

# HomeVisit

News for supporters of the QNI

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



*Photo above: Saying thank you to speakers at the Annual Conference online, using British Sign Language*

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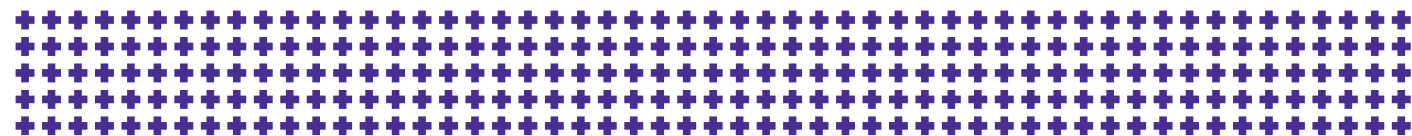
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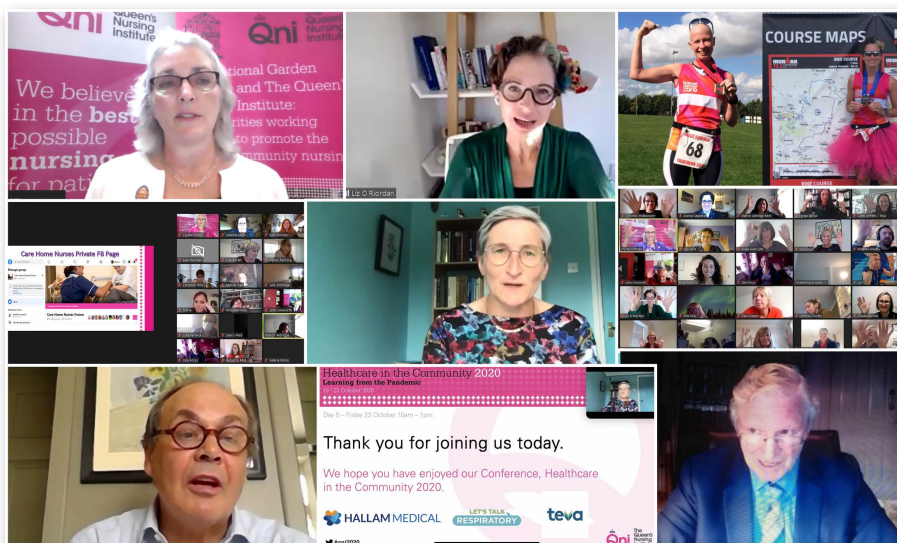
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## QNI Annual Conference draws global audience of 1500 nurses



providing effective, dynamic and innovative healthcare in the UK, and the forthcoming research to be published by the charity later this year.

Dame Clare Moriarty, Chair of the Health Foundation's Covid-19 Impact Inquiry and Dr Mehrunisha Suleman spoke about the inquiry, which is now gathering evidence. They outlined the significant and deep rooted health inequalities that have been brought into sharper focus by the impact of

The QNI held its first online conference over five days from 19 to 23 October 2020. The event was attended by over 1500 community nurses and other health professionals from countries including Nigeria, Switzerland, The United States, Liberia, Poland, Norway, Ireland, Japan, Singapore and other nations as well as those of the United Kingdom.

the pandemic, and the plans to influence policy and practice in addressing these by publishing the evidence within the report. Community nurses were warmly encouraged to submit their evidence to the inquiry, which will be a significant part of the overall findings.

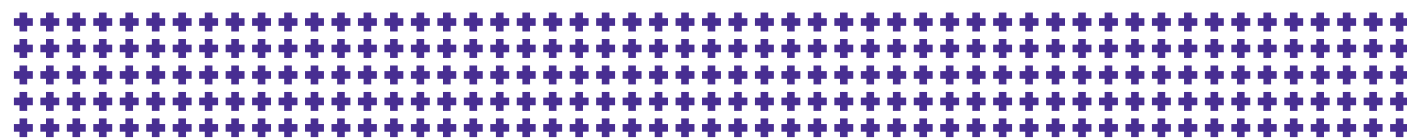
Over fifty speakers presented at the event, including the Chief Nursing Officers of England, Wales and Northern Ireland, and of Public Health England. International perspectives were provided by Howard Catton of the International Council of Nurses and by Lord Nigel Crisp, speaking about the legacy of the Nursing Now campaign. Jo Churchill MP, Parliamentary-under-Secretary of State for Prevention, Public Health and Primary Care, Department of Health and Social Care, gave a recorded address to the delegates in which she thanked them for their dedication and achievements in the first wave of the pandemic and exhorted nurses to 'take care of themselves' as they continue to serve the NHS and protect the health of the population and their local communities. George Plumptre, Chief Executive of the National Garden Scheme, the largest single funder of the QNI and other nursing charities, spoke about the recent and continuing challenges of the pandemic. He spoke about the unique contribution of the voluntary sector in

The conference also saw the launch of the QNI's latest District Nurse Education Report, covering the academic year 2018-19. The report showed a substantial rise in the number of nurses undertaking the District Nurse Specialist Practitioner Qualification in all countries of the United Kingdom. The rise was warmly welcomed by speakers and delegates.

