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ROYAL BRISBANE HOSPITALS NURSES' ASSOCIATION INC.

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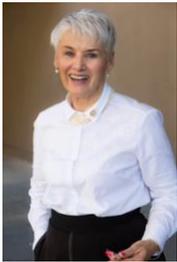
Newsletter October 2022



Patron

Alanna Geary has offered her support with reviewing our Museum against the National Standards for All Australian Museums and Galleries. <https://magsq.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/National-standards-for-australian-museums-and-galleries-v1.5-2016.pdf>

Alanna will work with Joy, Bernadette and Sub-Committee.



Cluny's President Note

Welcome to our October Newsletter. Our New Committee has settled in and we are planning great things for 2023, so watch this space. If you haven't already done so, please book for our Christmas Lunch November 26th,

It's wonderful to be able to send greetings to you from Brisbane! The family in Melbourne are in fine form and now that we can travel interstate, I'm back enjoying the warmth of the weather and the warmth of wonderful friends! Thank you to Lorraine Birtwell and the Committee Members for their work in keeping the Association afloat – at the AGM the possibility of the Association closing was a very high probability.

Despite the challenges we faced, the new committee has worked tirelessly to re-vitalize the Association and the success of the fashion parade was a reflection of their hard work. I look forward to seeing you all at our Christmas Party November 26th – another guaranteed fun day – and rejuvenate the soul with our dear friends. Enjoy this newsletter, keep in contact and if ever we can join you for conversation and a cuppa, please give us a call. Cluny Seager (0412711148)

Honorary Curator Museum Report



Museum of Nursing History



We have finally completed all our cleaning of the flood damaged collection. Without the expertise and hard work and support from the museum conservators we would have lost all of the collection stored at Butterfield Street. The retrieved collection is now stored at Storage king Everton Hills and the fees are expensive. It is now the time to decide what is to be done regarding the future of this collection. Included in the salvaged items are lots of solid timber chairs and tables. The furniture has been inspected by an expert and he is satisfied that the furniture is still in good condition, and may be available for purchase.

It would be much appreciated to get some willing hands to help with the sorting as soon as possible, a working bee is being arranged, many hands make light work, please consider a couple of hours (do I have any volunteers?)

The museum is open again and recruitment and training volunteers is in the planning stage there is lots of catching up to do in the museum with lots of jobs for all. If you have computer skills in data entry that would be a great help. If you like the challenge of learning new skills you will be most welcome. Researching nursing histories, documenting the collection and learning conservation practices will most certainly ensure that future generations will benefit from your contribution

After a very inspirational Small Museums Conference attended by Joy, Jeanette and Charmaine on October 8th and 9th and by Bernadette on the 9th at Redlands Museum we are eager to work towards a five-year plan to seek funding through grants to continue our conservation practices and to digitalise our collection with ehive.com. Joy 0488418111

Communication

Thank you to all who completed our survey for Strategic Planning. Gigi Lacey is collating responses and working with the Committee to update our Constitution and plan going forward. This will be presented at the AGM 2023. (Constitution will be sent to members 6 weeks prior to AGM for your review and comments).

Welcome new members

Brad Elms, Siane MacFarlane, Linda Lawrence, Lenore Saville, Terri Moloney, Yvonne Thomas, Lachlan Adamson, Penny Marshall and Karen Kasper.

Edith Cavell

100 years ago, a new nurses' quarters was built at the Children's Hospital. It was named after a heroine of WWI – Edith Cavell. During WW1 this British nurse was working in Belgium. The Germans were advancing so when she was asked to take in two wounded soldiers for protection, she agreed and nursed them back to health. Thus began her heroic journey. She provided a place of refuge for many wounded soldiers and cared for them until they could continue their escape. She provided money, identification papers and guide. At one time, Edith housed as many as 35 refugees in her nursing home. German secret police placed the nursing home under surveillance and gradually the evidence about Edith mounted.

