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It is a great privilege and an honour to lead the QNI in our 130th anniversary year. The QNI is the oldest professional organisation for nurses in the UK and I am delighted to share with you some of the highlights of our current work in this edition of QNI News.

Our Queen’s Nurses have been supporting our policy influencing work in many areas, representing the QNI on advisory groups and workshops at a national level, ensuring that the voice of nurses working in community is present in the debates about improving the care of patients, carers and communities. There could not be a more important time to ensure that this expert voice is heard – with new Accountable Care Systems (ACS) emerging in large footprints of England and nurses being the largest clinical professionals delivering care within the ACSs. Such systems include the health and social care sectors, nursing homes, residential care homes, General Practice, community providers, commissioners and hospitals.

Our expertise continues to extend to setting voluntary standards of education and practice for specialist areas of nursing in the community and primary care. We published QNI/QNIS voluntary standards for District Nurse education and practice in September 2015 and the vast majority of the District Nurse programmes in universities are now mapped to these standards. In September 2017, we will be launching voluntary standards for General Practice Nurse (GPN) education and practice, supported by a four country consensus on the role of the senior GPN in federations of GP practices in local communities. The standards will provide a real opportunity for GPNs in federations to develop a career pathway that mirrors those of our colleagues who work in larger provider organisations.

With our foundation in the education and training of nurses, the QNI recognises that there currently are many changes which impact on nurse education, including the introduction of student nurse fees the introduction of the Nursing Associate programme and Nurse First and Nurse Apprenticeship schemes for pre-registration programmes. Alongside this is the reduction of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) funding for nurses and the need to ensure that the increasingly complex work of the nurse leading services in community and primary care is supported through education and training.

The QNI will continue to provide a ‘solution-focussed’ approach to the issue of standards of nurse education and I very much look forward to supporting our future work on QNI/QNI voluntary standards for the education and practice of Community Children’s, Community Learning Disability and Community Mental Health Nursing.

Dr Crystal Oldman CBE

Congratulations

Dr Crystal Oldman, Chief Executive of The QNI, has been awarded a CBE for services to the charity and to community nursing in the Queen’s Birthday Honours List.

Crystal commented: ‘I am thrilled to have been recognised for my services to Community Nursing and my leadership of The Queen’s Nursing Institute.

‘The QNI celebrates its 130th anniversary this year and I am privileged to work with a talented team of staff and trustees who are totally committed to high quality care for communities, patients, families and carers at every stage of peoples’ lives.

‘As the Chief Executive of the oldest professional organisation for nurses in the UK, I am mindful that my contribution is a small part in a very long and significant history of a unique organisation founded by William Rathbone with Florence Nightingale.

‘It is a charity where the vision and purpose are as relevant today as they were in 1887, supporting excellent nursing care in the community, wherever and whenever it is needed, delivered by the right nurse with the right skills.

‘Queen’s Nurses, who support the work of the QNI, are shining examples of practitioners who represent the golden thread of the highest standards of patient-centred care in the community which Florence Nightingale was instrumental in establishing.’

Congratulations Crystal!
The QNI has launched a new programme to fund nurse-led projects focused on improving homeless healthcare.

All nurses working in primary and community care in England, Wales and Northern Ireland are invited to apply for funding of up to £5000, to develop projects which improve healthcare for people who have poor health outcomes because they are more likely to be marginalised by wider society.

Up to ten nurses will be selected to receive the funding. The year-long projects will start in January 2018. Alongside the funding, the QNI will also provide a year-long programme of professional support to help nurses develop their skills in planning projects, delivering outcomes, communications and leadership.

David Parker-Radford, the QNI’s Homeless Health Programme Manager, commented, ‘The average life expectancy of someone who is street homeless is 30 years less than the national average. A high proportion of people who are homeless have multi-morbidities and may be dealing with complex trauma, mental health issues, physical health conditions, addictions, and communicable disease alongside housing, and relationship issues.

‘General Practice Nurses, Health Visitors, Mental Health Nurses and Specialist Homelessness Nurses are skilled at managing this complexity and are at the forefront of driving through innovations in holistic care. This programme will help to unleash their innovation to improve care for vulnerable people.’