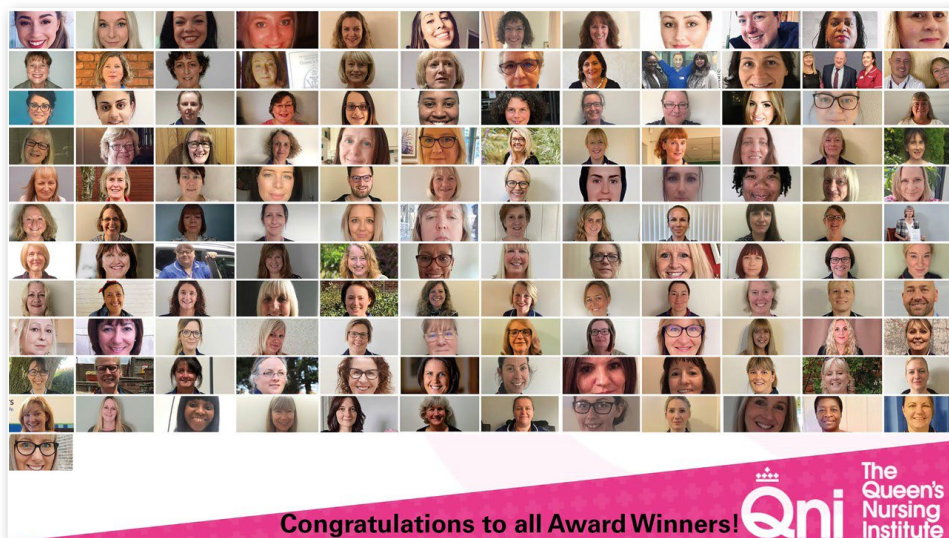
Delegate feedback from the event was outstanding and proved that an online conference can offer a rich learning experience for health professionals, as well as offering authentic social interaction among delegates. We were particularly struck by the way in which delegates were able to connect in such an immediate way via the chat box, which is not possible during a physical conference session.

The conference presentations and summary notes can be downloaded from the QNI's website: <https://www.qni.org.uk/news-and-events/events/qni-annual-conference-2020/>





## QNI holds first online Awards Ceremony



A pre-recorded video message from Mr Nigel Goodeve-Docker, Philip's father, was played, during which Mr Goodeve-Docker spoke movingly about his son's endeavour and ultimate sacrifice while attempting to cross the Greenland Ice Sheet to raise funds for the QNI in 2013. He congratulated all of the Goodeve-Docker prize winners on their achievement and wished them well in their career as District Nurses.

The QNI held the first online awards ceremony in the charity's history on 30 September 2020. The programme followed the usual order of events with the presentation of Fellowship to new Fellows, the Outstanding Service Award, academic prizes for students of specialist practice, innovation award winners and Queen's Nurses.

The ceremony was opened by QNI Chair of Council, Dr John Unsworth, who welcomed the award winners and other guests to the ceremony. He thanked the charity's supporters including the National Garden Scheme and introduced a short film made to thank the many Queen's Nurses who sent a garden selfie to the QNI this year, to help raise awareness of the contribution of the National Garden Scheme in supporting the QN network.

George Plumptre, the Chief Executive of the National Garden Scheme and the QNI's largest and longest standing funder, congratulated the QNI and community nurses on their achievements in working through the 'extraordinary pressures' of the pandemic this year. He praised the Queen's Nurses' adaptability and success in delivering care to people in need this year, and the 'huge responsibility' that was placed on them, particularly in areas such as end of life care. He said that the garden scheme was 'enormously proud' of the new Queen's Nurses.

Dr Crystal Oldman CBE, the QNI's Chief Executive said, 'The QNI annual awards ceremony 2020 was a truly remarkable event, managing to create an atmosphere of celebration and occasion whilst gathered online and in our own homes. One of the benefits was being able to open up the event to more people than could ever have fitted into an audience at a face-to-face event, so our award and title recipients were able to invite more of their loved ones to participate in the event.

