

THE ROWLEY BRISTOW GROUP
HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

(South-West Metropolitan Region—Group No. 16)

THE ROWLEY BRISTOW
ORTHOPÆDIC HOSPITAL
PYRFORD, NR WOKING, SURREY

SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

Year

April 1st, 1955 — March 31st, 1956

HERITAGE WALKS ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

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HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
(as at 30th September, 1956)

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. COOKRAM, ESQ., M.A.

Chairman of Medical Advisory Committee:

R. J. FURLONG, ESQ., F.R.C.S.*

Members:

E. P. BROCKMAN, 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. MITCHELL

*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 Officers:

A. K. 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. APLEY, 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., F.A.O., F.F.A.R.C.S., D.A.

Senior Registrar:

R. A. DETHAM, 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.(ENG.)

Nurses:

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

Chaplain:

Rev. R. T. INGRAM-JOHNSON

THE ROWLEY BRISTOW ORTHOPÆDIC
HOSPITAL

FOREWORD BY CHAIRMAN

We have had another very busy year with increased activity in all departments as the statistics show. It is pleasing to be able to say that we have largely caught up with the hospital maintenance and redecoration work at long last. The programme covered practically the whole of the hospital and premises, both internally and externally, and has taken several years. In new building or adaptation, however, much remains to be done when we are permitted, chief of which are the Out-patients Dept. and the closing in of the open sides of the remaining three of the original open-air wards, one of which, Stoop Ward, has been authorised to be done in 1956/7.

I should like to thank the Committee and staff for their loyal support and work throughout.

V. GODSALVE WARD,
Chairman.

Nursing Staff

There is still an acute shortage of staff nurses, but the student nurse position remains satisfactory.

EXAMINATION RESULTS

Orthopaedic Nursing Certificate: 20 entered, 6 of whom were State Registered Nurses, and 17 passed. Among these it is pleasing to record that two were trained nurses from the Singapore General Hospital, here with a Sino-British Fellowship Trust Scholarship.

Preliminary State Examination: 5 entered and all passed.

Of those students continuing general training:—

5 went to St. Thomas Hospital
2 " " St. George's Hospital
2 " " West London Hospital
1 " " Charing Cross Hospital
1 " " University College Hospital
1 " " Middlesex Hospital
1 " " the Metropolitan Hospital
and one is now a Medical Student at the Royal Free Hospital.

It was very gratifying to hear that one of our old students, Miss B. J. Hosking, who completed her general training at the Royal Masonic Hospital, gained the Gold Medal for being the best all-round student nurse of her year.

Physiotherapy Dept.

The marked increase in the number of treatments both for in-patients and out-patients necessitated an increase in the establishment by one part-time physiotherapist, bringing the number to 8½, though owing to staff changing after 3 to 5 years at Pyrford we were for considerable periods under strength. Nevertheless, there was seldom a delay of more than 1 week for out-patient appointments and casualties were seen as soon as requested by the Medical Officers. The appointment system has helped to reduce waiting time, not only for patients but also for transport.

A new traction apparatus for treating patients with disc lesions has been acquired and is in frequent use.

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Patients

The average daily number of in-patients was 145 or one less than last year although half of one ward was closed for some part of the time. On the other hand, the average length of stay per patient dropped from 37 days to 34 days, which is very satisfactory. In other words, a greater number of patients were treated.

The statistics are given in full later in this report.

Out-Patients

Once again there was a further increase so that the slightly improved accommodation which was provided last year by adaptations was taxed to the full, and again attention must be drawn to the lack of a proper department and accommodation and to repeat the hope that the Regional Board may soon be able to provide this.

Committee Membership

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

Dr. V. G. Ward (Chairman).
Mr. G. H. H. Cockram (Vice-Chairman).
Mrs. E. Leach.
Professor G. Perkins.
Mrs. W. Rowley Bristow.

Senior Medical Staff

Mr. G. Hadfield was appointed by the Board to the registrar vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. Toyne.

An article entitled "The Value of Knowing the Direction and Nature of the Force causing a Fracture," by Professor Perkins was published in the Journal of Bone & Joint Surgery, as was also an article by A. G. Apley on "Fractures of the Lateral Tibial Condyle treated by Skeletal Traction and Early Mobilisation," and a second article by A. G. Apley on "Test for the Power of Flexor Digitorum Sublimus," appeared in the British Medical Journal.

