Printed by the Western Gazette Co. Ltd. Yeovil, Somerset

VICTORIA HOSPITAL WIMBORNE

1887----1948

G.H.W.

Price 2/6

(ALL PROPES TO THE ASSOCIATION OF FRIENDS)

VICTORIA HOSPITAL WIMBORNE

1887_____to____1948

G.H.W.

Price 2/6
(ALL PROFITS TO THE ASSOCIATION OF FRIENDS)

Foreword

Sir RICHARD F. GLYN. D.S.O.

I had the honour of being President of the Victoria 20 years before the Cottage Hospital for nearly Government took over-The President I should add was only a kind of sleeping partner whose main duty was to preside at the Annual General Meeting and keep to the agenda as near as possible—I know that we all took the greatest pride in "Our Hospital" and rightly. It was with great regret that we had to hand it over to the Authorities but it was clear that with the rising cost of everything it would have been impossible to carry on on a voluntary basis much longer. The last year the cost of running it was nearly £5,000. The raising of this sum was only made possible by the superhuman efforts of the late Mr. E. H. Richards, the excellent work of the Hospital Committee and advice of the Doctors' Medical Council. together with much other voluntary help.

CHAPTER 1.

To the West of Wimborne, in the angle of the Badbury and Cowgrove Roads lies St. Margaret's, a collection of Alms Houses and a Chapel, administered by Trustees, and founded, according to tradition, by John of Gaunt for the treatment of the lepers of his time. In the course of time the need for such a type of Isolation Hospital passed and it has become a welcome retreat for old people to pass their days in peace and security.

On the other side of Cowgrove Road is the Victoria Hospital, a more modern establishment for the treatment of the sick and the injured but still imbued with the charity, love and affection towards one's neighbour which prompted the foundation of its ancient predecessor. Starting with an assured income of only £50 per annum and providing bed accommodation for thirty sick people during the year it rapidly became "OUR" Hospital until in 1947, the year before it was taken over as part of the National Scheme, it treated 591 bed cases involving 136 major operations, 347 Patients received treatment in the Physiotherapy Department and 840 films were taken in the X-Ray Department. The income of the Hospital in 1947 was £8,036 14s. 0d.; the invested funds, £7,281; and its assets valued at £16,372 19s. 11d.

The control has passed into other hands, but by joining the Association of Friends of Victoria Hospital, Wimborne and helping its funds, each and every one can ensure the continuity of that spirit which has justly gained such a fine reputation for "Our Hospital."

The Friends issue this short history in the hope that you will find it of interest and buy many copies. All proceeds, after the cost of printing has been met, will be used for the benefit of the Patients.

CHAPTER II.

Towards the end of 1886 a meeting was called in Wimborne to discuss the forthcoming jubilee of Queen Victoria. Those attending decided they were not representative and postponed any decision.

A further meeting took place at the New Town Hall in West Borough under the chairmanship of Sir Richard G. Glyn on January 28th, 1887, to consider what form a jubilee memorial should take. The following propositions were received:—

To subscribe towards the establishment of a Colonial Institute in London.

To build a cottage hospital.

To erect alms houses.

To improve the Minster by the removal of the galleries, etc.

To provide an endowment enabling pew rents in the Minster to be abolished.

To erect a new bridge over the river (no details are available as to which river or the suggested site of the bridge).

To provide a waterworks for the town.

To provide a recreation ground.

To purchase the freehold of the cricket ground.

To provide a town clock.

To erect a statue of Oueen Victoria in the Square.

To erect a statue of Queen Victoria in the Square with a clock on top.

To make a straight road from the Minster to Mr. Symond's corner.

This last proposal was to clear away all the premises to the East of the Minster, now occupied by Church House, the shops facing East in High-street and South in King-street. This would have been a wonderful improvement, but it was suggested that a town hall should be built in the vacant space. We have been spared having a Victorian town hall at the East end of the Minster.

A committee of 25 was appointed to consider the propositions and assess the financial support forthcoming. The committee consisted of Sir Richard Glyn (chairman), General Maclean (vice-chairman), General Truell (treasurer), the Rev. E. E. Cleal (secretary), Lord Alington, Lord Wimborne, Col. Paget, W. R. Bankes, the Rev. C. J. Glyn, Capt. Glyn, Dr. Parkinson, T. D. B. Rawlings, T. Laing, W. J. Fletcher, R. Elcock, J. May, J. Sims, J. T. Homer, G. W. Gush, J. Low and E. Smith.

On March 11th a letter was published in the Western Gazette, signed by Carr Stuart Glyn and advocating building a hospital.

A week later the committee met to consider the votes in favour of each proposal and the promised financial support.

For the hospital there were 419 votes and £989 6s. 9d. promised; for the recreation ground, 116 votes and £364 5s. 6d. promised; for the town clock, 125 votes and £360 17s. promised; and for the road improvement, 284 votes and £413 10s. promised.

The hospital scheme was adopted.

It is interesting to note that the road scheme was listed last although it stood second in votes and promised cash, the probable reason being that the scheme involved purchasing a large amount of property and the promised subscriptions were not in proportion to the ultimate cost.

On May 13th it was reported two sites had been offered, probably on similar terms. These were a site by the Chain Gate (toll gate) by Sir John Hanham and a site at Knobcrook offered by Mr. W. R. Bankes. On the advice of the doctors the former was chosen and the name "Victoria Cottage Hospital" adopted.

A lease dated June 27th, 1887, was generously given by Sir John Hanham for 99 years from September 27th, 1887, at a rent of 5s. a year for half an acre of ground as long as it was used as a cottage hospital for the poor. If the building was used for other purposes the rent was to be £3 per annum. The lessees were to pay rates and taxes and build a cottage hospital to the satisfaction of the lessor. At the end of the term they were to yield it up in good repair.

The plans called for—on the ground floor an entrance hall, two single-bed wards for accidents, a men's ward with three beds (room 16 feet square), a bath and operating room, a kitchen, scullery and usual offices. On the chamber or upper floor were to be a women's ward for two or three beds (room 17 feet by 11 feet 6 inches), a sitting room and bedroom for the Matron and a servant's bedroom.

There were to be no water closets, but a system of dry earth for all closets. The building was designed for future extension, the West wing only to be completed. This gave the building a one-sided appearance.

The cost was estimated at £700 and the builder was to be George Baker, who undertook to complete the work by November 12th.

CHAPTER III.

