



Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability

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ROYAL HOSPITAL FOR NEURO-DISABILITY:
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Annual report, 1948

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**THE ROYAL HOSPITAL AND HOME FOR
INCURABLES, PUTNEY.**

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)

Instituted in the year 1854.



REPORT

For Year ended 30th September, 1948.

Telegraphic Address: "INCURIAL, PUTNEY."

PATRONS.
HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE VI.
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.
HER MAJESTY QUEEN MARY.

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Chartered Accountants, 3, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1.

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TRUSCOTT.

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

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 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.

NAMING OF BEDS AND PENSIONS.

A bed will be named in perpetuity for the sum of £1,000.

A pension of £42 a year for an incurable person 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, 1948,
for
Presentation at the Annual General Meeting,
26th November, 1948

ALTHOUGH a decision may have been reached by the time this Report is issued, it is not known at the time of writing whether the Home is to be administered under the National Health Service Act. The Board have decided to submit the question to arbitration, in accordance with the terms of the Act, and subscribers will be informed directly the result is known. Meanwhile, we continue to depend upon voluntary support and, even should the Home eventually come under the Act, voluntary support will remain a most important factor in its future life. We beg our friends to make no mistake upon this point. Money could still be received, and would be urgently needed for purposes which do not come under the head of general maintenance. In a Home of this kind, where the patients are residents, and residents for life, it is clear that a very high "amenity" standard is absolutely essential if their physical, mental and moral comfort is to be maintained.

To turn to the financial aspect for the past year, it will be seen from the accounts that the total expenditure has been high but, in the Board's opinion, fully justified.

As it appeared to the Board that a number of old servants of the Home, who have spent the greater part of their lives in the care of the sick, would, on retirement, be inadequately provided for through no fault of their own, it was decided to expend a considerable sum on the provision of supplementary pensions for them.

Another big item of expense has been internal redecoration, rendered essential by enforced wartime economies. In carrying this out it has been the endeavour of the Board to keep away from the stereotyped methods of institutional decoration, to avoid uniformity and to pay particular attention to the psychological effect of colours. Our thanks are due to Mr. Clive Morris for the expert thought he has given to devising suitable colour schemes, and we are satisfied that this great opportunity for brightening and beautifying the Home has been taken. The necessity of replacing much worn furniture and hangings in harmony with the redecoration schemes involved considerable expenditure. In addition to this, the linoleum in the corridors has been replaced throughout by rubber tiles.

The age of the present boilers and pipes has made it necessary to install a new heating system. Good progress has been made with the work, and the extension of the boiler house will shortly be undertaken.

The above non-recurring items, as well as greatly increased wage scales and high prices, are the main reasons for heavy expenditure during the year.

Among other improvements, the one that has perhaps given most pleasure to the patients is the installation of a three-programme wireless set, the former old set having finally worn out. The earphones and switches by each bed and in the public rooms enable every patient to listen to one of three programmes at will—a great improvement on the single-programme set. Services and concerts can also be relayed to bedridden patients in the wards.



Garden Party, June, 1948

It is especially satisfactory to be able to report the opening of several more wards, and it is hoped that it will not be too long before sufficient staff can be obtained to re-open our few remaining beds.

We regret that, owing to the difficult building situation, it has not been possible to proceed with the construction of the new Patients' Block and the Male Staff Home. Plans, however, are ready and work will be started as soon as the building licences can be obtained.

The Board

To the regret of us all, Sir Edward Maclagan resigned the Chairmanship of the Home in December, after holding that position since 1936. Happily, he is still a member of the Board, which he joined in 1927. At the wish of the Board, patients and staff, he consented to sit for his portrait by Mr. A. R. Middleton Todd, A.R.A. This was hung in this year's Academy and is now a very prized possession of the Home.

Mr. Norman Morris was unanimously elected to succeed Sir Edward in the Chair.

Mr. Clive Morris joined the Board in October, 1947, and this opportunity is taken of extending him a sincere welcome and expressing our appreciation of his willingness to undertake this work.

We are glad to be able to tell readers of this Report that Mrs. Wilson Black, whose serious illness was notified last year, has recently been able to resume her attendances at the House Committee and Board Meetings.

We much regret that Mr. J. C. Potter has resigned from the House Committee, but are happy to say that he retains his seat on the Board.



Garden Party, June, 1948

We record with great sorrow the death of Mrs. Roy F. Truscott, for many years a vice-president of the Home and a much valued friend.

Consulting Staff

Mr. J. C. R. Hindenach and Dr. E. H. Allen have accepted the positions of Consulting Orthopædic Surgeon and Consulting Radiologist, respectively. The Board are most pleased to welcome them to the Consulting Staff.

Mr. F. H. James

The Ward Master, Mr. F. H. James, left us on retirement. During his eleven years here he made himself loved by patients and staff alike, and we lose him with great regret. We wish him many years of happy leisure, which he has so well earned.

