

First Fifty Years



BALLARAT BASE HOSPITAL
TRAINED NURSES'
LEAGUE

1929-1978

H. W. MENADUE, F.C.N.A.

M. Menadue
178.

This Book is dedicated to those
past, present and future Nurses
of the
Ballarat Base Hospital.



*Memories are short lived,
Events long lived.*

M. Menadue
4/11/78

Subscriptions

1930 — 5/- annually.

1932 — the League admitted associate members — invited Trained Nurses other than those of the Ballarat hospital. These associates would not have power to vote. It was agreed that the League would gain a tremendous lot by inviting others to join them and the associates in the social activities.

1933 — Annual Subscriptions were lowered to 3/-. It must be remembered this was during the Great Depression years when all wages were reduced by half. It was not until 1940 that the annual membership was increased to 6/6 and associates 5/-. All members thus reminded that this did not cover expenses for Reunion. In 1946 membership was increased to 8/6.

Life Membership was introduced in 1947 — £2/2/-, this was optional and it was hoped many Past Trainees would avail themselves of this facility. Associate membership henceforth ceased. In 1972 Life Membership was increased to \$5.

Constitution

It is not known if there was an initial Constitution. A Constitution adopted 13-11-1937 was twice amended on 18-11-1939 and 24-10-1941 was simply understood.

1. That the Annual Meeting be held in October.
2. Nominations of Office-Bearers be accepted one month before the election. Also that nominations close the evening of the meeting at which they are called.
3. That the subscription be members 6/6 and associate members 5/-.
4. That the Executive be empowered to act in all cases where it is difficult to call a full meeting at short notice.
5. That when a motion has been proposed, seconded and carried at a General Meeting and such motion recorded as carried in the Minute Book of the above Association, notice to rescind same must be given in writing seven clear days before the date of any meeting.

At the 11th Annual Meeting in 1939, Mrs. Goble moved and Mrs. Baldwin seconded that the future election of Office-Bearers and Annual Meeting should not take place on Reunion days. The Annual Election of Office-Bearers then took place in September prior to Reunion. For fifteen years the new Office-Bearers were elected the month prior to the Reunion. The demands of Reunion day were strenuous to the new Office-Bearers. From 1954 the Annual Meeting and election of Office-Bearers were held over until the December meeting, therefore becoming the Annual Meeting, and election of Office-Bearers. The Annual Reunion held the first weekend in November.

As from 1955 invitations to Reunion were only sent out to Past Trainees, past and present Matrons of the hospital. Also in 1955 a new Constitution was proposed. Mr. R. A. Must, legal advisor and member of the Hospital Board of Management was instrumental in reconstituting the Constitution in 1958. As a result, Trustees of the League were elected.

On the 6th October, 1974 a new Constitution was drawn up again with the assistance of Mr. R. A. Must.



FIRST REUNION, 11th OCTOBER, 1929. (Taken in front of Alfred Wing, Drummond Street).

Seated (left to right): Mrs. H. Stephens (Committee), Unknown, Sister M. McGrath (Treasurer), Sister Hepworth (Vice-President), Sister Strickland, Mrs. P. Walker (President), Matron A. Brown (Vice-President), Mrs. B. Goble (Secretary), Sister G. Brook (Committee), Miss Lee-Archer.

Seated (left to right): Myrtle Fawcett, Desma Oxbrow.

It is interesting to reflect on Dr. W. A. Sloss' comments when receiving the League gift to the hospital at 31st Reunion in 1959:

"When the League was started, we (Board) wondered if it would continue to function. There is no doubt of its popularity when I see so many here today after 31 years, and many coming from long distances too. I have missed only once the privilege of attending the Annual Reunion."

Dr. Sloss and those members of the Board of Management could not have envisaged the enthusiasm and response of the members of the Ballarat Base Hospital Trained Nurses' League to the 50th Reunion to be held in the new Services Block of the hospital — 4th November, 1978.

Meetings

"The Wattle" Tea Rooms in Lydiard Street was the rendezvous of the League for 22 years on the fourth Thursday of the month at 3 p.m.

At the April meeting, at "The Wattle," 1951, much discussion took place as to the need for a new venue. There was too much noise at "The Wattle" and members could not hear what was going on. The next two meetings were held at Mrs. McKay's home but this could not continue. After investigations meetings were held at "The Alexandria," until the end of 1952.

Permission was then sought from the Ballarat Hospital Secretary re holding the meetings in the new Nurses' Home on Friday evening — 8 p.m.

As from Friday, 6th March, 1953 the League Monthly Meetings have been held in the Nurses' Home.

At the next meeting Sister O'Keane announced that the evening meetings ended too abruptly. Suggestions then came forth as to guest speakers, films, etc. Sister Harris put forward that the meetings commence at 7.45 p.m. and that visitors be invited after the business meeting.

It is interesting to recall that guest speakers were introduced at the afternoon meetings on 21st September, 1930. Dr. Mary Skewes was the first guest speaker who gave an interesting talk and showed many x-ray plates. At the next meeting Sister Pratt read a paper on "Infant Welfare."

In past decades and at present, guest speakers are those who it is thought will be of interest to the members. The medical profession, those of the arts, other cultural and educational aspects present a varied and colourful guest list.

In later years it has been discussed re the possibilities of changing the time, the venue to encourage members to attend meetings. Today many of the married members are working full or part time who have young children still attending school.

There have been many meetings when only a few members have attended. The response and interest of the many who return to the Annual Reunion each year demonstrates the need for continuance of the League.

A wintery afternoon meeting of 29th July, 1931, held at "The Wattle," there could not have been many present. After the business was dealt with — the President, Sister Douglas, arranged a round the fire chat and afternoon tea was handed out.

The Sick Nurses' Room

During supper at the First Reunion, Mrs. Kirby suggested that "to commemorate this memorable occasion a presentation of a bed be made to the Sick Nurses' Room."

It is difficult to ascertain how the money was first raised. Those 11 members present at the meeting, 21st March, 1930, were asked to contribute 2/- each to supplement the cot account.

On 9th May, 1930, Mr. H. Jones, President of the Hospital Board, accepted the bed. The bed contained a plaque suitably inscribed, donated by Mr. Wardle, lettering done by Mr. Hobson. Bed linen and other goods were purchased at cost from Mr. Walker and Tunbridge's. The Ex-Trainees provided the afternoon tea.

The presentation of the bed, the Endowment of a bed and the allocation of a room for Ex-Trainees has been a cause for much controversial discussion throughout the last fifty years.

The Ex-Trainees initially were keen to be responsible in providing comforts for those nurses in training who became ill, they would therefore have extra comforts as provided and maintained by the League members. For a nurse to be ill while training in the 1930's she was apt to endure many hardships.

League members arranged a Sub-Committee and deputation to a Committee of the Board of Management, Mesdames Pittard, Gardiner, Dr. Sloss and Mr. Eddy with the possibility of arranging a permanent sick nurses' room. A room in Ward 8 was not acceptable. Provision would be provided in the new building programme but meantime a room in the Queen Victoria Block was set aside for use of Ex-Trainees requiring hospitalization.

In 1938 a plaque was placed on the bed suitably inscribed "Gertrude Munro" a Ballarat Base Hospital nurse who did not return from World War One.

In 1935 the League commenced supporting a bed "Endowment Fund," the Board of Management accepting an offer to install a bed for Ex-Trainees. The cost per annum being £25. This was a lot of money to promise in these days. The League were determined to meet this obligation.

In 1941, Mr. Eddy, the Hospital Secretary, sent a reminder to the League pointing out the promised agreement and that the League had only paid £75. At the next Annual Reunion £100 was presented to the hospital rather than invest in the War Loan.

At the Reunion in 1945 genuine joy was expressed, the League being able to pay £200 — "last instalment for our bed." The feeling was one "of grand attainment" due to the splendid help of the members.

Meantime the League each year provided extra comforts for this room, linen, feather pillows, etc. In 1955 contributed £250 towards the toilet and shower facilities.

Sister Douglas and Matrons have always been responsible for the supervision of this room. Associate members were entitled to use the room until the introduction of the Life Membership scheme in 1947.

In later decades due to the change in social and medical benefits, improvements in hospital accommodation elsewhere, the management of this room has proved difficult. In 1977, the Board of Management introduced the setting up of the room as a Dialysis Room for a child in an endeavour to alleviate transport and hospital difficulties to both the patient and parents.

