

Summary Sheet R0084 page one

- P.1 Born 1924 in Blundellsands. Father Medical Officer of Health. Family moved to Aughton (1941) and then Heversham. Attended Cheltenham Ladies College; began nursing Liverpool Royal Infirmary, Middlesex Hospital and Charing Cross Hospital. Pay and conditions during nursing training.
- P.2 Lectures during off-duty; hierarchy of cleaning amongst nurses; night duty hours, living quarters, visitors' room.
- P.3 Midwifery training. Private nursing in London. Attended races at Ascot. Worked in Casualty Department, Charing Cross Hospital. In Liverpool looked after tropical ward. Came to Kendal as Matron, Westmorland County Hospital, 1962.
- P.4 Money left to Westmorland County Hospital in 1963 by Mrs Thwaites was used to build bungalow for patients' relatives. First voluntary hospital built in 1870 at Ghyll Head by James Cropper in memory of his wife Fanny. Now (year 2000) nursery school. Matron and two servants saw 79 patients in first year. Matron's word was law - no drunks or unruly patients. Two signatures needed to gain admission to hospital.
- P.5 Patients' diet. In 1908 Westmorland County Hospital opened with 34 beds (94 beds by 1962). Matron's duties included deciding if linen should be discarded. Two seamstresses employed. Mixing butter and margarine for the wards. Cleaning powder came in quantity and had to be dished out to the wards. Housekeeper appointed. Talking to girls in school about possible nursing careers.
- P.6 Matron ordered food. Details of wards; numbers of beds; children's ward. Operating theatre situated off a corridor. Training of nurses.
- P.7 State Enrolled Nurse School opened 1970s. Two year course. Sister Robinson was tutor. Supplied Kendal Green Hospital, Meathop and Helme Chase with nurses. Tenterfield nurses' home given by Somervell family. Buying pigeons for patients' meal. Given salmon which had been poached.

P7/8 In charge of the pharmacy.

- P.8 Robert Cooper became fulltime pharmacist.
Mrs Watson and Mike Hartley in charge of catering.
Waiting lists/surgeons.
Memorial Hospital used as ARP depot during the war, then physio and laboratory, then purpose-built outpatients at main hospital - Sister Middleton in charge.
- P.9 Visiting patients in hospital.
Matron's ward round. Looking into after-care.
Contacting doctors to cover in Casualty.
- P,10 Busy weekend in Casualty.
Sister Barker and Mr Kinnear worked in Casualty.
Domestic help often came from Brettargh Holt. Some domestic staff lived at East View.
- P .11 Looking after domestics, nurses and sick doctors.
Members of League of Friends.
League of Friends provided beds, surgical equipment, cubicle curtains, etc.
Daffody Trust provided physiotherapy.
Tea Party in Tenterfield to which members brought knitted and sewn goods for use in hospital.
- P.12 Lions, Rotary, Round Table, Young Farmers, etc. all helped.
Soroptomists bought a cryostat for the laboratory.