

APPENDICIES

Excerpts from the Matron's Minute Book, City Isolation Hospital and Sanatorium, Bagthorpe

1st May, 1928 to 11th June, 1948

The following examples give further testimony of not just the work of the matron but of the day to day working life of a hospital twenty years before the establishment of the National Health Service, and just 30 days before its establishment on the 5th July, 1948.

CITY ISOLATION HOSPITAL AND SANATORIUM, BAGTHORPE

1ST MAY 1928

...”STAFFING LEVELS”...

Matron, Deputy Matron, Night Sister, 4 Day Sisters, 5 Staff Nurses, 18 Probationer Nurses, 1 Cook, 1 Assistant Cook, 2 Kitchen Maids, 11 Housemaids.

...”MALE AND OUTDOOR STAFF”...

1. Caretaker & Porter, 1 Portress, 1 Engineer, 1 Stoker, 1 Foreman Gardener, 4 Labourers, 2 Ambulance Drivers, 6. Laundresses, 1 Charwoman, 1 Seamstress.

...”STAFF OF SMALLPOX HOSPITAL, BULWELL FOREST”...

2. Staff Nurses, 1 Cook and General Servant, 1 Caretaker and Gatekeeper.

“TOTAL STAFFING LEVELS, 68”

1. **6th July 1928.** 12 Mattresses, 12 Quilts, 12 Bath Towels, 24 Sheets, 24 Pillows, 24 Pillow Cases, 48 Blankets and 6 Bowels sent on loan to Wollaton Hall for the use of the King's Groom.
2. **9th July 1928.** 1 Bedstead, 1 Mattress, 2 Pillows, 2 Pillow Cases, 2 Sheets, 4 Blankets, and Quilts sent to Wollaton Hall as extra equipment required.
3. **10th July 1928.** Bath Chair lent for use at the Royal Show. One Sister and five Nurses went to form part of a Guard of Honour for the reception of the King and Queen on their visit to Nottingham.
4. **18th July 1928.** The Charwoman finished the extra cleaning for which she was engaged. Painting the Night Nurses' Quarters commenced. Three Doctors of the Ministry of Health came for lunch after visiting the Small Pox Hospital.
5. **19th July 1928.** The Kitchen Maid complained of having a septic finger. Given light duties, only on this account.
6. **25th July 1928.** The cutting of grass with machine from the Public Parks Department commenced today.
7. **3rd August 1928.** Grass cutting finished.

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8. **30th March 1930.** An explosion of gas occurred in the flues of the boilers causing considerable damage. A full report was made at once to the Chairman and the Senior Consultant who inspected the damage the following day. The flues of both boilers have been completely rebuilt, but the main flue has still to be repaired. This will necessitate the boilers being out of action for about three days. It is hoped that a suitable opportunity to carry out the work will occur in a few weeks time. "For this accident in the boiler house the Night Stoker was given a week's notice on the 5th April 1930."
9. **14th October 1930.** Smallpox Hospital closed.
10. **21st February 1931.** Ceiling and walls of the ironing room washed down. Walls of drying chamber, sorting room, wash house and boiler house lime washed. Engine room, lantern lights in the boiler house and wash house painted.
11. **31st May 1931.** A probationer nurse resigned, her mother being afraid she might contract an infectious disease.
12. **25th March 1932.** Fire Brigade called out to the Smallpox Hospital, where the gorse was on fire.
13. **7th May 1932.** Painting of the exterior of the laundry, two disinfecting rooms, garage and mortuary completed by the Eastcroft workmen.
14. **20th September 1932.** Boiler House, Wash House, Drying Chamber and Sorting Room lime washed, Ironing Room walls and ceiling washed down.
15. **17th October 1932.** New Mortuary built, a veranda made, and an extra room added to the Porters Lodge at the Smallpox Hospital by the Eastcroft workmen. Sitting Room, Ward Kitchen, Bathroom, interior and exterior of the Lodge and Laundry as well as the exterior of the two wards painted also by the Eastcroft workmen.
16. **25th November 1932.** His Majesty Inspector paid a visit to the Laundry and Boiler House and reported that all was in order.
17. **7th December 1932.** Alterations at Ward 6 completed according to instructions, and electric apparatus installed in the bathroom. New drain put on at the end of Ward 4 to carry off surface water from the centre garden. Work done by the Eastcroft workmen. New concrete floor laid in Ward 1 bathroom. New tubs supplied to laundry.
18. **5th May 1935.** Ward Maid commenced duties and left the same afternoon, as she did not like the work.
19. **26th July 1936.** A Charwoman developed a septic thumb (left) and stated that it was caused by a splinter which she got into it on July 18th. Has applied for 14 days compensation, which has been referred to the Town Clerk's Department.

