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News for supporters of the QNI

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



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QNI Officially the Oldest Nursing Charity in the World



The QNI was officially confirmed as the Oldest Nursing Charity in the world by the Guinness World Records.

The QNI is 'Officially Amazing' at 132 years old!

After a nine-month application process, the charity was presented with a certificate from the Guinness World Records last September 2019.

Dr Crystal Oldman CBE, Chief Executive, said, '132 years ago, William Rathbone and Florence Nightingale determined that nurses who worked in homes and communities required specialist education and training to do their work; to work autonomously and to manage the risk for both themselves as Queen's Nurses and the communities that they served.'

To read more about the QNI's history, go to our heritage website, www.qniheritage.org.uk



Queen's Nurses awarded MBE in New Year's Honours List

Two Queen's Nurses were honoured with the MBE in the Queen's New Year's Honours List.

Manjit Darby and Cathy Ryan were among the select group of nursing professionals who received honours, including Queen's Nurse Elizabeth Alderton who received the British Empire Medal for services to nursing.

Manjit Darby MBE is Director of nursing leadership and quality, Midlands region, NHS England and NHS Improvement. She received her MBE for services to nursing and patient care.

Catherine Ryan MBE is the Community Matron

at Sole Bay Health Centre in Reydon, Southwold, Suffolk. She is the Founder and Chair of Sole Bay Care Fund and also holds the Paul Harris Fellow award for her work with Rotary. She received her MBE for the impact she has made in the community through her nursing work and fundraising events.

Dr Crystal Oldman CBE, Chief Executive of the QNI said, 'I am absolutely delighted that these three outstanding Queen's Nurses have been honoured for their work and dedication. This is great recognition for community nurses, in the Year of the Nurse and Midwife.'



QNI launches new project to boost understanding of Community Nursing workforce



The ICNO will seek commissions designed to support data gathering and analysis that will provide evidence to enhance service planning and delivery in health and social care settings.

Dr Crystal Oldman CBE, Chief Executive of the QNI, said, 'The Queen's Nursing Institute has a long and successful track record of publishing independent high-quality reports based on data and intelligence about the community and primary care nursing workforce. The new International Community Nursing Observatory will take our data and intelligence work at the QNI to the next level and I would like to thank Pilotlight and the Barclays team for their significant help in this important development.'



The QNI launched a new International Community Nursing Observatory in London on 18 November.

The International Community Nursing Observatory (ICNO) will have responsibility for analysing data and trends in the community nursing workforce data in greater depth. The ICNO will collate and analyse data about community and primary care nursing services at a regional, national and international level.

The idea behind the foundation of the ICNO originated from an independent strategic review conducted in 2018 by executives at Barclays Bank plc, through the 'Unlocking Insights' programme which is led and managed by the charity Pilotlight. The 'Pilotlighters' at Barclays highlighted that data relating to the community nursing services workforce is often incomplete and this leads to barriers that prevent the progression of policy development, service enhancement and improvements to the care of individuals, families, carers and communities.

Professor Alison Leary MBE, Chair of Healthcare and Workforce Modelling at London South Bank University (LSBU), has been appointed as Director of the ICNO in a part-time role. Professor Leary commented, 'I'm delighted that the QNI has asked me to lead this project. Community nursing is vital for the wellbeing of the nation and impacts our lives in many different ways. Being able to help the QNI and community nursing fill gaps in the evidence base is both exciting and a great privilege.'

Dr John Unsworth, Chair of QNI's Council said, 'The QNI's Council views quality data and intelligence as vital if we are to secure the community nursing workforce of the future that the UK needs. Ensuring we have the right nurses with the right skills has always been part of the QNI's work and this can only be achieved with robust data and workforce planning.'

To find out more about the project, go to www.qni.org.uk/ICNO



The British Nigeria Law Forum gala

Queen's Nurse, Seye Aina reports back on the event



Photo above, left-right: Chair of BNLF Seye Aina, HE Amb George Oguntade, Prof Dame Elizabeth Anionwu, HE Mrs Oguntade, Christine Ohuruogu MBE and Mrs Rachael Aina QN.

On 22 November 2019, the British Nigeria Law Forum celebrated its 18th Anniversary with an Annual Gala Dinner and Awards ceremony at the Holiday Inn, Bloomsbury, London. The charity

supported on the night was the Sickle Cell Society and Professor Dame Elizabeth Anionwu DBE FRCN, QNI Fellow and a patron of the Sickle Cell Society was one of the invited guests.