In the long term future building programmes, several beds may be set aside for hospitalization for student nurses thus allowing the League to have something to work for and to give in return to the hospital.

A Visiting Committee was always elected each month to visit any of the nursing staff or League members. A collection was taken at afternoon tea to pay for the flowers and hospital entrance fee.

By 1958 the cost of flowers were expensive; it was then decided to send a card to members not actively involved.

At present times those members of the League ill or indisposed are mentioned at meetings and their welfare considered. Where possible they are visited by Office-Bearers.

Reunions

The story of the Ballarat Base Hospital Trained Nurses' League over the last 50 years has revolved around the annual reunions.

In preparation for the first Reunion advertisements were placed in the "Argus" and "U.N.A." and a paragraph in the "Courier" seeking addresses of any old trainees. Also suggestions were asked as to the form the Reunion should take. All present at the first meeting subscribed 1/- to defray costs.

The Secretary was instructed to get in touch with as many of the "old girls" as possible. Two hundred invitations were printed and sent out for this the first Reunion on 11th October, 1929. Several meetings prior to the event were spent finalizing arrangements — everything pointed to a very successful day. Numerous answers to invitations and a lot of enthusiasm was shown. The President, Mrs. P. Walker, in her Annual Report stated:

"The Reception at the Ballarat Base Hospital, the President, Mrs. Walker, Mrs. Goble, Matron Brown and Sister Hepworth received the guests in the Board Room which was beautifully arranged with flowers donated by Mrs. Gerratt of Ligar Street.

An inspection of our old Training School was made and everyone expressed their delight at the up to date equipment and general appearance of the wards and Nurses' Home.

A group photograph was taken of those present.



20th REUNION — 1956. HOSPITAL CENTENARY YEAR.

Seated (left to right): Miss A. F. Roberts, R.R.C. (Matron, 1923-1926), Mrs. M. Eagleton (Matron, 1896-1912), Miss E. H. Lang (Assist. Matron), Miss N. Adamson (Trainee, 1909),
 Standing (left to right): Miss J. M. Langham (Matron, 1947), Mrs. N. M. Buchanan (Matron, 1935-1939), Miss J. M. Little (1939-1947), Dr. W. Sloss, Mrs. L. Bell (Treasurer), Sister E. G. Cameron (President), Sister P. O'Keane (Acting Secretary).

At 6.30 p.m. we adjourned to the "Wattle Tea Rooms" for dinner — 72 of our old trainees had assembled."

Apologies and congratulatory telegrams were read. Many toasts were honoured. During speeches Matron Brown presented our old Matron, Miss Ryan, with one of the new badges. (Our trainees are now the proud possessors of a badge of their own).

One of the pleasing features of the Reunion was to see so many of our old nurses renewing the old acquaintances. We were very pleased to have with us the first trainee (Mrs. Barker), also Sister R. Pratt, M.M. who was wounded during the war.

At 8.30 p.m. we assembled again at the hospital as the guests of the present trainees at a social evening in the rooms of the home. This too was very enjoyable. A happy day was brought to a close.

Year after year each successive Reunion in the first decade was highly commented on as the "best yet." In later years we have been more critical and constructive — always reviewing the comments of those who have made the effort to return yearly to meet their nursing colleagues.

It is interesting to review the early Reunions. The second Reunion all went to the pictures at the Regent after dinner at "The Wattle."

The third Reunion was a successful social event. "The table decorations at "The Wattle" were delightful. Mrs. Thomas (of "The Wattle" and sister of Sister McLeod) gave a gift of a beautiful cake featuring a red cross and three red candles was quite a surprise — which was much appreciated. The dinner and service left nothing to be desired. In the evening a social and Bridge Evening took place. All were glad to see Dr. Sloss who did "a round" and renewed many old acquaintances. Mrs. McIntyre's "fortune telling" left her without a minute to spare — a very happy day was brought to a close after supper."

In the 10th Annual Report the Secretary, Mrs. L. A. Haymes, commented on the visit of the Ex-Trainees at the last Reunion "that our former Training School had fallen into the front line of modern community hospitals. A sincere pride in the new additions was indeed evident."

The Reunion Dinner held at "The Wattle" was as usual most enjoyable. A jolly atmosphere prevailed. Also one of the happiest and most successful years. Today another year dawns for us but not without renewed enthusiasm and hopes that 1939 will bring in its train further laurels and greater progress. By the end of that year Australia was at war with Germany.

In spite of the many difficulties of the World War Two years, Reunions were happy occasions. Mrs. Thomas at "The Wattle" provided an excellent meal, the tables always beautifully decorated and left nothing to be desired. A musical evening always followed the dinner.

The President spoke highly of the larger numbers attending Reunions. More were interested and numbers becoming more united. This

was due largely to the zeal and enthusiasm of our Executive Officers from the very foundation of the League and the gracious courtesy of the Hospital Committee. The opportunities given to us by Matron Little of visiting our Training School.

The 21st Reunion was a special occasion in 1949. An Afternoon Reception was held in the Board Room, much delight was expressed in inspecting wards and our very special room the "Sick Nurses" which had been refurnished and redecorated. The Dinner was an outstanding success held at "The Wattle." Eighty-four guests assembled with Matron Langham as Guest of Honour. Sister Nancy Long was the guest speaker, she had just returned from two years in England having completed Post Graduate Studies as a Florence Nightingale Student. Mrs. J. Braidie, Miss Lynette Opie provided the harmony.



25th REUNION — 1953

Left to right: Mrs. C. M. Silvey, Secretary,
Mrs. M. Benjamin, Mrs. J. Quail, President.

The 25th Reunion was the last of the Afternoon Receptions in the Board Room and Annex. Afternoon tea was dispensed by the League Committee, Matron and Sisters. Matron conducted the visitors through the wards and Nurses' Home which gave much pleasure. Dinner at "Craig's," Guest Speaker, Miss B. Fawkes, Tutor Sister, Middlesex Hospital, London. Ninety-five members attended.

Enthusiasm amongst Ex-Trainees to attend Reunions in the last twenty-five years has been maintained. The meeting following reunions, members have been vocal in their comments. Planning of the next

Reunion is the topic of conversation. To find a venue for the evening to meet the demands of all has not been an easy conquest for Office-Bearers. A smorgasbord at the "West End" in 1971 at \$3 per head was a new venture. "Craig's" was a popular meeting place for many years. Dinner in 1962 cost 22/6 per head, plus 7/- per jug of fruit cup. Many Reunions were held at "The George," in 1958 it was 15/- per head.

Guest Speakers were a once popular feature of the dinners and added lustre to the evening, Miss Bowe, Colonel-in-Chief of the Army, Miss M. Connor, Secretary of R.V.C.N., Dr. L. E. G. Sloan, Medical Superintendent of the Royal Children's Hospital are only a few. The toast to the Training School proposed by a prominent Ex-Trainee with Matron responding.

The Afternoon Receptions since 1953 have been held in Baxter Lounge of the spacious new Nurses' Home. Sister Madge Williams' floral decorations were always much admired. Since 1961, Sister Nell Edmonston has maintained this floral adjunct which lends an atmosphere to the visitors welcome.

The meetings of visitors, the arrival of guests, the presentation of the Annual Report and Balance Sheet and League Gift is the culmination and highlight of the President's year. All guests are eager to learn some aspect of new developments of their hospital from the Matron and President of the Hospital Board of Management.

Afternoon tea still persists as a favourite venue for repast and recall. For many years, catering was provided by "The Wattle," "Brazenors," Peter Dale and in recent years the Blowhard Ladies' Tennis Club country cream cakes.

For forty-nine years the monthly meeting prior to Reunion was devoted to making final plans for the Reunion. At the Annual Meeting, 1975 a Committee was formed to commence planning the 50th Reunion. Monthly meetings and conferences have taken place to ensure that this, the 50th Reunion, will be a success for the hospital, as our Training School and the League.

The Committee is headed by the President, Mrs. J. Dale, Secretary, Mrs. U. Challis, Treasurer, Mrs. J. McMillan, Past President, Mrs. M. Ross — Mrs. M. Gazzard, Mrs. J. Bridger, Miss L. Wilson and Miss H. W. Menadue.

The plans for the 50th Reunion extend over the entire day. Registration and morning coffee, luncheon for those who have travelled over long distances. A new venture will be the afternoon reception, buffet dinner held in the new General Services Complex with Mr. D. Barker, Caterer and Mrs. D. Hayter, Cafeteria Supervisor and their staffs extolling their expertise.

