

THE ROWLEY BRISTOW GROUP
HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
(South-West Metropolitan Region—Group No. 16)

THE ROWLEY BRISTOW
ORTHOPÆDIC HOSPITAL
PYRFORD, NR. WOKING, SURREY

FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT

Year

April 1st, 1954 — March 31st, 1955

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HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
(as at 30th September, 1955)

Chairman:

†Dr. V. GODSALVE WARD, M.D.(LOND.), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Vice-Chairman

and

Chairman of Finance Committee:

G. H. H. COCKERAM, Esq., M.A.

Chairman of Medical Advisory Committee:

R. J. FURLONG, Esq., F.R.C.S.

Members:

J. ATKINSON, Esq.,

E. P. BRIDGMAN, Esq., M.CHIR., F.R.C.S.

H. S. CAWSEY, Esq., J.P.

A. H. CLARKE, Esq.

Mrs. E. LEACH, M.B.E., J.P.

C. A. G. McLAGAN, Esq.

Mrs. M. MITCHNER

*PROFESSOR G. PERKINS

†Mrs. F. ROWLEY BRISTOW

†F. A. SIMMONDS, Esq., F.R.C.S.

†Mrs. M. G. SYNGE

†W. R. VAUGHAN, Esq., O.B.E.

Secretary and Finance Officer:

A. R. NEWTON

(also Secretary-Supt. of Hospital)

† Signifies Governor of Hospital Special School.

† Member of Medical Advisory Committee.

Consultant and Senior Medical and Surgical Staff:

PROFESSOR G. PERKINS, M.C., M.A.(OXON), M.CH., F.R.C.S. (HONORARY).

R. J. FURLONG, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S.

F. A. SIMMONDS, B.A.(CANTAB.), M.B., B.CH., F.R.C.S.

A. G. ARLEY, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S.

Consultant Anaesthetists:

J. GORDON, M.A., F.F.A.R.C.S., D.A.

E. McC. GIBSON, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., F.F.A.R.C.S., D.A.

Senior Registrar:

R. A. DENHAM, F.R.C.S.

Registrar:

G. HADFIELD, F.R.C.S.

Senior House Officers:

Two Resident.

Medical Officer:

T. T. HARDY, B.A. (OXON), B.M., B.CHIR.

Dental Surgeon:

O. P. O. CROSS, L.D.S., R.C.S.(ENGL.)

Matron:

Miss E. M. GUY, S.R.N.

Chaplain:

REV. R. T. INGRAM-JOHNSON

THE ROWLEY BRISTOW ORTHOPÆDIC
HOSPITAL

FOREWORD BY CHAIRMAN

As will be seen below all departments of the hospital have been increasingly used.

We have endeavoured to improve our Out-patient Department facilities. The Board made a grant for this purpose and gave us to understand that this was without prejudice to a major scheme we have asked for and the need for which the surgeons are constantly stressing.

I feel that the wheels of the hospital are running smoothly.

V. GODSALVE WARD,
Chairman.

The Hospital Management Committee were interested to note that Professor Perkins was elected Emeritus Fellow of the British Orthopaedic Association and that the November 1954 issue of the Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery was a special issue inscribed "In honour of George Perkins".

Senior Medical Staff

Mr. D. R. Urquhart, senior registrar, left us to take up an appointment at St. Thomas's Hospital in which capacity he is still a frequent visitor here. He was succeeded in the post of senior registrar by Mr. R. A. Denham, then holding the registrar appointment. Mr. Denham was succeeded by Mr. A. H. Toyne, who, however, returned to his native Australia shortly after the period covered by this report.

An article on "Rest and movement" by Professor Perkins was published in the Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery as was also an article entitled "Osteotomy as an Aid to Arthrodesis of Hip" by A. G. Apley and R. A. Denham, and an article on "Paralytic Poliomyelitis" by A. G. Apley appeared in the Postgraduate Medical Journal.

Courses at the hospital

For many years teaching has been carried out here commencing with the undergraduates of St. Thomas's Hospital visiting regularly once a month when they are taken on a ward round. In later years doctors attending the St. Thomas's Hospital course for the final F.R.C.S. examination have been attending here for two days each six months and receive lectures and demonstrations from Mr. R. J. Furlong.

Still more recently and under the auspices of the Fellowship of Postgraduate Medicine a second and similar course is held each six months when about 50 doctors attend for three weekends and lectures and demonstrations are given by Mr. A. G. Apley with the assistance of other members of the staff. About two-thirds of those attending are from the Commonwealth.