It was a memorable evening for two nurses of Nigerian heritage when Rachael Aina QN (mother of Seye Aina, the Chair of BNLF) met Prof Dame Elizabeth Anionwu. Prof Dame Elizabeth Anionwu was the first sickle cell and thalassemia nurse specialist in the UK and Mrs Rachael Aina qualified as a Queen's Nurse in 1962 and was a senior manager and district nurse in Islington before returning to Nigeria in 1976.

The Gala Dinner was opened by the Nigerian High Commissioner, HE Amb. George Oguntade CFR, CON, Honorary member of BNLF.

Is the District Nursing service being overlooked?

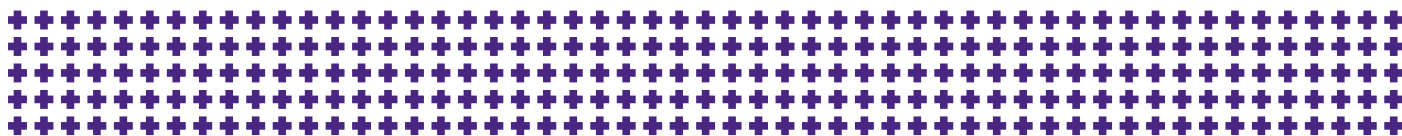
The QNI responded to the vote by English GPs to see the end of home visits in the GP contract. GPs voted by 54% to seek the change at the Local Medical Committees conference in London on 22nd November.

GPs voted for the move because of lack of capacity and belief that home visits could be carried out by other health professionals, including paramedics and physician associates. The QNI believes that the District Nursing service should not be overlooked in the debate about how to deliver healthcare for patients in their own homes.

Dr Crystal Oldman CBE, Chief Executive of the QNI commented, 'There is a risk that District Nurses – highly skilled independent practitioners who liaise closely with GP colleagues – are being overlooked in the debate about GP home visits. The District Nursing service was created in order to treat people, often with complex and

long-term conditions in their own homes and to provide end of life care where the majority of people would like to receive that care – and the need for this skilled nursing care is arguably greater than ever. If people are not mobile then a home visit is often the safest setting for the delivery of care to take place. It is also more cost effective, as the alternative is attendance at an Emergency Department. While changes in technology and advances in treatment mean that some care must be delivered in a clinical setting, there are also new opportunities for more advanced care to take place in the home. The need for greater investment in the district nursing workforce is clearly underlined in this recent vote by GPs in England.'

The QNI and RCN have also argued for more co-location of District Nurses and GPs, in order to achieve more integrated and efficient care for patients, in their recent Outstanding Models of District Nursing report (2019).



Reminiscences by Joan Kerr Winstanley QN



I was born in 1934 in a little mining village outside of Wigan. I was the youngest of three children. I always wanted to be a nurse from a very early age. After leaving school I went to work in a shop, always saying when I was old enough I was going to be a nurse.



I started first aid and home nursing lessons. At 17½ I told the instructor I wanted to be a nurse, so he brought the matron to see me.

She told me I could go to see her the next day with a view to starting on a ward for six months before starting in the next school of nursing. This I did and went to live at the hospital, which was compulsory for the first two years.

After completing my SRN training in 1955 I did a year of working in casualty. I was living in Wigan town centre at that time when a district nursing job was advertised for Wigan Borough. I applied and got the position.

The offices were in Newmarket Street, run by a matron and assistant matron. The nurses met there every morning and afternoon to get new patients. Only two of the nurses were Queen's Nurses; they had cars and did the furthest away patients. The rest of the nurses had bicycles. We did evening visits on a rota going round

the borough by car with a driver. We had one day off during the week and one weekend a month. After three years I had moved to Orrell, which was then in Lancashire. A position was advertised for a district nurse on the area where I lived. I applied, got the position, learned to drive and got a car. All nurses working for Lancashire County council had to be Queen's trained, so I went to Preston one day a week for my training (this training finished for Queen's Nurses in 1968).

On our area, we only had Queen's Nurses who did all the patients' needs, baths, dressing, injections etc. We visited all patients who were discharged from hospital and gave support to families. We worked in geographical areas until 1974, then we were attached to a GP surgery. By now, SENs and auxiliaries had been appointed and worked in teams. I had two SENs and an auxiliary. We were now having alternate weekends and a day off during the week. I worked in the GPs surgery two afternoons to give injections and dressings. This worked very well and saved a few visits.

We also had student nurses out on the district as part of the training. During this time the areas were reorganised and Wigan took over Orrell. It didn't affect me as I was attached to a GP surgery, as long as I didn't go over the boundary. When I had been on the district 20 years I got my Long Service badge. For this I should have gone to London for the presentation by the Duchess of Kent. Unfortunately, I was ill, so it was sent to me. I retired when I had worked in Orrell for 30 years. I did 33 years of district nursing.

