

# *The Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital Nurses League*

## **88th AGM & Reunion**

Charity registration number 290546

The Annual Service preceded the 88<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting and Reunion of The Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital Nurses League in the Benjamin Gooch Hall at the hospital on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2017** at 1.45pm. This year it was taken by the Hospital Chaplain Reverend Eleanor Langan. Heather Parle read the Gospel, the pianist was Ros Lancaster (relative of Betty Lee) and Pat LeGrice donated the flowers which later went into the Chapel.

**Mary Dolding**, our President, welcomed 100 Members to the 87<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Nurses League. She introduced our speaker **Dr Pádraig Ó Lúanaigh** Deputy Director of Nursing at the Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital known to us all as 'Dr Paddy' to talk to the Members on '*Nursing, the way forward – an exciting future or more of the same?*' A summary will be in the 2018 Journal. The presentation was well received by Members. **Mike Surkitt-Parr** thanked him for his talk & all the help he has been to Members & Trustees in the background for which we are incredibly grateful. Mike said he would not like to guess the years and skills of the dedicated nurses in the room. We all feel very proud of what we have delivered in the past but also that we have laid a solid foundation. With all the challenges nurses shine through with skills & dedication of which we should all be very proud. **Mary** thanked Paddy for giving us two raffle prizes of his recently published book in which he mentions as he walks around the NNUH he sees that nursing, when done well, is beautiful to watch.

**Dr Paddy** then went through the **re-launch of our new website** & alternative subscription payment details [www.norfolkandnorwichuniversityhospitalnursesleague.co.uk](http://www.norfolkandnorwichuniversityhospitalnursesleague.co.uk) details will be in the 2018 Journal. Information required by Members to login was available at teatime. Next year it will be forwarded when subscriptions are paid – Member's password will be changed annually at this time.

### **The business of the AGM then commenced:**

**Mary Dolding** chaired the meeting welcoming Vice-Presidents Sheilah Rengert, Ivan Weston & Betty Lee.

**Apologies for absence** Apologies had been received from absent Members.

**Minutes of the last meeting** having been circulated with the 2017 Journal, were confirmed and signed by the President. There were no matters arising. Proposed: Proposed Ann Copey Seconded: Doreen Betts

### **Trustees/Executive Committee Elections.**

**Mary Dolding was re-elected to serve a further three years as President of the NNUHNL.**

Proposed; Margaret Mercer Seconded: Yvonne Archer

Dawn Collins had resigned from her post as Trustee and was thanked for her contribution to the Nurses League. Three Trustees up for re-election were Margaret Allcock Heritage /Trustee, Doreen Betts Joint Editor/Trustee and Mike Surkitt-Parr were all re-elected with a show of hands from the floor. Jennie Cropp (Mann) was elected as a new Trustee to serve for three years – making a full committee.

Proposed: Heather Parle Seconded: Maureen Cox

**The President's Address** **Mary Dolding** was honoured that she had been elected for a further 3 years and will work hard to progress the League in ways Members will want to see it go. She thanked Members for coming to support the day. A lot of work goes into the plans and thanks were directed to the Director of Nursing Emma McKay, despite financial constraints, gifted monies towards teas with SERCO making up the difference. We are lucky that the Trust has continued to support us for 87years to tea and cake. We continue to face challenges especially around attracting new Members but we have plans for the next few years and have help from the Trust especially Dr Paddy. The heart of our organisation continues to be about caring/supporting Members whilst celebrating nursing and our rich history of 87years. Mary still has difficult conversations about the NHS and nursing today but from personal experience can only say how impressed she has been with clinical care, expertise and kindness received as a patient. So to those still in nursing congratulations especially in the nurse lead service she experienced. It was from Carrie Wingfield's lecture two years ago that altered Mary to something which was not quite right and luckily Carrie was able to carry out a procedure and with excellent care follow-up results were good. Although she had a good experience she was aware others had not – recommending Members become involved as a Critical Friend within the NHS.