Nursing Staff

The staff position improved during the year in that we had a much larger intake of student nurses. Examination results during the year were :-

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Patients

The usual full medical statistics and details follow later in the report and together with what is said below show increased activity in almost all departments.

The average daily number of in-patients was 146, a slight decrease compared with the previous year. The average length of stay remained at 37 days which is a comparatively low figure for an orthopaedic hospital where long-stay cases invariably affect the average.

For the information of patients a small handbook containing all essential and other useful information was compiled and printed and a copy is sent to each before admission.

Out-patients

There is a still further increase in attendances to report. Certain adaptations affording some alleviation of the over-crowding mentioned last year as having been recommended to the Regional Board have, in fact, been carried out in the year and are referred to later in this report.

Committee Membership

Since the last report the following members completed their terms of office and were re-appointed by the Regional Board :-

Mr. E. P. Brockman
Mr. R. J. Furlong
Mrs. M. Mitchiner
Mr. W. R. Vaughan

Additionally, a vacancy caused by the resignation of Mrs. A. L. M. Barraclough consequent on her leaving the district was filled by the appointment of Mrs. M. G. Syngé of West Byfleet, known to us for her valued help on the hospital library trolley in wartime.

During the year Mrs. Leach was called to the Bar and the warm felicitations of the Hospital Management Committee were tendered to her.

Orthopaedic Nursing Certificate: 10 entered and 9 passed, two of whom were State Registered Nurses.

Of those students continuing general training :-

4 went to St. Thomas's Hospital
2 " " Charing Cross " "
1 " " St. George's " "
1 " " St. Mary's " "
1 " " Royal Sussex County Hospital

During the year combined training schemes were arranged with Charing Cross Hospital and the West London Hospital.

Technical Staff

In the past there was frequent need of technical advice, assistance and supervision on engineering, building and allied matters from outside sources and, commencing on 1st April, 1954 and with the ready co-operation of the Working and Chertsey Group Hospital Management Committee, a small share of the services of their Group Engineer (Mr. D. Forbes) and their Group Clerk of Works was made available to us for this purpose.

Ancillary Staff

The chief feature has remained the chronic shortage of domestic staff. It is a long while since we had anything like the full number and of this lessened number most are non-resident and part-time and are not available in the evenings or at weekends. Such difficulties are, of course, common nowadays and particularly in hospitals but our semi-rural situation is an added handicap, the nearest public transport being a half-hourly bus service at 8-10 minutes' walking distance. In these circumstances we should like to pay tribute to the very small nucleus of staff who have stayed with us for years for it is on them that the brunt of the shortage falls.

Occupational Therapy

The department's activity continues and increases. There are now sufficient small looms so that any bed-patient wishing to use one can do so, and they are used very fully. The ward sisters are most appreciative of the value of occupational therapy to their patients and the patients themselves retain warm memories as is evident by the large number who attend the annual re-union party. Mrs. Broadhurst, secretary to the department and who had "grown up" with the department, left us at the end of October. She had a very comprehensive knowledge of all the activities of the department and her services are greatly missed.

Special School

The hospital school, in co-operation with the children's own schools, continued its work of providing each boy and girl patient with as close approximation as possible in hospital to his or her own particular type of education. Also in the nursery class the children under five years have been given opportunity to learn the sort of things they would normally be learning in their homes and, at the opposite end of the scale, the boys and girls who have recently left school have been encouraged to continue study along lines which will help them in their careers.

Chapel

In September the Rev. R. T. Ingram-Johnson was appointed to the part-time duties of Chaplain thus relieving the Rev. R. G. Wells who had kindly carried on until then. Rev. Ingram-Johnson reports: "To overcome the difficulty of moving beds to the chapel from St. Martin's, on the lower level, services are held in Roberts and the Children's Wards. The Sacrament of Communion is also carried from the chapel to those who cannot be brought to share in the Thursday morning Service. The possession of a beautiful chapel brings much comfort and inspiration often gratefully expressed. The Chaplain would like to thank the staff for the cheerful and willing way in which they wheel beds into the chapel for services."

Voluntary help

It is desired to record once again our appreciation of the services rendered by voluntary workers, particularly those running the Canteen Trolley service, the Hospital Library service, the Out-patients' buffet, and the St. John Ambulance members and the British Red Cross members who give us help regularly and additionally on special occasions.