Each recipient had a photograph and their name displayed on the screen as they received their award – replacing the few seconds that they may have walked across a stage. And lastly, the event was recorded, so the recipients, friends and family can experience again the announcement of their names and the spirit of celebration.

The feedback we have received from the participants has been outstanding and I congratulate them all in participating in a unique event with such enthusiasm and positivity - demonstrating exactly why they are receiving their awards!'

For a full list of the award winners, please visit <https://www.qni.org.uk/news-and-events/news/qni-holds-first-online-awards-ceremony/>

## Rising numbers of students taking District Nurse SPQ across the UK, QNI study finds



at 37 universities, submitted via an online survey during January-March 2020.

The QNI has published its seventh annual Report into District Nurse Education in the United Kingdom, covering the academic year 2018-19. The report was launched at the charity's annual conference on 22nd October 2020. It is based on the responses of programme leaders

the programme has remained constant at 15 in 2018/19.

- 85% of university respondents had mapped their programmes to the QNI/QNIS Voluntary Standards for District Nurse Education and Practice (QNI/QNIS 2015).
- As found in 2017/18 almost all respondents have concerns about the loss of funding with the apprenticeship model being a possible alternative to current funding arrangements; however, over 50% of the respondents were involved in the application to form a 'trail blazer' group for the District Nurse apprenticeship standards which has now had formal approval.

The report shows an increase of 5% in the number of new students enrolled on District Nurse Specialist Practitioner Qualification (DN SPQ) programmes compared to the previous year, continuing the sustained upward trajectory in the number of students choosing to undertake this qualification.

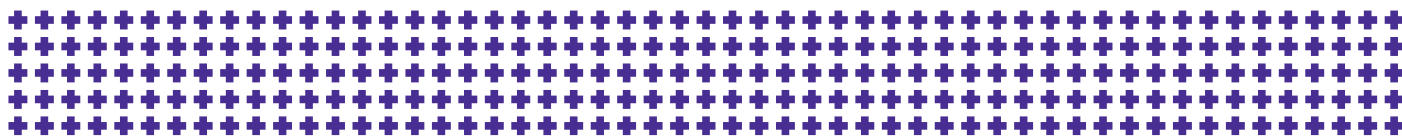
### Key Points from the Survey:

- There were 693 new students who commenced a District Nurse Specialist Practitioner Qualification (DN SPQ) Programme in 2018/19, an increase of 34 students (5%) on the 659 new students in 2017/18.
- Of the 693 new students in 2018/19, 527 were full time and 166 were part time.
- 518 DN SPQs qualified in 2019, compared to 500 in 2018. This represents an increase of 4% newly qualified DN SPQs.
- There are 42 universities in the United Kingdom (UK) approved by the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) to offer the DN SPQ.
- 37 universities responded to the survey; of these, one university is no longer running the programme.
- The number of universities offering the V300 Independent Prescribing course as part of

Dr Crystal Oldman CBE, the QNI's Chief Executive said, 'It is extremely encouraging to see the increasing numbers of nurses who are undertaking the DN Specialist Practitioner Qualification, in all parts of the United Kingdom. The survey shows that the vast majority of provider organisations require team leaders to hold the qualification, which acts as a guarantor of safe and effective patient care, leadership and management, in a highly complex and autonomous clinical environment. As the demands on District Nursing teams continue to grow, the need for proper preparation of District Nurse team leaders has never been keener.'

On the opening day of the QNI's Conference, the Chief Nursing Officers of England, Wales and Northern Ireland all stressed their commitment to continued investment in District Nurse education and workforce. In Wales and Northern Ireland, all community/neighbourhood nursing team leaders are required to hold the DN SPQ. In England, CNO Ruth May said she is 'absolutely committed to investing in District Nursing in England' and cited the £18.5m funding through Health Education England that underpins this.

The report can be downloaded here: <https://www.qni.org.uk/explore-qni/policy-campaigns/district-nurse-education-reports/>



## QNI Learning Disabilities Projects commence online



A cohort of 10 new Learning Disability innovation projects commenced their programme this week, with the first of six online workshops.

The projects are being supported as part of the QNI's Fund for Innovation programme, thanks to a major grant from the Burdett Trust for Nursing. Each of the nurse-led projects will benefit from funding of up to £5000 and a year-long programme of professional development from the QNI.