District nursing was so different in 1956. We had a little pan to sterilise needles and syringes. We cut our own gauze swabs and baked them in a biscuit tin in the patient's oven for dressings. Bikes were left in the street and were looked after while we attended the patient. The patients got to know the district nurses and trusted and respected them.

Joan Kerr Winstanley QN



QNI appoints five new members to Governing Council



Dr John Unsworth, Chair of the QNI's Council commented, 'I am delighted to announce the five new members of Council of the Queen's Nursing Institute. The work of the charity is guided by its Council and we are extremely fortunate to be able to appoint five such high profile and experienced new trustees. They follow in the footsteps of many great names in the nursing profession, civic leadership and social reform since the foundation of the charity in 1887. Their breadth of experience and knowledge will make a huge contribution to the continued success of the charity, its values and mission.'

The QNI has announced the names of five new Trustees who will be joining its governing Council in 2020.

The new Council members are:

- Professor Ami David MBE (RN, DN, QNI Fellow, lead for Quest for Community Health and governing body nurse member for Southwark CCG and Lambeth CCG)
- Candace Imison (Director of Strategy Development at the Nursing and Midwifery Council)
- Dr Katerina Kolyva (Chief Executive of the Council of Deans of Health)
- Rebecca Myers (RN, Chair Wells Community Hospital Trust; Visiting Fellow London Southbank University; Community Staff Nurse, London)
- Jeremy Taylor OBE (previously Chief Executive of the charity National Voices).

Candace Imison said, 'I am thrilled and honoured to have been appointed as a Trustee to the Queen's Nursing Institute. I have long admired the role that the QNI has played in supporting and developing nurses. When working in health policy, I was particularly appreciative of the opportunity QNI gave me to shadow Queen's nurses. It brought to life for me the complexity and sophistication of community nursing.'

Dr Katerina Kolyva said, 'I am delighted to join the QNI as one of its new trustees. The policy context of nursing in the community has never been more relevant and the QNI's influence and strategic leadership will be crucial. I look forward to offering my expertise in higher education policy, regulation and international development to the Council.'

New Care Home Nurses Network

The QNI, the Chief Nursing Officer England and the RCN Foundation have jointly funded an initiative for Care Home Nurses. The RCN Foundation have also generously agreed to support the network for three years.

There will be a series of regional workshops in 2020 which will cover topics such as caring for residents with complex wounds, caring for

residents at the end of life and how to recognise signs of a deteriorating resident. The workshops will be facilitated by the Queen's Nursing Institute and the subject sessions will be delivered by experts in their field.

For more about this initiative, please email
Dr Agnes Fanning, agnes.fanning@qni.org.uk.



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. Below is one of the case studies.

Project: Stay Safe, Play Safe; **Team lead:** Samantha McNeely, Practice Nurse Manager **Location:** Huddersfield

Sexually transmitted infections in Huddersfield were found to be increasing with reinfection rates for males at 10% (the national is 9%). 'Play Safe, Stay Safe' was created to help try and improve the uptake of young men accessing sexual health screening by providing a self-screening STI pack which was available to pick up from boxes in the student union of the university and the University Health Centre.

James' story

James was a 19 year old male from South Wales. He was brought up in a very rural part of South Wales and had a very strict upbringing. His parents were not keen on James socialising and going out drinking and any mention of a girlfriend was frowned upon. James decided to apply for the University of Huddersfield to give him a chance to start being more independent away from his caring parents.

He arrived in Huddersfield in time for fresher's week and soon made lots of new friends and found himself out partying on most nights. He soon became popular with the ladies and had numerous one night stands. He was not always sure whether he had had safe sex as a lot of the time he could not remember the finer details of the encounters and didn't usually see the girl again.

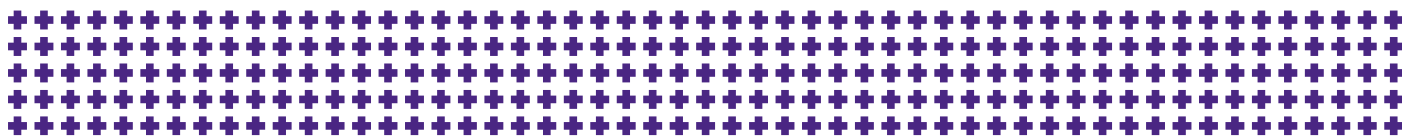
James had registered with the University Health Centre in fresher's week and during registration the nurse had told James about all the services on offer including a drop in contraception and sexual health clinic. James took a leaflet but didn't intend to attend the clinic, he was having a great time and could not possibly catch an STI

as he and his friends were invincible!