Gifts, Donations, Etc.

Numerous gifts and donations were gratefully received again from individuals and communities.

Television

Two sets were provided during the year so that each ward is now equipped with one. One of these was a gift from the Canteen Trolley Fund.

A sand pit was provided for the children of Beatrix Ward, the cost being defrayed from the Amenity Fund.

Redecorations, Adaptations, Etc. Out-patients' Etc. Dept.

Mention was made in last year's report of a modest interim scheme of improving the out-patient department and the adjacent offices and almoner's room. The minor part of this work was undertaken by our own staff and later the Board authorised the small capital sum required, and the job was completed in which the old consulting room was divided into two with a folding partition, the wall between the medical office and almoner's office was demolished, the former department taking over the whole while the almoner and her clerk are now accommodated in a nearby room which was divided to provide a small ante-room for the clerk. These alterations have meant an improvement in the general position but must only be accepted as a "stop-gap" as has been emphasised elsewhere in this report by the Chairman.

Central Heating and Hot Water Services at St. Martin's

It was only in the past two or three years that we had achieved a central boiler house where a large and a smaller coke-fired boiler provided these services, the larger one doing the winter load of heating and hot water and the small one the hot water required during the summer and these replaced the former eight independent boilers and eight slow combustion stoves at a time when labour was most scarce, but this improved labour position ran into serious difficulties when the fireman/gardener went off duty in December with an illness which caused his retirement. All kinds of expedients were tried and much overtime was worked by the other stokers while we were endeavouring to fill the vacancy without success. Just previous to this the Regional Board had invited applications for schemes for conversion to oil firing when they could be justified and we had submitted the steam boilers at St. Nicholas as our first priority followed by those at St. Martin's, a much smaller scheme. In the emergency the Regional Board gave speedy approval to the conversion of the St. Martin's boilers and with great energy displayed by all responsible the equipment was delivered just before March 31st. The story of its successful functioning belongs, therefore, to the next report.

Out-side Painting

This was authorised to the extent that the money was available and was carried out in September-October. It was not possible to do all and the east wing of St. Nicholas, the Rehabilitation Hut, the former Pack Store and the staff hostels and houses were left to be done in 1955-56.

Visit of B.B.C. Television Camera

Mention should be made of the admission of Sir Gordon Richards following his accident at Sandown Park Races, and what followed when the hospital was besieged with reporters, photographers, etc. which culminated in the B.B.C. mobile television cameras coming and transmitting directly from the hospital. The hospital switchboard operators, too, were inundated with telephone calls, some from as far off as Australia. Sir Gordon had also been a patient here previously because of an earlier racing accident in 1941.

Finance, Costs, Etc.

Note: The figures in italics refer to the previous year and are given for comparison, but until this present year's accounts the ruling was that central administrative expenditure should *not* be included in the patients' costs. Now that the requirements have been altered last year's figures as now given have been adjusted similarly and they also include amounts which were shown separately last year under the heading "Special expenditure" which is no longer used.

The total net cost of running the hospital was £118,453 (£115,272). This was equivalent to £14 18s. 3d. per patient per week (£14 2s. 10d.) after adjustment for the cost of out-patients.

The average cost of each in-patient treated was £78 16s. 6d (£74 15s. 0d.). The average weekly cost per head for food was £1 6s. 0d. (£1 5s. 3d.). The average number of patients and staff fed was 269 per day (274).

Principal elements of the expenditure were:—

	£	£
Salaries and wages	78,222	74,296
Provisions	18,270	18,076
Drugs, dressings, instruments, appliances, etc.	8,677	8,471
Fuel, light, power, water	8,545	7,938
Maintenance of buildings, plant and grounds (normal)	5,900	7,218
Domestic repairs and renewals: Upkeep including laundry	6,190	6,095
Amount recovered (mostly from staff for board and lodging)	12,960	11,953

It will be noted that all headings except Maintenance of Buildings show an increase. This exception occurs because we are now getting back to a more level trend after the heavy expenditure needed to catch up following the war and immediate post-war periods. On the other hand there is an increase in the amount recovered for Board and Lodging of staff because of increased rates charged to them.