It is envisaged this the 50th Reunion will foster the birth of a new image as the League enters the second fifty years of community involvement.

Fund Raising

In this the Golden Jubilee Year the League is financially secure. In analysing the leadership and inventive ideas of Presidents, one visualises the long term goal — Fund Raising. On reflection of golden glory, one must not overlook the time spent by the Treasurers in their many hours of voluntary book-keeping. It is the diligence and concern of these Office-Bearers that we owe so much today to our sound financial security.

The Bank Balance in April, 1978 was \$900. The introduction of the Life Membership scheme has enabled purchase of securities, the interest for which is used to meet established commitments — gifts for annual prizes, printing and preliminary preparations prior to the Annual Reunions.

Throughout the past fifty years of fund raising the pattern and methods adopted by the ex-nurses makes for interesting social study. Documenting these years of fund raising has been difficult to measure — the value is the security experienced in 1978.

The pattern and intrigue of fund raising is fascinating. Ideas of earlier days are interesting to reflect upon today. The monetary returns are difficult to compare yesterday as at today's value. In the seventies ideas for fund raising call for ingenuity and invention.

A Bridge Party was the first major event in 1930 at "The Wattle." The profit from 52 tables was £18/13/-. Subsequent Bridge Parties were popular. A successful one was devoted for the Orphanage Appeal in 1932. Many members arranged Bridge Parties in their private homes.

Raffles large and small were ever popular. Mrs. Brokenshire gave £1 in 1937 in no time it realised £4. In 1948, Mr. Heath donated a ton of mallee roots.

In 1933 the League published a Recipe Book. 1,000 copies were sold at 1/- each — the profits were devoted to the Public Service Queen Orphanage Appeal. (The League have a copy donated by Mrs. M. Chandler).

An etching of the old hospital to be demolished in 1934 were sold for 2/6 each, it is not known how many were printed.

Picture weeks at the Britannia and the Regent were ever popular. The proprietors would allocate numbers of free seats or at half-price. Tickets and parties to be organized by the League. At the Britannia in 1936, £7 profit, while at the Regent in 1940 was £3/17/6.

Individual efforts were inventive. Selling posies of flowers and home-made goodies. Members signed an autograph book in 1932 and paid sixpence. Opportunity and Jumble Shops during the 40's and 50's meant collecting old clothing and no longer needed bric a brac. The Bank in Bridge Street, Mr. Lees in Victoria Street and many other supporters of the ladies charged a small fee often times rent free of their premises for a week. Cartage of goods was 5/-.

While profits from such ventures amounted to £10/11/- to £78/14/1, manning of the shops meant roster system providing morning and afternoon tea. In 1955 Government restrictions were imposed on these sources of revenue in an endeavour to protect the health of the community.

American afternoon teas were a social event. Guest artists provided musical programmes, gift stalls and a cream afternoon tea.

For many years Sister O'Keane and Sister Bradby raised much money from a "Special Effort" realizing £60-£80 yearly.

Centenary year, 1956 individual members were often inventive to swell the funds. At the March meeting, Sister Cameron served supper and charged members — Sister Crouch assisted. Henceforth suppers at meetings have been served by hostesses and a small charge made. In the Centenary Year a £100 was donated to the Hospital Radio Appeal.

During the 1960's and 70's Coffee and Sweet parties were popular. Preparing for a Coffee Party in 1964, Sister Eckersley found she required for 100 persons: 1 lb. Nescafe, 4 lbs. Sugar, 3 gallons Milk, 2 lbs. Butter, 10 doz. Scones of a variety. All costing £7 — admission was 3/-.

Garden Parties private and in the hospital garden were popular, but meant a lot of work.

For many years members made aprons for sale on Trading Tables for our Reunion Day.

In 1966 change to decimal currency, the Bank Balance was \$339.64.

The past decade a "craft," "art," "something old," and an "Old Time Fair" lasting all day, realized profits totalling over \$1,000. Recently snap cake stalls have proved popular and profitable. These events taking place in the hospital environs have been a highlight to the staff.

Future fund raising will be approached in a different attitude. Values are changing rapidly. There will be hidden resources and hidden needs to be discovered.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS :

PAST SECRETARIES.

Miss J. M. LANGHAM, O.B.E., R.R.C.

Mrs. V. LINGHAM.

50th REUNION COMMITTEE.

Miss MARGARET HILL.

ALEX. KING & SONS.

DONATIONS, GIFTS FROM BALLARAT BASE HOSPITAL PAST TRAINEES' LEAGUE

1929—

1930—Sick Nurses' Room: Bed; Wooden Plaque donor, Mr. Wardle; Lettering, Mr. Hobson; Mattress, Quilt cost price, Mr. Stan Walker; Pillows, Linen and Sheets at cost from Tunbridge's.

1931—Hospital Gala, £1/1/-; Nurses' Sitting Room, New Curtains; Establishment The Society for the Aged and Incapacitated Nurses' Rest Home, "Airdrie," £2/2/-.

1932—Reunion Day Hospital Gift: Upholstered Cane Convalescent Chair for Sick Nurses' Room, £2/12/6; "Airdrie," £2/2/-.

1933—Public Service Queen Presentation, Miss Kennedy, £1/1/-; Orphanage Appeal: Bridge Party, £12; Sale of Cookery Books, £30.

1934—Sick Nurses' Room: Furnishings; Victorian Centenary, College of Nursing Appeal, £13/16/-.

1935—Sick Nurses' Room, Linen; King's Memorial Fund, £1/10/-; Establishment; Endowment Bed for Ex-Trainees, £25.

1936—Endowment for Bed, £25; Sick Nurses' Room: Wardrobe, Linen, Curtains and Serviettes.

1937—Endowment for Bed, £25; Sick Nurses' Room: Eiderdown, Quilt, 2 Reading Lamps; Hospital Nurses Fete, £1/1/-.

1938—Hospital Jumble Stall, £1/10/-; Endowment Bed, £25; Sick Nurses' Room: mirror and Commode Chair; Presentation Matron, proceeds from Dance, £9/10/-.

1939—Endowment Bed, £25; Sick Nurses' Room: Roller Blinds.

1940—Endowment Bed, £25; Sick Nurses' Room: Bed Table; Plaque for Bed: "Gertrude Munro."

1941—Endowment Bed, £25; Sick Nurses' Room: Two Feather Pillows and Slips, Wire Door, Two Table Mats, Vase 4/9; Plain Glass in Windows adjusted to open out.

1942—Endowment Bed, £25; P.O.W. Fund, £5/5/-.

1943—Endowment Bed, £100; Sick Nurses' Room: Screen and Table Covers, Bed-side Rug and New Covers; The "Centaur" Memorial Fund, £5/5/-.

1944—Endowment Bed (last payment), £200.

1945—Reunion Day Hospital Gift, £200.

1946—Reunion Day Hospital Gift, £25; Ballarat Peace Memorial Hospital Fund, £10.

1947—Reunion Day Hospital Gift, £25.

1948—Reunion Day Hospital Gift, £15/15/-; Hospital Queen Fund, £17; Sick Nurses' Room: Floor Repainted £12, New Curtains, Screen and Cushion Covers.

1949—Reunion Day Hospital Gift, £25; Sick Nurses' Room: Eiderdown Recovered £3/10/-, Bed Lamps £2/3/-, Mattress £11/14/4, New Mat, Electric Light Account £6/18/6 — £24/5/10.

1950—Reunion Day Hospital Gift, £25; Sick Nurses' Room: Lamp £1/17/6.

1951—Reunion Day Hospital Gift, £25; College of Nursing Post Graduation Education Fund, £20.

1952—Reunion Day Hospital Gift, £100; Donation towards furnishing Nurses' Home Lounge Room, £6.

1953—Reunion Day Hospital Gift, £25; Sick Nurses' Room: Carpet and Sweeper, £54; Electric Light Donation, £3/3/-; Library Children's Ward, £25.

