

# HomeVisit

News for supporters of the QNI

The charity dedicated to improving patient care by supporting nurses working in the community



## News update from Dr Crystal Oldman, Chief Executive, QNI

"On Monday 7th January 2019 the long-awaited NHS Long Term Plan was published. At 136 pages long, there is much to read and understand in relation to the implications for the nursing workforce. However, primary care and community are given greater focus than in any previous NHS plan and there is recognition of the significant underfunding of these areas in recent years, compared to the hospital sector.

The NHS sees one million patients per day – but we know that the vast majority of these patients, probably up to 90% of them, will be seen in primary care and community settings - many of them by highly skilled nurses. It is logical and timely that the funding follows the patient and that attention is given to developing community and primary care, including new ways of interacting with patients, for example online consultations. There will be also 'guaranteed support for older people at home in the community' and the District Nursing service will have a key role to play in this, aligned with the footprint of Primary Care Networks.

The long term plan will not be deliverable however without investment in the workforce of a significant proportion of the additional £4.5bn committed annually to the NHS over the next five years. We will need to wait until later in the year for the workforce plan to be published by Health Education England for more details.

Engagement with all stakeholders - including practitioners, educationalists, employers and critically patients, families, carers and communities - is going to be essential to the development of the workforce plan. It is only by consulting in this way that a credible strategy will be developed to support this ambitious new 10 year plan for the NHS. With 40,000 vacancies in the registered nurse workforce in England alone, there is much work to be done, not only to recruit new nurses but to develop and retain our existing registered nurse workforce, who will ultimately be responsible for the delivery of the plan."

A version of this article appeared in Primary Health Care.



## Staff news

### **QNI Trustee Dr David Foster awarded OBE**



Dr David Foster, a member of the QNI's Council, has been awarded an OBE for services to nursing and midwifery in the Queen's New Year's Honours List.

Until 2016, David was a civil servant at the Department of Health, most recently as Head of the Nursing, Midwifery and Allied Health Professions Policy Unit, having previously been Deputy Chief Nursing Officer. In his 8 years at the Department he advised Ministers and policy teams on nursing, midwifery and allied health professions issues affecting the health and social care system.

David trained in nursing at the Middlesex Hospital, London and in midwifery at Falkirk and Stirling Royal Infirmarys in Scotland. His postgraduate career focused on adult intensive care nursing before moving into management and professional leadership roles. He ended his NHS career as Director of Nursing at Hammersmith Hospitals NHS Trust.

David commented, 'I am really honoured and thrilled to receive this award. It is especially

touching because I will have been nominated and supported by my colleagues in both nursing and midwifery. I am also pleased in the endorsement of my commitment to being a charity trustee'.

Dr Crystal Oldman CBE, Chief Executive of the QNI said, 'I am thrilled to see David recognised for his significant and ongoing contribution to both professions of nursing and midwifery. We are particularly delighted as David works with the QNI as a very active trustee, in support of nurses and midwives working in the community. His knowledge and expertise continue to make a difference to professionals working across health and social care. Sincere congratulations to David from all at the QNI.'

Dr David Foster is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development and an Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Midwives. He is also a visiting professor at Buckinghamshire New University, King's College, London, and Manchester Metropolitan University. He has an honorary doctorate from Middlesex University and is a member of the Court of London South Bank University.

As well as serving on the QNI's Council, he is chairman of the Lindsay Leg Club Foundation and the Foundation of Nursing Studies.

### **New member of staff heads the General Practice Nursing network**



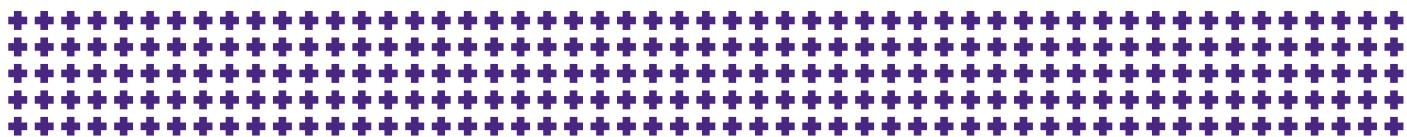
Angie Hack has recently been seconded to the QNI as a Project Manager, taking General Practice Nursing forward and leading on the management of the General Practice Network.

Angie has a background as a District Nurse since 1989 and a Senior Lecturer at London South Bank University since 2006. Angie was Course Director for the Foundation Degree Programme

at London South Bank University until 2015 and has since co-developed and led the General Practice Nurse Programme successfully for nurses new to General Practice.