At the laying of the foundation stone on June 29th, 1887 by Lady Glyn, a bottle was placed in the cavity containing an order of the service for the day, a parchment inscribed with the name of the hospital and its objects, and an explanation of the manner in which it had been subscribed for as a jubilee memento. Also included were the names of the principal benefactors, current newspapers and jubilee coins valued at 4s., 2s., 1s., and sixpence.

On January 6th, 1888, the Building Committee formally handed over the completed building to the General Committee. Donations had risen to £1,220, but an appeal was made for more money so that there might be at least £300 in hand. Promises of annual subscriptions had been received for £50.

Lord Wimborne appears to have been elected President and on April 23rd it was reported that patients had been received during the previous week

Bankers were the Wilts and Dorset Banking Company, later to become the local branch of Lloyds Bank Ltd. who have acted for the hospital continuously until 1948, when all the assets of the hospital were taken over by the Government.

The first annual general meeting was held early in 1889. The first minute books and all the annual reports up to 1889 are missing and some after that date.

Dr. C. W. H. Parkinson, who first proposed the building of the hospital, became the senior medical officer. No copy of the rules is available, but it appears the beds were to be reserved for the poor of Wimborne, and its immediate vicinity, at a minimum charge of 2s. 6d. a week. The actual amount was to be decided by the Visitors.

Every requisite, with the exception of clothing, was to be supplied by the hospital, and patients were not to receive food or drink from any other source except by permission of the medical officer in charge of the case.

Friends were permitted to see patients on Sunday and Wednesday afternoon between the hours of two and four and provided the medical officer did not think visits improper. Patients were to ascertain from the Matron before admittance if there was a vacant bed.

Annual meetings of Subscribers were to be held at the Y.M.C.A., which is now Wimborne Toc H headquarters.

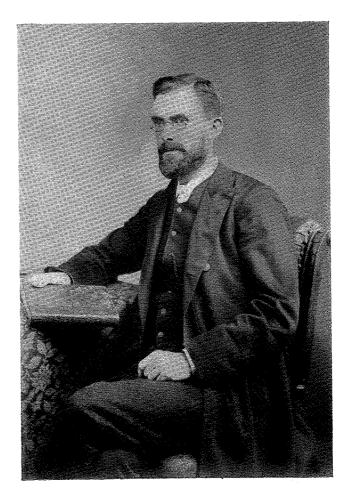
In 1890 it was decided to print 300 Subscribers' tickets. Patients had to secure one of these before being admitted to the hospital and an extra one for each two weeks or part thereof they stayed in the hospital after the first fortnight.

During this year consideration was also given to building a mortuary.

The first Nurse Matron, Miss Baker, was on duty day and night. She does not appear to have had any time off duty or to have had a holiday, so it is not surprising she soon had to resign owing to ill-health. The only other employee was a general servant.

This year there were complaints about the smell from the pig-sties, which could have been only a few yards from the hospital.

There were constant changes in the committee as those who attended least were not eligible for re-election.



REV. E. CLEAL First Honorary Secretary, Victoria Cottage Hospital, 1887



VICTORIA COTTAGE HOSPITAL, 1888

The advertisement for a successor to Miss Baker read:-

Wanted—a trained Nurse-Housekeeper, Age 35 to 40, salary £35 per annum, to take charge of hospital of six beds. Board, lodging and washing found, but no uniform. General servant kept.

Miss Downing was appointed and soon afterwards an oil lamp exploded causing a fire which damaged a room and its contents. Miss Downing managed to extinguish the flames and was given 20s. to replace some of her burned clothing. As a result of this fire, an alarm bell was fitted to a nearby cottage and a hydrant was installed in the hospital. Six hand-grenades for extinguishing fires were also purchased.

It was agreed in 1890 to buy and install a "fracture bed."

Sir Richard Glyn in 1892 offered several hundred pounds to improve the hospital buildings. This gift was to be made on certain conditions, which are not stated.

He added a wing to the hospital and being asked why he had not made this generous gift when the hospital was being built and the wing would not have cost so much, Sir Richard replied he withheld it until he was satisfied the hospital was going to be of permanent use to the community. He was now satisfied.

Lady Gibson Craig started the Samaritan Fund during this year. This was not to be used for paying hospital fees, but to provide a weekly sum during convalescence, if needed, or to assist a needy family while the breadwinner was in hospital.

In 1892 it was decided to install gas lighting and in 1893 a gas cooker was purchased for use in the hospital.

The committee during this year was disturbed by the admission of a typhoid case. Advice was sought from the medical staff, four of whom delared it was not expedient while two had no objection.

The foundation of the hospital for the "Poor" of Wimborne caused considerable argument every year in committee. People in receipt of Parish Relief were not admitted, but had to go to the Workhouse. On the other hand, those deemed to be better off were expected to have their treatment or operations at home or avail themselves of the somewhat dubious advantages of the nursing homes of those times.

A proposal was made that those receiving Parish Relief should be admitted to the hospital and, if necessary, helped by the Samaritan Fund. This met with violent opposition and was withdrawn. One doctor declared that if this proposal was passed he would withdraw his services since the Infirmary was better equipped to deal with operations. (It is possible that the Infirmary had a larger kitchen table, but neither they nor the hospital had any equipment for operations).

Ladies were elected to the Committee for the first time in 1894. It was agreed to employ a probationer to live with and share the bedroom of the servant. She was to be supplied with uniform at a cost not exceeding £5 at the end of three months, and allowed travelling expenses if she stayed for one year. She was to receive no salary.

The accounts for the year showed a deficit because a night nurse had been employed for some serious cases. Previously the only provision made for night nursing was the purchase of a reclining chair that the Matron might take some rest beside the bed of the patient.

In 1900 a sky-light and ventilating shaft were added to the operating room. In the following year a Probationer was sought at a salary of £12 a year.

The Coronation Entertainments Committee gave their surplus funds of £14 14s. 5d. for the purchase of splints.

Sir Richard Glyn, presiding at the annual meeting of Subscribers in 1902 expressed the hope that the Hospital might be a little more hygienic by separating the bath from the operating room. Dr. K. Le Fleming declared the present admixture of a disorderly surgery, a disorderly bath and an operating theatre was neither sanitary nor expedient.

It was agreed in 1903 that £2 should be expended from the Samaritan Fund for a spinal jacket needed in a special case. This was an extension of the rules of the Samaritan Fund.

The medical officers were asked to suggest how, in their opinion, the Hospital could be more widely used. They suggested:

An improved operating room.