As well as people who are homeless, the funding is able to support projects that improve care for people in prison, refugees, people with drug and alcohol addiction, Gypsy, Roma or Travellers, and sex workers.

The new funding programme is part of the QNI’s Fund for Innovation and Leadership programme, supported by Oak Foundation. Since 1990 the QNI has helped hundreds of nurses turn innovative ideas into reality, benefiting thousands of patients and improving nursing practice in diverse fields of healthcare.

For more information, or to apply, go to www.qni.org.uk/explore-qni/nurse-led-projects/homeless-health/ or email david.parker-radford@qni.org.uk for further advice.

The deadline for nurses to submit their funding applications is 29 September 2017.

The QNI has recently announced the creation of a new prize for student Health Visitors, named in memory of Dora Roylance, a former Queen’s Nurse and Health Visitor.

The new prize is offered for outstanding students who have completed the Specialist Community Public Health Nursing (SCPHN) Health Visitor programme. The prize is available at every university in England, Wales or Northern Ireland where the programme is offered. The Health Visitor programme leaders at each university may nominate one student to receive the prize each year.

Dr Crystal Oldman, QNI chief executive commented: ‘We are able to offer this prize thanks to the generosity of a Queen’s Nurse, Dora Roylance, who passed away in 2016 at the age of 100. Dora left a legacy to the QNI that enabled us to create this prize in her name.

‘Dora became a Queen’s Nurse in 1939 and become a Health Visitor six years later, thanks to a QNI training bursary. Dora went on to work as a nurse and a Health Visitor for the rest of her career and always maintained her connection with the QNI.

‘The QNI supports excellence and outstanding achievement in education. By offering educational prizes such as this we can help support future career development in community nursing specialties.

‘The award is just the start of a journey and an association with the QNI which we anticipate will last a lifetime, in the same way that Dora Roylance’s relationship with the QNI endured to the end of her life.’

To find out more or to apply, please go to www.qni.org.uk/explore-qni/qni-awards/dora-roylance-memorial-prize/
Philip Goodeve-Docker posthumously awarded Queen’s Commendation for Bravery

Philip Goodeve-Docker, a comedy promoter from London, who died tragically whilst on a fundraising expedition in the Arctic, was recently posthumously awarded the Queen’s Commendation for Bravery.

Philip was part of a three-man expedition who set out to cross the Greenland Ice Sheet in April 2013 to raise funds for the QNI. Early on in their expedition, they became trapped in a sudden and very severe polar storm. Tragically, shortly before rescue could arrive on the morning of 28 April, Philip passed away. His two colleagues were airlifted to safety, but suffered severe frostbite during their ordeal.

Philip’s friends and family raised £60,000 in his memory and with this, the QNI created a Memorial Prize in his name, which is presented to the highest achieving students on District Nursing Specialist Practitioner programmes in universities nationwide. Since its creation, hundreds of students have won the prize.

Philip was posthumously awarded the Queen’s Commendation for Bravery in January 2017 and a full Citation was published formally in the London Gazette.

The Citation explains in detail how he saved his teammates, ‘When a gap appeared between the ice floor and the tent fabric which exposed them to the full force of the storm, Goodeve-Docker lay down along the gap and used his body as a horizontal block, allowing a snow-wall to build up and fill the gaps.’ It states he won the award, ‘For sacrificing his own life to protect his colleagues.’

To find out more about the Memorial Prize, go to www.qni.org.uk/explore-qni/qni-awards/philip-goodeve-docker-memorial-prize/
Queen’s Nurse News

• Congratulations to Queen’s Nurse Yemisi Osho who became the new Mayor of the London Borough of Waltham Forest at a ceremony on 25 May. Yemisi is an Urgent Care Consultant and Service Transformation Project Lead at Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospitals NHS Trust.

• Helen Bridson, an Occupational Health Service Manager in the Isle of Man, won the poster competition at the National School for Occupational Health “What Works for Wellbeing Conference” in London. Helen’s department provides a service for the majority of Government areas and she was showcasing work undertaken over the last 3 years with the HR Business Partner and colleagues within the Department of Education and Children.