Angie was awarded The Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother's Award for Outstanding Service and became a Queen's Nurse in 2016 and shares a passion for developing all levels of nurses, promoting community and primary care nursing and raising the profile of General Practice Nurses.

Welcome Angie!



## New prize for student General Practice Nurses announced

The QNI has announced the creation of a new prize for student General Practice Nurses, named in memory of Ellen Mary, whose daughter is a Queen's Nurse, a university lecturer and an Advanced Nurse Practitioner in General Practice.

The new prize is offered for outstanding students who have completed the Specialist Community Public Health Nursing (SCPHN) General Practice Nurse programme. The prize is available at every university in England, Wales or Northern Ireland where the programme is offered. The General Practice Nurse programme leaders at each

university may nominate one student to receive the prize each year.

Dr Crystal Oldman, QNI Chief Executive commented: 'The QNI is delighted to honour Ellen Mary's family's wishes and use the legacy to recognise, inspire and reward the most outstanding General Practice Nurse students every year.'

The first Ellen Mary Memorial Prize will be awarded later this year.

## ON Margaret Modinos reminisces



MISSING SINCE SEPTEMBER.

A Swinton soldier, Pte. George Higgins, of 2, Entwistle, has been missing since September 22nd last year, and as every effort has failed to trace him, his relatives and friends have given up hope of him being alive. He was in the 17th Lancashire Fusiliers (L.F.), and was serving in the trenches in Gallipoli, when a mine was exploded beneath the place where he and other soldiers were. It was at first thought that Higgins had managed to work his way out, but it now appears that he was not seen alive again. All letters since sent to him have been returned, marked: "Not been heard of." Mrs. Higgins has received a letter from a Lieutenant of the Battalion, which confirms her worst fears. Much sympathy is felt for her and her two young children. Pte. Higgins, who joined the Army a year ago, was a miner at Bridgewater Colliery, Walkden, prior to enlisting. He was a quiet, unassuming man, and well respected by his friends.



ON Margaret Modinos remembers her grandfather, George Higgins, who was killed in the First World War.

Born in Shropshire, George went to Lancashire to find work. He met and married Margaret's grandmother Hannah whilst there. A few short years later, he joined the First 7th Lancashire Fusiliers and went to war before his daughter, Margaret's mother, was born. He died at Gallipoli, when she was only 4 months old, so never met her. He was 32 years old.

Margaret joined the Gallipoli Association and one of her brothers went with the Association to Gallipoli a few years ago, he brought back

some soil from there and they put it on their grandmother's grave.

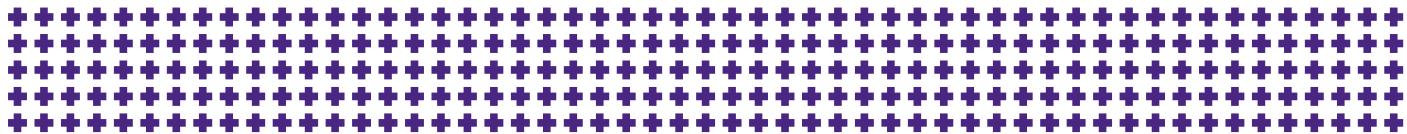
The village where George was from erected a lychgate in memory of those who had died in the war, and there is a memorial plaque bearing all their names.

The local paper wrote a small piece about George when he was still missing (see left).



Margaret is a Keep in Touch member and her volunteer, Jane Campling, lives 20 minutes from the National Arboretum at Alrewas, where

there is a monument to those who lost their lives at Gallipoli. Last year they placed a flag-cross in the grounds for every soldier who lost their life in WW1 ('Flags for the Fallen'). Jane's granddaughter Evie, who is 13, painted a poppy on a flag-cross with Margaret's grandfather's name on it and it was placed in the ground at Alrewas by his Lancashire regiment (see photo above).



## QNI responds to NHS Long Term Plan

The QNI has issued the following response to the NHS Long Term Plan, published on 7 January.

The QNI welcomes this strategic and long-sighted vision for the future of the NHS in England over the next ten years.

In particular we welcome the acknowledgement that additional ring-fenced investment is needed in community and primary care services, which together account for around 90% of the one-million-plus patient contacts that the NHS achieves every day. It is in the community and primary care that self-management, health promotion and illness prevention are all centred. Here also is the key to managing rising long term demand, reducing health inequalities, and delivering care that is at once integrated and personalised, as described in the new plan.