- 1954—Reunion Day Hospital Gift, £50; Nurses' Memorial Centre, Melbourne, £25; Sick Nurses' Room: Crockery, £1/1/9.
- 1955—Reunion Day Hospital Gift, £50; Flood Appeal, N.S.W., £5/5/-.
- 1956—Reunion Day Hospital Gift, £50; Hospital Centenary Radio Appeal, £100; Sick Nurses' Room: Repainted.
- 1957—Reunion Day Hospital Gift, £50; Sick Nurses' Room: Shower, Wash Basin Recess, Crockery, £250.
- 1958—Reunion Day Gift, £50; Ballarat Orphanage Appeal, £5/5/-; Sick Nurses' Room: Blinds and Curtains.
- 1959—Reunion Day Hospital Gift, £50; Ballarat Base Hospital Appeal, £10; Sick Nurses' Room Renovations, £250.
- 1960—Reunion Day Hospital Gift of cheque for two Heavy Duty Cleaning Trolleys, £122; Sick Nurses' Room Repairs, £6/10/-; "Airdrie," 3BA Queen Elizabeth Home Appeal, £2/2/-.
- 1961—Reunion Day Hospital Gift: Two Food Trolleys, Wards 5 and 7, £122; Sick Nurses' Room, £5; Ballarat Hospital Maintenance Appeal, £25; International Council Nurses' Congress, Melbourne, £25.
- 1962—Reunion Day Hospital Gift: Three Angle Poise Lamps, Suction Machine, £122; Ballarat Base Hospital Maintenance, £25; Nursing Missionary Station, New Guinea, £10/10/-; Missionary Aviation Fellowship, £2/2/-; Sick Nurses' Room: Cutlery Set, £3/19/6.
- 1963—Reunion Day Hospital Gift: Resuscitation Table Midwifery, Angle Poise Lamp — £107; Freedom from Hunger Appeal, £4/4/-; "Airdrie," £5/5/-; Sick Nurses' Room, £1/10/-.
- 1964—Reunion Day Hospital Gift: Two Medicine Trolleys, Wards 5 and 7, £94; Annual Red Cross Appeal, £2/2/-; Operation Concern, Dr. Jim Turpin, Hong Kong, £100; Nurses' Memorial Centre, "Ballarat Room," £5/5/-; Aboriginal Advancement League, £5; "Airdrie," £1/6/-.
- 1965—Reunion Day Hospital Gift: Two Ward Charting Cabinets, £128; Plaques, £8/14/-; "Airdrie" Annual Appeal, £5/5/-; "Airdrie" Rebuilding, Refurnishing, £60; Sick Nurses' Room: New Curtains donated by Mrs. Goble.
- 1966—Reunion Day Hospital Gift: Decubitor and additional Mattress, \$382; Freedom from Hunger Campaign, \$6; "Airdrie," \$6.
- 1967—Ballarat Base Hospital Appeal, \$10; Cheshire Ryder Project in India, \$3; "Airdrie," \$6; Sick Nurses' Room: Linen \$22.75, Curtains \$6.27, Two Mats \$10 — \$39.02; Reunion Day Hospital Gift: Pressure Mattress.
- 1968—Reunion Day Hospital Gift: Orthopaedic Attachment for Theatre, \$200; Ballarat Base Hospital Donation, \$10; "Airdrie," \$6.
- 1969—Reunion Day Hospital Gift: Food Service Trolley, \$200; Ballarat Base Hospital Appeal, \$100; "Airdrie," \$6.
- 1970—Reunion Day Hospital Gift, \$300; Ballarat Base Hospital Appeal, \$100; Personnel Relief Fund, \$100; Sick Nurses' Room: Redecorating, Curtains \$40; Chair \$23.75 — \$240.
- 1971—Reunion Day Hospital Gift: Sick Nurses' Room, Stainless Steel Bed \$70.73; Ballarat Base Hospital Appeal for 1972 — for Furnishing Day Room, Midwifery Ward, \$200; Nurses' Memorial Centre, Melbourne, \$10; "Airdrie," \$10; A.G. Meeting, \$15.50.
- 1972—Reunion Day Hospital Gift: Training School Reference Library, \$100; Ballarat Base Hospital Appeal, \$200; Nurses' Memorial Centre, Melbourne, \$10; "Airdrie," \$10.
- 1973—Reunion Day Hospital Gift: Overhead Projector, Training School, \$200; Sick Nurses' Room: Three new Mats and Cushions, \$23.85.



31st REUNION — 1958

Standing (left to right): Miss J. M. Langham (Matron), Mrs. E. Caddy (President), Mrs. V. Lingham (Treasurer), Mrs. L. Sanderson (Mayoress of Ballarat), Mrs. M. Jordan (Secretary).
Seated (left to right): Mrs. W. L. Sloss, Dr. W. L. Sloss, Cr. F. Oliver (Mayor of Ballarat).

- 1974—Reunion Day Hospital Gift, \$100; Apnoea Alarm, Midwifery Ward, \$89; Midwifery Ward Appeal, \$100; "Airdrie," \$50.
- 1975—Reunion Day Hospital Gift Appeal, \$500; Children's Protection Society, Ballarat, \$5; "Airdrie," \$50.
- 1976—Reunion Day Hospital Gift: Orthopaedic Trolley, \$200; Children's Protection Society, Ballarat, \$25; Sister Johnson Memorial Fund, \$25; "Airdrie," \$50; Respirator, Mrs. Williams, \$100; Hospital Cafeteria, three Paintings, \$230; World War II Honour Board, \$185.
- 1977—Reunion Day Hospital Gift: Gastroscopy Forceps; Lights, Children's Ward; Cassette, Film Track Teaching Dept., \$224; Bush Fire Appeal, Streatham, \$50; "Airdrie," \$50.
- 1978—Reunion Day Hospital Gift: Bed Tables, \$500; Ballarat Base Hospital Appeal: League, \$500; Members, \$225.

Total — \$12,249.59.

(Many items have not been costed or recorded).

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DIARY OF EVENTS 1929-1978

- 1929—August 30th, small attendance. Dr. Champion, friend and counsellor had died, stood in silence for two minutes — meeting closed. Report of first Reunion published in 'U.N.A.' December issue.
- 1930—April 8th, letters sent to Sister D. Thompson, appointed Matron of the Wentworth Hospital and to Sister Lou. Briant on the occasion of her marriage.
- 1931—Sister Rachael Pratt, M.M., Press Correspondent. May — tragic death of Sister Snowball.
- 1932—Project for year — helping the poor of Ballarat. April — congratulations to Sister McLeod on her approaching marriage. Printing of invitations and menu cards given to Mr. Clem. Hoskin (returned soldier).
- 1933—Printing and selling Cookery Book for the Ballarat Orphanage Appeal at 1/- each. Seven quilts made and placed in homes of need.
- 1934—Expenses — Telegram sent cost 1/-. November — Etchings of the hospital wards to be demolished (Drummond Street) to be sold for 2/6 to raise a goodly sum of money. March 27th — Misses Jones and Bradby two sisters recently completed their training welcomed as new members. Anzac Day — a Laurel Wreath placed on Cenotaph, Ballarat and each year since. An ex-trainee living in Melbourne has always been contacted to attend the Edith Cavel Service Sunday before Anzac Day. League represented yearly, service ceased 1977.
- 1935—June — letter to Secretary of hospital. The League objected to the Honour Board being placed in the Nurses' Dining Room (World War One).
- 1936—Picture week at the Britannia Theatre, £7 realised. All ex-trainees contributed to the funds in response to a letter sent out by the President, Mrs. Willis, thus enabling us to achieve our objective, the bed for ex-trainees.
- 1937—Mr. Stan Walker elected to Federal Parliament. Mrs. Walker resigns as active member of the League. Assisted Blind Nurse — trainee of Hamilton Hospital, by giving her financial and voluntary assistance. Paid expenses for her treatment at the Eye and Ear Hospital. Miss Lucy Baldwin drove her to Melbourne. Miss Lee Archer first to use our ex-nurses bed, 365 invitations sent out for a Ball.