The medical staff having more voice in admitting patients.

The position (financial or social) of patients should not be a bar to admission.

The medical staff should be authorised to admit patients who were willing to pay.

The rule relating to the admission of private servants should be altered. (They were classed with those receiving Parish Relief).

The Committee requested further information about the operating room and the probable cost and Dr. Batterbury replied that a new room was required. It would cost about £180 plus £60—£80 for fittings.

Mr. Luff (Clerk to the Guardians) wrote asking if the Union subscribed to the Hospital, paupers might be admitted for major operations. The Committee replied this would be contrary to the rules of the Hospital.

At a special meeting of the Subscribers, approval was given to building a new operating room and the admission to the Hospital free of charge of members of the working class provided their wages did not exceed 18s. a week. It was decided, also, that domestic servants could be admitted provided their employers paid 5s. a week upwards, but no-one receiving Parochial Relief was to be admitted.

The annual general meeting in 1903 was held in an atmosphere of despondency. Although there was £143 in reserve and £1,075 invested, expenditure had exceeded receipts by £83. A move to postpone building the operating room had to be quashed by the chairman.

A tender of £266 for the operating room was received in 1904 and was accepted and during this year it was decided that all patients of the poorer classes should be admitted free.

Friends of the Hospital were very generous with gifts of flowers, fruit and vegetables and the Matron was authorised to send any surplus to the Union. From the Samaritan Fund an artificial leg was purchased and a patient was sent to Herbert House, Bournemouth, for two weeks at a cost of 12s. 6d. a week.

In 1905 the Matron was authorised to engage a trained nurse at £25 a year and in 1906 a special drive was made to attract new Subscribers. Lady Glyn organised a concert and dramatic entertainment on which the profit was £85 14s. This year, too, Miss Edith Hartwell, of Ferndown, was appointed the first Honorary Masseuse.

As the result of an accident in 1907, an injured man was taken to the Hespital. All the beds were occupied, however, and whilst one was being made ready the man was taken to the Union, where he died. At the inquest the suggestion was made that the Hospital refused to admit him.

There was much ill-informed criticism, particularly from the Guardians of the Union. The matter dropped, but it focussed the attention of the Hospital Committee to the fact that they had now ten beds in the Hospital with neither adequate room nor staff. It was decided that either the beds must be reduced to seven or the accommodation increased and a night nurse employed.

A sub-committee appointed reported that accommodation could be found outside the Hospital for a night nurse, that it would be possible to build a room over the anaesthetic room and men's ward with also a room for the staff. Estimated cost of this work was £180. It was suggested a more seemly place for the dead should be provided, and it was suggested, also, that the staircase should be altered to make it easier to carry patients and estimated cost of this improvement was £2 10s.

Up to this time male and female patients had to use one earth closet and the sub-committee suggested lavatory accommodation should be increased and altered to a water system at an estimated cost of £40.

With these proposals came an offer from the Rev. J. M. J. and Mrs. Fletcher to meet the whole of the cost of these improvements and this was gladly accepted.

It was decided to name the new ward "The Fletcher Ward" and the men's ward "The Glyn Ward" in appreciation of the generosity and interest shown by Sir Richard and Lady Glyn and by Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher.

This year's annual general meeting was the last to be held at the Y.M.C.A. In 1908 it was decided to install a telephone in the Hospital.

The annual meeting took place in the Oddfellows Hall and in 1908 it was decided that persons in receipt of Poor Law Relief should be admitted for surgical or medical treatment. This was the result of the new Old Age Pensions Act.

CHAPTER VI.

With the agreement of the medical officers it was decided in 1920 that all ex-Service men and women should be treated free of charge for war disabilities.

Sir Archibald Law announced his resignation owing to ill-health, as chairman of the House and Finance committee. It was received with great regret.

A letter was received from Wimborne Trade and Labour Council offering to raise funds for the maintenance of the Hospital.

A certificate of thanks to the Hospital was received from the War Office.

House to House collections were started and organised by Mrs. Benison raised £60. Wimborne High School (Allendale) had run many money-making efforts, the Misses Funnell and Owens sent another £25.

It was agreed that poor patients should still be treated free, but the minimum charge for paying patients should be 10s. a week instead of 2s. 6d.

In 1921 a new bathroom and lavatory were added by converting the staff nurse's bedroom. A new bedroom was built for her.

The Hospital was still being closed for a month for repairs and holidays and in 1922, too, the Poor Law Guardians sent a bill for £11 8s. for patients received by them while the Hospital was closed.

For some years the Manager of the Bank had been acting as Treasurer, but in 1923 Mr. George Bannister was appointed with great benefit to the Hospital.

The custom of closing the Hospital for a month ended in 1924.

Dr. Parkinson was advised it was not desirable to hold inquests at the Hospital. Lord Wimborne resigned as President and Sir Richard Glyn was appointed in his place.

In 1925 permission was given for wireless apparatus to be put in the wards with certain unspecified conditions. The donors, not named, were thanked. It is probable that Toc H, who maintained the installation for many years, were the donors in part, if not completely.

The following year a second request was received from the Bournemouth hospitals that Wimborne Hospital should send them a donation. It was claimed hospitals in Bournemouth treated many Wimborne people.

In 1927 Mr. Solly resigned as chairman, having served in that office for 15 years. Before that he served 17 years as honorary secretary. Major E. Williams was elected in his place and, for the first time, a vice-chairman Mr. George Bannister, was elected.

A further protest was made to the Coroner and Police about inquests taking place at the Hospital on people other than Hospital patients, who had died.

It was agreed the telephone should be moved from the bathroom and placed in Matron's room.

The death was reported in 1928 of the Countess of Moray, who had been a good friend of the Hospital. She initiated and ran the Linen Guild for many years. A letter was received from the executor saying he knew she intended leaving the Hospital £100, but it was not mentioned in her will. He enclosed a cheque for £100 to meet her wish.

Sir Richard F. Glyn, D.S.O. presided for the first time at the annual general meeting. He said that having had many years experience as chairman of Shaftesbury Hospital he thought the financial report of Wimborne Hospital was very fine for such an institution and he hoped a Building Fund would be started.

In 1929 Matron was instructed to allow no more post-mortems to take place at the Hospital except in the case of a Hospital patient who had died.

A Hospital Contributory Scheme was mentioned during this year, but the idea was dropped as impracticable.