The significant challenge in delivering the Long Term Plan will be building up the workforce to achieve its diverse ambitions. Health Education England's workforce plan, to be published later in the year, must draw on the informed views and experiences of nurses and stakeholder organisations, and also the patients, families,

carers and communities that they serve.

Importantly, there needs to be a focus on understanding if the places for pre-registration undergraduate nurse programmes are truly oversubscribed with suitable candidates, as there is some concern that this may not reflect the reality of the 2018 intakes in every part of the country.

The potential of new technology, in support of new ways of working is exciting, but we should also acknowledge its limits. The QNI has championed the value of new information and communication technology in recent years – it can unlock efficiency gains, staff productivity and improved personalisation of care. This will be of growing importance to community nurses and their patients in years to come.

We look forward to working with NHS England, NHS Improvement, Public Health England and Health Education England to help refine and deliver these plans as they apply to the community and primary care nursing workforce, for the benefit of patients, carers and families everywhere.

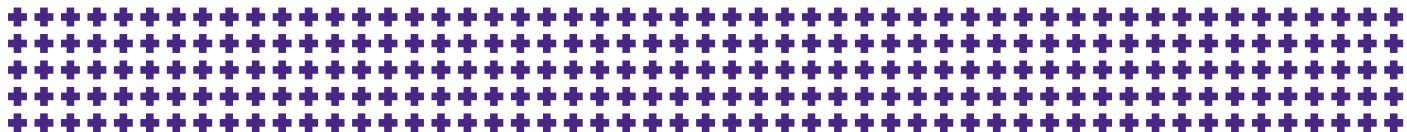
## Obituaries

**Edna Botwright**, QN, passed away early January 2019. Edna had worked as a QN in Liverpool for 31 years. Her nephew wrote to inform us and to tell us that Edna was a very proud Queen's Nurse and had very much appreciated our contact with her over the years, as we did speaking with her.

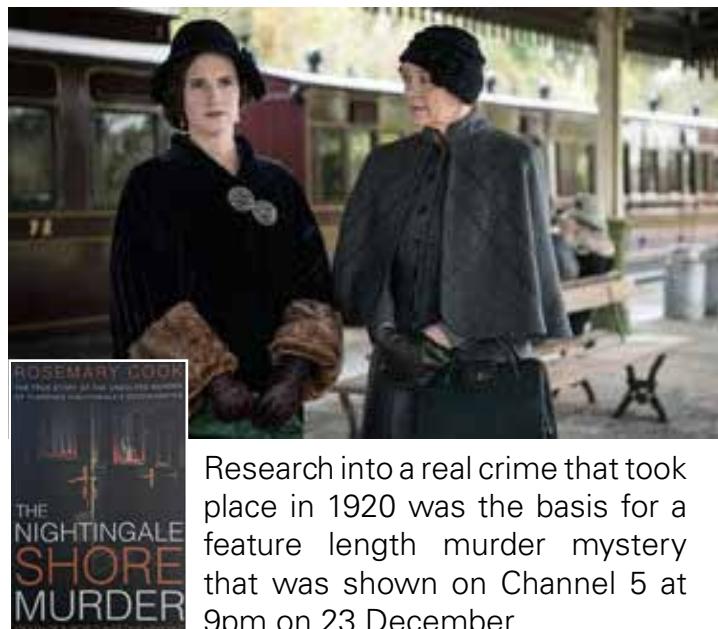
**Joyce Drew**, QN, (nee Marshall) passed away in October 2018. Joyce moved from Sheffield where she had been born and worked, to Scotland in 1973 with her husband. Joyce often wrote to us telling us of the beauty of Scotland and of her life there. Her daughter Becky would very much like to hear from anyone who knew Joyce and indeed she has a photograph taken of Joyce taken on her wedding day pictured with six other QNs, and would love to know who they

were. If you think that you might have known Joyce and would like to get in touch with Becky, her email address is [contact@islay-williamsons.com](mailto:contact@islay-williamsons.com), or alternatively, please call Joanne Moorby on 0207 549 1405.

**Elizabeth Harrison**, known as Joan Harrison, QN, was born in Shropshire but after the war moved to Rossendale, Lancashire. Joan did her QN training in 1969/70 in Preston and admitted that her favourite nursing experiences were nursing children and teenagers. Her son contacted us to notify us of her death and said, "I know that she was proud to be a Queen's Nurse. She greatly appreciated her recent contact with members of your Institute. I thank you for your kindness to my mother."