The projects were originally selected at the start of 2020 and were due to join their first workshop in London just as the pandemic broke. The QNI postponed the projects until the recovery phase of the pandemic and decided to take the learning online.

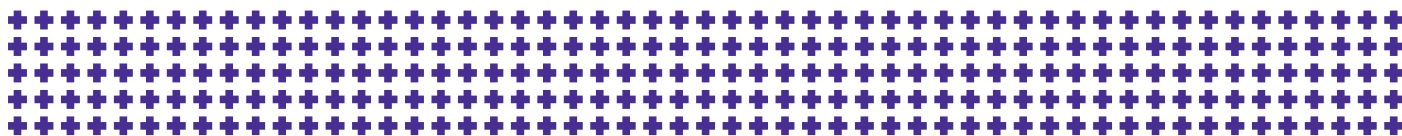
The projects are based across England including Bournemouth, Guildford, Aylesbury, Birmingham, Bolton, Bury, the Wirral, Huddersfield and Halifax. The projects aim to improve nursing care for people with learning disabilities in the

community in a wide variety of ways:

- How to manage an unsafe swallow to reduce the risk of aspiration pneumonia
- Reducing anxiety at GP appointments and increasing the productivity
- Creating a health passport for children
- Developing a safety pack for parents who have a learning disability from antenatal to first year of life
- Improving sleep for children
- Creating a dementia observation handbook
- Introducing sensory occupational therapy to improve diet and weight management (for both under and overweight children)
- Improving access to health promotion/health screening
- Building confidence to use the health services appropriately
- Improve annual health checks, quality and uptake within General Practice.

Sue Boran, QNI Director of Nursing Programmes said, 'These Community Learning Disability projects demonstrate the huge range of innovative work being carried out by nurse specialists and their colleagues in communities across the country. These are the first online workshops ever carried out by the QNI and this represents both a new challenge and a new opportunity for everyone involved, including staff, facilitators and project leaders. We eagerly anticipate the learning that will come out of this new way of working and look forward to sharing it to enhance service delivery in other community settings.'





## Nursing in New Zealand - a Covid-19 story



My name is Hazel Nelson I have been a nurse for over 40 years, working in a variety of nursing jobs. For the last 21 years I have been a practice nurse. In March this year I left the UK for a holiday in New Zealand to visit my son and his family. Intending to return to the UK in June. As you are all very much aware, Covid-19 then took hold.

New Zealand closed its borders and we had two days' notice to go into level four lockdown. The lockdown was hard only one person from your household or bubble could go to the shops. We could go for walks but only in the immediate area with people from our bubble. It was at this time I decided to do my bit, as Nelson District Health Broad was asking for nurses. After a process that seemed to take forever and loads of paperwork to and from the UK, I got a temporary emergency work visa.

I started working at the Community Based Assessment Centre or CBAC for short. The setup was amazing – the DHB (District Health Broad) had taken over a disused working man's club because it had a large carpark and many doors in and out of the building.

One nurse would be the triage nurse – she would be in the carpark taking the patient's demographics and relaying the information inside with the use of a two-way radio. The patient would then wait in their car to receive a phone call asking them to go to one of the doors. (If the patient did not have a phone, the triage nurse was alerted on the radio to send the patient to the door.)

We had a 'clean' and a 'dirty' area at different ends of the building. The patient would be met at the door and invited into the building

by the 'dirty' nurse on duty or GP – this person would do a full assessment and take the swab. Another nurse would write all the details on a paper template, fill in the lab form and label the tube. Being the 'clean' nurse, she/he would have contact with the office staff who generated the paperwork and updated the details on the computer. The 'dirty' nurse would stay in the pods. The patient would then leave the building via another door, making a good flow.

Last week we swabbed one hundred and thirty-eight Russian sailors who could not speak English and none of us spoke Russian, but we managed, with the help of Google translator.

At the height of the outbreak we saw 170 people in one day and had four teams working in separated pods. The shift coordinator timed us in our PPE, so we never spent more than two hours in the PPE before a break.

The challenges were many, like working a two-way radio – that was never covered in my nurse training! Accessing patients in their cars while wearing full PPE and the patient in a mask made



it difficult to know the extent of their illness. After the first day we got portable toilets for the carpark, as the waiting patients could not use the toilets in the building – that need had been overlooked.

The logistics of standing in whatever weather the day would bring, in full PPE with a radio in a plastic bag, gloves on, was hard. As it was winter here sometimes you had three layers of clothes under your PPE and looked like a Teletubby. As nurses we rely on facial expressions to relay comfort and reassurance to our patients, but with a mask, goggles and a no touch policy, it was very difficult.