Chaplain's Report

As in previous years, three services have been held every Sunday during the year—two Church of England and one Free Church. Services have also been held every Friday afternoon, and special services on Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, Ascension Day and All Saints' Day. These services are all held in the Assembly Room. Services of Holy Communion have been held regularly in the Assembly Room and in the wards, and also in Holy Trinity Church for members of the staff.



Officers of the Toc H Branch with the Lamp of Maintenance

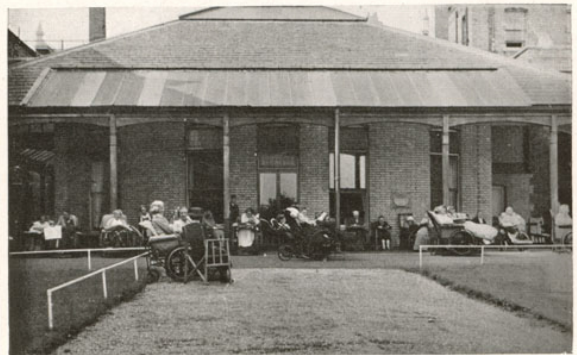
As in former years, a united Anglican and Free Church service was held on Harvest Festival Sunday; the offertory, £36 12s. 6d., was again given to the Home. Services of Thanksgiving in memory of our Founder, Dr. Andrew Reed, were held as usual, and the Day of National Remembrance and Resolve, 9th November, was also observed.

On the Wednesday before Christmas and on the Wednesday after Easter the Patients' Choir, trained by Sister Frow, gave a Musical Recital of hymns, carols and anthems.

The Sunday offertories during the year (excluding Harvest Festival Sunday) amounted to £187, a larger sum than in any previous year. These were distributed among the Bishop of Southwark's Diocesan Fund, the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund, the Missions to Seamen, St. Dunstan's, the Sunshine Homes for Blind Babies, the Mission to Lepers, the Salvation Army, the World Council of Churches Refugee Commission, the Greater London Fund for the Blind, King George's Fund for Sailors, the Reedham Orphanage, the Metropolitan Hospital Sunday Fund, the Church Missionary Society and the London Missionary Society.

Toc H

A Toc H group was formed in the autumn and has proved a great success. Under the guidance of Toc H Headquarters and, in particular, of Mr. Greenacre and Padre Austin Williams, the Group has made such progress that it has been recognised



A Verandah

as, and accorded the status of, an independent Branch. To mark the occasion, the Rev. P. B. Clayton, Founder of Toc H, presented the Lamp of Maintenance to the Branch on 5th August and gave an address. The Board are particularly grateful to Mr. Clayton for thus honouring the Branch and the Home on this unique occasion.

Toc H meetings are held weekly throughout the year, and the Branch has had the pleasure of hearing most interesting talks by speakers from all parts of the country and from overseas.

The Library

The Library continues to be one of our most active departments; no less than 2,924 books were issued to patients in the last six-monthly period. Selection of books by the patients has been greatly facilitated by the issue of a catalogue to all who want one. The Christmas appeal brought in a good number of new books, and the sale of old ones has enabled us to make quite large purchases. It is, however, impossible to keep pace with the demand for up-to-date reading unless we receive

a steady flow of gifts from our friends. We do therefore most urgently ask you to remember us whenever you find yourselves in a bookseller's.

Mrs. Strang Steel has resigned her position as Head Librarian. To her enthusiasm and skill, and especially to her indefatigable work during the war years, the Library, and therefore the patients, are most deeply indebted. She has done a great work for us. Mrs. S. H. Laker has most kindly consented to take her place, and to her and all her helpers we offer our sincere thanks.



A view of the Terrace

Sale of Work

This year's Sale, under the management of Mrs. Henry Arnold, was, unlike the previous year, handicapped by the necessity of purchasers giving up clothing coupons. It says a very great deal for her organising ability and that of her helpers, and for the quality of the goods, that £1,670 was raised, a very little less than last year. The Board wish to thank Mrs. Arnold, Mrs. Hunter and Miss Dobson, the Honorary Secretaries, Miss Bourne, the Honorary Treasurer, and all the voluntary helpers.

The Sale was opened by Mrs. Lewis Douglas, wife of the United States Ambassador. Mrs. Douglas had previously visited the Home and met many of the patients, and her second visit was therefore particularly welcome.

Functions and Entertainments

The usual Founder's Day Celebrations were held on 2nd December, and Miss Helena Millais presented her concert party, "Silver Stars." The President, Viscount Clifden, unveiled the portrait of Sir Edward Maclagan, and Sir Edward later presented prizes to nurses and attendants.

In November the Magic Circle gave us their annual entertainment in memory of David Devant, who was for some years a patient in the Home. As usual, it was a thoroughly intriguing and mystifying performance.