On 31st July 1915, the Germans arrested Edith and interrogated her for 3 days. She finally confessed and after 2 days trial she fell before a firing squad on the morning of 12th October, 1915. Her body lies in Norwich Cathedral and her statue in St Martin's Place bears the words, 'Humanity, Fortitude, Devotion, Sacrifice'. And so our building stands as a reminder of this brave nurse.

A plaque was unveiled by Jeanette Young our Governor on 4th August 2022 to commemorate the opening of this building.



Fashion Parade

What a great and fun day we had. Thank you for all who participated and I hope you are enjoying your new clothes. Roz from Portofino selected a great assortment, donating \$450 to our association from sales on the day. Roz has accepted our invitation for a repeat performance next year – Saturday 16th September, 2023. We had 74 people attend and lots of friendships reignited, Sincere thanks to Kedron Wavell RSL staff for your exceptional communication, hospitality and kindness.

So now you can all start planning to attend our Christmas lunch and reunion on Saturday 26th November.

Why not celebrate your 10th , 20th , 30th , 40th , 50th , or 60th Graduation Anniversary with your group?

Your invitation on our website (<https://metronorth.health.qld.gov.au/about-us/rbh-nurses-association>), so please try and gather your friends from RBWH days and book a table.



VALE – Isobel Mary (Pixie) Annat – Graduated 1952, Lucy Elaine Allen (nee Gulbrandson)- Graduated 1946. Agnes Yeates (nee Berry) – Graduated 1962, Heather Pollock – Graduated 1973

Isabel Mary (Pixie) Annat – 18/03/1930-24/09/2022

Pixie was born in Palmwoods and attended the local school before going to Nambour State High School. She began her training at the Brisbane General Hospital in 1948. She was an active member of the Student Nurses Association. In 1953, she completed her midwifery training at the Maroochy District Hospital in Nambour. In June 1954, she and her twin sister Ellie travelled to London. They worked and enjoyed their time there returning home in 1956. She was appointed Charge Sister of the Intermediate wards at the Brisbane General Hospital. In 1962, she joined the staff of RANF Queensland and stayed until 1965, when she was appointed Nursing Director of St Andrews War Memorial Hospital in 1977.

Pixie received an MBE for her service to Nursing. She was also awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia. After retiring as CEO of St Andrew's War Memorial Hospital in 1992, she continued in voluntary service, working for the Centaur Memorial Fund for Nurses, the Lady Musgrave Trust and St Luke's Nursing Service. She was also a Director of Tri-Care from 1994-2001. In 1998 she became the honorary secretary of our RBH Nurses association – a position she held until relatively recently. She also served as a volunteer at her beloved St Andrews Hospital. In 2021 Pixie was named as a Queensland Great.

In the biography 'Pixie Annat- Champion of Nurses by Colleen Ryan Clur, Colleen quotes something Pixie told her that every nurse everywhere should remember 'I have always told nurses that the patient must feel the person caring for them knows them, knows what they are doing and does it with a smile'.

Respected by all who knew her, Pixie will be sadly missed.



Agnes Yeates (nee Berry) passed August 2022.

Agnes commenced her nursing training at Princess Alexandra Hospital 1958 and completed at Royal Brisbane Hospital in 1962. Agnes appears in the book of Gwen Peacock.

Lucy Elaine Allen (nee Gulbrandson) passed August 25th, 2022

Lucy graduated from Brisbane General in 1946. Married Lucius and had two children Roger and Kathryn.



There was at least one really glamorous occasion in this era when film star Ron Randell came to town in 1946. Shown with him are, left to right, Lucy Gulbrandson, Maureen Frizell, Jean Webster and Doris Campbell. (Jean Webster file, RBHGNA)

Heather Clout (nee Pollock) passed September 29th, 2022

Heather trained at RBH 1970-1973. She was the Lorna Hardcastle Prize winner for her year.