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20. **11th December 1936.** “Charwoman and Laundry Woman” asked for payment at the same rate as the City Hospital, Nottingham 27/- per week and no meals. At present they have three meals per day and 3/6 for eight hours work. Their Head Laundress necessitates 4/9 a week extra payment.
21. That the Sister may have her salary increased as suggested at the last meeting from £95 per annum to £100 by £5 annually to commence December 31st 1936.
22. “Gifts” Playing Cards, 3 doz. Mrs. King, 19, Pelham Str.
 A few toys. Mr. Allen, per Boy Scouts .
 Magazines. Mr. Edson, Wiverton Road.
 Packets of Toffee. J. O. Stockwell, Stoney Str.
23. “Request for furniture.” 2 Easy Chairs and Settee for the Matron’s Room. 1 Sideboard for the Doctor’s Room jointly used by the Matron and Doctor.
24. A Storekeeper Clerk is required. May this receive your immediate attention?
25. “Nurse’s Cottage.” May the Engineer be consulted as to its future? It is not fit for habitation.
26. **8th January 1937.** “Charwoman and Laundry Maid.” Request for payment at the same rate at the City Hospital. “Resolution passed,” at the last meeting that details of method of payment be obtained from Mr. Gould [Master, City Hospital] and a report made at the subsequent meeting. Mr. Gould states that payment of the laundry staff varies according to their experience. The Charwoman are paid 28/6 weekly for 44 hours and no meals.
27. Having the request for a Storekeeper Clerk mentioned at the last meeting be brought up for discussion; also store accommodation.
28. “Linen.” Diet Cloths are required for all wards, these have not have been supplied previously. The outlay will cost the hospital £20.0s.0d.
29. “Ward Equipment.” Dressing drums appear to be very necessary for the supply of sterile dressings. There are 5 wards working; each will require a dressing drum. This will cost about £10. 8s. 0d. “Ward Lockers, Chairs and Tables.” The present lockers, chairs and tables are very shabby and have been repaired many times. Will the Committee give permission for a small number to be purchased each half year:- 20 lockers and chairs, 1 table, until those of the infectious wards have all been replaced. Lockers £4. 12s. 0d. Tables £6.
30. **11th June 1937.** “Telephone.” An extension of the telephone to the matron’s sitting room would be an advantage.
31. “Electric Hair Dryers.” These are required for the patient’s use particularly on the morning of their discharge. For this purpose two would be necessary.

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32. "Wash Basin." In a bedroom used as a sick room. The round cost of this would be about £8. 0s. 0d.
33. "Beetles." Keetings insect powder has been used in the kitchen over a long period with very little effect.
34. "Increase of Salary." The Cook's present salary of £55 per annum after a years service might be increased to £65 per annum.
35. **9th July 1937.** "Ward Sisters Salary." That this be increased to £85 per annum instead of £80., and the night sister from £85 to £90 per annum.
36. "Laundry." That the Laundry Woman be given the 7.5% increase in wages as daily cleaners.
37. "Replacement of Barbed Wire." Round the boundary boards (4 strands). The wire is broken and cannot be replaced. This wire is the only protection for the grounds.
38. "Hospital Telephone" Installation.
- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Existing line per quarter | £1. 12s. 6d. |
| Internal line 2@8. | 16s. 0d. |
| External --6 @13/6 | £4 . 1s. 0d. |
| 1 Plug & Socket extension | 3s. 6d. |
| | ----- |
| Total quarterly rent | £6. 13s. 0d. |
- The figures were given verbally to Mr. Rhodes of the City Hospital and he asked that they should be confirmed by letter to Dr. Banks.
39. "Present Waiting Room." That this be turned in to the Matron's Sitting Room and walls redecorated and new fire place put in. Present Matron's Sitting Room turned into a bathroom.
40. **26th November 1937.** "Private Nurse." 27th November 1937. Owing to the shortage of nurses, I have engaged the services of a nurse by permission of Dr. Banks at a salary of £3. 3s. 0d.
41. "An Assistant Nurse" has been engaged to help to get over the shortage of probationers at a salary of £50. 0s. 0d., plus 10/6d per week for sleeping out. This is a temporary arrangement. She is taking duty at night on the Male sanatorium.
42. **10th June 1938.** "General." Will the Committee kindly consider the quotations for bed linen and repainting the old ambulance?
43. "Visiting Days." Will the Committee kindly consider alterations of the visiting hours, 2 to 4 p.m. instead of 3 to 5 p.m., Thursday and Tuesday?
44. "Christmas Grant." Will the Committee kindly consider making a grant for the purpose of providing a Christmas tree, decorations and toys?

