



Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability

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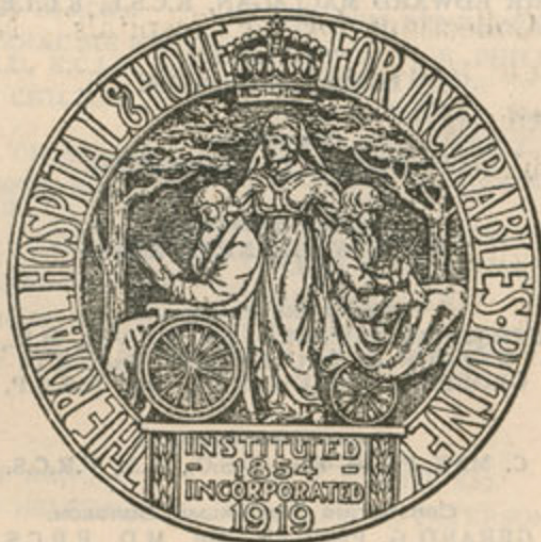
Annual report, 1944

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THE ROYAL HOSPITAL AND
HOME FOR INCURABLES,
PUTNEY.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)

Instituted in the year 1854.



Offices

42, GRACECHURCH STREET, E.C.3.

Temporary Offices at the Hospital, West Hill, Putney, S.W.15.

REPORT

For Year ended 30th September, 1944.

The Institution is intended for the middle classes.

Telegraphic Address : " INCURIAL, PUTNEY, LONDON."

PATRONS.
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HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.
HER MAJESTY QUEEN MARY.

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SOLICITORS.
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AUDITORS.
MESSRS. HELMORE, HELMORE & Co.,
Chartered Accountants, 3, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1.

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31, Chartfield Avenue, Putney, S.W.15.

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M.V.O.

DENIS H. TRUSCOTT, Esq., C.C.

SIR RICHARD WINSTEDT,
K.B.E., C.M.G.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

An Annual Subscriber has One Vote at each Election for each Half Guinea, and an additional Vote for every additional Half Guinea. A Donation entitles to votes at the next ensuing Election only, four votes being given for each Guinea contributed. A Life Subscriber has One Vote for Life at each Election for Five Guineas, and an additional Vote for Life for every additional Five Guineas.

Subscriptions are received at the Hospital by the Secretary, to whom all Orders should be made payable; by the Treasurer, and by Messrs. GLYN, MILLS & Co., 67, Lombard Street, E.C.3.

In Memoriam.

WHY NOT COMMEMORATE THE PRECIOUS MEMORY OF THOSE DEAR TO YOU BY NAMING IN PERPETUITY A BED, OR A WARD, AT THE ROYAL HOSPITAL AND HOME FOR INCURABLES, PUTNEY, A MEANS WHICH WOULD NOT ONLY BE A LASTING TRIBUTE TO THE DEPARTED, BUT ALSO PROVIDE THE ADDITIONAL MERIT OF AFFORDING RELIEF TO THOSE WHO ARE WORTHY OBJECTS FOR SUCH PRACTICAL SYMPATHY. A BED WILL BE NAMED IN PERPETUITY FOR THE SUM OF £1,000. A PENSION OF £42 A YEAR FOR AN INCURABLE WILL BE NAMED IN PERPETUITY FOR THE SUM OF £1,000, OR A PENSION OF £20 A YEAR FOR THE SUM OF £500.

THE ROYAL HOSPITAL AND HOME FOR INCURABLES, PUTNEY.

REPORT

FOR THE

Financial year ended on the
30th day of September, 1944.

FOR

Presentation at the Annual General Meeting,
24th November, 1944.

THE Ninetieth Report of the Board of Management is issued like that of last year, in an attenuated form, in compliance with the Government's Paper Restrictions Orders.

FINANCE.

The income of the Hospital during the last two financial years is compared below with 1938/39, the last year prior to the war:—

	1938/9	1942/3	1943/4
Annual Subscriptions	7,879	7,357	8,020
Life Subscriptions	10,230	3,634	4,392
Donations	5,873	3,904	7,013
Interest and Dividends	16,886	17,749	17,331
Sundry Collections	419	496	667
State Grants Nursing Salaries	—	85	474
Farm Produce	—	1,465	934
Total Ordinary Income	41,287	34,690	38,831
Legacies	29,090	17,879	17,885
Gifts to found Pensions	2,050	2,500	500
Total Income	72,427	55,069	57,216

It is gratifying, at the end of the fifth year of the war, to find that the total Ordinary Income for the year has exceeded that of the previous year. Substantial increases in the receipts from subscriptions and donations are recorded.