Our special thanks are again due to Miss Chalmers and her friends for their monthly concerts throughout this, the twenty-second consecutive winter.

Other entertainments included: lectures by Mr. Wyatt Joyce on Australia, by Mr. Linstead, O.B.E., M.P., on the Economic Crisis, by Mr. Cousens on Travel in China, and six illustrated lectures on Art by Miss Koop; musical entertainments by Mrs. Webb, the Mount Pleasant (G.P.O.) Choir, Miss Hendrick, the Primrose Concert Party, Mrs. Lorkins, the Zion Women's Choir, Mr. Mold, the Patients' Choir, five gramophone recitals by Mr. Milburn; a children's dancing troupe; the Rev. A. Schofield (ventriloquist) and party; "Night must Fall" and "Isn't it Odd?" by the Wakefield Dramatic Company. The Debating Society's sessions were held weekly under the auspices of Mr. Kearsley.

To all the above the Board wish to express their sincere gratitude.

Cinema shows were given regularly throughout the winter.



A corner of the grounds

On 24th June a successful Garden Party was held in perfect weather, and both patients and guests thoroughly enjoyed themselves; the band of the Royal Artillery played during the afternoon.

Christmas

A carol procession went round the wards on Christmas Eve, and on Christmas morning religious services were held for patients and staff.

After Christmas dinner an excellent entertainment was given by the Nursing Staff. Members of the Board and of the Lady Visitors' Committee came during the day, and two anonymous benefactors ensured that there was a present for each patient.

Staff

The comfort and happiness of the patients depend on the efficiency, kindness and cheerfulness of the staff, and the Board acknowledge with gratitude the great service that all members have given to the Home during the past year. Their willingness and loyalty have been of a high order.

Extracts from Letters

"I shall not forget the happy atmosphere that was so marked wherever we went. . . . It was . . . who said, 'We are always happy and never bored; there is always too much to do'—an amazing compliment for those who are responsible for the administration of the Home."

"May we, a few comparative newcomers, take this opportunity to express our grateful thanks for all the kindness and attention we have received during 1947. It was a big step for all of us to leave our homes, and one doubted and feared the outcome. We have received only kindness and consideration and realise all is done to promote our happiness."

"I do want to thank you, personally, and the staff in general, for all the help and care bestowed on my late sister during her stay in your Home. As a family we are all indebted to you and your staff more than words can tell."

"Just a short note of appreciation and thanks for all you are doing at your very beautiful Home. My friend and I visited . . . a week ago and found her full of praise for both you and the nurses. It is a truly remarkable work you are doing."

"I cannot imagine what we should have done without the pension. Not only does it help us physically and financially, but the knowledge that it will come regularly is a great support and comfort to us both . . . you may be able to realise how much it means to my morale to think that through the kindness of all concerned I am enabled to contribute something to the household expenses."

The Chronic Sick

It is becoming increasingly clear that proper provision for those "permanently disqualified from the duties of life" is woefully lacking, and that this inadequacy extends to all classes of the community. Our growing waiting list, and consequently the increasing length of time before admission is possible, tells a story of almost intolerable hardship and suffering among those least qualified to bear it. It is therefore all the more important that everything should be done to promote the happiness and comfort of those who manage to find a haven in this Home, and to this end all the efforts of the Board are constantly directed.

In this connection, it must be remembered that the granting of pensions by the Home to over 400 incurable persons is a most important part of its work. These pensions, though not large, are sufficient to prevent the breaking up of homes and to enable the invalids to be cared for by their own relations and friends. But for this financial relief the length of our waiting list would be even more serious than it is at present.

In Conclusion

The Board once again wish to thank all the friends of the Home for their support. Whatever the future may hold, the well-being of the Home will in very large measure depend on their continued friendship, both financial and personal. No one can prosper who has no friends, and that is equally true of institutions.

Please remember that everyone is cordially invited to call on us and to see over the buildings and estate.

By Order of the Board of Management,

J. G. PILCHER,
Secretary.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
for the Year ended 30th September, 1948.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Annual Subscriptions	7,411	17	4			
Life Subscriptions	2,453	5	0			
Donations	5,441	5	4			
State Grant, towards rates	3,304					
Sundry Receipts	1,600	0	0			
Garden produce	560	8	9			
	1,613	16	2			
				19,080	12	7
Interest and Dividends	15,059	14	9			
Beynon Trust	304	0	4			
Brodie-Sewell Pension Fund	225	0	0			
Louisa Lucas Pension Fund	122	10	0			
Lopes Chaplain Fund	77	19	4			
				15,789	4	5
Income Tax Refunded (Dividends)				4,093	19	0
Excess of Expenditure over Ordinary Income				62,628	1	6
				£101,591	17	6
HOSPITAL ACCOUNT:						
Provisions	10,907	15	7			
Surgery and Dispensary	2,222	11	7			
Domestic	19,239	1	0			
Establishment Charges	11,777	10	6			
Salaries, Wages, etc.	35,170	9	8			
Miscellaneous	1,806	12	6			
Extensions and Renewals	4,325	4	5			
				85,449	5	3
PENSIONS ACCOUNT:—						
General	10,587	2	8			
Brodie-Sewell Pension Fund	220	0	0			
Louisa Lucas Pension Fund	120	0	0			
				10,927	2	8
Publicity				323	18	8
Administration Expenses				4,891	10	11
				£101,591	17	6