## Queen's Nurse murder story becomes TV drama



Research into a real crime that took place in 1920 was the basis for a feature length murder mystery that was shown on Channel 5 at 9pm on 23 December.

'Agatha & The Truth of Murder', starring Ruth Bradley as Agatha Christie, with Pippa Haywood and Tim McInnerny, has the famous crime writer using her 11 day disappearance in 1926 to try to solve the murder of Florence Nightingale Shore. Shore was a god-daughter of Florence Nightingale, and a decorated World War 1 army nurse. But in 1920, she was beaten to death on a train on the London to Brighton line. The murder was never solved, in spite of the involvement of Scotland Yard and the famous pathologist Sir Bernard Spilsbury.

'There is no evidence that Agatha Christie actually tried to solve this crime', says Rosemary Cook, whose book 'The Nightingale Shore Murder' is the only biography of Florence Shore. 'But it seems very likely that she knew about it. The

newspapers at the time dubbed the suspect 'the man in the brown suit' – and Christie later wrote a book with that title, about a murder on an underground train.'

The drama shows Agatha Christie teaming up with Mabel Rogers, a close friend of Florence and a fellow nurse, to try to solve the mystery of her death. Florence and Mabel were both Queen's Nurses trained by the QNI.

'In the research for my book, I uncovered a new suspect for the crime', Rosemary Cook says. 'A man called 'John Smith', who said he was standing on the platform and saw Florence in the carriage when the train stopped and she was discovered. But it shouldn't have been possible for him to know as many details as he did of the crime scene, unless he was actually in the carriage. It will be fascinating to see what conclusions the film draws about him, and about the other suspects'.

Rosemary Cook CBE is a former Director of the Queen's Nursing Institute and she found original coverage of the murder in a 1920 issue of Queen's Nurses' magazine in the QNI archives. She spent two years researching the crime and the investigation before publishing *The Nightingale Shore Murder*.

To buy a copy of *The Nightingale Shore Murder*, published by Matador in 2015 and priced at £9.99, please visit our online shop at [www.qni.org.uk/shop](http://www.qni.org.uk/shop).

## ON Katharine Pepper takes on Isle of Wight Challenge

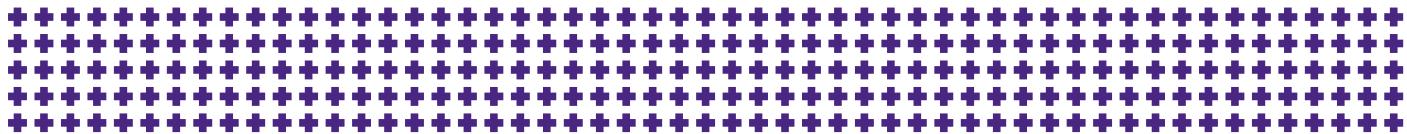
Queen's Nurse, Katharine Pepper will be taking on a 54km walk on the Isle of Wight and fundraising for the QNI!

Her epic walk starts on 4th May. She says of the challenge, 'I'm doing the walk with my husband and friends. I was crazy and did a walk last year where I walked from Poole to Weymouth (58km) on the beautiful Jurassic Coast. Although

I did say never again! I may have a little bug for walking!'

To support her, please go to her justgiving page: [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/katharine-pepper4](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/katharine-pepper4) .

We will soon be featuring a blog that Katharine has written, talking about training and blisters...



## New funding for nurse-led projects to address frailty



The QNI recently announced a new programme of funding for nurse-led projects to improve patient care. The theme of the funding programme is improving the healthcare of people living with frailty.

The charity is seeking ten projects to receive up to £5000 each. The project leaders will also receive a year-long programme of professional development from the QNI. The funding is available for nurses working in community and primary care settings in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Sue Boran, the QNI's Director of Nursing Programmes said, 'The QNI has a long track record of helping nurses working in the community and primary care to turn their ideas to improve patient care into reality. The seed funding and professional development we offer enables nurses to drive improvements in practice, which are often then shared and adopted widely'.

She added, 'Frailty is a major issue in healthcare delivery, given the growing number of people in the community living with complex, long-term conditions. This funding will enable community nurses to develop new approaches that focus specifically on delivering improved outcomes for people living with frailty.'

The charity has previously delivered themed funding projects for men's health, and improving the health of people experiencing homelessness. Its final report on improving men's health was published in September.

