

The Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital Nurses League

89th AGM & Reunion

Charity registration number 290546

90th Meeting cancelled due to Coronavirus infection 2020

The Annual Service preceded the **89th** Annual General Meeting and Reunion of The Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital Nurses League in the Benjamin Gooch Hall on **Saturday 11th May 2019** at 1.45pm. This year led by the Hospital Chaplain Reverend Jane Nursey. Heather Parle read the Gospel, pianist was Annette Jude & Wendy Hobbs donated flowers which later went into the Chapel.

Mary Dolding, our President, welcomed 84 Members to the 89th anniversary of the Nurses League. She introduced our speaker *Prof Jeremy Turner a Consultant in Endocrinology with a one-stop osteoporosis clinic at NNUH*. A summary of his talk will be in the 2019 Journal. The lecture was greatly appreciated by Members. Sondra Gorrick gave a vote of thanks.

1. The business of the AGM then commenced: The meeting was chaired by **Mary Dolding**.

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

3. Minutes of the last meeting having been circulated with the 2019 Journal, were confirmed and signed. No matters arising. Proposed: Annette Jude, Seconded: Jane Jackson.

4. Trustees/Executive Committee Elections. Two Trustees up for re-election were *Hilary Barker (Treasurer)*, & *Ann Copsey (Membership Secretary)* both willing to stand again & serve a further three years. *Vivien Aldridge* retired in February, but will continue to support the committee, after serving as a Trustee since 2010 & *Wendy Hobbs* retired as Trustee since 2010 - Member from 1960's. A gift was given to both showing our appreciation. Applause from Members. A nomination for new a Trustee had been received: *Jan Beart (Blunsden)* 1965-8. She was accepted with a show of hands to serve as a League Trustee for a period of three years by Members present. Proposed: Tony Barber, Seconded: Jill Greengrass.

5. The President's Address. **Mary Dolding** in her fifth year as President was proud to be representing nurses & the League at every opportunity. Welcoming Vice-Presidents Sheilah Rengert & Betty Lee thanking them for their support. She was brief wanting Members to hear from other Trustees who had put so much effort & energy into the work of the League again this year - some of which you saw on the photographs presented at the beginning of the meeting. Members were thanked for their continued support of the League. This year we have had inspiration, support & encouragement from the Chief Nurse Prof Nancy Fontaine for our work with colleagues at the NNUH. Again, we were pleased to secure monies for funding tea from the Nurses Endowment Fund. Yesterday the League were involved with others at the International Nurses Day at the hospital with interesting presentations in celebration of NNUH nursing.

Our Chapel collection raised £216.62p for Osteoporosis Society Norwich & District.

6. Treasurer: Hilary Barker – Financial report April 2018-9 independently audited/examined – no charge by *Charlotte Ayres*. Subscriptions/donations income (£1948.76) we have been working hard to recruit new Members. Gift Aid Tax relief (£220) Thank you for generous donations – much appreciated and the Members who have promptly paid subscriptions. Expenditure (£3994.58) slightly more than income (£3799.99). This is due to increased postal charges plus the quarterly & annual website fee. The site has been updated to enable those who wish to pay on-line. Postage costs were very high this year as we had to comply with the new Data Protection Laws sending each Member a SAE for reply. Those who did not respond meant we had to remove them from our database resulting in a small decrease of Members. Cost of printing the Journal (£1613) is our biggest outlay but is the highlight of the year for many Members & is something we will keep doing. Again, we managed to secure cheaper local postage via the hospital postage service & £102 was saved by Trustees delivering locally. Last Christmas we sent gifts/cards (£296.95) to 36 Senior Members who appreciate a chat/update with Trustees over the festive period. Investment income (£659.80) slightly down (1.9%) in the current financial unrest managed by *Chris Rengert* who is happy with them and we thank him for support. Money was spent on our heritage keeping memories of our nursing days for everyone in the future to see & learn from later. Some have been deposited in Norwich Record Office. After higher AGM catering costs last year Trustees have been baking cakes so it is hoped our efforts will be enjoyed at teatime by you all. During the year we have managed to increase our income with raffles at various events & selling cotton bags received last year.

We have enough funds to survive for the foreseeable future & there is no need to increase subscriptions so use our funds to benefit Members. We will continue to provide AGM tea, sponsor the Betty Lee Lecture in October 2019 & send you your Journal. Reports were available for inspection. Appreciation was shown.