One of James' friends had told him about an competition where any team who completed the most STI screening kits would win a box full of Christmas food and drink, mainly alcohol, so James entered the competition. He submitted his pack and the next day his team were announced as the winners. Over the next few days, his friends received text messages from the 'Play Safe, Stay Safe' campaign saying their results were negative. James however, received a phone call from one of the nurses and was told he had tested positive for Chlamydia. James was very shocked. He went to the clinic and was provided with treatment. The nurse needed to know details of all sexual contacts that James had had so that they could be informed and treated. James could not remember all of their names as there were so many. He was embarrassed about this and cross with himself. The nurse discussed the importance of safe sex and also discussed safe alcohol limits. The nurse reassured James that with a one off dose of antibiotics that his infection would clear and he was advised to re-screen in 3 months to ensure he had a negative result. He would also have a follow up telephone call in two weeks to ensure his treatment went to plan.

James decided he needed to act more responsibly and not have as many encounters whilst under the influence of alcohol. He found that the STI screening packs were available in the men's toilets so chose to complete a test each month. He also made full use of the free condoms and even told his flat mates about the packs.

'James was having a great time and could not possibly catch an STI as he and his friends were invincible!' Samantha McNeely, Project Lead



Fundraiser raises over £6000 for DN Education Prize



the Greenland Ice Sheet and fundraising for the QNI. With the amount raised by his friends and family – an incredible £60,000 – the Memorial Prize was created in his name. The Prize recognises and rewards the District Nurse students who have demonstrated the most outstanding achievement on their programme.

Mark ran the Half Marathon in under 2 hours, coming in at 1 hour 55 minutes, a personal training best and what Mark was aiming for.

Mark said, 'It literally did break me! I had nothing left in my legs at the end... I almost collapsed from exhaustion as I crossed the finish line. I hit my marker of doing it sub 2 hours – 1 hour 55 minutes – which I am chuffed to bits with considering it was 1.5km longer than I thought it was...d'oh!! What I am most proud of and massively grateful for, has been the amazing level of generosity for the charity that I was supporting, The Queen's Nursing Institute. I have managed to raise £5,025.35 plus £735 (in gift aid). This is an amazing sum of money and I am truly humbled by everyone who supported me. Thank you from the bottom of my heart – it means so much to me.'



Top: Mark Goodeve-Docker; Left: Brendan Garry, a former recipient of the award; Right: Philip Goodeve-Docker before the expedition.

The QNI was delighted to receive an extraordinary amount – over £6000 – from Mark Goodeve-Docker, an estate agent from London, who ran the Ealing Half Marathon for the QNI on Sunday 29 September 2019.

Mark Goodeve-Docker was raising funds for the Philip Goodeve-Docker Memorial Prize, which was created in his brother, Philip's, memory. Philip died tragically in April 2013 whilst trekking across

Dr Crystal Oldman CBE, the QNI's Chief Executive said, 'Thank you so much to Mark for his incredible fundraising! This enormous donation will continue his brother, Philip's, amazing legacy, and will make a huge difference to district nurse education and therefore to patient care which is at the heart of what the QNI does.'

New QN entry to the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography

Twenty nurses have been added to the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography today, including Queen's Nurse Tait McKay (1870-1949) who was QNI superintendent in Cornwall, Matron of the 4th southern military hospital in Plymouth

in WWI, and secretary of the Northumberland county nursing association for the rest of her life. Thank you to Dr Susan Cohen for researching this remarkable woman in our archives.



New website for General Practice Nurses launched



A new website for General Practice Nurses (GPNs) has been launched.

The website has been developed by the QNI as part of one of the key deliverables of the GPN 10 Point Plan. The new website has been designed as an easily accessible online repository of educational and clinical resources for General Practice Nurses. The work was funded by NHS England.

The aim of the website is to: a) offer information to nurses interested in becoming a General Practice Nurse; b) provide an A-Z of clinical skills, with links for nurses who need quick access to contemporary information and c) offer educational resources for professional development. The clinical resources section will continue to be under development as new links and sources of information are added.