Mr. Brett was asked to produce rough plans for enlarging the Hospital. Lady Hanham started off the Building Fund with a donation of £100. The fund was inaugurated as an expression of thanks for the recovery of King George V. from his long and serious illness. At the end of the year the fund had reached £1,100.

By 1930 plans had been drawn up to increase the accommodation and to meet the requirements of the County Council it was decided to provide a maternity ward.

Matron asked for an electric sweeper, but it was decided not to incur this expense at the moment. (There is no record in the minutes of electricity having been installed in the Hospital).

The estimate for the Hospital extension came to £3,500. It was decided to include a bathroom on the first floor. Burt and Vick secured the contract at £3,835. Lady Hanham promised £500 for a ward to be named after the late Sir John Hanham, Bart. An anonymous interest-free loan of £500 was offered for five years.

In 1931 it was agreed that electricity should be taken through the new dining room to Matron's office to work the new wireless set.

The new wing was opened by Sir Richard Glyn on March 25th, 1931, and dedicated by Canon A. L. Keith. Lady Hanham opened the men's ward.

An auxiliary boiler with heating pipes and radiators had been installed to warm the operating theatre, the wards and anaesthetic room. Electric bell points and 21 wireless points were placed in the new wards. Pipes were inserted for electric cables in the new wards and, finally, it was decided to use electricity instead of gas.

The Medical Officers were asked to consider if, in view of the enlargement of the Hospital, they might with advantage add to their numbers and thereby to the usefulness of the Hospital. The Medical Officers replied:—

All doctors in practice in the neighbourhood should be invited to join the staff (and share the duties).

The consulting staff should be increased by surgeons, physicians, gynae-cologist, throat and ear and anaesthetic.

Mr. Ormsby should be invited to join the dental staff.

An arrangement should be made with the Cornelia Hospital for some of their special departments to be made available for cases sent from Wimborne Hospital, and

The possibility should be explored of extending the Poole Contributory Scheme.

The committee accepted the suggestion that doctors in the neighbourhood should be invited to join the staff and that the consulting staff should be increased as recommended. The doctors were asked to nominate those they wished to add to the staff. It was agreed Mr. Ormsby should be invited to join the dental staff, but the doctors were asked to elaborate their last two suggestions.

In 1931, too, the rule limiting the reception of patients was altered from "the Town of Wimborne" to "the Neighbourhood of Wimborne."

The following year a special meeting was called for Dr. K. Le Fleming to put before the Committee the considered opinion of the medical staff regarding the future of the Hospital.

He mentioned the five suggestions made by the doctors and particularly stressed the need for co-operating with Cornelia Hospital, and the formation of a Hospital League.

A sub-committee was formed to investigate the position. Its members were Major E. Williams, Dr. C. B. Thomson, Mr. G. Bannister, and Miss Benison. They met Capt. Angus Hambro and Mr. Foley, the chairman and secretary of Cornelia Hospital.

The suggestions made virtually involved Cornelia taking over Wimborne Hospital as a subsidiary. The meeting was postponed for a report to be made to the full Committee. Letters passed and Capt. Hambro eventually sent a final proposal:—

The two hospitals to amalgamate.

To have one banking account.

To have one list of subscribers.

. The medical officers to be added to the list of Cornelia Hospital Staff, and

The chairman, treasurer and secretary of Wimborne Hospital to be added to the Cornelia Committee.

Some members of the Wimborne Committee were in favour of accepting the proposals. Mr. G. Bannister firmly opposed it. It was agreed it would be contrary to the Trust and Lady Hanham said she would not consent to the land being transferred to Cornelia Hospital.

The idea was dropped.

Invitations to other consultants, etc., to join the Medical Staff were accepted (see Appendix).

The death of Mr. Bannister was reported in 1933. He had rendered long and faithful service to the Hospital often giving, or loaning free of interest, large sums of money to save selling any of the investments. He finally bequeathed £2,000, subject to one life, to the Hospital.

Mrs. Carter collected 139 dozen eggs at Wimborne Market for the use of patients. She continued making this collection for many years.

It must have been an embarrassment to the Committee to mention in the hearing of Lady Hanham that the Hospital needed anything. Her gifts, large and small, are too numerous to mention.

In 1934 she paid for the installation of electricity in the operating theatre and provided an operating (shadowless) lamp and operating table, which is still in use and considered one of the best in the area.

The following year Mr. Owen Chissell offered to launch an appeal for the Hospital. It was to be associated with King George V's Silver Jubilee celebrations and it was hoped to raise £1,000. His offer was gratefully accepted.

Mr. Chissell's appeal raised £1.207 1s. 8d. which enabled the debt on the Building Fund to be cleared. It also paid for the decoration of the operating theatre and put the funds of the Hospital in credit to the amount of £973 4s.

Following consideration by a sub-committee, a Hospital League was started in 1935, known as Wimborne Hospital League. Major A. A. McClelland was the first hon. secretary and five members of the Hospital Committee were in the seven appointed to administer its affairs. It was to come into operation on January 1st, 1936.

The Medical Council was formed in 1936 with Dr. Thomson as chairman, Dr. Courtin as secretary and Dr. Ormerod and Dr. Norman.

 $\mbox{Mr.}$ C. E. Barnes was appointed hon, almoner to Wimborne Hospital League.

The sterilising room was added during this year. It had a door leading from the anaesthetic room. The two main wards were rubber floored and the beds fitted with rubber castors.

This year Miss Stainton resigned as Matron. She was presented with a gold watch, a cheque for £115 and a testimonial signed by the Committee and other well-wishers. Miss Tournay was appointed Matron in her place.

Mrs. Cuff, who had been running whist drives for many years, was thanked for running another and raising this time £21 10s. 8d.

The Committee's congratulations were sent in 1937 to Sir Kaye Le Fleming on his receiving the honour of Knighthood. Sir Kaye was the senior member of the medical staff.

Major McClelland reported at the annual general meeting that the Hospital League now had 2,000 members.

The death of Miss Tournay, the Matron, was reported in 1937. The news was received with great regret. Miss K. Baker was appointed to succeeed her.

During this year air raid precautions were considered by the Committee.

It was decided to rent a house at the corner of Redcotts for accommodating the nursing staff. This obviated the need to extend the Hospital further and released rooms on the first floor of the Hospital to meet the demand for more private wards.

In 1937, too, it was decided a Christmas Party should be held for the staff.

The rooms formerly used by the nurses as bedrooms were converted to private wards, a service lift was installed, a portable X-Ray unit purchased and a darkroom fitted up. New wireless sets were installed in the Hospital and the nurses' hostel by Toc H.