Proposed: Sheilah Rengert Seconded: Jane Jackson.

7. Membership Secretary from **Ann Copsey** but reported by Mary Dolding after she had had a fall in the East Atrium just after the service and was receiving medical attention. Ann reported this had been an incredibly busy year with Data Protection Laws and lately promotion work by Mary, Sondra Gorick & Chris Parfit resulting in 31 new Members. All of which had added to the membership secretary's workload. Membership now stands at 337. We lost 28 in failure to return their Data Protection forms & three Members had died: *Mair Campbell*, *Meta Douglas-Jones (Points) 1943-6* & *Margaret Spray (Miller) 1950-3*. Several Members still have subscriptions outstanding, but many pay at the Reunion. She thanked Members who sent letters many saying how much they enjoy the Journal or send donations with their subscription. Prompt payment saves time & money & need to send reminders in October. Ann tries to give a prompt reply when Members e-mail to request the website password (changes 31st March annually).

This year's password is: *league2020 monday-boat*

The annual Cathedral Service in memory of Edith Cavell is next week Wed 15th May 6.30pm where we will be laying a wreath alongside Norfolk Nurses on the 100th year of her body returning home to Norfolk.

Ann was thanked for her hard work in a very busy year as Membership Secretary & helping with enquiries from our website about possible Members. Proposed: John Hayes. Seconded: Heather Parle.

8. Joint Editors. **Doreen Betts** told the Members that next year was our 90th anniversary & hoped Members would help make 2020 a special edition. The Editors have decided that after ten years this will be their last. Editors were thanked for their very successful Journals. Proposed: Winifred Rogers Seconded: John Hayes.

9. Heritage Sub-Committee progress: A nervous **Margaret Allcock**, our Lead Archivist, reported it had been an encouraging year for all on the Heritage committee. They were delighted with help from Members & the public after being involved in various displays chatting to others which has resulted in new Members. Mary, Sondra & Chris were thanked for manning displays. There has been good feedback from the display cabinet near the Stock Shop NNUH & we have helped with enquiries from the website when involving our hospitals. Vivien Aldridge indexed all the Journals which are now deposited in Norwich Record Office making easy reference for public enquiries. *Richard England Consultant Paediatric Surgeon NNUH is on a quest to find a Harmonium & the Jenny Lind portrait* which hung (?where) at the Unthank Road site - both donated to the hospital. Did the portrait go to the Children's Department at St Stephens when the move took place & where are they now? Articles are welcome for the 90th Anniversary Journal. Latest research is the 3rd Jenny Lind in St Stephens Wards 1,2,3,4 & former hip unit all converted to the Children's Department. Memories please. Mary thanked the Heritage team for their hard work.

Proposed: Tony Barber Seconded: Heather Parle

AOB i. **Mary Dolding** informed Members of our planned concert celebrating our 90th Birthday next year to be held in the Benjamin Gooch Hall NNUH **Saturday 20th June 2020** afternoon. Annette Jude & Suzi Turner as '*A Class Act - Celebrate with us 90yrs of the Nurses League with songs from the shows*' followed by refreshments in the Atrium. £10 tickets will be on sale early next year with proceeds for our funds. The event will be advertised in the 2020 Journal, Twitter & website.

ii. **Mike Surkitt-Parr** reported that the 2nd Betty Lee Lecture will be on Thursday 10th October 2019 5pm in the East Atrium & Benjamin Gooch Hall. Arrangements still in progress - possible topic "Antibiotics" which will be accredited to those in practice. Information will be on the website nearer the event. Flyers were available in the Atrium. Members asked to 'Hold the date'.

iii. **Betty Lee**, getting up from her wheelchair, spoke in good spirits to the Members saying she had recently been an in-patient at the NNUH following a fall & has become 'one of the numbers in Prof Turner's lecture'. She found the care was remarkable by everyone who were most kind & helpful. She now had experience 'from the other side'. The committee thanked Mr & Mrs Lancaster for bringing her to the Reunion.

iv. The Nurses League will be represented at the NNUH Fete/Open Day on Saturday 8th June 2019.

v. The raffle food hamper was won by Pat Hollis, Vouchers: Winifred Rogers & Margaret Allcock. £147 was raised for our funds from the raffle.

Annette played, as requested by Wendy Hobbs, 'We will meet again' and sung enthusiastically by Members.

90th AGM & Reunion: Saturday 9th May 2020. **CANCELLED**

Signed.

Date.