We also took car registrations so we could identify which people belonged to which car, but not very many nurses know their phonetic alphabet. For example, A = alpha. This became a laughing point as people made up their own ones. For example, V = Varicose veins.

Now we have no community transmission of

Covid-19 in New Zealand, but we are testing asymptomatic workers at airports and ports. This also has its challenges, as last week we swabbed one hundred and thirty-eight Russian sailors who could not speak English and none of us spoke Russian, but we managed, with the help of Google translator.

I have learnt during this time that nurses need to use their whole bodies to show empathy, not just their faces. Our voices need to be calm and we need to speak clearly because of the mask. PPE is here to stay, so we need to adapt. I have learnt many new skills including the need to look outside the walls of the surgery or hospital and to give great care wherever I find myself working.

Having been a nurse for forty-three years, you would have thought I may have known most things but my mantra to students is, "Every day, is a school day." It sure is in these challenging times.

*Hazel Nelson QN, BEM*

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## Lord Ashburton QNI Vice-President



The trustees and staff of the Queen's Nursing Institute were saddened to hear of the death of John Baring, Lord Ashburton on 6th October.

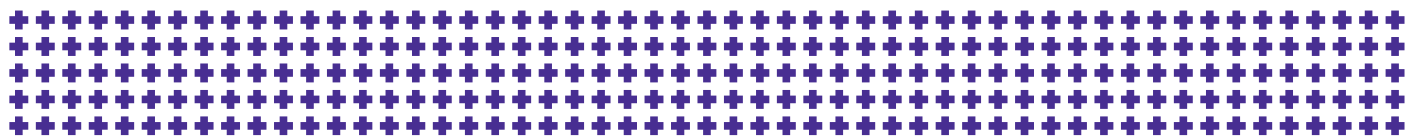
Lord Ashburton KG KCVO was a trustee of the Queen's Nursing Institute (QNI) for many years

and subsequently served as a Vice-President of the charity.

His contribution to the work of the QNI and to the advancement of nursing in the community in this country is hugely appreciated. We would like to express our sincere condolences to his family at this time.

An obituary for Lord Ashburton was published in The Guardian on 9th October.

John Baring, 7th Baron Ashburton  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John\\_Baring,\\_7th\\_Baron\\_Ashburton](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Baring,_7th_Baron_Ashburton)



# A Tribute to Win Brothwood, CBE, QN, 1922-2020

by Dr Crystal Oldman CBE, QNI CEO



Win Brothwood was born in Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, in 1922. She left school at 14 and started work as was commonplace at that time and as her family needed an income. But from the age of 12 Win always knew she wanted to be a nurse. So, she enrolled in evening classes to ensure she had the right entry qualifications for nursing, and started working with the Red Cross at weekends. She worked every weekend with the Red Cross from the age of 15 to the start of her nurse training in 1942 when she was 19 years old.

Win qualified as a nurse and worked in the Mansfield and District Hospital where she took care of many soldiers returning home from the war and specifically from Dunkirk.

Later she trained as a midwife and then in 1949, as a Health Visitor. She lived and worked in Hertfordshire as a Health Visitor and Midwife and in the late 1950s, Win trained as a District Nurse with the Queen's Nursing Institute, becoming a very proud Queen's Nurse. Working as a triple qualified district nurse, health visitor and midwife in the community Win was ideally placed to develop her system leadership skills. In 1966 she was appointed Chief Nursing Officer and Superintendent of Home Nurses in Bedfordshire at £1,770 per annum. She later married Bill Brothwood who was a medical officer of health in Bedfordshire.

Win was a member of QNI Council in the 1960s and 1970s and she met the Queen Mother a number of times in her role as a QNI Trustee. They shared stories about Hitchin in Hertfordshire that they both knew well. Win also became the Vice-President of the Royal College of Midwives.

My knowledge of Win started with her name in the Briggs report. Win was a member of

the Briggs Committee on Nursing 1970-72 which led the way to the Nursing Act of 1979. She was the only consistent nurse member throughout the two years of the Committee, travelling the country to consult on the future of the nurse regulation. The Briggs report led to the establishment of the Nursing and Midwifery Act of 1979 and the UK Central Council for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting, and National Boards for the four parts of the United Kingdom. Win was passionate about education and training and the Briggs report made some recommendations which we are seeing today. That nurses should not be considered part of the salaried staff but given time to learn; that nurse education should be based in higher education, with joint appointments between clinical and teaching staff. That all nurse education should be underpinned by research.