- 1938—Any person other than Trained Nurse illegally wearing the 'cap' to be reported to Dr. W. A. Sloss who would report to the Nurses' Board. Miss L. Baldwin entertained at Afternoon Tea on her appointment as Assistant Matron at the Benevolent Home, Ballarat. 1/9/39, Miss N. Griffiths farewelled afternoon tea, appointed Matron of Epworth Hospital, Melbourne.
- 1938-1939—Services of members diverted into the Red Cross Emergency Services. Miss Lee Archer oldest and loyal member leaving Ballarat to reside in Melbourne. Afternoon tea in her honour — Brazenors. Refresher Course of Lectures organised by Matron Little and Dr. W. A. Sloss, League members invited. 19/11/39, Sister Bagin, Night Sister, farewelled at afternoon tea.
- 1940—President and Secretary call on relatives of late member — Mrs. Broken-shire who never missed a meeting or Reunion. Printing of invitations went to Mr. MacDonald as Mrs. MacDonald had given us such help in making garments for the Jumble Stall. New block made for Reunion invitations, Red Cross replaced with Nurses' Badge.
- 1941—Miss Rosa Quaternmann, R.R.C. (Matron 1912-18), Miss Bertha Bird died during year.
- 1942—July — Miss G. Harvie, First Tutor, farewelled, presentation of crystal jewel case. £100 to be invested in War Loan ultimately agreed to go towards paying off Bed Endowments.
- 1943—It was reported a certain untrained nurse was wearing the T.N. cap and the Secretary was instructed to report this matter to the College of Nursing.
- 1944—March — Miss S. Bell died — World War One, served in Egypt, Malta, Salonika, Dartford, England. Transport duty in the Mediterranean. Acting Matron No. 5 A.G.H. — 2½ years Matron Novar. Supreme Sacrifice, Sister Beth. Cuthbertson — Malaya, 1942. April — Sister Crisp married to Captain Hunt. June — Matron Brown's engagement announced.
- 1945—July — Matron Little thanking members for help during two busy periods during World War Two at the hospital — Mrs. B. Goble, Mrs. J. Finlayson, Mrs. C. M. Silvey, Mrs. L. Haymes and Mrs. P. Walker. Letter to Mrs. Hauser on the occasion of the birth of daughter. August — Mrs. F. Miller (nee) Mayoress of Sebastopol. Miss Little, Matron — President Victorian Matrons' Association. Mr. J. Eddy retired as Secretary of the hospital. September — Mrs. C. Skilbeck President, in hospital with her wee son. Peace has been restored. Ten members present — bank balance, £95/5/6. December — Mrs. P. Walker first President, farewelled. Presented her with handsome posie of flowers and suit case. League interested in procuring badges for the nurses.
- 1946—April — Telegram to Sister Kelly on the occasion of her marriage — Easter Saturday. June — Sister Nancy Long, Florence Nightingale Scholarship winner — to England for Post Graduate Studies. August — Discussion re second Bed Endowment. Sister Joan Kingston — Queen for Peace Memorial Appeal.
- 1947—August — death of Mrs. Waller. September — Miss Little farewell afternoon tea. Money to be taken out of the fund and replaced later. September telegram to Sister Gaunt on the occasion of her marriage. Mrs. Charles Evans died (nee Babes Redmond). Sister P. O'Keane — elected as President, not first member of nursing staff to hold office as thought at the time (should stimulate the interest of the young sisters) — 17 present at "The Wattle," Annual Meeting. Welcome Afternoon to Miss J. M. Langham, Matron.

- 1949—May — Collection taken up to farewell Sister Jean Harris, Florence Nightingale Scholarship Winner to England, sailed in the "Strathaird."
July — Electric Bell purchased to Sick Room, £6/18/6. 21st Reunion, Mrs. McKay gave generous donation of £5/5/0. Board of Management — hospital gave birthday cake for 21st Reunion.
- 1950—June — suggestions re Honour Board World War Two left to Ballarat and District Base Hospital Association and Manager to finalise.
- 1951—Jean Harris returned as Tutor at the hospital, December — last meeting of the year held at "The Alexandria."
- 1952—Mr. J. Plummer resigns as Manager of the hospital.
- 1953—Mrs. Benjamin made sweets to present to speaker at American Tea held Victoria League, November — affiliation with National Council of Women, 5/- per year.
- 1954—February — presentation to Sister George on the occasion of her marriage, Sister Wilkie engaged, Sister E. G. Cameron recommendation re new Honour Roll be compiled, Sister P. O'Keane offered to bring the matter up at the next Public Relations Board Meeting, May 16th — Florence Nightingale Centenary of Nursing, special Church Service at Christ Church at 11 a.m. and St. Patrick's at 9.30 a.m. June — Madge Williams gave a talk of her experiences overseas, Mrs. Rose Barker, Sister Rachael Pratt, M.M. and Miss Annie Porter passed away during the year, August — Crazy Whist night return for card supporters, December 5th — represented Eureka Service Old Cemetery, 11 a.m. — Centenary of Eureka Stockade.
- 1955—April — Organisational Regional Hospital Council asking for a list of Trained Nurses willing to act in case of emergency, May — Call Committee 1/- each member donation, September — Annual Report and Balance Sheet typed and handed round at Annual Reunion for the first time, Telephone to be installed in Sick Nurses' Room, the League to pay for installation, November — Miss Adamson, Past Trainee at "Airdrie" Christmas parcel sent, Consideration of another bed to be endowed, December 9th — Mrs. Eagleton (Matron 1896-1912) visited on her 98th birthday, December meeting, Sister Harris donated Christmas Cake — a pleasant supper.
- 1956—Hospital Centenary Year, Attendance Book commenced at monthly meetings, June — Dr. W. A. Sloss, O.B.E., Honour's List, Sister Molloy and Sister J. Harris farewelled, Mr. Miller, Manager, letter re Centenary Ball, League Representatives: Mrs. P. Ehms, Mrs. Bradie, Mrs. Gallagher; Sisters H. W. Menadue, J. Colman, J. Dyson, October — Mrs. C. Skilbeck Representative for League Ladies' Committee of Olympic Games Rowing, December — Flowers sent to Mrs. Kerr, patient in Past Trainees Room, Miss L. Vickery retirement — Hospital Administrative Staff — presentation of a gift, League indebted to her.
- 1957—April — Miss J. M. Langham to attend I.C.N. Congress in Rome, then tour of the United Kingdom, July 15 — Members attend funeral of Miss C. M. Silvey at St. John's Church of England, Ballarat, Dr. and Mrs. W. A. Sloss, congratulations sent on Golden Wedding Anniversary, December 6th — Mrs. Benjamin and Mrs. Skilbeck visited Mrs. Eagleton (Matron 1896-1912) for 100th birthday, Card and flowers taken as sent from the League, Sister Olga Banbridge, Theatre Sister, killed as result of accident.
- 1958—Members attend card party for Blind Home Appeal, Members assisted Anti-Cancer Campaign Appeal, December — Miss J. M. Langham took Chair at Annual Meeting, Previously out-going President, installed new President, New President then installed the new Office-Bearers, The out-going President then entertained all present to afternoon tea, Madge Williams married.
- 1959—March — 32 members at monthly meeting, Assisting Red Cross with Button Day Appeal, Thirty members attended 15th Graduation, Flowers sent to Mrs. Graham, patient at the "Austin," Invitation to Red Cross Annual Meeting, Queen Elizabeth Home Centenary 3BA Radio Appeal, representative sent, December — Mrs. L. Bell, flowers sent for safe arrival of a daughter, Mrs. Sanderson (nee Oliver) Mayoress, City of Ballarat.
- 1960—Sister M. McGrath retired from active nursing, Mr. A. E. Miller, Manager, farewelled, Mr. I. McVilly welcomed as Manager, Mrs. Perkins, President of League — Orchid in Specimen Vase sent re birth of son, Gregory, April Visitors to the I.C.N. Congress in Melbourne entertained at afternoon tea in Ballarat.
- 1961—March — eight new life members, Mrs. Netherway, Mrs. Skilbeck sent flowers on arrival of sons, July — letter from Mrs. Wright — thank you for flowers, on arrival of son, Christopher, Mrs. Hatfield — loss of her husband, Sister Nancy Long awarded a Rockerfellow Scholarship, December — Christmas parcel sent to Miss Adamson — "Airdrie."
- 1962—Invitation to Water Commission Garden Party, Keith Crosby, hospital staff member had painted Scroll for C. M. Silvey Prizes, Henceforth to be printed at Waller & Chester, November — five new life members, Mrs. Smythe, vote of thanks to Miss O'Keane and Mrs. P. Bradby who have conducted "a special effort" for the last ten years, They have raised a great sum of money for League funds, December — Christmas Card sent to Sister Jean Harris in London.
- 1963—Miss O'Malley ill at "Airdrie," June — 27 members present at meeting, Cold weather, August — Stationery to be printed with League heading and badge, President, Mrs. Dale, flowers sent on the arrival of her son, September — Dr. Begg, Medical Superintendent welcomed, gave talk on Blood and Blood Transfusions, Miss Adamson and Miss Manstrum Christmas parcels sent.
- 1964—Thank you from President, Mrs. Challis, for flowers on Susan Jane's arrival, Congratulations sent to Joyce Buckland and Margaret Bennett, received Florence Nightingale Scholarships.
- 1965—Card sent to Miss E. P. Orr, attending I.C.N. Congress, Rome.
- 1966—Sister O'Keane demonstrated a new piece of equipment, a ripple bed, Change to decimal currency.
- 1967—August — Day Reception, Miss J. M. Langham, Matron, farewelled, October — Miss M. S. Ogden, Matron, welcomed.
- 1968—June 30th — Two invitations to attend opening W. A. Sloss House.
- 1969—March — Miss Lucy Renkin awarded B.E.M, July — Miss J. M. Langham awarded O.B.E. in Queen's Birthday Honours, December — Miss E. P. Orr appointed Director of Nursing, Royal Children's Hospital.
- 1970—June 7th — Mrs. E. G. Cameron and Mrs. Watkins represented League at Jubilee 50th Year Wreath Laying Ceremony founding of Arch of Victory and Avenue of Honour, Ballarat.