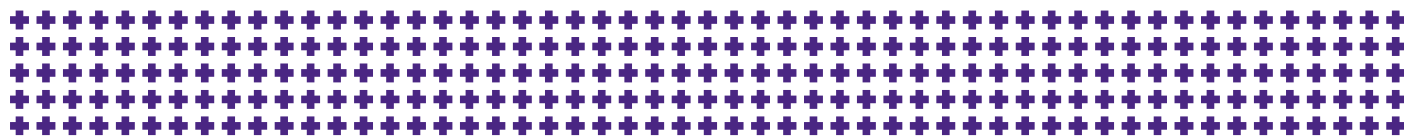
A key aim of the website is to enable nurses, and student nurses, to be aware of the opportunities available in general practice and the support that is available to them to embark on a career in this specialism. The website follows the recent publication of a new Induction Template for new GPNs, also developed for NHS England by the QNI.

The development of the new website has been led by Queen's Nurse Angie Hack, who commented, 'I am delighted to have had this opportunity to develop the General Practice Nurse Educator Network website to support General Practice Nurse education and practice. The structure of this open resource has been informed and appraised by clinically based GPNs, evidencing the need for this resource. The website is also the host site for the Association of Academic General Practice Nurse Educators and contributes to raising the profile of GPNs and encouraging the recruitment of nurses to a career in General Practice Nursing.'

QNI Chief Executive Dr Crystal Oldman CBE commented, 'This fabulous resource provides the opportunity for students and registered nurses interested in pursuing a career in General Practice Nursing to learn more about this specialist area of community nursing – and critically, the pathway to follow when applying for a role in General Practice. A career in General Practice Nursing provides an opportunity to work as an independent practitioner but also as part of a multi-disciplinary team in General Practice, serving a registered population of all ages in the local community. Visitors to the website will find out more about starting a career in General Practice Nursing and once in that role, to learn more about clinical skills and opportunities for professional development.'

A spokesperson from NHSE/I commented, 'We are very glad to have been able to support the development of this new GPN education network website, which is another important step in delivering the GPN 10 Point Plan.'

To find out more about the project, go to www.gpnen.org.uk



Blog: 'A Visit to Lea Hurst - Florence Nightingale's Derbyshire Home' by QN Deborah Evans



Lea Hurst is an early Victorian house, standing amidst the lovely scenery of North

Derbyshire, most famous as the childhood home of Florence Nightingale. Although she was named after the city of her birth, Florence spent much of her childhood in the Derbyshire mansion and it was used by the Nightingales as their summer residence. Our discovery of Lea Hurst was quite by chance. My husband and I were planning a visit to Chatsworth and were looking for a place to stay nearby. The property had only just begun to market its accommodation three weeks previously. When I realised this was the childhood home of Florence Nightingale and where she cared for her mother in the last days of her life, I felt compelled to visit. Florence

epitomised the essence of today's message espoused by the QNI, not least in respect of the critical role of district nurses in end-of-life care. Florence was instrumental in helping establish the QNI in 1887.

Our visit to Lea Hurst was remarkable. The present owners Peter Kay and his wife have invested much time in collecting and restoring items either linked to Florence or in memory of her.

Later the same month, I had the opportunity to meet up with colleagues at the QNI conference in London. What followed was a plan to return to Lea Hurst in 2020 with other Queen's Nurses and indulge in an afternoon tea. May this be the start of many Queen's Nurses visiting Lea Hurst?

To read the full blog, go to www.qni.org.uk.

Lea Hurst is offering a 10% discount for 1 night, and 20% discount for 2 nights and longer (discount code FN2020 for 1 night stays and FN2DAY for stays of 2 nights+): www.florenceightingalesuites.co.uk/

KIT and I by Jacky Bray



Early in 2018, I was contacted by Suzanne Rich from the QNI, to see if I wished to participate in the a new project called Keep in Touch (KIT). The idea was that this was to be retired community nurses and QNs, were linked up with Queen's Nurses still

actively involved in nursing practice, to share experiences and to tap the expertise that many retired nurses still retained, but had no place to channel their knowledge. The idea was also this was to be a mutual support for both the nurse still in practice as well as to the retired nurse, who still wished to be involved in nursing practice.

I was at a stage of supporting my dear husband who was receiving treatment for a very aggressive lung cancer. So I was able to have a nursing

'buddy' who could understand what I was going through. At the same time, hearing about the latest nursing news around on-going project work was a welcome diversion from my family concerns. Suzanne had the difficult task of linking up nurses with similar backgrounds and interests, and I have to say she did a magnificent job with my contact. We hit it off personally right from the start. We were fortunate enough to meet up, along with our husbands, at the annual Frogmore event in May of that year. Amazingly our husbands were of a similar professional background so had plenty to talk about.

Unfortunately, my husband's condition began to rapidly deteriorate and he passed away peacefully at our home in September 2018. At that time, as well and subsequently, my Queen's Nurse (and her husband) proved to be invaluable friends.