## Keep in Touch poem by volunteer QN Sue Wynne

### **"Keep in touch, what does it mean?"**

*'Keep in touch what does it mean, a friendly voice  
from in between,*

*A person speaks a comforting word, to one who  
never goes out in the world.*

*Keep in touch what does it mean, to those we  
know but have not seen.*

*A laugh, a joke about daily life, we share our  
troubles, we share our strife.*

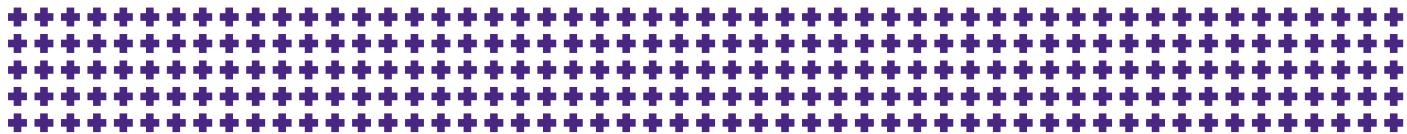
*Keep in touch, what does it mean, sharing the past,  
for what has been.*

*Lending an ear with the highest endeavour, to  
people whose worth we are privileged to treasure.*

*Keep in touch what does it mean, celebrate a life  
for what it's achieved.*

*Keep in touch what does it mean, to make a  
difference to someone in need.*

*From all of us who keep in touch, send out a  
message of joy and love, to those who keep our  
weekly slot, keep on going, it means a lot.'*



## Project in ACTION: improving patient care

Nurse-led projects are one of the most direct ways in which we help nurses improve patient care. Since 1990 the QNI has funded over 200 projects across the whole range of community nursing specialties. Dissemination of project results also helps us drive improvements in knowledge and practice. These projects could not be delivered without the funding that we receive from the Burdett Trust for Nursing. Below is one of the case studies.

**Project:** Cut It; **Team lead:** Laura Garner, Harm Reduction Nurse Specialist; **Location:** Nottingham

\*Mandy is a 36 year old woman who lives in temporary shared accommodation. She started smoking heroin and crack at age 23 following a divorce. She soon began injecting and her use escalated to spending £170 a day on drugs, following her divorce settlement. She has now been drug free for two and a half years, and became drug free by her own volition following frequent admissions to A&E due to overdosing.

Mandy first came to the Cut It project following a referral by a recovery coordinator after asking him where the nearest newsagent was as she had left her tobacco at home – she was told ‘well I could tell you that or I could tell you about our new stop smoking service’.

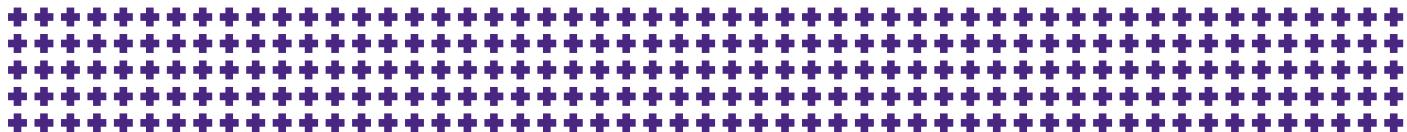
She first attended in July to undertake an initial assessment, and she decided that she wanted to quit smoking and would use Nicotine Replacement Therapy and 1-2-1 sessions to assist her but due to personal circumstances she did not return to the project again until September. She then attended fortnightly for 12 weeks. She actually quit a week before the quit date she had made as she saw someone she knew who asked why she looked so happy and she said she was really pleased that she had cut down her smoking enough to see a dramatic drop in her CO<sub>2</sub> reading. The person suggested that she had a fag to celebrate and the penny just dropped that a cigarette wasn’t a treat or something she wanted to use as a reward for herself. She has used nicotine patches daily on a reducing dose and nicotine gum for craving management and is now on the lowest dose available and is looking to stop all assistance over the next few weeks.

Mandy stated that she was initially apprehensive about attempting to quit as she had accessed the local stop smoking service the year before but had not quit. She said she felt more confident with Cut It and it helped that she knew the building and the staff and that she could work the appointments around her attending support groups – which include a number of other service users linked in with the Cut It service. She has used the NRT consistently and has found that this has helped her immensely. She has also used the auricular acupuncture to aid relaxation and sleep – something she had previously used smoking to assist with.

She only smoked once after she had quit when her mum had to attend hospital to assess for the presence of breast cancer. She said she bought 10 cigarettes, smoked them all in one day and then didn’t smoke again. She was also locked out of her accommodation for 24 hours and could not get access to her patches but because the Cut It service works on a drop in basis, she was able to drop in and pick up some to tide her over until she could access her supply at home.