- 1971—Dr. J. Acheson newly appointed Medical Superintendent, Guest Speaker. March — Death of Mrs. Judy Mayne (nee McKenzie), late Treasurer. July — Miss H. W. Menadue appointed Assistant Matron. August — Mrs. M. Newton elected President Midlands Red Cross. October — Plans for Ballarat Base Hospital Midwifery Reunion. Printing donation Alex. King & Sons.
- 1972—Miss L. Wilson represented League Opening of remodelled Yuille House. Large group Past Trainees reported for emergency duty at Queen Elizabeth Home during strike of H.E.F. — involving Registered Nursing Aides. September — Death of Miss M. McGrath. Mr. John Zeegers, Mr. E. Talbot, first male members to join League. Mr. & Mrs. Jack Adriaans first married couple to join League. Twenty-three new Life Members for the year.
- 1973—March — Flowers and sweets taken to Mrs. B. Goble on her 80th birthday. Voluntary subscriptions received for M. McGrath Fund. April — Good wishes sent to Miss M. S. Ogden and Miss E. P. Orr as both travelling to I.C.N. Congress in Mexico. June — Instructions received from Sister Edmonston setting out guide lines for next year's coffee and sweets. August — Death of Mrs. Hatfield (nee George), Mrs. Gladys Briant and Mrs. Hartwig (nee Murray). Historical Committee formed to collect data and old photos in preparation for 50th Reunion in 1978 and Centenary of the Training School. 1988. Miss Menadue, Chairman, Mesdames Dyer, O'Keane, Skilbeck, Bridger.
- 1974—Mrs. M. Stevens, Principal Nurse Educator Guest Speaker spoke on the changing patterns in Nursing Education and future of the Hospitals Training School.
- 1975—Wedding Card to Miss E. Wilson, Deputy Matron. Adele Tyler, Guest Speaker, studying Diploma of Nurse Education. Bequest from A. Chase (nee Anne Brown), Matron 1929-34.
- 1976—January — Sister Elizabeth (Betty) Johnson died. Ballarat City Council decided to establish Rose Garden in her memory in the City Gardens. Blood Bank appealing for staff. August 20th — Presentation of Gifts, New Services Block — three paintings by Mrs. Nicholson, "Sovereign Hill," Ballarat, "First Art Gallery" and "Anglesea." Honour Board for members of nursing staff who enlisted in World War Two. Lettering cost \$185. Board donated by hospital — erected in new cafeteria. August 29th— Official Opening of New Services Block by Governor Winneke, Vice-President and Secretary attended, Miss Margaret Bennett — completing Honours Year, Monash University.
- 1977—February — Committee established to commence plans for 50th Reunion, 1978. Miss H. W. Menadue attended I.C.N. Congress, Tokyo. Afternoon tea for Miss D. Banner, retiring after 22 years Night Supervisor. Annual Meeting and Buffet Dinner. Guest Speaker, Miss B. Fawkes, O.B.E., retired Executive Director I.C.N.
- 1978—President and Secretary attended unveiling, Foundation Plaque of Medical Services Block. Governor Winneke. Congratulations to Miss Lawrie — Queen's Birthday Honours — Member of Australia. 50th Reunion Committee: Mesdames P. Dale, D. Bridge, M. Ross, M. Gazzard, J. McMillan; Misses L. Wilson, H. W. Menadue have met each month prior to monthly meeting.



46th REUNION — 1974. PRESENTATION OF LIFE MEMBERSHIPS.

Seated (left to right): Miss J. M. Langham, O.B.E., R.R.C. (Matron, 1947-1967), Miss J. Beverley (Home Sister, 1951-1952, Deputy Matron, 1953-1967), Mrs. N. Buchanan, nee Griffiths (Matron, 1935-1939), Miss J. M. Little (Matron, 1939-1947).

Back Row (left to right): Miss L. Wilson (Hon. Secretary), Mrs. J. Ross (President).

League Training School Prizes

In 1935 it was proposed that a medal be given each year by the Ex-trainees for 'the best all-round nurse in her final year. The recipient, to be presented with her medal at the Reunion Afternoon.'

Inter-hospital competition and economic struggles for nurses during their three years of training prompted interest in establishing this prize.

The medal no doubt referred to the Training School Badge which had been instigated by Miss Anne Brown, the Matron. Nurses on completion of training had to buy their badges. Yet the first recipient of the prize was presented with a book "The Life of Lord Lister" by Godlee's. The cost of the badge in 1941 was £2-13-6 equivalent to nearly one month's wages.

These early badges are much admired today as they are made from 18 carat gold.

Unfortunately it has been difficult to trace those who may have been awarded the prize during World War II. In 1947, Dr. J. C. Douglas, Honorary Occulist invested money so that the nurses would no longer have to purchase their badges. The prize then became a sum of money set aside by the League and a book suitably inscribed was presented at the Graduation Day.

Following the resignation of Matron, Miss Langham, O.B.E. in 1967, the prize was named in her honour — the J. M. Langham O.B.E. Prize for the Best Practical Nurse in her Final Year and was first presented in 1970, thus perpetuating her contribution and in recognition of her devoted services to the trainees and the Hospital during her 20 years term as a qualified Trained Nurse and Matron, 1947-1967.

It is interesting to note that on two occasions the prize has been awarded within families. Miss Alva Ford, 1939 and her daughter Miss Joan Meiklejohn, 1967. Miss Dulcie Lacy, 1940 and her niece Miss Janet Lacy, 1961.

BALLARAT BASE HOSPITAL TRAINED NURSES' LEAGUE PRIZE FOR BEST PRACTICAL NURSE IN FINAL YEAR.

1936 Miss Lillian Lavery (received book, "Life of Lord Lister" by Godlee's).	1946 Miss Dorothy Knox.
1937 Miss Clare Simpson.	1947 Unknown.
1938 Miss Jean K. Stewart. (Badge and Citation).	1948 Unknown.
1939 Miss Alva Ford. (Badge and Citation).	1949 Miss Lorraine Osborne (Theory).
1940 Miss Dulcie Lacy.	Miss Elaine Tory (Practical).
1941 Miss Phyllis Taylor. (Badge and Citation).	1950 Miss Thyra Brown.
1942 Unknown.	1951 Miss Marjorie Wilks.
1943 Unknown.	1952 Miss Joyce Ladyman.
1944 Unknown.	1953 Miss Helen Adair.
1945 Miss Olive Williams (dec.).	1954 Miss Elma Nimmons.
	1955 Miss Kathleen Flynn.
	1956 Miss Elwyn Wilks.
	1957 Miss Wilhelmina de Munck.
	1958 Miss Joan Righetti.
	1959 Miss Lena Mirtschin.

1960 Miss Cornelia de Munck	1965 Miss Beryl Withers.
Miss Alison Wilson (Equal).	1966 Miss Gwenda Hills.
1961 Miss Janet Lacy.	1967 Miss Joan Meiklejohn.
1962 Miss Janet Wollerman.	1968 Miss Carmel Kirk.
1963 Miss Margaret Moloney.	1969 Miss Elizabeth Jelbart.
1964 Miss Kaye Strachan.	

Name changed — Jessie M. Langham, O.B.E., Prize for Best Practical Nurse in Final Year.

1970 Miss Wendy Ruehland.	1975 Miss Carol Parkinson.
1971 Miss Lorraine Davis.	1976 Miss Helen Dean.
1972 Miss Roslyn Starbuck.	1977 Miss Ann Ditchfield.
1973 Miss Helen Robertson.	1978 Mrs. Dorothy Rogers.
1974 Miss Kerry Howell.	