The curative baths are always in use for "polios" and other patients. Polio cases have been mainly children, who are recovering well, but the really seriously handicapped polios included two children.

In September there was a visit from a party of physiotherapists who were attending the Chartered Society Congress in London to watch the treatment of patients in the baths, and subsequently an article, illustrated by photographs, appeared in "Physiotherapy." Other visitors to the department have included several from overseas.

Occupational Therapy

During the period, while maintaining diversional craftwork on the wards and in the department, we have been able to develop a little the remedial use of occupational therapy. In the wards we have used weaving and basketry to maintain movement in rheumatoid arthritic patients, and we have added to our existing remedial equipment in the department. We have set up a pulley circuit to exercise the quadriceps and hamstrings in weaving and we have been lent a treadle lathe which is invaluable in the final stages of recovery after leg injuries.

Almoner

Approximately half the number of admissions to the hospital over the year have been seen by the Almoner for various purposes. The work carried out can be divided roughly into three categories: Detailed personal casework, services in relation to Pension Insurance matters, visiting and general enquiries, and interviews of relatives in connection with treatment, home care, or after care. These patients are either referred by a member of the medical or nursing staff for some special purpose, or seen at the request of the patients themselves, or they are seen as a result of their medical condition being likely to cause crippling or employment difficulties, or anxiety. The Almoner confers regularly with the staff on the condition and prospects of such patients and is actively concerned in their rehabilitation and any social personal problem which presents itself.

The department co-operates closely with the Ministry of Labour over the training and employment of handicapped persons, and with the County Education and Welfare Departments in connection with the special educational problems of handicapped children and the personal difficulties of infirm and aged patients. There is a good deal of work with the latter especially when they are in the category of chronic sick. Every effort is made to make suitable arrangements for their care but a small solid core of cases remain for whom no transfer can be made owing to the waiting lists for chronic sick everywhere.

A good liaison has been established with the Almoner's Department of St. Thomas's Hospital in regard to their patients; regular consultations with their Orthopaedic Registrar are held on his weekly visits here.

Special School

The school has endeavoured to keep up, so far as is possible in hospital, each child's education, and reports from parents and schools after the children have been discharged indicate that on the whole a firm link in their schooling is able to be made in hospital. It is sometimes even felt that, owing to individual bedside tuition, a pupil has actually gone farther in the hospital school than he might have done at his ordinary school. This was evinced by a boy who had previously only taken the usual secondary modern curriculum but after two years in hospital he achieved G.C.E. (O. level) mathematics.

Ancillary Staff

There is still a shortage of domestic staff and all the time the wards and departments have been understaffed, which is always a serious handicap in maintaining the service to the patients. Our semi-rural position still accentuates the difficulty and once again we wish to pay tribute to that small nucleus of staff who have served faithfully for so many years for accepting so cheerfully the extra duties.

Chapel

The Chaplain reports as follows: "The year has not seen much change except in the staff who pass on to other work in the ordinary course, and the constant stream of patients who find much comfort in the services and carry with them when they leave a lasting memory of inspiration which helped their healing. This is especially marked at Christmas time with the Carol Service and the devotional and beautiful Nativity Play performed by the staff. The influence of the Chapel is very marked and many grateful letters attest to it. Tribute is due to Mr. Rowland who has for many years carried out the duties of organist with great skill and often under difficulties."

The Chaplain would like to record his gratitude for a great deal of help and kindness.

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Central Heating

Improvements were made to the systems at Beatrix and Men's Wards, also at the swimming baths, and further improvements are contemplated for St. Martin's main building.

Numerous other small jobs were carried out throughout the year and gratitude is due to the patients and staff for their forbearance during inconveniences which are inevitable with contractors' workmen on the premises almost continuously.

Staff Accommodation

Because of the increase in the number of student nurses it has been necessary to house senior student nurses in Langside and Thorley hostels.