As previously mentioned by the Board of Management in past reports, the expenditure of the Hospital fell substantially during the early years of the war. As anticipated, our expenditure has risen considerably this year and stands at £54,099. This is mainly due to the adoption by the Board of the Rushcliffe Committee's recommendations on pay and conditions of nursing staff and of the recommendations of the Hetherington Committee on domestic pay and conditions.

NEW MEMBER OF THE BOARD.

Mrs. Walker, who is a resident of Putney and who has acted as an Authorised Lady Visitor to the Home for many years, has been elected to serve on the Board of Management and the House Committee.

FLYING BOMBS.

On Sunday morning, July 2nd, as our Chaplain was about to give the number and first line of a hymn, the rapid approach of a flying-bomb was heard, the noise growing louder and louder. The Chaplain raised his voice to its utmost limits as he read the first line of the hymn, "Put thou thy trust in God." The organist and patients rose to the occasion magnificently: with the loud peal of the organ down and, at the top of their voices, this very appropriate hymn was sung by the patients, and the roar of the robot was drowned.

EVACUATION OF PATIENTS.

In view of the conditions prevailing after the middle of June, the Board considered it advisable to accept the Government's offer to evacuate some of the patients capable of being removed to safer quarters and, on the 19th August, 72 out of 180 patients residing in the Hospital, together with a proportion of the male and female staff, were transferred to the Lennox Castle Emergency Hospital, Lennoxton, Stirlingshire, near Glasgow, where they have all been placed together in one section of that hospital.

Only those patients were evacuated in this way who expressed a wish to go. The long journey by train was a trying experience for them and they have performed had to carry on without many of the comforts to which they were accustomed in Putney, but both patients and staff have been treated with the utmost kindness by the local hospital staff and by the people of the neighbourhood, and they have enjoyed the peace given by immunity from the apprehension of flying bombs. The evacuation was carried out under the charge of our Assistant Matron, Sister Boyce, and the patients have received visits from the Chaplain and from two members of the Board.

After the above-mentioned evacuation, a rearrangement was made for the safety of the remaining patients, under which they were all housed in the ground and basement floors of the Hospital, leaving the top two stories untenanted.

THE WEEK'S "GOOD CAUSE." JANUARY 2nd, 1944.

The Hospital has ordinarily an opportunity, at intervals of about four years, of making an appeal for funds to the public through the kind offices of the B.B.C. When an occasion for appeal presented itself early in January last, Dame Irene Vanbrugh was good enough to make the appeal on our behalf and her charming presentation of our case was so effective that it brought in a sum of £2,220. What was of more consequence than the amount of the contribution thus made was the large number of persons, over 3,000, who responded to the appeal. The sum received was higher than any obtained from former appeals of the same kind and the number of donors shows how widely the appeal had touched the hearts of the public.

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

As in previous years, three Services (two Church of England and one Free Church) have been held every Sunday, and Services have been held every Friday afternoon. Services were also held on Christmas Day, Good Friday and Ascension Day and on the National days appointed for Prayer.

There is a Celebration of Holy Communion once a fortnight in the Assembly Room, once a month in the Library and once a month (for the staff) in Holy Trinity Church. Services of Holy Communion are also held every week in the wards.

Prayers are said twice daily during the week: patients attend in the morning and members of the staff in the evening.

The Bible Class held fifteen meetings during the winter months, conducted by the Chaplain and visiting speakers. Among the latter was Mrs. Carpenter, the wife of the General of the Salvation Army.

The Sunday offertories during the year, excluding Harvest Festival Sunday, amounted to £98. Every month a sum varying between £4 and £31 has been sent to some "good cause" chosen by the patients and the Chaplain. The Harvest Festival collection of £30 14s. 9d. was given to this Hospital.

Two musical services, conducted by the lady patients' choir, Sister Frow and the Chaplain, were held during the year—a service of Carols in Christmas week and a service of hymns and anthems in Easter week.

THE LIBRARY.