Win was awarded an OBE in 1972 and a CBE in 1983 for services to nursing and work within the community.

Her influential role with the Briggs Committee can be seen today and when I visited Win - with my colleague Suzanne Rich, who leads our Keep in Touch (KIT) programme (Win had regular calls as a member of KIT) - in February this year, Win was as passionate about nurse education as she was all those years ago. We discussed the NMC review of post registration education – she was so articulate and so up-to-date in her knowledge of current practice and could speak from personal experience too about the care she had received from her local District Nursing service. She was 97 years old and quoted all sorts of legislation that I had to look up later!

I was deeply impressed by her ability to get to the heart of the matter of education and regulation – and we committed to meet again this year to discuss it further. I am so sorry that we did not get a chance to do that due to the pandemic – Win was so wise and so experienced and I absolutely loved our conversation that day and I shall treasure that visit forever.





## QNI Fellows and Queen's Nurse Honoured



*Left to right: Professor Anne Marie Rafferty DBE; Rob Webster CBE; Hazel Nelson QN, BEM*

Two Fellows of the Queen's Nursing Institute and a Queen's Nurse were honoured in the Birthday Honours announced on 9th October 2020.

Professor Anne Marie Rafferty, QNI Fellow, was honoured with a Damehood for services to nursing.

Professor Rafferty commented on her Twitter account, 'Thank you to everyone for your wonderful messages. I am deeply touched, humbled and thrilled. This honour is a tribute to the support, teamwork and contributions of colleagues with whom I have had the privilege of working over the years.'

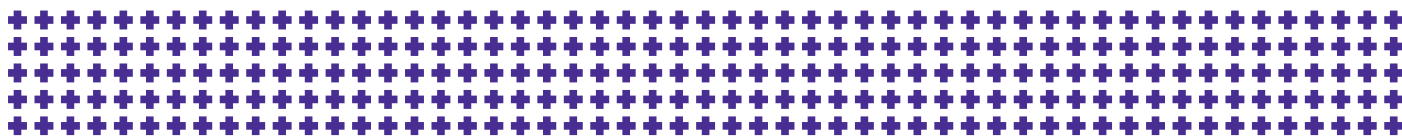
Rob Webster, QNI Fellow, was conferred with a CBE for services to healthcare leadership.

Mr Webster commented on Twitter: 'I've worked with 1000s of people over the last 30 years in health and care. Thanks to all of them for supporting me and for making a difference to so

many lives. Whichever ones of you nominated me for my CBE, thank you. It means so much that you did.'

Queen's Nurse Hazel Nelson, a General Practice Nurse, was honoured with the British Empire Medal for services to nursing and the community in Staffordshire. Ms Nelson said, 'It is a great honour to be recognised for something I love doing. I would like to thank everyone who has influenced my nursing career over many years.'

Dr Crystal Oldman CBE said, 'I am delighted that Dame Anne-Marie Rafferty, Rob Webster CBE and Hazel Nelson BEM have joined other figures in nursing and healthcare who have been given this national recognition in Her Majesty's Birthday Honours. Sincere congratulations to them all from the staff and trustees of the QNI. There has never been a more important moment to recognise in this way the critical role of expert nursing and leadership in our community services in supporting the whole health and social care system.'



## Obituary: Edith Humphrey



Edith Humphrey, QN, passed away on 21st October, 2020.

Edith trained in Yorkshire and with her husband, Ivan, had two sons, Philip and David. Sadly Edith's husband and sons died some years ago.

After retiring Edith lived in Yorkshire with her brother, an ex-farmer, and became his carer. The Tour de Yorkshire passed right outside their cottage, and Edith put out 20 yellow balloons to welcome them.

Edith was a member of U3A, and was instrumental in starting three local branches. Edith greatly enjoyed going to their stargazing evenings – one of the group had his own observatory and gave excellent instruction on looking at the stars/moon, which Edith loved.

Edith's health diminished in her latter years, and she eventually lost her sight and moved into supported living, firstly in Kendal, then in Yorkshire. While living in Kendal Edith became an "office girl", volunteering weekly with a local organisation helping them with mailouts. Edith also took up origami.

Edith's love of nursing never diminished, and she wrote to Jeremy Hunt regularly when he was the Health Secretary, giving her observations – she always received a good reply to her letters.

Edith retained her love of nature and enjoyed the time she lived in the Lake District. Edith was a member of the QNI's Keep In Touch project and was in regular contact with her volunteers. Edith was a very proud QN.