Mr. E. Richards as treasurer started his intensive drive to secure new annual contributions to the Hospital. He started securing them at the rate of 50 to 60 a month.

Following the Munich Crisis it was decided the Maternity Ward should be made gas-proof, but the following year it was decided with great regret to close this ward since as a unit it was too small to have its own day and night staff. There was also a danger of infection owing to there being no night nursery—the babies being placed at night in parts used by the general public during daytime. It was decided the Maternity Ward should be used as a Children's Ward.

CHAPTER VIII.

During 1939 it was agreed to lay in a reserve of consumable stores, coal, coke and at least one month's supply of drugs and dressings. Material was ordered for blacking-out the windows and a large supply of sandbags was obtained. Emergency lighting was arranged in the operating theatre.

A B.B.C. appeal to be made on behalf of the Hospital on September 3rd was cancelled the day before the appeal was to have been made by Sir Kaye Le Fleming.

It was emphasised by the Medical Council and by the Committee that a maternity ward must be re-established as soon as circumstances permitted.

Nine beds were reserved by the Ministry of Health for the accommodation of possible casualties. They were released after six weeks.

The Thomson Ward (labour ward) was fitted out for use as a private ward.

Mr. R. H. Rodway raised over £50 by cinema shows, and, in addition, organised a squad of stretcher bearers to assist the staff of the Hospital during the war period.

In 1940 full arrangements were made by the medical staff, Matron and Hospital staff to deal with any rush of casualties through air raids or other causes.

Mr.-C. E. Barnes resigned as Almoner dealing with the Hospital Leagues.

During 1941 Mr. R. H. Rodway recruited a team of fire watchers to be at the Hospital from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m.

It was decided to erect a gas cleansing unit at the rear of the Hospital.

The seven year Deed of Covenant system was adopted and strongly recommended to subscribers by the treasurer. In the first year £251 2s. 7d. was received from Income Tax.

A collection of eggs totalling 3,714 was made mainly through an appeal by the churches.

Dr. Bartley arranged a scheme of blood donors for the Hospital,

Through the kindness of the partnership of doctors concerned a reserve stock of drugs and dressings was stored at the surgery in West Borough.

A sub-committee having been appointed, it was decided to appeal for funds for the establishment of a maternity unit as soon as circumstances permitted. During 1940 £336 19s. 6d. was contributed to this appeal.

Miss P. Coombes joined the Hospital staff and was appointed Assistant Matron.

Miss Benison retired as hon, secretary after 14 years of most able and vigorous service. During her term of office the work had greatly increased. The minutes she wrote were clear and concise and give a very plain picture of the progress of the Hospital.

In 1942 Miss K. Baker resigned as Matron owing to ill-health and the Assistant Matron, Miss P. Coombes, was appointed in her place.

Mr. Bourne resigned as chairman and was presented with a reading lamp and a match stand by the committee. Miss Benison, the retiring secretary, was presented with a pigskin handbag as a token of thanks for her long and valuable service to the Hospital.

Mr. W. H. Sumsion was appointed chairman and Mr. Richards, secretary and treasurer with Miss M. Digby as minute secretary. Miss Bode and Miss Stratton were thanked for their respective and many services to the Hospital.

In 1943, the Home Guard, who had raised £136 6s. 9d. for the Hospital, were invited to name a bed. They chose to do this in the name of their Commander, Col. L. J. Comyn, C.M.G., D.S.O. Mr. R. H. Rodway having raised £116 by his cine shows, was also invited to name a bed. He accepted and named it "The gift of a patient to Kathleen F. Baker, S.R.N., Matron and the Staff, 1938."

A further sum of £350 in three per cent. Savings Bonds was received from Wimborne and District Savings Committee making £650 in all from this source. The Maternity Fund now stood at £2,756 10s. 6d.

In 1944 Miss E. M. Coe was thanked for her personal services and that of the British Red Cross Society, Dorset 48, for help given freely over many years. The Maternity Fund reached £5,804 7s. 2d.

A sub-committee was appointed to consider the question of maternity extension. The massage department was extending rapidly and the problem of accommodation was before the committee.

The Misses Stratten were thanked for their generous help and Mrs. Solly for many years work in organising the Linen Guild.

The Matron, Miss P. Coombes, was congratulated on the beautiful decoration of the Hospital for Christmas and the arrangements made for the entertainment of patients and their friends.

Mr. Linds raised over £100 by collecting boxes at the Crown Hotel and was invited to name a bed.

To commemmorate V.E. Day in 1945 the treasurer, Mr. E. Richards, presented the Hospital with £100.

Black-out, blast walls and wire netting were removed at once.

A beach hut was established for the use of the nursing staff.

The Hospital Car Service was established under the direction of Miss Williams.

Several houses were inspected by the committee as a possible maternity home, but none was deemed suitable.

Mr. E. Burry raised £197 from pony race meetings and Corfe Mullen gave £45 from a flower show.

During an egg week Miss Digby collected 5,028 eggs and £25 6s. 4d. in cash. From dances Mr. Rodway collected £157 10s. 9d. and collecting boxes raised £217 11s. 8d. The Maternity Extension Fund reached £10,217 9s. 4d.

A hut was acquired and placed in front of the Hospital as the physio-

therapy department.

The threat of nationalisation of the Hospital started to affect not only support given to the Hospital, but also acted as a complete drag on the efforts of the committee to improve the Hospital's services. The Ministry of Health approved the site of Stone Park and the plans for converting it, but permits for the work were not forthcoming. During 1946, 1947 and 1948 the committee, despite strenuous efforts on the part of the chairman and the Medical Council, were kept in a state of complete bewilderment by the Ministry's continual change of policy.

The committee were instructed by the Ministry to advertise for tenders. One was recommended for acceptance, but no permits were forthcoming. In 1955 there is still no early prospect of the maternity extension being in operation. If and when it is built it is to be on the congested site of the Hospital instead of in Stone Park House, which has been sold by the Ministry.

Mr. Richards did not live to see his plans to make Wimborne Hospital, for its size, one of the best equipped and finest healing centres in the country come to naught. He, more than anyone else, had placed the Hospital in such a financial state that the committee did not have to consider the cash position when debating any proposal for the benefit of patients.

Mr. Richards died on February 7th, 1948. He gave over 20 years of his life to the service of the Hospital and was an inspiration to all who worked

with him.