She has said that she would not hesitate to recommend the Cut It service to other current or ex substance users and stated that its flexibility, the approachability of staff and the level of support on offer was instrumental in her success. It has not only improved how she physically feels (she gets much less out of breath) but it has also increased her self esteem and confidence. She has recently started talking to family members again after a long hiatus and has started volunteering and looking to start work for the first time in years.

*‘It has not only improved how she physically feels, but it has also increased her self-esteem and confidence.’* Laura Garner, Project lead



## Homeless Health Network report launched



The QNI has recently published the report *Nursing Care for People Experiencing Homelessness*. The report gives insights based on the views of 206 homeless health nurses working across the UK.

*Nursing Care for People Experiencing Homelessness* gives a thematic analysis of comments from a survey of homeless health nurses (HHNs) about issues facing their area of practice. Using this evidence, it explores the structural, contextual, environmental and practical changes needed to reduce, prevent and eliminate homelessness, and tackle the associated burden of disease.

### Key findings

Homeless health nurses were asked for their comments about what single change was most needed to improve health for people who are homeless from their perspective. Their comments broadly fit four categories:

- Improving the capacity and capability of housing, health and support services
- Improving the quality of service provision and integrating care
- Improving the access patients get to health services by removing the barriers
- Increasing knowledge across the community about homelessness.

The QNI believes this report showcases the vital work done by homeless health nurses and the skilled nature of their role, including:

- Flexibility
- Adaptability

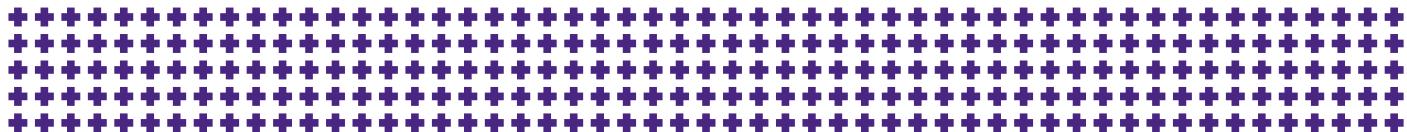
- Patient-centredness
- Advanced clinical skills
- Co-ordination of health, housing and community-based support services.

Dr Crystal Oldman, the QNI's Chief Executive, said, 'The QNI has been facilitating a network of nurses working in homeless health services for the last 10 years. Nurses working in these challenging and rewarding roles have extensive knowledge of the health needs of people without a home, delivering healthcare directly in a wide range of environments, often through nurse-led services.'

'Nurses working with people experiencing homelessness are improving the health, relieving pain and distress and saving the lives every day. This QNI report based on data from members of our Homeless Health Network showcases their work and provides a range of actions required at a system, service and individual level in order to continue to improve the health of the most vulnerable members of our society.'

David Parker-Radford, the Homeless Health Programme Manager said, 'Homeless health nurses work tirelessly every day to build trusting, caring and empowering relationships with people who have become homeless, to help them rebuild their health. These nurses are well aware of local and national trends and the impact of government policies on people who are the hardest hit. These nurses have excellent insight, and give very specific and implementable suggestions for improving their patients' health.'

He added: 'We need more of these specialist nurses and the QNI hope this report stimulates organisations in local areas to 'think nursing' and link with nursing. We want to see people coming together to take action to improve health provision for people who are homeless and at risk of homelessness, as part of a wider strategy to prevent, reduce and eliminate homelessness.'



## KIT volunteer attends NHS Windrush 70th Awards

QN and KIT volunteer, Carol Webley-Brown, wrote a blog about her evening attending the NHS Windrush 70th Awards. Here it is below.



'I travelled to Manchester straight after work to attend the Awards Ceremony hosted by the Workforce Race Equality Standards (WRES) Team, NHS England. In April 2015, the WRES was

introduced by NHS England to help support NHS organisations make strategic and operational changes to advance workforce race equality.

I arrived at the event about 10 minutes late, and in my eagerness, bumped into a group of five also attending, who were just as excited as I was. We hoped that our table was near the back so we would not be seen.

All that did not matter, because of the 600 seats, most tables were left unnamed and so you could choose where you sat. I choose to sit with my new found group; none were nurses all managers, all white but very interesting. I sat with and spent most of my time talking with Sonia, a Transgender woman (not her real name). I am now part of her massive following, tweeting about anything and everything.