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C. M. SILVEY MEMORIAL PRIZE

First awarded in 1958, as a memorial to the late Sister C. M. Silvey (nee Davies). Mrs. Silvey held office as President 1943/44 and as Secretary from 1945 up to the time of her death in 1957. League members were keen to seek a suitable remembrance to perpetuate her long standing interest and involvement of Past Trainees and the Training School.

Initially the prize was awarded annually to a Staff Nurse — Proficiency in her fourth year — who must be a financial member of the League and to be balloted for by the Ward Sisters. A parchment Scroll and £5-5-0 to be the form of the award.

In 1974 after much discussion it was decided to increase the value of the prize to \$10.00 Gift Voucher and Scroll — the prize not necessarily to be awarded to a Ballarat Base Hospital trainee.

In 1970 moneys were invested in trust — the interest to be used for both that of the J. M. Langham, O.B.E. and C. M. Silvey Prizes which perpetuate these people.

C. M. SILVEY MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR PROFICIENCY IN FOURTH YEAR

1958 Miss Josephine Hayes.	1967 Miss Margaret Hawker.
1959 Miss Joan Righetti.	1968 Miss Maureen Carroll.
1960 Miss Lena Mirtschin.	1969 Miss Yvonne Hutchins.
1961 Miss Alison Wilson.	1970 Miss Gaynor Shimmin.
1962 Miss Patricia Lidgett.	1971 Miss Denise Carmichael.
Miss Olwyn Bastin (Equal).	1974 Miss Ruth Campbell.
1963 Miss Marlene Edwards.	1975 Miss Kaylene Banks.
1964 Miss Sandra Park.	1976 Mrs. Jennifer Relouw.
1965 Miss Enid Labbett.	1977 Miss Kerry Moulton.
1966 Miss Lesley Lea.	1978 Miss Ann Ditchfield.
Miss Beryl Withers (Equal).	

SISTER MARGARET McGRATH PRIZE

Sister Margaret McGrath was a foundation member and office-bearer of the League (see first Reunion Photograph). As a senior member of the Nursing Staff she was always interested in the League and the trainees of the hospital.

The Midwifery Ward was her professional life for 27 years. In retirement she acted as receptionist in the Nurses' Home office. In this capacity she saw to the comforts of the monthly League Meetings.

After her death in 1972 many Past Trainees and Nursing colleagues contributed donations in an endeavour to establish a fund to commemorate her life as a member of the hospital staff and long association of the League. After much deliberation a prize was established and first presented in 1976 for those of the Midwifery Students from the Midwifery Training School who excelled in Paediatric Nursing.

SISTER MARGARET McGRATH PRIZE FOR PAEDIATRIC NURSING IN THE MIDWIFERY TRAINING SCHOOL

(Established 1976).

1976 Miss Aivonne Lowe. 1978 Miss Lorraine Sommerville.

1977 Miss Margaret Jackson.
Miss Margaret Walsh (Equal).

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Honorary Life Membership

In 1974 the introduction of Honorary Life Membership was another step in the development and progress of the League. The Trustees established a criteria for those persons nominated for Life Membership — 'those who have made an outstanding contribution to the Ballarat Base Hospital Training School and who also showed continuing interest in the Nurses' League.

At the 46th Reunion Afternoon Reception Mrs. Janet Ross — President, presented Life Membership to these three Matrons and one former Deputy Matron:

Mrs. N. Buchanan, Matron Griffiths, 1935-1939. Nominated by Miss P. O'Keane. General Trainee of the Melbourne Hospital. Miss Griffiths was instrumental in establishing a Training School which was respected throughout the State. Her position of Matron demanded expertise as Tutor, Examiner, Clerical duties and of a Nurse Administrator. While in this position she was appointed a member of the Board of Examiners for both General and Midwifery in Victoria. Examiner of the Madge Kelly Memorial Prize, Member of the Council of the Royal Victorian College of Nursing. She assisted the Ballarat Base Hospital Trained Nurses' League in the establishment of the Past Trainees Sick Room.

Miss J. M. Little, Matron, 1939-1947. Nominated by Mrs. M. Christopher. General Trainee of Launceston. Foundation member of the Victorian Matrons' Association. The Preliminary Training School (P.T.S.) was commenced, the first group started on 4th April, 1944. Also the Graduation Ceremony for nurses. The Student Nurses' Association formed. Two students, Miss Long and Miss Harris were first country students selected for Nursing Post Graduate Studies in England. Miss Little was influential in advocating that country Midwifery students be able to do their written examinations in their own school. Each year she has travelled to Ballarat to Reunions from her home in Launceston, Tasmania.

Miss J. M. Langham, O.B.E., R.R.C., Matron, 1947-1967. Nominated by Mrs. L. Bell. A trainee and Gold Medallist of the Melbourne Hospital and Midwifery student of the Women's Hospital, Melbourne. During World War II served with the Royal Australian Nursing Corp, awarded the Royal Red Cross. At the completion of the war she was appointed Matron of the Warrnambool Base Hospital. During her term as Matron of the Ballarat Base Hospital she was President of the Florence Nightingale Committee, Hospital Matrons' Association, Member of the Victorian Nursing Council, Chairman of the then Royal Victorian College of Nursing, Ballarat Branch, Member of the Council of the Girls' High School, Ballarat.

Miss J. Beverley, Home Sister, 1951-1953, Deputy Matron, 1953-1967. Nominated by Mrs. J. McMillan. General Trainee of the Austin Hospital, Heidelberg. Midwifery Trainee of Women's Hospital, Melbourne. During World War II served on the hospital ship, "Wangareta." Matron of the Alexander Hospital. Actively involved with the Ballarat Branch of the Royal Victorian College of Nursing as Chairman and Secretary.

The bestowing of these Life Memberships has enhanced the presence of these respected retired senior members of the Nursing Staff at Reunion functions. All have shown a continual interest in the welfare of the many students with whom they were involved during their appointments.

The pleasure they receive and give on Reunion Day is much appreciated.

PRESIDENTS

1928	Matron A. M. BROWN. (Interim President).	1955	Miss J. A. HARRIS.
1929	Mrs. P. WALKER.	1956	Mrs. E. G. CAMERON.
1930	Sister E. A. HEPWORTH.	1957	Mrs. M. BENJAMIN.
1931	Sister P. R. DOUGLAS.	1958	Mrs. P. EHMS.
1932	Mrs. P. I. KIRBY.	1959	Mrs. E. CADDY.
1933	Mrs. L. MILLER.	1960	Mrs. R. PERKINS.
1934	Mrs. H. STEPHENS.	1961	Mrs. D. KENT.
1935-36	Mrs. S. M. WILLIS.	1962	Mrs. J. SMYTHE.
1937	Mrs. H. STEPHENS.	1963	Mrs. J. DALE.
1938	Mrs. P. WALKER.	1964	Mrs. U. CHALLIS.
1939	Miss P. R. DOUGLAS.	1965	Mrs. M. WHITING.
1940	Mrs. T. A. KERR.	1966	Mrs. M. JORDAN.
1941	Miss M. M. MANSTRUM.	1967	Mrs. A. WHEELER.
1942	Mrs. D. M. LUDBROOK.	1968	Mrs. D. ELFord.
1943	Mrs. C. M. SILVEY.	1969	Mrs. U. CHALLIS.
1944	Mrs. C. SKILBECK.	1970	Mrs. M. HUMPHREYS.
1945	Mrs. M. BENJAMIN.	1971	Mrs. L. BELL.
1946	Mrs. J. FINLAYSON.	1972	Miss L. WILSON.
1947	Miss P. O'KEANE.	1973	Mrs. M. CHRISTOPHER.
1948	Miss J. ECKERSLEY.	1974	Mrs. J. ROSS.
1949	Mrs. E. EVA.	1975	Mrs. J. McMILLAN.
1950-52	Mrs. M. BENJAMIN.	1976	Mrs. D. BRIDGER.
1953	Mrs. J. QUAIL.	1977	Mrs. M. ROSS.
1954	Mrs. C. SKILBECK.	1978	Mrs. J. DALE.

