winner of 2022 was Keavy Wright a paediatric nurse. The award was presented by Chief Nurse Nancy Fontaine together with Betty's godson. The League also gave Keavy Wright a gift of League membership for a year. A Time-out Day took place in November with a trained facilitator with the two key challenges for the League of Finance and Membership being examined in more detail. As an outcome of this day a new sub-committee has been formed, in order to lead on social media policy formation for the League,

changes to the format of the Website, additions to social media and liaison with the NNUH communications team. International nurses are to be encouraged to join the League and members themselves encouraged to take on the role of Trustees.

In 2030 the League will have its centenary. Mike Surkitt-Parr thanked his fellow Trustees for their work for the League.

Election of Trustees

Margaret Allcock and Doreen Betts were proposed to serve for a further term by Mary Clarke and seconded by Heather Parle.

Treasurers Report – Presented by Hilary Barker. Attached

Membership Secretary Report – Presented by Ann Copsey. Attached

Editors Report – Presented by Chris Parfitt on behalf of herself and her joint editor Sondra Gorrick. This was the third and final report by Chris Parfitt and Sondra Gorrick as they retire from the Editor post this year. A new job description has been written. Thanks also to Vince and team of S R Print & Design of North Walsham for their help and support with the Journal. Attached.

Heritage Report – Presented by Jan Beart on behalf of the Group. Attached

Any Other Business

Hilary Barker reminded those present that Raffle tickets would still be on sale during Afternoon Tea.

Mike Surkitt-Parr then spoke about the activities of the NNUH Nurses League Heritage Group led by Margaret Allcock and their excellent work with the display cabinet at the Hospital and other displays for key events.

In recognition for her work Margaret Allcock was presented with a certificate by Rachel Cocker (Deputy Chief Nurse at NNUH) on behalf of Professor Nancy Fontaine and the NNUH. Mike Surkitt-Parr presented Margaret Allcock with a bouquet of flowers and a gift from Mr Richard England, Consultant Paediatric Surgeon at the Jenny Lind Childrens Hospital.

The meeting was followed by Afternoon Tea which was enjoyed by members of the Nurses League. The Anniversary cake to celebrate the 93rd Year of the League was cut by two former Presidents, Douglas Beattie and Sheila Rengert.

The Raffle made £147 for League Funds

The 94th AGM will be held at the Benjamin Gooch Hall on Saturday 11th May 2024

M. J. Surkitt-Parr

11 : 05 : 24.