New Film Inspires District Nursing Careers



A new film aimed at encouraging more people to consider a career in community nursing has been launched to an overwhelming response by health professionals.

The film, *Nursing in the Community*, was commissioned by Health Education England (HEE) and made by the QNI and creative agency Mother. It highlights the wide range of care that nurses provide to people in communities across the country ranging from end of life care, homeless healthcare to running cardiac rehabilitation classes. Since its launch on 14th January, the film has been viewed over 25,000 times.

Mark Radford, Chief Nurse, Health Education England said, 'I am delighted we are able to launch this fantastic new film, that puts the spotlight on the role our community nurses play in supporting people. Community Nursing is a challenging, interesting and rewarding career option that can sometimes get overlooked as a great career after qualify as a nurse. Health Education England is committed to doing all it can to raise the profile of the variety of roles and help boost numbers in community settings so this film is a great reminder of what the roles offer not just to patients but their families too.'

Dr Crystal Oldman CBE, Chief Executive of the QNI said, 'I am delighted that have been able

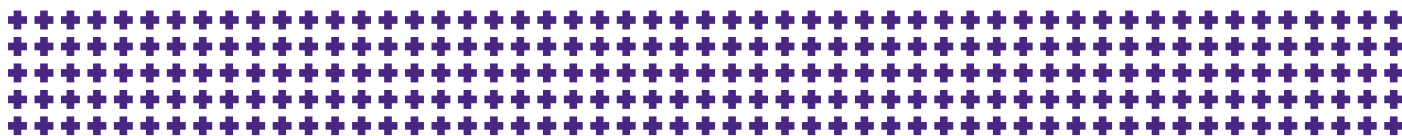
to shine a light on the incredible work of community nurses today. So often we hear that the work of the community nurse is not well understood. I invite you to watch this new film and be inspired by the outstanding, compassionate care you see being delivered in the community today. There are some very powerful scenes in the film and I am very grateful to all of the nurses and patients who took part and shared their experience so generously.'

Ruth May, CNO for England said, 'Community nurses are a vital part of the team and I would encourage anyone wanting to experience a varied and fulfilling career to join this exciting profession. As we enter the Year of the Nurse and Midwife, I'm reminded time and time again that becoming a nurse was undoubtedly the greatest decision I ever made, and with one of the highest degree employability rates, now is the perfect time to join the NHS as a community nurse.'

Liz Alderton, a Queen's Nurse who features in the film, said, 'We need attract more people into these exciting roles and I am absolutely passionate about the care that our teams deliver to patients in the community. It is a privilege to be able to support people to manage their own health at home. We need more people to look at community nursing and see what it offers, both for patient care and also for professional development.'

The film was shot on location in London, Leeds and Dorset in Summer 2019 and follows District Nurses and other community specialists in their working day, visiting patients in their own homes and communities to deliver a diverse range of care. The film also shows a cardiac rehabilitation class and a homeless health specialist in action.

View the full film on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YcGKJSFWPHs>



My view of the KIT project by Paulene Scott



Paulene with her KIT contact Tracy

I would like to put in my two pence worth regarding the wonderful KIT. It must be approximately two years since I was paired with the lovely Tracy.

helped me cope and was with me all through this. It was great to have her understand when my credibility was being challenged. I think we both learned from what had happened, but thankfully I am not working in this current system.

Someone said Suzanne has a secret psychic ability for pairing members and it could not have worked out any better. Tracy and I both have been in the same job, had two cats and both our birthdays are in April.

Being single and living alone (and after 59 operations including brain surgery), I had not realised how much I have come to look forward to our weekly chats. I am still not in the best of health at 75, but manage well and have no complaints.

My most recent surgery went very badly, and I ended up having to make an internal complaint which was very stressful and upsetting. Tracy

I feel safe and secure knowing Tracy. I feel I have gained a true and loyal friend, and I hope she feels the same. She always appears happy but never fails to show genuine empathy and she really listens.

We were lucky enough to meet near where I live when she was in Blackpool for a few days, hence the photograph. We are a white and red rose, Lancs and Yorks, who can mingle.