The reading of books continues to be one of the most comforting resources of our patients, particularly in these worrying times. There has been, however, during the year a slight decrease in the record number of 4,091 books taken out in 1943, due to further reduction in the number of resident patients and a large number of patients being busily engaged for some weeks in preparing articles for the Annual Sale.

Mrs. G. Strang Steel has continued to receive most valuable help from among the patients and this has enabled her to carry out her work in the Library.

Mrs. Vigers has kindly continued her voluntary repairing and rebinding of books, for which the Board once again would express their grateful appreciation.

The Hospital continues to receive a weekly consignment of books of current literature from the Times Book Club. The Hospital has also received during the year three consignments of books from the British Red Cross and Order of St. John Hospital Library and, in return, sent them various books. Other modern books come from friends interested in the Hospital Library and we are particularly grateful to Miss Cable, who, after an interesting lecture to our patients, presented us with her valuable work on the Gobi Desert.

SALE OF WORK.

The Annual Sale of Patients' Work was held on the 7th and 8th June, 1944. On the first day Lady Dobbie opened the Sale and, on the second day, Mrs. Hugh Linstead officiated. A generous response to appeals for gifts of money, materials, unfinished needlework, &c., was received, prior to the Sale being held. Many of the public attended on both days and a record sum of over £1,500 was realised.

The voluntary helpers who gave valued and unstinted assistance as Sale helpers, &c., deserve the grateful thanks of all concerned. The Board express their sincere appreciation of the untiring efforts for the success of the function made by Mrs. Wilson Black, Honorary Chairman of the Sale of Work Committee, Mrs. Henry Arnold and Miss Dobson, Honorary Secretaries, and Mrs. Robinson, Honorary Treasurer. Many hours were spent by these ladies in the detailed work and organisation of this annual event, which is so eagerly looked forward to by the patients.

GARDEN.

Another satisfactory year of results has been shown from the cultivation of our three-and-a-half acres of meadowland and orchard. The market value of vegetables and fruit supplied to the Hospital Kitchen by the Head Gardener amounted to £933 13s 10d., during the financial year just ended, as compared with £1,465 during the previous year. In addition, surplus supplies were sold to members of the outside staff, &c., amounting to £400.

FOUNDER'S DAY.

The Board of Management never omits to honour the memory of the Founder, Dr. Andrew Reed, and the usual Founder's Day Celebration was held on November 30th, 1943. Many friends of the Home were present and an excellent concert was given to the patients. Mrs. Wilson Black presented prizes and certificates to the nurses and attendants.

THE LATE DAVID DEVANT.

An enjoyable entertainment in memory of one of the greatest magicians of all times, David Devant, was held at the Home on December 4th, 1943. The programme was presented by the Council of the Magic Circle and was arranged by Mr. Francis White, M.I.M.C. Many of the performers gave up their professional engagements for the afternoon to enable them to appear.

It may be recalled that, after his breakdown in health, David Devant spent the last years of his life in the Royal Hospital and Home.

THE STAFF.

The shortage of resident nurses is still acute, as is also the shortage of resident and non-resident male staff. The assistance of part-time workers from outside the Hospital helps to alleviate the nursing shortage, but there is no way of overcoming our difficulties so far as the male staff is concerned.

The Board record their thanks and appreciation to all officials and staff for their faithful services during the year, which has been, if anything, more difficult than any of the preceding four years of the war. Our leading officials—the Matron, the Secretary and the Steward—have been exceptionally hard pressed.

IN CONCLUSION.

The Board desire to state, in conclusion, that it is only by the generous and sympathetic co-operation of the benevolent public that the work of this National Charity can go on and, once more, they express their gratitude to all those friends and subscribers who have, during the past year, helped to further the interests and the financial receipts of the Institution.

By Order of the Board of Management,

P. W. BENNETT,

Acting Secretary.

THE BRODIE-SEWELL PENSION FUND for the Year ended 30th September, 1944.

To Balance, 1st October, 1943	£	s.	d.
Dividends	211	2	1
Income Tax Refunded	141	13	10
	72	16	8
	£425	12	7

Examined and found correct.

HELMORE, HELMORE & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.

24th October, 1944.

THE LOUISA LUCAS PENSION FUND for the Year ended 30th September, 1944.