**Treasurer: Hilary Barker** – financial report April 2016-7 was independently audited/examined.

Subscriptions/donations income (£1683) slightly down but we have been working hard to recruit new Members. Gift Aid Tax relief (£198.86) Thank you to those who sent generous donations – much

appreciated and the Members who have already paid subscriptions. If it is easier to pay by standing order it is now possible via the new website or continue with a cheque as before. Expenditure (£3545.91) was slightly more than income (£3252.64). Cost of the Journal has risen (£1713) but we managed to secure cheaper local postage via the hospital postage service. Again, last Christmas we sent gifts (£442.33) to 54 Senior Members enabling us to keep in touch enjoying a chat/update with Trustees over the Christmas period. Investments, despite an uncertain global market, continue to give a good return managed by Chris Rengert who is happy with them and for this we thank him. Heritage/archive material continues to have money spent to prepare for storage in the Norwich Record Office which can be seen by anyone in the future. Transferring monies from our business account into our current account we have enough working capital for the foreseeable future. Subscriptions remain unchanged and funds to benefit Members. Reports were available for inspection. Appreciation was shown.

**Membership Secretary Ann Copsy** thanked those for interesting letters/appreciation of the Journal and Editors for a job well done. Membership now 354 – 4 new Members since the Journal. Sadly Members lost: Judy Wilson 1966, Alma Aldridge (Wilson) 1970-2, Margery Catchpole (Bateman) 1946-50, Jane Roberts (Burton) 1940-3. Journals returned Margaret Spray (Miller) 1950-5 & Rosalind Cogman (Strowger) 1959-62 whereabouts sought. Prompt payment of subscriptions was appreciated. Members need to update e-mail/addresses please.

**Joint Editors Doreen Betts & Elizabeth Blaxell** thanked contributors and for the nice words about the 2017 Journal. Thinking they had reached their peak but now find they have not run out of steam yet! Articles/photos (with names please)/ memories of nursing in the past gladly accepted as Journals now go into the Norwich Archives with the Nurses League history. Editors enjoy compiling it but it is hard work especially in January. Failure to keep to the December deadline causes unnecessary stress at a very busy time.

**Heritage Sub-Committee: Vivien . Aldridge** reported for the subgroup (Margaret Allcock, Mary Dolding, Betty Lee and Elizabeth Blaxell). The years biggest achievement was the acquisition of a cabinet in the West Atrium displaying items/information about the Nurses League. First display centred around Jill Orton – 1<sup>st</sup> N&N diabetic nurse in training 1956. We aim to change the display every three months – next asthma treatment. All uniforms have been photographed before offering them to Norwich Costume Museum. **Still searching for a ‘grey’ dress to complete the collection.** Journals indexed and deposited at Norwich Record Office and can be accessed by those interested or on-line. Cromer Hospital celebrating 150years June 2017 found items/articles of pertinent interest to display. Next mammoth task is 2000 articles to sort/index and put into acid free files before depositing. Outside are articles/photographs of Jenny Lind Hospital which need identifying – especially people. We can help Members who wish to share or put into print photos/articles for the Journal or the cabinet. Members were thanked for their continued interest in the collection. Mary reminded serving Members to take an interest in uniforms/nursing – record them as we possibly have the best nursing history records in the country and time flies! Reports accepted.

*Proposed: Tony Barber Seconded John Hayes.*

#### **Any other business**

- i. Chapel collection £312 for Slipper Fund c/o Hospital Chaplains.
- ii ‘Fill a Mug’ competition judged by Dr Paddy – for Nurses League stall at NNUH Fete in June. With proceeds for our funds. Ann Copsy won a voucher for her prize mug.
- iii. It was put to the floor that Dr Paddy be offered Hon Membership of the Nurses League for the help he has given us – applause. Mr Alan Green had also accepted Hon Membership but unfortunately died before he could take it up.
- iv. **Raffle prize winners:** Mary Dolding & Monica Swann (Burroughes) Dr Paddy’s books. Vouchers: Jenny and Elizabeth Blaxell. Raffle raised £143 for our funds. Thanks were expressed from the floor for the hard work of a successful day.

**88<sup>th</sup> AGM & Reunion Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2018 89<sup>th</sup> AGM & Reunion Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

Signed.

Date.