International Year of the Nurse and Midwife

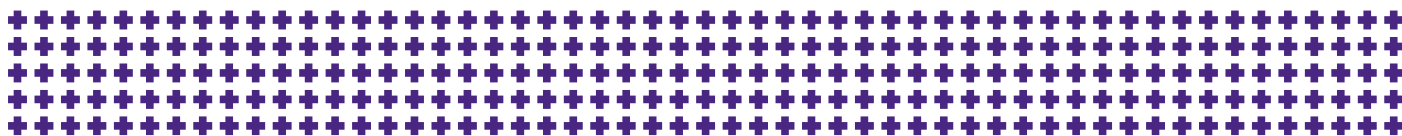


The World Health Assembly has designated 2020 as the International Year of the Nurse and the Midwife. The World Health Organization says, 'Nurses and midwives play a vital role in providing health services. These are the people who devote their lives to caring for mothers and children; giving lifesaving immunizations and

health advice; looking after older people and generally meeting everyday essential health needs. They are often, the first and only point of care in their communities. The world needs 9 million more nurses and midwives if it is to achieve universal health coverage by 2030.'

The QNI will be holding celebratory events during the year. One of our events includes the Community Festival of Nursing on 20 June 2020 at the Liverpool Town Hall. We've chosen Liverpool because it is the birthplace of professional district nursing and the QNI has many historic ties with the city. The free event will be open to the public and we will be offering a range of fun and educational activities.

To book your free place, go to **www.qni.org.uk/events**.



A visit to remember by Dr Crystal Oldman CBE, QNI CEO



On February 4th 2020, Suzanne Rich and I had the absolute privilege of meeting Win Brothwood CBE when we visited Win at her home in Bedfordshire.

Now aged 97, Win qualified as a nurse aged 23 and later became a Queen's Nurse working in the community as a District Nurse and a Midwife. She describes the days working in the community in Bedfordshire as some of the happiest of her professional life and she has always maintained contact with the QNI. Win went on to have an outstanding career in nursing and was awarded an OBE in 1972 and a CBE in 1983 for her contribution to the nursing profession and her work in support of community nursing. Highlights of her career include being a Trustee of the QNI and the Chief Nursing Officer (CNO) of Bedfordshire.

We discussed her work with the government on producing 'The Briggs Committee Report on Nursing' which was published in 1972 and the work she undertook in reviewing nurse education and training at the time. The Briggs report covers recommendations on the regulation of nurse education and training, so it was a joy to share with Win the work that I am now involved with

at the Nursing & Midwifery Council, where I represent the QNI as a member of the advisory board of the review of the regulation of post-registration nurse education.

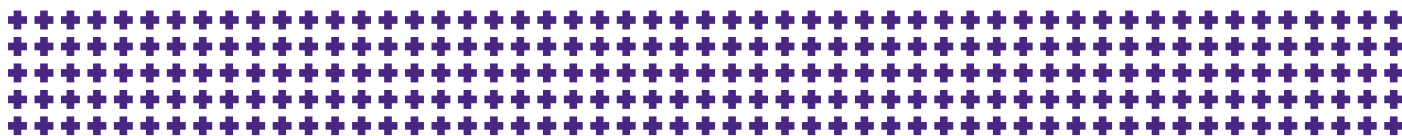
We shared our experiences of supporting nurses through education and training both before and after initial registration and the strategic approaches needed to manage the risk to the public and to ensure consistency within the education of our profession. We also discussed the politics of nurse education which are a consistent theme across the decades.

I was deeply impressed by Win's knowledge of the current nursing issues, challenges and solutions. Her insight into what has gone before should be a guide for our path to the future of post-registration education. We must learn from the past in order to develop further and faster in response to the complex needs of the communities served.

I could not believe that it was time to return to London after a delicious lunch and almost two hours of discussion. I promised Win I would return as the NMC review progresses so that I can learn more from her truly significant knowledge and experience - and I look forward to it.

As Suzanne and I returned to London and reflected on our visit, what struck me – apart from Win's wicked sense of humour - was Win's commitment to the nursing profession, to the communities she served, the services she led and managed - but above all, her pride in belonging to the QNI family and being a Queen's Nurse throughout her career.

Thank you Win for a most enjoyable time and I look forward to seeing you again soon!



Obituaries

Nancy Ferris, QN



Nancy Ferris, QN, passed away on 15th December 2019, the day before her 90th birthday.

Nancy trained in 1947 and got her SRN at Dudley Road Hospital, Birmingham. Nancy then worked in Worcester and became a QN.

During her career Nancy became a night sister overseeing several wards at Dudley Road, and also an occupational health nurse at a factory for a few years, - both of these roles she greatly enjoyed. Nancy saw a DN was needed in the

Studley area and wrote to the local authority suggesting this – within three days they visited Nancy and asked her to take on the role, which she did, despite having two young children at the time. Nancy had five children - one of her daughters is a nurse specialising in infection prevention and one of her granddaughters is a paramedic. Nancy was part of our Keep In Touch project and she and her contact very much enjoyed their telephone calls. Nancy loved being a DN and always remembered great detail about her nursing experiences.