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45. **10th March 1939.** "Enteric Fever" Owing to the additional number of patients suffering from Enteric Fever, it has been found necessary to engage 4 private nurses. Salary £3. 3s. 0d plus 25/- non residential allowance. It has been found necessary to purchase additional medical equipment costing £30 approx.
46. **14th April 1939.** "Enteric Fever." It has been found necessary to arrange 2 private nurses in addition to the four nurses already engaged, as reported at the last meeting. 4 private nurses have now left.
47. **14th July 1939.** "Night Sisters Salary." Will the Committee please consider a request from the Night Sister for an increase in salary?
48. **12th January 1940.** "Rationing." Will the Committee please consider several matters relating to rationing?
49. **9th February 1940.** "Nurses Home" – "Telephone Extension." Will the Committee please give permission for installation of a telephone extension to the new nurse's home?
50. **8th March 1940.** "New Nurses Home." This is now complete and occupation commenced on 4/3/40.
51. "Rations." Will the Committee please give instructions as regards the ration allowance for non-resident nurses meals whilst on duty.
52. **13th December 1940.** "Private Nurses." Owing to the additional number of diphtheria cases 12 private nurses have been engaged.
53. **7th April 1941** "Air Raid Precaution Equipment." I wish to report that upon checking the Civilian Duty Gas Masks and Steel Helmets issued to the nursing staff a few were found to be missing.
54. **12th September 1941.** "Alien Nurses." Further applications have been received from persons under the above category of appointments of probationer nurses. Will the Committee please indicate if it is their intention to still refuse such applications?
55. **10th October 1941.** "Gifts of Fruit and Vegetables." From Harvest Festivals held at the Priory Church, Lace Street, Lenton and Burton Joyce Congregational Church sent by Reverend T. Anscombe and Mrs. D. M. Hurst respectively.
56. **13th March 1942.** "Domestic Staff & Daily Cleaners." Domestic Staff are becoming extremely scarce and causing difficulties. We are 6 cleaners and 2 laundresses short at the present time.
57. "Staff Alterations." Two Probationer Nurses were promoted to the rank of Temporary Staff Nurses from the 6/2/42. The Night Sister is a suitable applicant for the vacancy of Tutor Sister. I would like to ask the Committee for their approval on this appointment?
58. "Shortage of Trained Staff." The shortage of trained staff on the wards has become acute and is causing serious difficulties.