When Edith became a QN in 1958, she was invited to Buckingham Palace to meet the Queen Mother – Edith remembered that Prince Charles and Princess Anne were children in their pushchairs at the time!

Edith remembered the creation of local social services in 1974 – until then welfare work had been undertaken by local charities and welfare groups – in Edith's opinion things worked well then!

Edith was a Welfare Officer for the Red Cross and undertook a lot of welfare work in this capacity – Edith loved volunteering with the Red Cross, though she said she was bad at first aid! Edith particularly enjoyed being part of the Great North Run where the Red Cross provided support for the runners.

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## A poem by QN Sue Wynne

'We are all united, we are all the same  
We're wearing masks, the virus to blame,  
But standing together, looking around,  
There's not much chatter, there's not much sound.  
The air has cleared, the engines have ceased,  
Our nature has bloomed, the sound of peace.  
It's brought us some light, but also the gloom.  
But this is a lesson to learn for the world.  
This legacy was caused by what you see,

Depleting the planet, its land its trees,  
The balance we have has been so finite,  
Our eco system gone if we ignore this plight.  
Take heed the world, please don't ignore  
We've seen this Pandemic, we don't want more.

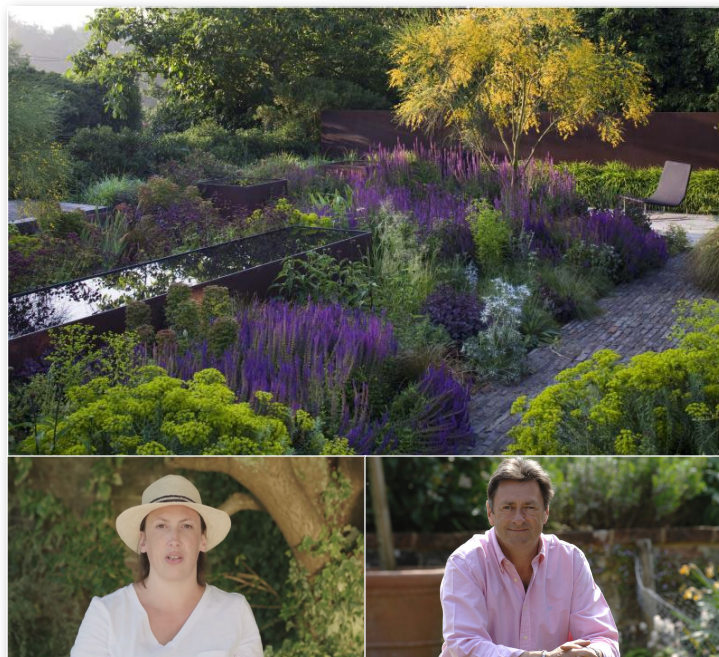
This battle has started, not yet at its end,  
Please pray we endure work together world, be friends (of our planet).'





## NGS News

### Virtual Garden visiting



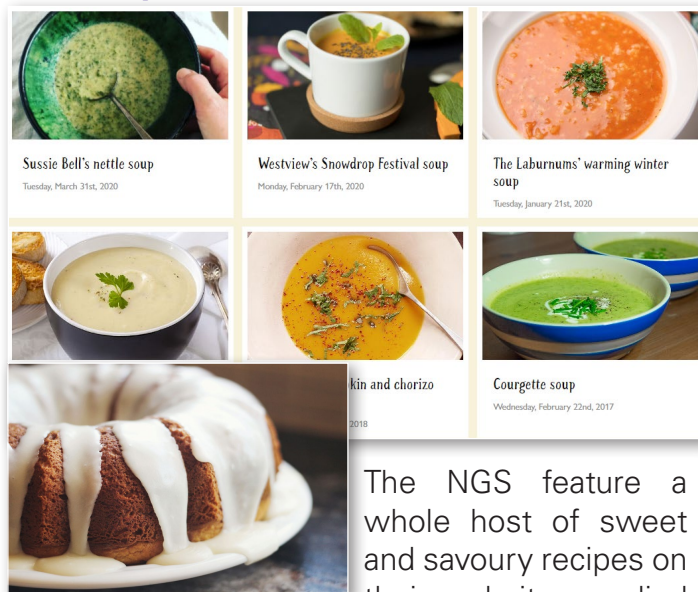
2nd December, The National Garden Scheme - the QNI's largest and oldest funder - have cancelled all their garden openings for this period. However, during the lockdown of 2020 their resourceful garden owners created films of their gardens so garden gates could stay open online.