To Balance, 1st October, 1943	£	s.	d.
Dividends	253	8	6
Income Tax Refunded	67	8	2
	67	8	2
	£388	4	10

Examined and found correct.

HELMORE, HELMORE & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.

24th October, 1944.

THE LOPES CHAPLAIN ENDOWMENT FUND for the Year ended 30th September, 1944.

To Balance, 1st October, 1943	£	s.	d.
Dividends	24	12	8
	75	0	1
	£99	12	9

Examined and found correct.

HELMORE, HELMORE & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.

24th October, 1944.

RECEIVED 2/20 5/11/44

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
for the Year ended 30th September, 1944.

The Royal Hospital and Home for
Incurables, Putney.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)

I,
of

HEREBY COVENANT with THE ROYAL HOSPITAL
AND HOME FOR INCURABLES, PUTNEY (Incorporated),
of 42, Gracechurch Street, E.C.3, that for seven years,
or during my lifetime, whichever is the shorter period,
I will pay to the Treasurer for the time being of the
said Hospital, for the general use of the Hospital, such
yearly sum as, after deduction of Income Tax at the
rate for the time being in force, will leave the net yearly
sum of £ : :

such sum to be paid from my general fund of taxed
income, so that I shall receive no personal or private
benefit in either of the said periods from the said sum
or any part thereof, the first payment to be made on
the day of , 19

Dated this day of , 19

SIGNED, SEALED and delivered by the
above-named

in the presence of

NAME

ADDRESS

Occupation

FORM OF BEQUEST.

I give to THE ROYAL HOSPITAL AND HOME FOR
INCURABLES, PUTNEY, the sum of £ free of
duty, and I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer
or other proper officer for the time being thereof shall
be a sufficient discharge for the same.

*N.B.—By virtue of the "Mortmain and Charitable
Uses Act, 1891," land may be devised to a Charity, but
it is liable to be sold within one year from the death of
the Testator unless the Court or the Charity Commissioners
authorise its retention.*

(NOTE.—When a Will has been already made, and it is after-
wards desired to benefit the Hospital, it will be sufficient
if the form on other side is filled up, detached, duly signed
by two witnesses in like manner as the Will itself, and
kept with the existing Will.)

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
for the Year ended 30th September, 1944.

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
HELMORE & CO.

for the Year ended 30th September, 1944.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Cash balance brought forward ...	3,072	13	4	Excess of Expenditure over Ordinary Income	15,268	18	10
Investments held on 30th September, 1943 (Market value at this date : £490,012 14s. 1d.)	493,835	17	6	Investments held on 30th September, 1944 (Market value at this date : £495,988 1s. 3d.)	496,435	11	9
Legacies ...	17,885	6	5	Cash balances ...	905	0	0
Gifts for Special purposes...	500	0	0	Deposit Account ...	5,000	0	0
Profit on Sale of Investments ...	591	5	0				
Overdraft ...	1,724	8	4				
	<u>517,609</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>7</u>		<u>517,609</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>7</u>

II

NOTE.—No credit has been taken in the Investments for the value of the Hospital premises and land, the Nurses' Home, and furniture and effects.

We have examined the Capital Account for the year ended 30th September, 1944 (as above set forth), with the books and vouchers relating thereto, and certify same to be correct in accordance therewith. We have also verified the whole of the Securities and Bank Balances.

(Signed) HELMORE, HELMORE & CO.,
Chartered Accountants,

3, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1.

24th October, 1944.

Average number of In-patients during year	210
Average cost per bed occupied	£184 16 2

It may surprise some readers to learn that The Royal Hospital and Home for Incurables, Putney, does not receive a share in the annual distribution from the King Edward's Hospital Fund and the Saturday and Sunday Collections for the Hospitals. Not one penny from these Funds ever finds its way to this Charity. Surely, this fact lends added claim upon the generosity of the public?

Subscribers and Friends are cordially invited to visit the Hospital any afternoon between 2 and 5 o'clock; Saturdays, 2 to 5.30 p.m.

The Hospital is not quite a mile from East Putney Railway Station (District Railway). Putney Station (Southern Railway) is about a mile distant, where cabs are obtainable. Motor omnibuses (Services Nos. 93 and 85) run from Putney Bridge Station (District Railway) to the top of Putney Hill, which is within three minutes' walk of the Hospital.

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
for the Year ended 30th September, 1944.