Furniture and Equipment

Renewals and replacements included:—

A new operating table was provided for the theatre;

All the ward lockers were renovated and provided with plastic tops (part of the cost being met from the Amenity Fund);

The wheel chairs were replaced by two superior types;

The crockery for staff was changed from the utility white ware to a coloured kind;

The hot plate in the sisters' dining room was replaced with a modern electric hot closet;

Divan beds were purchased for most of the staff bedrooms;

Three further television sets were provided, one being a gift from the Canteen Trolley Fund.

Gifts, Donations, Etc.

A number of donations and gifts were received during the year from individuals and communities and gratefully acknowledged.

Additionally, there was a legacy of approximately £1,650 from the Will of the late J. W. Revillon, Esq. This has been, or will be, placed to the credit of the Children's Fund within the Amenity and Free Moneys Account.

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Other Religious Activities

Father Sullivan and his assistant, Father Burke, continue to look after the interests of the Roman Catholics, while the existing voluntary arrangements for non-conformist patients are to be put on an official basis in 1956/7.

Buildings: Adaptations and Maintenance

Top Hut Ward

The most important accomplishment was the alteration to enclose the open side of Top Hut, the cost being provided from the Regional Board Capital vote. Top Hut is the first of the four original open-air wards to be completely so adapted. The remainder have as yet only half their accommodation enclosed but are scheduled to be completed similarly when the Regional Board can allot the money.

Casualty Room

The number of casualties continues to increase and it was very desirable that some space should be set aside for their better reception. This was provided by a small adaptation in Rudolf Ward and is proving most useful, but only until the long-awaited Out-Patient Dept. materialises, which will be planned to include a Casualty Dept.

External Painting

All the departments left to be completed from 1954/5 were done in the year. These included the east wing of St. Nicholas, the Rehabilitation Hut and the staff hostels and houses.

Oil Fired Boilers at St. Martin's

It will be remembered that the installation of these had just been completed at the time of the last report. They have been a complete success in every way. They provide constant hot water and heating thermostatically controlled, and this in itself is an advance on the previous results from hand-fired coke. There is also the ease and cleanliness of storage and above all the cost of oil consumed is less than the original quantity of coke would cost at today's prices, with a further saving in labour. We look forward to a similar conversion for the St. Nicholas steam boilers which has been promised to us in 1956/7 by the Board.

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Voluntary Help

Once again we record with sincere appreciation the services rendered by voluntary helpers in maintaining and increasing the Canteen Trolley rounds, the refreshment buffet for out-patients and the Hospital Library Service as a regular practice. These amenities are a real boon to the patients and their visitors. We also extend our thanks to members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the British Red Cross Society workers who give us help regularly and additionally on special occasions.

MEDICAL STATISTICS

(1954/55 figures in italics)

IN-PATIENTS	1955/6	1954/5
No. of patients admitted to the hospital in the period	1,606	1,418
No. of discharges	1,572	1,427
No. of deaths	14	18
Average daily occupancy	145	146
Average length of stay per patient	34 days	37 days

OUT-PATIENTS	1955/6	1954/5
Attendances (including 1,249 new patients) totalled	6,603	5,553
	1,393	

X-RAY DEPT.	1955/6	1954/5
Total No. of in-patients X-rayed (1,705 (1,784))	4,287	4,006
Total No. of out-patients X-rayed 2,582 (2,222)		

PHYSIOTHERAPY DEPT.	1955/6	1954/5
Units of in-patient treatment 48,549 (44,508)	60,187	53,020
Units of out-patient treatment 11,638 (9,320)		

APPLIANCES	1955/6	1954/5
Surgical appliances made in Splint Shop for in-patients	349	361
Surgical appliances made in Splint Shop for out-patients	531	501
Surgical appliances made for patients by outside agencies	470	391
No of plaster boats made for patients	29	20

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OPERATIONS FROM 1/4/55 to 31/3/56