• Helen Wordsworth, the Founder/Director of Parish Nursing Ministries UK, has just been appointed the International Nurse Specialist for the Westberg Institute of Faith Community Nursing. It will involve connecting with and encouraging Parish nurses and Faith Community nurses around the world. The practice is currently active in 30 countries, but is growing as the initiative continues to reach more communities with whole-person health promotion.

• Jane Robinson, a Clinical Improvement Project Lead at NHS Improvement, recently shadowed Sharon Nightingale, a Queen’s Nurse and District Nurse. Jane wrote a blog about her experience www.qni.org.uk/2017/04/21/district-nursing-really-like/

• A big thank you to Claire Green, a District Nursing Sister/Community Practice Teacher at Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust for taking the time to attend an NGS garden owner’s meeting as a representative of the QNI and talk to NGS Berkshire garden owners about her work as a Queen’s Nurse and the QNI in general.

• Congratulations to Liz Cross, an Advanced Nurse Practitioner from Attenborough Surgery in Hertfordshire, whose team won the Antibiotic Guardian Award for an innovative C-reactive protein (CRP) testing scheme that cut antibiotic prescribing by 25% and dramatically reduced repeat appointments for coughs.

Can we help?

In 2016, we helped 159 community nurses who were experiencing financial difficulties for a variety of reasons. Mostly, they were going through periods of physical or mental illness, trying to escape domestic abuse, or experiencing other life crises, such as eviction, family health problems, marriage breakdown or bereavement.

Assistance is usually given in the form of one off payments or, in certain cases, regular monthly or quarterly payments. We regret that we cannot help with residential or nursing home fees; debt; cost of medical treatment; or funeral expenses.

We would love to help, so please get in touch with Joanne Moorby on 020 7549 1405 or email joanne.moorby@qni.org.uk for more information or how to apply.
Sally* was an 11 year old girl and Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) sufferer. She was having a hard time at school. Many classmates thought that SCD was contagious which meant Sally had no friends. She wasn’t always allowed to use the bathroom when she needed (people with SCD need to use the bathroom often as their kidneys are unable to concentrate urine). Sally’s class had never received the 100% attendance award and Sally had been made to feel that it was her fault.

A meeting with the school nurse and class teacher was arranged to discuss Sally’s case and also educate the staff about SCD and how to make sure Sally did not feel singled out. Sally also asked to participate in some teaching sessions with her classmates.

She was very pleased about the sessions because it made a great impact on the attitude of her peers and teachers; people became more understanding about her condition and more supportive.

Provisions were made for Sally to catch up with any class work that was missed because of absences. She was issued with a bathroom pass which enabled her to go to the toilet frequently but discreetly. Her attendance at school improved and during exams she was given extra time to complete her work.

“There’s no better thing than seeing your child happy... that visit to the school was a miracle...Sally has been a very happy girl since.’ Patient’s mother

* Name changed
The QNI has received a £5,000 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), it was announced recently.

Made possible by money raised by National Lottery players, the QNI's project, ‘Community Nursing Heritage Website and Oral Histories’, will share the rich history of community nursing in Britain since 1859 through a new and interactive website.

The QNI has a diverse archive including photographs, journals, exam papers, badges and other documentation going back to Victorian times. There is also a large amount of documentary material, including photographs and stories, from the early years of the National Health Service after 1948. In addition the QNI is gathering oral interviews with some retired Queen's Nurses about their work and life during this period.

The HLF grant will enable the QNI to create an accessible online resource, making their unique archive available to a much wider audience.

Commenting, Dr Crystal Oldman said: 'We are delighted to have received this National Lottery funding in the QNI’s 130th anniversary year. The QNI’s strong community of working and retired Queen's Nurses have a unique personal record about their service in people's homes and communities. This HLF funding will enable us to share some of that information with a wider audience and encourage appreciation for the incredible work of community nurses over the years.'

The website will be launched later this year.