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59. "Daily Cleaners and Domestic Staff." There is still no change in regards to this matter. The Labour Exchange gives very little hope of an improvement under the present conditions.
60. "Crockery." Suitable crockery is very difficult to obtain and there is a definite increase in the amount of breakages in all departments. Would the Committee consider the supply of enamelware in certain departments, where suitable, in order to assist in this matter as a temporary measure.
61. **8th April 1942.** "Clothing Coupons for Uniform." Considerable difficulty is being experienced in the collection of the coupons, and I would like to know the Committee's wishes in this respect.
62. **11th September 1942.** "Steel Helmets for Nursing Staff." Will the Committee please authorize the purchase of one dozen steel helmets, cost 5/- each for the nursing staff. I understand that no more helmets are available free of charge to hospital staff unless they come under the E.M.S. (Emergency Medical Service).
63. "Impending Shortage of Nursing Staff." At present we are one ward sister short and no reply has been received to several recent advertisements. One of our present ward sisters will be leaving shortly to get married. The same difficulty is being experienced with probationer nurses.
64. **9th October 1942.** "Library Books in Male Sanatorium Ward." This ward has now been evacuated to Newstead Sanatorium. The ward contained over 500 books which are still in good condition. Will the Committee sanction the sending of these books to Newstead Sanatorium?
65. **14th September 1945.** "Shortage of Staff." The situation is steadily becoming worse regarding staff, so much so that we have no reserve to fall back on in case of sickness or special leave. We are again advertising in nursing and local papers. Could the committee suggest any way of appealing to the Ministry of Labour?
66. **11th January 1946.** "Ward 6, Female Tuberculosis."
1. Occupational Therapy. Permission to engage a part time Occupational Therapist was 14/4/44 for these patients. We have now received an application for the post and propose to give the person a trial. Would the Committee agree and fix a rate of pay.
 2. Piano. Mr. Harvey on behalf of the British Legion has offered to repair or replace the piano on Ward 6, and also to give concerts for the patients. Will the Committee agree?
67. **8th March 1946.** "Gifts." A Money order for £2. 2s. has been received from Miss Margaret E. Bone (former patient), as a donation to the hospital, and a cheque for £2. 2s. from Mrs. M. Tew (parent of a patient), for the Nurses Social Club.

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- 68. 10th May 1946.** "Dance Band Allowance." £66 has been set aside for a dance band allowance for the year 1946-47. Will the Committee please sanction the payment of £5. 10s. for each month, to be paid to the band engaged.
- 69. 14th June 1946.** "Piano". Will the Committee approve the purchase of one Paynes upright overstrung piano, in perfect condition, very little used, for £100, from Mr. G. Warsop, 199, Sutton Passey Crescent, Nottingham.
- 70.** "Entertainments for Ward 6 Patients." An accordion band concert was given by Mr. Beighton and his company on 23rd May, and another by the Melody Makers Concert Party of the Hyson Green Branch of the British Legion.
- 71. 13th December 1946.** "Shortage of Staff." The situation is becoming worse. We have, and still are, advertising in nursing and daily papers but the response is very poor.
- 72. 10th January 1947.** "Provisional Approval of Training School." Miss F. M. Hughes, General Council Inspector of Training Schools visited the Hospital on the 10th December 1946. The report has not yet been received.
- 73. Gifts** Mrs. Gidman, for W.V.S. Sweets for the children.
Miss Kirkland, ex-patient, Ward 6, Toys.
The Rev. Harwood, Used Books and Toys.
Mr. Watterson, ex-patient, Ward 5, 10/- note.
Mrs. Lucas, Toys for Christmas.
The Headmistress, Bulwell Hall School, Christmas Tree.
Mrs. Blackburn, Toys.
- Letters of appreciation have been sent.
- 74. 14th February 1947.** "Approval of Training School." A copy of the letter from the General Nursing Council.
"That the provisional approval of Nottingham City Isolation Hospital as a complete school for Fever Nurses should be extended for a further period of two years from December 20th 1946."
- 75.** "Preliminary Training School." After May 1947 the General Nursing Council require every Student Nurse to enter a Preliminary Training School. We have no Preliminary Training School at the City Isolation Hospital. Could arrangements be made for our students to go through the Preliminary Training School at the City Hospital?

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76. 14th March 1947. "Shortage of Staff." The situation is steadily becoming worse. We are still advertising for Staff Nurses and Assistant Nurses to go full-time or part-time duties, for general trained nurses to do one year's training and student nurses to do two year's training.

The staff on the books to date is 33 full-time and 3 part-time.

Full-time	Administrative	3.
	Sisters.	7.
	Staff Nurses.	6.
	Student Nurses.	11.
Part-time.	Staff Nurses.	2.
	Assistant Nurses.	1.

A Staff Nurses who left recently to be married may be available for duty in a month or so. She has withdrawn her superannuation contributions. If I am able to obtain her services may I re-appoint her?

77. 12th September 1947. "Holidays for Part-Time Nurses." The Rushcliffe Committee does not make any recommendations concerning holidays for part-time nurses. The question of payment is left to the discretion of the employing authority. Will the Committee give a ruling on this matter?