It might be thought that the medical officers, for the better accommodation of their patients, would always be pressing for further extension of the services of the Hospital. But from the time of Dr. Parkinson, who first proposed the building of the Hospital and then added a rider "that he thought it might be too expensive a project to run," the medical officers have always advised caution. When they thought it wise and necessary, however, they have taken endless pains to assist and advise the committee in any proposed advancement and have generously supported them financially.

In 1946, 4,208 eggs were collected plus £8 7s. 5d. for the purchase of eggs. The organisers were Miss Digby and Mr. Chissell. Miss Stratten organised a sale and a whist drive, which realised £110 and £1,053 3s. had been received

from the Hospital League.

In 1947 Mr. C. D. Butler agreed to take over the books of the hon.

secretary and treasurer.

It was agreed a ward should be named "The Richards Ward" in memory of Mr. E. H. Richards. An electric clock was installed in the women's ward by Miss J. A. F. Bode and another in the men's ward, paid for by the patients. Dorset County Council acquired 14½ acres of Stone Park for £1,850 and

eight acres were sold to Mr. Shepherd for £500.

It was decided to purchase new X-Ray equipment at a cost of £2,078 19s. 6d.

and an estimate was received for £1,500 for housing the unit.

Miss Stratten made an appeal for the Linen Guild and raised £90 4s. 6d.

She was thanked and asked to name a bed.

It was announced that the Wimborne Hospital League would close down

from December 31st. A house-to-house collection arranged by Miss Digby amounted to £344. Miss E. M. Coe was presented with a watch as a token of gratitude for her valuable work for the Hospital. Mr. Chissell collected 4,864 eggs for use in the Hospital.

It was agreed that one and a third acres should be sold to the British Legion for the erection of ten Haig Homes for disabled ex-Servicemen and women

at a cost of £200 an acre.

CHAPTER X.

The appointed day for handing over the Hospital to the Government arrived in 1947 and the chairman, Mr. W. H. Sumsion, with the assistance of Mr. C. D. Butler had the unwelcome task of carrying on the administration of the Hospital, the installation of the X-Ray equipment and the conversion of Stone Park into a maternity hospital with the knowledge that any policy might be reversed when the Hospital with all its assets was handed over to the Ministry of Health.

Mr. Sumsion carried out this work without friction and during his term of office he rendered quiet and efficient service to the Hospital. When he left Wimborne he was replaced as chairman fortunately by another old member of the Hospital committee, Col. C. Chieveley Williams, O.B.E., who in 1955 carries on the tradition of service to the Hospital.

Many of the annual reports and some of the minute books are missing. Consequently it is not possible, even were there space, to record the names of the visitors who gave valuable service to the patients year after year, or the names of those who served on the committee (at one time the committee numbered 35). Nor is it possible to name the thousands who by contributions or service (such as Mr. Murray Kerridge, who for 40 years wound and cared for the clocks of the Hospital free of charge) helped to build up this very fine asset to Wimborne.

Without them it would have been impossible for the medical and nursing staff to have built up the fine reputation which Victoria Hospital enjoys.

The committee felt grieved that the Hospital should be taken from their control, but when it became part of their duty to administer East Borough Hospital they realised that all hospitals had not received that financial help which must supplement the love, care and attention given by the staff and which is so vital in nursing the sick.

G.H.W.

23

Association of Friends of Victoria Hospital. WIMBORNE.

Chairman

Sir Richard F. D. Glyn, D.S.O.

Secretary-Treasurer

C. D. Butler, Esq., Roselea, North Road, Broadstone.

Appeals Secretary

Mrs. C. H. D. Bartley, Rowlands, Wimborne.

APPENDIX A.

Officers in the order of their appointment.

President.

Lord Wimborne.

Sir Richard F. Glyn, D.S.O.

Patrons.

Rt. Hon. Lord Alington.

Rt. Hon. Viscount Portman.

Major-General P. Maclean.

The Lady Wimborne.

Lady Glyn.

Mrs. Mills.

Mrs. J. M. J. Fletcher.

Hon, Lady Hanham.

Mrs. H. N. Solly.

E. H. Richards.

Vice-Presidents.

Sir Richard G. Glyn, Bart.

Sir John Hanham, Bart.

M. Elliott-Lees, M.P.

Capt. H. J. Mills.

Mrs. Mills.

G. Churchill.

Rev. Canon Bernard.

H. S. Williams.

Mrs. Lees.

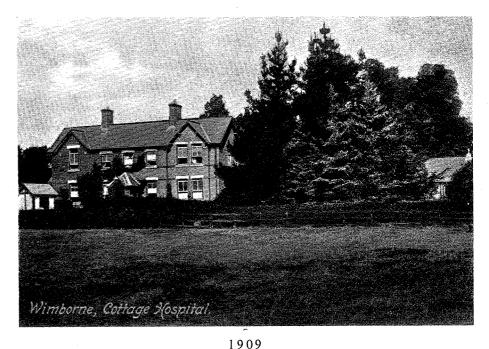
Rev. J. M. J. Fletcher.

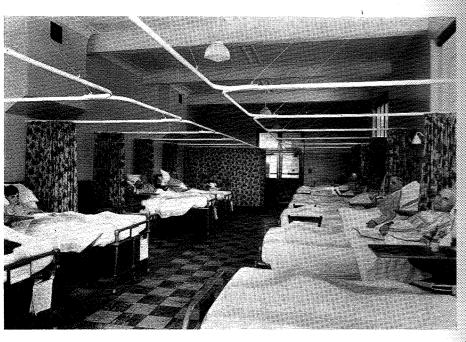
Gertrude, Countess of Moray.

Sir Kaye Le Fleming.

H. J. R. Bankes.

E. H. Richards.





MEN'S WARD, VICTORIA HOSPITAL, WIMBORNE, 1954 (Rails and Curtains, the gift of the Association of Friends of the Hospital)

Trustees.

Sir Richard G. Glyn, Bart. Sir John Hanham, Bart. Major-General R. H. Truell, C.B.

H. O. Chislett.

Tom King.

G. E. Solly.

Rev. Canon Bernard.

H. King.

Sir John L. Hanham, Bart.

H. J. R. Bankes.

A. F. P. King.

Chairmen of Committee of Management.

- 1887. Sir Richard G. Glyn, Bart.
- 1915. G. E. Solly.
- 1927. Major E. Williams.
- 1935. T. J. Bourne, C.B.E.
- 1942. W. H. Sumsion.