Nancy wrote this poem during her training:

N is for nervousness when state exams are tried,
U is for unhappiness which often she must hide,
R is for rules and disciplines which must be upheld,

S is for secrets which must go unheard,
E is for emptiness which often fills her purse
Combined with other qualities you have the perfect NURSE.

Kathleen Graham, QN

Kathleen Graham QN, née Stenton, trained in Manchester, becoming a Matron at a local hospital caring for geriatric patients before becoming a DN and then a QN.

Kathleen was very proud of the QN title and took a keen interest in the current award process for new QNs; she was invited in 1997 to meet Elizabeth, the Queen Mother at St James' Palace, London.

After retiring she moved to a small village in Lincolnshire and then more recently in 2018 to Scotland to be with her son and his family, where she lived until she passed away on 14 November 2019 aged 91.

James Howell, QN

James Howell, QN, passed away in November 2019.

James trained in Essex, then worked in North

Middlesex. James did a teaching course at Queens and also a course at Ipswich University – he qualified as a DN in 1962, then became a QN in 1964. James met his wife, Kathleen, through nursing - she was a district midwife at GOSH. After living near Birmingham for four years the family moved back to Essex and James worked for the rest of his career in the Chelmsford area, retiring in 1969.

James loved his nursing career – Kathleen worked as a midwife and when their children were small James would work during the day then Kathleen would work the night shift, so that one of them could be with the children.

James and Kathleen had a son and daughter, four grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

James was part of the Keep in Touch project and he and his volunteer greatly enjoyed weekly phone calls.



Letter penned by Florence Nightingale about community nursing found 122 years later during a house clearance

Originally published in Daily Mail online, 16 October 2019



Bev Peck of Weldmar's retail team with auctioneer Tim Medhurst with the letter by Florence Nightingale

A remarkable letter penned by a bedridden Florence Nightingale that sets out her vision for community nursing was found 122 years later during a house clearance.

The four page hand-written letter, addressed to a 'Mr Hollingsworth', fell out of a photo album during a house clearance at a deceased estate in

Chickerell, near Dorchester, Dorset.

The letter was written by the heroine of nursing in 1897 and was her polite refusal to an invitation to an event she couldn't attend as she was ill. It was picked up and read

by stunned Bev Peck, the regional manager for the charity Weldmar Hospice which had been bequeathed items from the estate.

In the letter the 'Lady with the Lamp' wrote: 'I always feel that we are still on the threshold of training. Till every poor mother knows how to feed her infant, wash and cloth it, till private nurses have an organisation, a principle and a high idea of their calling, till every poor sick person has a trained District nurse, we can not be said to have passed the threshold.'

National Garden Scheme Open Day



Matthew Bradby, the QNI's Head of Communications is opening his garden as part of the National Garden Scheme.

The National Garden Scheme provides vital support for nursing and caring charities, including the QNI. This is now the fourth year Matthew has opened his garden for charity.

Last year the garden was featured on ITV's Love Your Garden programme, creating a new Mediterranean themed seating area in a dry, sunny spot. Refreshments will be available, including home made wine, and there will be home made preserves and plants for sale. Entry

on the door is £4. There is no charge for children and dogs are welcome. Full information about the event is available on the NGS website, www.ngs.org.uk.

Matthew says, 'It's been another challenging year in the garden. The mild, wet weather has meant that lots of plants have kept growing right through the winter; there have been plenty of flowers out and bumblebees buzzing around, even in January. I've also been putting up more bird boxes to create nesting sites for birds. Now I'm looking forward to Spring, sowing some seeds and planning ahead for some vibrant Summer colours. I would love to welcome you on 7th June and show you some of the projects I've been working on. And you can try my gooseberry wine.'



Snowdrop Festival



National Garden Scheme's Snowdrop Festival throughout February.

Snowdrops are the first to mark the change of season and so for the fifth year running, garden-owners all over the country are opening their gates for the

Some of the gardens open have as many as 300 different varieties of snowdrops, whilst others have a mix of snowdrops, hellebores and other early spring flowers, all of which makes a visit to an NGS garden well worth the effort of being outdoors on a cold day.

To find out more, please go to www.ngs.org.uk/snowdrop-gardens

Historical notecards available



Our pack of heritage notecards includes six notecards - costs £3 + £1 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 send a cheque (made payable to The Queen's Nursing Institute) to The Queen's Nursing Institute, 1A Henrietta Place, London W1G 0LZ.

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, phone 020 7549 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 or write to Joanne Moorby, 1A Henrietta Place, London W1G 0LZ.

QNI News as it happens - online



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