	Total	Total Previous Year
Amputations		
Fingers (inc. tip of finger)	4	
Leg (b/k)	2	
Leg (a/k)	1	
Toes	8	
Supernumerary toe	2	17
Arthrodeses		
Shoulder	2	
Thumb	5	
Spine	7	
Wrist	1	
Finger	1	
Hip	10	
Knee	2	
Subastragaloid-mid tarsal joint	4	32
Arthroplasty		
Hip	11	11
Biopsies		
... ..	18	18
Operations for Congenital Deformities		
For C.D.H.	2	
For T.E.V.	6	
For metatarsus varus	1	9
Exploration of Joints		
Hip	2	
Knee (including operations on semilunar cartilages)	56	
Sacro-iliac	2	
Removal of Loose Bodies		
Knee	6	
Elbow	2	68
Laminectomy		
... ..	23	23
Operations on Nerves		
Decompression spinal cord	1	
Decompression median nerve	30	
Antero-lateral decompression	2	
Exploration lateral cutaneous nerve	1	
Exploration ulna nerve	1	
Exploration digital nerve	2	
Exploration radial nerve	1	
Transposition ulna nerve	1	
Excision neuroma	3	
Exploration sciatic nerve	1	
Lumbar sympathectomy	1	
Nerve suture	3	47
	47	34

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	Total	Total Previous Year
Miscellaneous Procedures		
(Removal of clamps, wires, screws, pins, sutures, plaster, etc., minor wound sutures U.A.)	163	163
Manipulations		
Shoulder	11	
Wrist	14	
Finger	5	
Spine	4	
Hip	10	
Knee	11	
Ankle	21	
Elbow	2	
Feet	15	93
Operations on Dupuytren's Contraction		
... ..	6	6
Excision of Bursae, Gangliae		
... ..	25	25
Excision of Bone		
Exostoses	19	
Patella	14	
Rib	3	
Head of radius	3	
Outer end of clavicle	1	40
Operations on Toes		
Spokeshave	28	
Keller	21	
Mayo	22	
Reconstruction of hallux	6	
Straightening of toes	16	
Removal of neuroma	2	
Ingrowing toe nails	7	
Lambertini	5	
Shortening of toes	2	
Excision of exostosis on os calcis	15	154
Operations on Tendons		
Exploration	2	
Tendon sutures	15	
Incision of tendon sheath	11	
Tendon transplants	12	
Elongation of tendo-achilles	4	
Tenotomies (other than toes)	3	47
Open Reductions on Recurrent Dislocations		
Shoulder	6	6
Closed Reduction of Dislocation		
Shoulder	1	
Elbow	4	
Thumb	1	
Knee	1	7

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HERITAGE WALKS ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

	Total	Total Previous Year
Open Operations on Fractures		
Olecranon	3	
Radius	8	
Ulna	7	
Finger	1	
Femur (neck)	66	
Femur (shaft)	7	
Tibia and fibula	3	
Ankle	15	110
Closed Operations on Fractures		
Humerus	1	
Radius	12	
Radius and ulna	18	
Radius and ulna (Colles)	42	
Tibia and fibula	10	
Ankle	7	
Reduction slipped epiphysis	1	91
Osteotomy		
... ..	10	10
Others		
Extraction teeth	17	
Cystoscopy	1	
Appendicectomy	1	
Open tenotomy sterno-mastoid	1	
Skin Grafts	13	
Excision sinus	1	

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Finance, Costs, Etc.

(The figures in italics refer to the previous year and are given for comparison).

The total net cost of running the hospital was £128,437 (£118,453). This was equivalent to £15 16s. 8d. per patient per week (£14 18s. 3d.) after adjustment allowing for the cost of out-patients.

The average cost of each in-patient was £73 10s. 9d. (£79 13s. 7d. amended). The average weekly cost per head for food was £1 8s. 3d. (£1 6s. 0½d.). The average number of patients and staff fed was 266 daily (269).

Principal elements of the expenditure, etc., were:—

	£	£
Salaries and wages	84,257	78,222
Provisions	19,678	18,270
Drugs, dressings, instruments, appliances	9,509	8,677
Fuel, light, power, water	9,432	8,545
Maintenance of buildings, plant and grounds	5,489	5,900
Domestic repairs and renewals, and laundry	8,223	6,190
INCOME AND CREDIT		
Amount recovered (mostly from staff for board and lodging charges)	13,745	12,960
From private patients	2,390	1,947

Increases will be noted to be general except for a small decline in the maintenance heading. The increased cost of salaries and wages is partly offset by increased charges for board and lodging, which are co-incident.

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