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SECRETARIES

1928	Sister G. BROOKS. (Interim Secretary).	1964-66	Mrs. P. ANDREWARTHA.
1929-31	Mrs. B. GOBLE.	1967	Mrs. W. CHAPMAN.
1932-35	Sister P. R. DOUGLAS.	1968	Mrs. T. WARREN.
1936	Mrs. B. GOBLE.	1969	Mrs. P. PERKS.
1937-39	Mrs. L. A. HAYMES.	1970-71	Mrs. J. WATKINS.
1940-42	Miss E. A. HEPWORTH.	1971	Mrs. D. ELFord.
1943-44	Mrs. B. GOBLE.	1972	Mrs. J. ROSS.
1945-57	Mrs. C. M. SILVEY.	1973	Mrs. M. TRIGG.
1957	Mrs. C. SKILBECK. (Acting).	1974	Miss L. WILSON.
1958-60	Mrs. M. JORDAN.	1975	Mrs. M. GAZZARD.
1961-63	Mrs. V. LAMBERT.	1976-77	Miss L. WILSON.
		1978	Mrs. U. CHALLIS.



50th REUNION COMMITTEE

Back Row (left to right): Mrs. U. Challis, Secretary, Mrs. J. Dale, President, Mrs. J. McMillan, Treasurer.
Front Row (left to right): Miss L. Wilson, Mrs. J. Bridger, Mrs. M. Ross, Miss H. Menadue, Mrs. M. Gazzard.

TREASURERS

1928	Sister M. McGRATH. (Interim Treasurer).	1955-58	Mrs. L. BELL.
1929-30	Sister M. McGRATH.	1959-64	Mrs. V. LINGHAM.
1931	Mrs. A. GIBSON.	1965-66	Mrs. J. MAYNE.
1932	Mrs. H. STEPHENS.	1967	Mrs. P. SORRELL.
1933-35	Sister E. McLEOD.	1968-69	Mrs. J. PRATT.
1936-41	Mrs. A. GIBSON.	1970-73	Mrs. E. G. CAMERON.
1942-53	Mrs. T. A. KERR.	1974	Mrs. U. CHALLIS.
1954	Mrs. E. G. CAMERON.	1975	Miss L. WILSON.
1955	Miss L. MOLLOY.	1976-78	Mrs. J. McMILLAN.

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TRUSTEES

1958-1974	Mrs. B. GOBLE (resigned 1972), Miss J. ECKERSLEY, Mrs. J. QUAIL (resigned 1974).
1974-1978	Mrs. L. BELL, Mrs. E. G. CAMERON, Miss J. E. ECKERSLEY.

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AUDITORS

1974	Mr. R. HUMPHREYS (retired).
1974-1976	Mr. J. R. BRIDGER.
1976-	Mr. D. REES.

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"AIRDRIE" REPRESENTATIVE

1955-1957	Mrs. S. WILLIS.
1957-	Miss E. HEATH.
1960-1962	Mrs. J. LANE.
1962-1966	Mrs. P. EHMS.
1966-1978	Miss H. W. MENADUE (appt. Hon. Treasurer, 1970).

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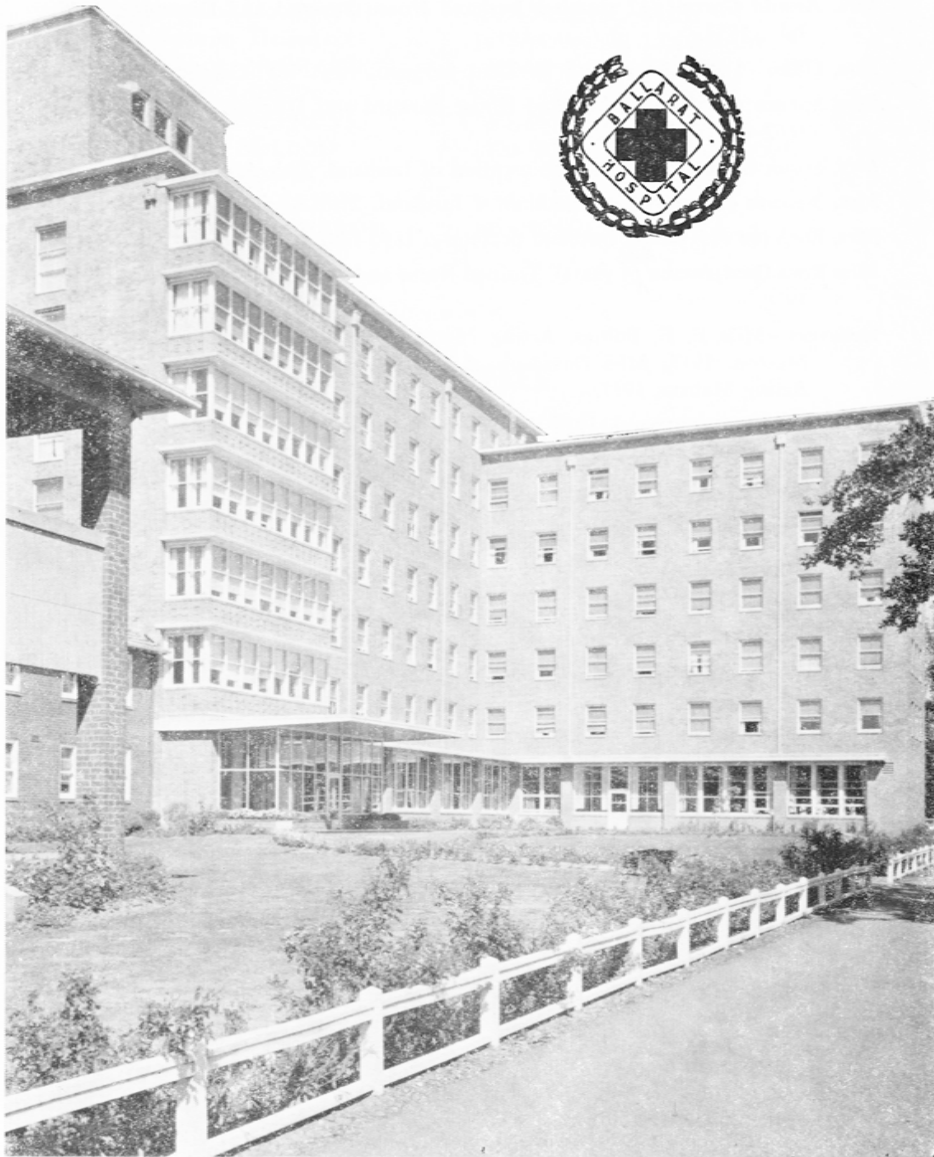
BALLARAT AND DISTRICT BASE HOSPITAL

LIFE GOVERNORSHIPS

1945	Mrs. KERR, Mrs. GIBSON, Mrs. HATELY, Mrs. GOBLE, Mrs. STEPHENS, Mrs. SILVEY, Miss HEPWORTH, Miss DOUGLAS, Miss MANSTRUM, Miss OXBROW.
1965	Miss J. ECKERSLEY.

MATRONS

Mrs. Arnold Garratt (12 months), husband House Steward and Dispenser. 1856-July, 1857.
Mrs. Hillas (5 years), husband Resident Surgeon. July, 1857-October, 1862.
Mrs. Spence (18 months), husband House Steward and Dispenser. 10th October, 1862-4th April, 1964.
Mrs. Susan Bishop (11 years), no mention of husband. 28th April, 1864-1875.
Mrs. Neilson (21 years), no mention of husband. 27th April, 1875-1896.
Mrs. Eagleton (15 years), husband Secretary. 1896-12th June, 1912.
Miss Rosa Quatermann (4 years), Trained Nurse and War Service. 12th June, 1912-1918.
Relievers—Miss F. E. Polton, Acting Matron, 1915-1917; Miss Lewers, Acting Matron, 1917; Miss Davidson, Acting Matron, 1917; Miss K. P. Ryan, Acting Matron, 1917.
Miss K. P. Ryan (6 years), 1918-1923.
Miss A. F. Roberts, R.R.C. (3 years), 1923-1926.
Miss M. A. Newman (3 years), 1926-1929.
Miss A. M. Brown (5 years), 1929-1934.
Miss Pritchard (1 year), 1934-1935.
Miss N. M. Griffiths (4 years), 1935-1939.
Miss Little (8 years), 1939-1947.
Miss J. M. Langham, O.B.E., R.R.C. (20 years), 1947-1967.
Miss M. S. Ogden, F.C.N.A. (11 years), 1967-.



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C. M. Silvey Memorial Prize

nee DAVIES, Clarice May

Training Years – 22.01.1927 to 29.05.1930

Life Governor BBH – 1945

League President – 1943

League Secretary – 1945 – 1957

Born – Bungaree West, 1908

Died – Ballarat, 15.07.1957

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Miss Rosa Quatermann, R.R.C.