There are over 180 gardens to visit virtually, with a huge variety of choice, from Designer's Gardens, to Cottage Gardens to VIP gardens including actor Miranda Hart's childhood garden (<https://ngs.org.uk/hambledon-house-hampshire-harts-delight/>) and also a video of Alan Titchmarsh's garden taken to celebrate his '50 years in gardening, 40 in broadcasting and 70 on earth' (<https://ngs.org.uk/alan-titchmarsh-shares-his-garden/>).

In line with the government announcement on Saturday 31st October of a second lockdown period in England from the 5th November to

To find out more, go to <https://ngs.org.uk/virtual-garden-visits/>

### NGS recipes



The NGS feature a whole host of sweet and savoury recipes on their website supplied by supporters and beneficiaries (including the QNI!). Seeing as winter is fast approaching, the soups seem very appealing, see here: <https://ngs.org.uk/category/recipes/soup/>

Or if you are starting to feel a little festive with Christmas coming up, why not try their saffron and orange cake, the recipe can be found here: <https://ngs.org.uk/hospice-uks-swedish-saffron-and-orange-cake/> . Bon appétit!

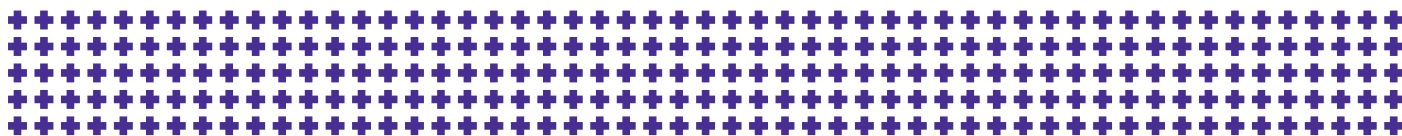


### Garden Visitor's Handbook 2021

Pre-order your essential garden-visiting book now for delivery in February 2021. With over 3000 gardens to choose from, your perfect garden visit awaits!

To book, go to <https://ngs.org.uk/shop/books/pre-order-the-garden-visitors-handbook-2021/>





## Britain's National Health Service, 1948–2020



A beautifully illustrated history of Britain's most revered and valued institution: the NHS.

as the patients in their care, this important and timely volume offers a comprehensive overview of one of the world's most remarkable healthcare systems.

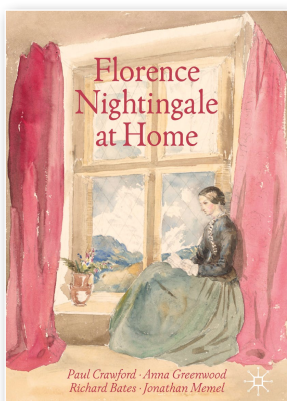
In this fully illustrated introduction, Dr Susan Cohen traces the history of the NHS from its establishment after the Second World War,

It includes photographs from the QNI archive and would make a great Christmas present for anyone interested in the history of healthcare and nursing.

through seven decades of changing management and organisation, often in controversial political circumstances, right up to the current Covid-19 crisis. Including personal recollections from healthcare professionals on the frontline, as well

Available to buy from: [https://www.bloomsbury.com/uk/the-nhs-9781784424824/?fbclid=IwAR09SNeSEyDYq3T94\\_iSB5c3CJcb-e7\\_Z8rSoHpSxBDJi9S52eoFBFs5R4A](https://www.bloomsbury.com/uk/the-nhs-9781784424824/?fbclid=IwAR09SNeSEyDYq3T94_iSB5c3CJcb-e7_Z8rSoHpSxBDJi9S52eoFBFs5R4A)

## Florence Nightingale at Home



This new, major historical study of how the concept and material reality of home influenced the life and work of Florence Nightingale was published on 11 November 2020.

'home' to interrogate the life and achievements of Florence Nightingale. By doing so it brings a new interpretive lens on the role that 'home' played in her reform efforts and breathes new life into this ever fascinating nurse and cultural icon.' (Dame Professor Anne-Marie Rafferty DBE CBE, Royal College of Nursing, UK)

'This brilliant book deftly uses the device of

For more information and to buy your copy, go to <https://www.palgrave.com/gb/book/9783030465339>

## 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 email us at [joanne.moorby@qni.org.uk](mailto:joanne.moorby@qni.org.uk).

## Address changed?

If you have recently changed address, please let us know either by emailing us at [mail@qni.org.uk](mailto:mail@qni.org.uk).

## QNI News as it happens - online



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