We have examined the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 30th September, 1948 (as above set forth) with the books and vouchers relating thereto, and certify same to be correct in accordance therewith.

(Signed) HELMORE, HELMORE & Co.,
Chartered Accountants,
3, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.1.

BALANCE SHEET as at 30th SEPTEMBER, 1948.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
GENERAL FUND (including Pension En- downings)						
Balance 30th September, 1947	552,413	9	4			
Add since received—						
Leases	48,809	1	4			
Gift for Special Pur- pose	500	0	0			
	601,722	10	8			
Less Net Loss on Con- version of Railway Stocks, less Net Profit on Realisation of In- vestments	3,267	11	8			
Less Single Premium Annuities for Staff Pensions	22,037	0	0			
Less Excess of Expendi- ture over Ordinary Income	62,628	1	6			
Balance 30th September, 1948	513,789	17	6			
Sundry Creditors	4,336	0	0			
Balance 30th September, 1947	5,666	3	3			
Add Gifts received since	1,129	9	5			
	6,795	12	8			
SPECIAL FUNDS (see contra):						
Brodie Sewell Pension Fund	6,585	12	9			
Louisa Lucas Pension Fund	2,406	1	3			
Lopes Chaplain's Endowment Fund	4,475	8	3			
Beynon Trust	8,474	11	6			
	22,141	14	2			
				£547,083	4	4

We have examined the above Balance Sheet dated 30th September, 1948, with the books and vouchers relating thereto and certify the same to be correct in accordance therewith. We have verified the whole of the Investments and Bank Balances.

(Signed) HELMORE, HELMORE & CO.,
Chartered Accountants,
3, GROSVENOR GARDENS,
LONDON, S.W.1.

19th October, 1948.

Remittance Form.

To Mr. J. G. PILCHER, Secretary,
ROYAL HOSPITAL AND HOME FOR INCURABLES, PUTNEY,
WEST HILL, PUTNEY, S.W.15.

From*.....

Address.....

Sir,

Enclosed you will find a.....for £.....
which.....send you as †
{ an Annual Subscription }
{ a Donation } in aid of the funds of the
{ a Life Subscription }

ROYAL HOSPITAL AND HOME FOR
INCURABLES, PUTNEY.

(Signed).....
AN ANNUAL SUBSCRIBER has one Vote at each Election for each 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 and becomes a Governor of the Home.
* Please write name as it should be printed in the List of Governors and Subscribers.
† Kindly strike out the words not applicable.

Date.....19.....

£547,083 4 4

BALANCE SHEET as at 30th SEPTEMBER, 1948.

£ s. d. 484,837 2 10

INVESTMENTS at cost

£ s. d.

GENERAL FUND (including Pension En-

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 afterwards desired to benefit the Home, it will be sufficient if the form on the other side is filled up, detached, duly signed by two witnesses in like manner as the Will itself, and kept with the existing Will.)

I,
of
DECLARE this to be a Codicil which I make
this day of 19
to my Will which Will bears date the
day of 19

(1) I GIVE to the ROYAL HOSPITAL AND
HOME FOR INCURABLES, PUTNEY, £
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.

(2) In all other respects I CONFIRM my
said Will.

IN WITNESS whereof I have hereunto set
my hand the day and year first above-
written.

SIGNED by the Testator
in our presence and
attested by us in the
presence of him and of
her each other.

Average number of In-patients during year	219
Average cost per bed occupied	£370

It may surprise some readers to learn that The
Royal Hospital and Home for Incurables receives no
help from Contributory Schemes nor from the Hospital
Saturday and Sunday Funds. This makes an added
claim upon the generosity of the public.

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

The Home is not quite a mile from East Putney
Railway Station (District Railway). Putney Station (Southern
Region) is about a mile distant, where taxis 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 Home.

It is with deep sorrow that we record the
sudden death, on October 13th, 1948, of Mr.
M. F. North, a member of the Board since 1926.
Mr. North's great services to the Home will be
long remembered and his loss widely mourned.
We offer his family our profound sympathy.

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It may be said that the
Royal House and those who have
been in the habit of being
of the same family, and
the same and the same conditions
of the same and the same conditions

The same and the same conditions
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Faint text at the bottom of the page, possibly a footer or signature.