Vice-Chairmen of Committee of Management.

- 1927. George Bannister.
- 1928. E. H. Richards.
- 1931. T. J. Bourne, C.B.E.
- 1935. Sir John Hanham, Bart.
- 1938. E. H. Richards.
- 1940. Dr. E. W. Ormerod.
- 1944. O. A. Chissell.

Parlie Pria la
APPENDIX B. 1948

Medical Officers.

C. W. H. Parkinson, M.R.C.S. 1888.

K. J. Courtenay. 1889.

G. W. Graham, M.R.C.S. 1892.

W. Auld, M.B. and C.M.

W. H. Fawcett, M.D.Brux., F.R.C.S.Edin.

W. Wyke-Smith, F.R.C.S.Edin.

G. H. Batterbury, M.D.Lond.

E. Kaye Le Fleming, M.B.Cantab., M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond. 1901. W. J. O. Ray, M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond.

T. Telfordsmith, M.A., M.D.Dub., D.P.H.Camb. E. W. Ormerod, M.D.Cantab., M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond.

1903. C. B. Thomson, F.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond. 1907.

B. R. Parminter, M.B., B.S.Lond.

K. B. Clarke, M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond. E. Courtin, M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond. S. F. Durrans, M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond.

I. B. Limbery, M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond., M.B., B.S.Lond.

J. C. A. Norman, M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond.

1935.

1937.

A. W. Palethorpe Todd, M.B., B.Ch. E. H. Markby, M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond. C. H. D. Bartley, M.A., M.D., B.Chir.Cantab.

R. T. Norman, M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

R. MacDonald, M.B., Ch.B.Glas. 1944

J. W. Hannay, M.A., M.B., B.Chir.Cantab., F.R.C.S.Edin., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.Obst., R.C.O.G. 1946.

T. Boog-Scott, M.B., Ch.B.Ed. A. E. de la T. Mallett, M.A., M.D., B.Chir.Cantab. 1947.

C. M. Norman, M.R.C.S., Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond.

Consulting Surgeon.

F. W. Ramsay, M.D., M.S.Durh., F.R.C.S.Edin.

A. B. Rooke, F.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Eng.

Orthopaedic Surgeon.

N. Vere Hodge, B.A., M.B., B.Chir.Cantab., F.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond.

Consulting Obstetric Surgeon.

S. Gordon Luker, F.R.C.S.Edin., M.D., B.Ch.Cantab., M.R.C.P.Lond., F.R.C.O.G.

Consulting Physician.

E. W. Ormerod, M.D.Cantab., M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.

S. Watson Smith, M.D., F.R.C.P.Edin., F.R.C.P.Lond.

Honorary Physicians.

S. H. Cookson, B.Sc., M.D.Birm., F.R.C.P.Lond. S. Watson Smith, M.D.Edin., F.R.C.P.Edin., M.R.C.P.Lond.

J. H. Bentley, M.A., M.B., B.Ch.Cantab., M.R.C.P.Lond., M.R.C.S.Eng.

Honorary Surgeons.

N. F. Adeney, F.R.C.S.Eng., M.B.Cantab., L.R.C.P.Lond.

E. C. Bowden, M.C., F.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond.

A. B. Rooke, F.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Eng.

F. P. Forrest, F.R.C.S.Edin., M.B., B.S.Durh., M.M.S.A.

Honorary Surgeons (Ear, Throat and Nose).

A. R. M. Macgillycuddy, M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond.

R. Salkeld, B.A., B.M., B.Ch.Oxon., F.R.C.S.Edin.

Honorary Opthalmic Surgeon.

T. R. Aynsley, M.B., B.S.Durh., D.O.M.S.Eng.

Honorary Gynaecologists.

S. G. Luker, F.R.C.S.Edin., M.D.Cantab., B.Ch.Cantab., M.R.C.P.Lond., F.R.C.O.G.

C. Heygate Vernon, M.A., M.B., B.Chir, Cantab., F.R.C.S.Edin., L.R.C.P.Lond.

Honorary Anaesthetist.

E. W. D. Hardy, M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond.

Honorary Pathologist.

W. McNaughton, O.B.E., M.B., Ch.B.

Honorary Radiologist.

T. H. T. Gautby, B.A.Cantab., M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond., D.M.R.E.

Honorary Dental Surgeons.

W. M. Damon, L.D.S.

A. W. Thorne, L.D.S., R.C.S. R. P. Hancock, L.D.S., R.C.S.

Y. Viader, L.D.S., R.C.S.

Honorary Dental Officers.

A. G. Ormsby.

J. W. Torrens.

Nurse Matron.

Miss Baker.

Miss Downing. 1890.

Miss Anne Lindsay. 1895.

Miss Ida M. King. 1912.

1915. Miss Stainton.

Matron.

Miss Stainton. 1924.

Miss Tournay, S.R.N. 1936.

Miss K. F. Baker, S.R.N., S.C.M. 1937.

Miss P. M. Coombes, S.R.N., S.C.M. 1940.

Honorary Masseuse and Physiotherapist.

Miss E. Hartnell.

Miss B. Pardy.

Miss C. Young.

Miss Osborne.

Miss Watson.

Miss Benetz.

Mrs. E. M. Sumsion, A.P.T.C., C.S.M.M.G.

Miss I. M. Wright.

	Hon, Secretary.	Hon. Treasurer.
1887.	Rev. E. E. Cleal.	H. T. E. Finley.
1889.	General P. Maclean.	-
1898.	G. E. Solly.	S. Cox (Manager of the Bank).
1904.	-	H. St. John Hewitt (Manager of the Bank).
1915. 1920.	E. H. Widnell. Miss C. A. Finley.	E. Hyde (Manager of the Bank).
1922.	-	George Bannister.
1928.	Miss M. Benison.	H. L. G. Taylor.
1932.		E. H. Richards.
1938.	E. H. Richards.	L. 11.
1942. 1947.	C. D. Butler.	C. D. Butler.

Honorary Solicitor.

G. C. Willis.

Honoray Architects.

W. J. Fletcher. E. J. Brett, F.R.I.B.A. J. Allner, F.R.I.B.A. R. K. Brett, A.R.I.B.A.

Honorary Auditors.

T. Lodder.
A. Budden.
C. E. Barnes.
W. J. Stanton.
G. C. Willis.
E. Stout.
E. G. Pulsford, F.S.A.A.

APPENDIX C.