As I went in I was greeted by Yvonne Coghill, who was my mentor when in the Department of Health and who had introduced me to the Chief Nursing Officer Strategic Advisory Group many years ago. Yvonne had just been given an OBE and is now Director of NHS England (WRES).

I met so many people I had not seen for a long time. By seven we all were asked to take a seat. The tables were heavily laden with bottles of red

and white wine stored in ice water buckets. There was an abundance of still and sparkly water, and orange juice. On each of the table places, there was a programme of the evening event, and a bag filled of Windrush/NHS take home memorabilia which included a 'Voice Newspaper' article of my lady who I speak with every Monday as part of the QNI's 'Keep in Touch' programme.

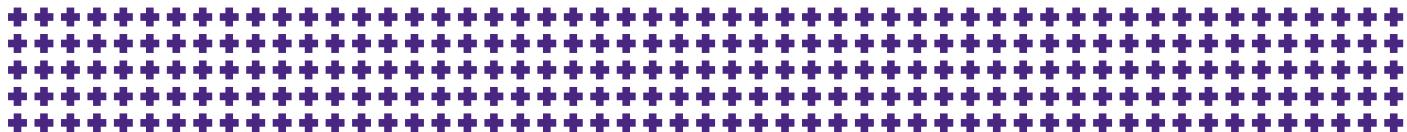
The programme started with an incredible performance by 'B Positive' that was the 'wild' card on 'Britain's Got Talent' who sung their now famous 'Rise Up'. They are a community choir created by NHS Blood and Transplant to promote the need for new blood donors, particularly from the younger generations and the black community.

Then we tucked into a Caribbean meal, starting with salt fish fritters, Jerk Chicken and a selection of tropical fruit with glasses of delicious wine.

The highlight for me was the guest of honour Alford Gardner who is 91 years old and lives in Yorkshire with his family. He came to Britain on the Windrush. He danced his way to the stage and had such a great humour. There was a standing ovation and it was so wonderful to see him and hear his story; one of hope and aspiration. It was such a celebration.

Many awards were given out and it was remarkable hearing all that has been achieved by the attendees.

I danced the night away, then relived it again on Monday as I shared the evening with my lady where we shared some champagne together over the phone.'



## Representing nurses at 10 Downing Street



'It was with some disbelief that I read an email received on 2nd July which stated "The Prime Minister invites Mrs. Patricia Beverly to a reception to celebrate 70 years of the NHS at 10 Downing Street on Wednesday 4 July, 5.30pm – 7.15pm".'

After several emails and phone calls I was eventually convinced that this was genuine and started to make plans, but with only 2 days' notice and 2 full days in my work diary, there wasn't much time to spare!

Before I knew it, I was joining a queue outside the gates of Number 10. There was much excitement at the thought of actually going behind the famous black door. Having got through the stringent security checks, I eventually found myself inside Number 10 and was directed through the corridors to the gardens and terrace.

I was met by one of the organisers who informed me that I would be receiving a long service award from Jeremy Hunt. As I was walking away, she added, 'Oh, and you've been chosen to meet the Prime Minister!'

We walked up the famous staircase where photos or paintings and the signatures of all the past Prime Ministers decorated the wall; it felt surreal to be climbing the staircase where many dignitaries and visitors had been before.

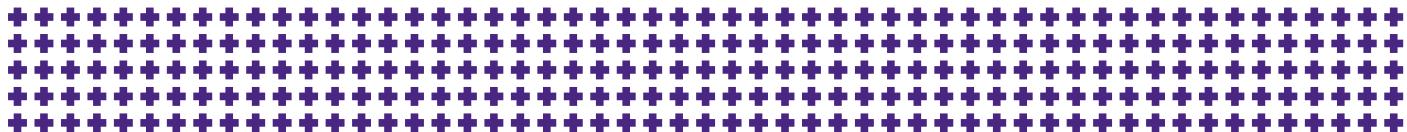
With the arrival of the Prime Minister imminent, the chosen six were ushered into The White State Drawing room which was, until the 1940s, used by Prime Ministers and their partners for their private use. It was here that Edward Heath once kept his grand piano. It is often used as the backdrop for television interviews and is in regular use as a meeting room for Downing Street staff.

Our small group waited in anxious anticipation until the Prime Minister was ready to join us. I was so proud to be introduced to her, she was informed by one of her members of staff that I was to receive a long service award and was also a Queen's Nurse.

We shook hands and she enquired about my career; I recounted details of my training at UCH, the thrill of delivering a baby and continuing to keep in touch with him and his family until present day, the pride and honour of receiving the title of Queen's Nurse.