MEDICAL STATISTICS

(1953/54 figures in italics)

	1954/5	1953/4
IN-PATIENTS	152,374	148,275
No. of patients admitted to the hospital in the period	1,418	1,484
No. of discharges	1,427	1,485
No. of deaths	18	14
Average daily occupancy	146	151
Average length of stay per patient	37 days	37 days
OUT-PATIENTS		
Attendances (including 1,393 new patients) totalled	5,553	4,512
997		
X-RAY DEPT.		
Total No. of in-patients X-rayed	1,784 (1,725)	4,006
" " " " out-patients X-rayed	2,222 (1,897)	3,662
PHYSIOTHERAPY DEPT.		
No of in-patient treatments (in units)	44,508 (46,858)	53,828
" " out-patient " " "	9,320 (3,827)	50,685
APPLIANCES		
Surgical appliances made in Splint Shop for in-patients	361	420
" " " " " " " " out-patients	501	474
" " " " " " " " for patients made by outside agencies	391	191
No. plaster boats made	20	21

OPERATIONS FROM 1/4/54 to 31/3/55

	Total	Total Previous Year
Amputations		
Fingers	1	1
Leg (b/l)	1	1
Toes	20	22
Arthrodeses		
Shoulder	2	2



Spine	13					
Wrist	3					
Hip	10					
Knee	2					
Subastragaloid-mid tarsal joint	7	37	43			
<i>Arthroplasty</i>						
Hip	19	19	14			
<i>Reconstruction Hip</i>				1	1	—
<i>Biopsies</i>				20	20	17
<i>Operations for Congenital Deformities</i>						
For C.D.H.	3					
For T.E.V.	4	7	13			
<i>Operations for Coxa Vara</i>				1	1	1
<i>Exploration of Joint</i>						
Elbow	1					
Hip (for osteomyelitis)	1					
Knee (including operations on semilunar cartilages)	60					
Sacro-iliac	1					
Wrist	2					
Finger	2	67	85			
<i>Laminectomy</i>				21	21	15
<i>Operations on Nerves</i>						
Decompression spinal cord	1					
Decompression median nerve	15					
Decompression ulna nerve	1					
Antero-lateral decompression	3					
Exploration lateral cutaneous nerve	3					
Exploration ulna nerve	1					
Exploration digital nerve	1					
Exploration radial nerve	1					
Transposition ulna nerve	3					
Suture tibial nerve	1					
Lumbar sympathectomy	2					
Excision neuroma	2	34	11			

<i>Miscellaneous Procedures</i>				142	142	151			
(Removal of clamps, wires, screws, pins, sutures, plaster, etc., minor wound sutures, U.A.)									
<i>Manipulations</i>									
Shoulder	22								
Finger	2								
Spine	8								
Hip	8								
Knee	38								
Ankle	16								
Elbow	2								
Feet	8	104	86						
<i>Operations on Dupuytren's Contraction</i>							5	5	13
<i>Excision of Bursae, Gangliae</i>							21	21	28
<i>Excision of Bone</i>									
Exostoses	20								
Patella	6								
Rib	3								
Head of ulna	1								
Head of humerus	1								
Head of radius	1	32	32						
<i>Operations on Toes</i>									
Spokeshave	32								
Keller	16								
Mayo	19								
Reconstruction of hallux	4								
Straightening of toes	38								
Removal of neuroma	2								
Removal of 2nd m/t head	3								
Ingrowing toe nails	6								
Lambrinudi	9	129	138						
<i>Operations on Tendons</i>									
Exploration	2								
Tendon sutures	7								
Incision of tendon sheath	32								
Tendon transplants	11								
Elongation of tendo-achilles	1								
Tenotomies (other than toes)	3	56	71						

<i>Open Reductions on Recurrent Dislocations</i>						
Shoulder	3	3	—			
<i>Open Operations on Fractures</i>						
Olecranon	8					
Radius	9					
Ulna	4					
Carpus	2					
Finger	2					
Femur (neck)	69					
Femur (shaft)	6					
Tibia and fibula	9					
Ankle	13	112	77			
<i>Closed Operations on Fractures</i>						
Olecranon	2					
Humerus	2					
Radius	12					
Radius and ulna	15					
Radius and Ulna (Colles)	35					
Femur—shaft	1					
Tibia and fibula	9					
Ankle	2					
Fibula	1					
Reduction slipped epiphysis	2	81	123			
<i>Osteotomy</i>				8	8	6
<i>Others</i>						
Dilation of Urethra	1					
Laparotomy and Colostomy	1					
Splenectomy	1					
Excision Sinus	1					