Wards named in recognition of service.

Ground Floor. Bankes. First Floor. Glyn.
Hanham. Fletcher.
Thomson. E. H. Richards.

NAMED BEDS.

Men's Ward.

- The gift of John Hanham.
 The gift of 6th Battn. Dorset Home Guard, a tribute to Col. L. J. Comyn. C.M.G., D.S.O.
- 3. The gift of Hampreston V.A.D., Dorset 48.
- 4. In memory of Sir Arthur Reid.
- 5. The gift of F. J. and S. E. Bugg.
- 6. In memory of Rebe Evans.
- 7. The gift of Hampreston Parish.
- 8. The gift of the Wimborne Catholic Women's League.
- 9. The Misses A. and E. Stratten.
- 10. The gift of Kingston Lacy Parish.
- 1. The gift of Sir Richard Glyn, Bart.

Women's Ward.

- 1. The gift of the 1st Wimborne Boy Scouts Group.
- 2. The gift of Wimborne Operatic Society.
- 3. In memory of George Boulton, and Arthur Cecil D'Arcy, and Reginald Howard Lynes.
- 4. The gift of Chalbury Parish.
- 5. The gift of the Dorsetshire Regiment Old Comrades' Association.
- 6. In memory of Selina Carr Glyn.
- 7. The gift of Maud Hanham.
- 8. The gift of the Wimborne Women's Institute.
- 9. The gift of Witchampton Parish.
- 10. The gift of Hampreston and District Women's Institute.

Children's Ward.

- 1. The gift of Holt Parish.
- The gift of the Dorset Players.
- 3. The Ada Jane Summers Cot.
- 4. The J. B. Summers Cot.

APPENDIX D.

Inscribed Clock in Staff Dining Room.

Presented by the Committee of the Victoria Cottage Hospital in memory of the great interest and generous support shown by the late Revd. Carr John Glyn, M.A., to the Hospital. He regularly attended the meetings of Committee from its foundation until his death in 1896 at the age of 97.

Inscribed Tablet in Hall of Hospital.

This tablet is to commemorate the transfer under sanction of the Charity Commissioners to the Victoria Cottage Hospital of the sum of £1,094 being the residue of money received by the Finance Committee of the Wimborne Division of the British Red Cross Society for the work of that Society during the Great War.

The money was handed over on condition that men who had served in His Majesty's Naval, Military or Air Forces during the Great War and the dependants of such men should derive some direct benefit in respect of the sum transferred.

Inscribed Tablet in Corridor Ground Floor.

To commemorate the Silver Jubilee of H.M. King George V., 6th May, 1935, the people of Wimborne and neighbourhood subscribed £1,201 for the improvement of this Hospital in response to a personal appeal made by Mr. Owen Chissell.

APPENDIX E.

Benefactors to this Hospital by Gift or Legacy of £50 and upwards.

(as recorded on Oak Boards in the Hall of the Hospital).

- 1887. Sir John A. Hanham, Bart. Sir Richard G. Glyn, Bart. Mr. George Churchill. Lord Alington.
- 1892. Sir Richard G. Glyn, Bart.
- 1895. Rev. J. Carr Glyn. Mr. John Joyce. Miss Lucas.
- 1896. Rev. J. Carr Glyn.
- 1899. Mr. H. S. Williams.
- 1900. Major-Gen. Truell.
- 1907. Rev. J. M. J. Fletcher and Mrs. Fletcher.
- 1909. Miss A. Bankes. Col. C. M. Churchill.
- 1911. Sir John A. Hanham, Bart.
- 1913. Mr. H. J. Tuck. Mrs. C. S. Watts.
- 1914. Gertrude, Countess of Moray. Mrs. Mary Fletcher.
- 1915. Mrs. Elizabeth Jane Boyt.
- 1916. Gertrude, Countess of Moray. Mrs. Sarah Gay.
- 1918. Sir Richard G. Glyn, Bart.
- 1919. In Mem. Frank L. Friend.
- 1921. Mr. George Onslow Churchill. Rev. Alfred W. Parke. The Hon. Lady Hanham.
- 1923. Mr. H. O. Chislett.
- 1924. Capt. Carr Glyn.
- 1925. Mr. George Bannister.
- 1926. In Mem. Mrs. Selina Martin.
- Mr. Reginald Digby.
 In Mem. Gertrude, Countess of Moray.
- 1929. Sir Richard F. Glyn, Bart. Mr. George Bannister. The Hon. Lady Hanham.

- 1930. In Mem. George Edward Solly.In Mem. Laura Hibberd.Dr. and Mrs. Thomson.
- 1931. In Mem. Harold Setten.
- 1932. In Mem. John F. Hatchard.
- 1933. Major and Miss Williams.
- 1934. Sir John L. Hanham, Bart. In Mem. I. and R. Gay. In Mem. Ada Ellis.
- 1935. Mr. A. C. Matthews (the Late). Dr. and Mrs. Gosse.
- 1936. Mrs. H. F. Leleu (the Late). Mrs. Robert Truell (the Late).
- 1937. Mrs. Moorhouse (the Late).
- 1938. Mr. George Good (the Late).
 Sir Richard F. Glyn, Bart.
 Mr. E. H. Richards.
 Mrs. M. Richardson.
 Mrs. A. R. Matthews.
 The James Henry Stephen's Bequest.
 Mr. and Mrs. George Habgood.
 Mrs. Samuel Burrows.
- 1940. Mrs. M. B. Parnell (the Late).
- 1941. Mrs. L. M. Seymour. Mr. Gerald Summers.
- 1942. Mrs. Craik, In memory of Lt.-Col. James Craik, D.S.O.
- In Mem. of Miss A. L. Warnett.Mrs. C. B. Thomson.Dr. William Habgood.
- 1944. Mr. Gerald Summers.
- 1945. Miss Isabel N. Napier.
 In Mem. Miss E. F. Tilley.
 In Mem. Mr. Gilbert Hayter.
 Sir Kaye Le Fleming.
 Mr. and Mrs. J. Dean Smith.
 Mr. E. H. Richards.
 Sir C. F. and Lady Rugge-Price.
 Mrs. J. M. J. Fletcher.
 In Mem. Mr. W. J. O. Ray.
 In Mem. Mr. H. L. G. Taylor.
- 1946. Mr. H. F. Leleu (the Late). Mrs. A. Hayward. Miss E. Jacobs (the Late).
- 1947. Mrs. Craik. Mrs. Clewes (the Late).