She thanked me for my services to the NHS, I managed to thank her for the invitation and before I knew it, she had moved on to the next person.

Following our official introduction we were requested to join the other NHS staff in the large reception room, where after some time both the PM and Secretary of State made speeches about the NHS and thanked staff for their services. It was then time for a significant number of us to receive our long service awards. Official photographs were taken and before long the event was coming to a close. During the course of a couple of hours I met admin staff and secretaries, consultants, kitchen and catering staff, doctors and staff involved in the development of remote care, a fascinating group, all with stories to share about their working lives in the NHS. We had shared a unique event and our memories will stay with us for a very long time.'



## QNI Staff opens his garden for charity



In June, Matthew Bradby, the QNI's Head of Communications is opening his garden in London to the public, to raise funds for nursing and caring charities.

This is the third year that he has opened his garden as part of the National Garden Scheme, which was founded by the QNI in 1927. The scheme now supports a number of national charities including the QNI.

This year, the garden will open on 2 June.

'Opening your garden to the public for charity is one of the most rewarding types of fundraising you can do. I'm never going to run the London Marathon, but getting your garden ready for an

open day also takes a lot of preparation, if you think of all the weeding, pruning, mowing and nurturing that goes on in the months leading up to it.

I've always enjoyed voluntary work and working with other volunteers. I guess it's all about doing something that you enjoy. If you can share that enjoyment with other people, and raise funds for a good cause at the same time, everyone benefits.

Last year's opening was challenging, as it took place in the middle of the longest drought since 1976 and also coincided with England playing Sweden in the World Cup. There was also a plague of caterpillars. I'm hoping that this year's challenges will be more easily overcome!

Visiting an open garden is a fun and relaxing thing to do for people of all ages. I'd like to welcome you on 2nd June and please - cross your fingers for good weather.'

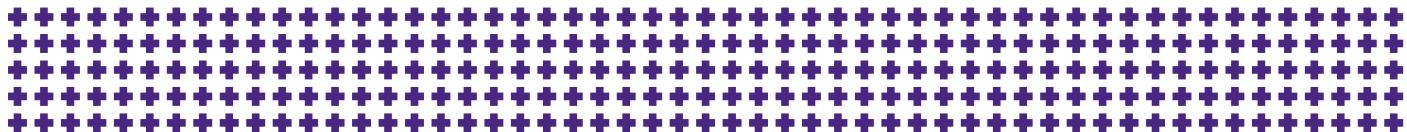
Entry on the door is £4. Free entry for children.

Home-made wine and other refreshments will be available and there will also be a plant sale.

All funds raised will be donated to the National Garden Scheme, which last year raised over £3m for nursing and caring charities, including the QNI.

Full information about the event is available on the NGS website.

For any queries, please email matthew.bradby@qni.org.uk .



## Frogmore House Garden Opening 2019



The Queen's private garden at Frogmore will open again for the National Garden Scheme on Tuesday 14th May 2019.

Last year, in 2018, a number of Queen's Nurses, QNI staff and other NGS beneficiaries attended.

Queen's Nurses and friends are encouraged to book their tickets (£7) from the National Garden Scheme website. Refreshments are available, but please note that you are welcome to bring your own picnic.

The National Garden Scheme and The QNI look forward to welcoming you to the Queen's garden on 14th May.

For more information or to book your tickets, please go to [www.ngs.org.uk](http://www.ngs.org.uk) or phone 01483 211 535. Tickets are also available on the day.

## Historical notecards available



We have created a new pack of heritage notecards to sell. The pack - which includes six notecards - costs £3.99 + post and packaging.

The black and white photos feature various District and Queen's Nurses in the 1940s and 1950s in different community settings.

If you would like to buy a pack, please fill in the enclosed form and send it back to the QNI.

## Feedback

We would love to know what you like (or would like less of!) about the newsletter, and if you would like to send in any reminiscences, we would be delighted to feature them. Please contact us at [joanne.moorby@qni.org.uk](mailto:joanne.moorby@qni.org.uk), phone 020 7 549 1400 or write to Joanne Moorby, 1A Henrietta Place, London W1G 0LZ.

## Address changed?

If you have recently changed address, please let us know either by phone on 020 7 549 1400 by emailing us at [mail@qni.org.uk](mailto:mail@qni.org.uk) or write to Joanne Moorby, 1A Henrietta Place, London W1G 0LZ.

## QNI News as it happens - online



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