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**Keep in Touch project update**

We are happy to report that our Keep in Touch project continues to grow and we have several new QN volunteers joining the team, eager to be matched with a retired QN/DN or community nurse to begin their telephone calls. The aim of this project is to strengthen the QN community, past and present, and offers opportunities to talk by telephone about life experiences, nursing or other memories and future plans.

All those already involved in the project are enjoying sharing their telephone calls and are getting to know one another. Here are some of the quotes we have received so far.

‘It’s so lovely to hear from the QNI – sometimes I think we’re forgotten. After 30 years nursing it’s good to know we are still remembered.’

‘I’ve got to say I was really ‘buzzing’ after the call. This project is really a two way benefit!’

There is no cost to volunteers as they are issued with a KiT mobile phone. If you are interested in becoming part of the KiT group, please contact Suzanne Rich on 020 7549 1416 or email suzanne.rich@qni.org.uk.

**QNI130 tea parties to fund KiT project**

As many of you will know, we are celebrating the QNI’s 130th anniversary this year. We are aiming to raise £10,000 in our anniversary year. All the funds that are raised will go towards funding our Keep in Touch (KiT) project. This aims to link retired Queen's or community nurses with current Queen's Nurses for social interaction and sharing nursing and life experiences.

This vital project runs out of funding in December this year. We are hoping that enough funds will be raised to enable it to continue into next year, so that all the retired Queen's or community nurses whose lives are enriched by the project will continue to ‘keep in touch’.

If you would like to fundraise for us by holding a tea party this summer, we have a downloadable Tea Party pack on our website full of everything you will need to promote your party (QNI130 bunting, recipe cards, cake toppers and event posters). If you would like further information, please contact joanna.sagnella@qni.org.uk. Thank you for your support.
Queen’s Nurses celebrate 130 years at royal garden

Queen’s Nurses, QNI staff and friends gathered at the royal garden of Frogmore, Windsor, when it opened for the National Garden Scheme last week to celebrate 130 years of community nursing and 90 years of garden opening. Strong wind and rain in the morning gave way to sunshine in the afternoon for this special occasion.

Berkshire NGS county organiser Heather Skinner welcomed the QNs and Head Gardener Neil Dodds gave a brief history of the garden. Greggs very generously donated a selection of 100 iced doughnuts for the event which were happily received.

The National Garden Scheme was established by the QNI in 1927 to raise funds for district nursing, they now raise over £3.5m for charity every year. To find out more about go to www.ngs.org.uk. To join in the QNI’s 130th anniversary celebrations, please go to www.qni.org.uk/explore-qni/about/qni130/

QNI staff member opens his garden for The National Garden Scheme

Matthew Bradby, the QNI’s Marketing and Communications Manager, opened his garden for The National Garden Scheme on Sunday 11 June.

Matthew commented, ‘Opening my garden was an amazingly worthwhile experience. Including volunteers, 120 people came on the day and we raised £800.

It wouldn’t have been possible without friends, family and volunteers from the QNI including Crystal, Anne and Mary who made and served tea and cakes. Joanna, Hanna, Aga, Charli and Jo brought QNI 130th anniversary cakes and bunting, took photos, and helped in lots of other ways.

Nicky Goulder, the QNI’s Vice-Chair came, as did QNs Gill Allen and Jyoti Patel. George and Annabel Plumptre represented the National Garden Scheme, but they did stump me when they asked the variety of one of my roses and of course I had absolutely no idea!

I’m hoping to open the garden again next year though, so perhaps I’ll have found out by then… I really enjoyed welcoming people to see the garden and meet friends old and new – it brought the value of NGS home to me in a whole new way.’
The Queen’s Nursing Institute
Annual Conference 2017

Healthcare in the Community
25 - 26 September 2017
Royal College of General Practitioners, London

SAVE THE DATE!

All community nurses and allied health professionals are encouraged to attend.

Feedback from 2016 conference:
“This was the best conference I’ve been to!”
“Thank you for a great two days; I came away feeling re-energised and motivated.”

Check www.qni.org.uk for updates and email mail@qni.org.uk with any queries.

#qni2017

QNI contact details
1A Henrietta Place,
London W1G 0LZ
020 7549 1400
www.qni.org.uk
mail@qni.org.uk

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