78. 13th February 1948. "Occupational Therapist." We have been able to obtain the services of Mrs.Charbonnier, part-time Occupational Therapist for Ward 6 (Female Tuberculosis Ward). At present she is able to attendance day each week Salary £1. 1s. a day. Will the Committee approve of her appointment?

Staff Numbers as of 9th April 1948

Trained Staff	14
Trained Staff (Part-Time)	2
Assistant Nurses.	7
Assistant Nurses (Part-Time)	2
Student Nurses	9.
Nursing Orderlies	5.
Total	35 Full-Time 4. Part-Time

79. 9th April 1948. "Part-Time Occupational Therapist." Miss Myers engaged to assist with Occupational Therapy on Ward 6, salary £1. 1s.

80. 14th May 1948. "Occupational Therapist." Mrs. Charbonnier has resigned; Miss Myers is now attending two days each week.

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81. 11th June 1948. “Domestic Staff commenced and left.” An Orderly commenced duty as a relief maid on 8/4/48. This girl has recently been discharged from St. Ann’s Hospital. She was considered suitable and capable of doing domestic work. On Tuesday, May 25th about 10.50 am she was found unconscious in the Nurses Home Kitchen, the door and windows closed and gas stove taps turned on. After first-aid treatment she was admitted to the City Hospital and on May 28th was transferred to St. Ann’s Hospital.

82. “Laundry Staff Wage Increase N.J.C.”

Present rate of pay – Committee recommendations 12/9/47.

Designation	Rate of Pay	Rate per Hour	Total rate per Hour
		(Foul Linen)	
Head Laundress	1/8	1d.	1/9d.
Laundry Hands	1/6	1d.	1/7d.

N.J.C. Circular 9 – 3/5/48. Increases due from week beginning 3/5/48

Designation	Rate of Pay	Rate per Hour	Total rate per Hour
		(Foul Linen)	
Head Laundress	1s 8 ¾ d.	¾ d.	1s 9 ½ d.
Laundry Hands	1s 6 ¾ d.	¾ d.	1s 7 ½ d.

86. 11th June 1948. “Shortage of Nursing Staff.” The situation is steadily becoming worse. We are still advertising in nursing and local papers with very little response. At present the staff consists of: -

Trained Nurses	14 full-time and 2 part-time.
Student Nurses	8 in training 1 in P.T.S.
Assistant Nurses	6 full-time and 2 part-time.
Total:	29 full-time and 5 part-time.

87. 5 Nursing Orderlies who are E.V.S. (European Volunteer Workers) are very useful and a considerable help, but really cannot be counted as nurses.

The establishment of nursing staff is 55, therefore we are approximately 24 full-time nurses short.

Domestic Staff

Cook	1
Assistant Cook	1
Resident Maids	13
Ward Orderlies	2 Part-time
Daily Cleaners	4 Full-time, 11 Part-time
Total	19 Full-time, 13 Part-time
Laundry Staff	5
Sewing Room	22

Health Service Finance and Administration during 100 years

A selection of items of expenditure from the annual reports throws light on many aspects of the work of the Medical Officer of Health and his department throughout a hundred year period.

The total expenditure of the Health Committee for the financial year ended 31st August 1873 was £10,093. It is interesting to note that even at this stage a subscription was being made to the General Dispensary.

There is an item in the accounts for 1875-76 relating to the supply of 'Coal to suffers by the flood, October 1875 £61.19s.1d.' In 1876-77 an epidemic hospital was opened in Windsor Street (now Huntingdon Street). An item relating to repairs to the hospital cab indicates that the hospital had its own ambulance even before 1889. The Health Committee had set up two lodging houses by 1877-78. The Committee were also responsible for the public conveniences in the City and this, together with general nuisances and the collection and disposal of night soil, appeared to be their main duties. By 1878-79, a startling vision of the Medical Officer of Health careering round the City, with his coat tails flying, is conjured up by the expenditure incurred by him for horse hire totalling £78 10s. 0d.

By 1882/83 the total expenditure of the Health Committee had reached £29,368, and the salary of the Medical Officer of Health had reached the figure of £600. The same year the smallpox epidemic cost £403.

A second epidemic hospital had been opened at Bagthorpe by 1885-86 and six years later the hospital at Windsor Street was closed. Curiosity is stimulated by the item of £38 compensation paid in 1891-92 to Mr. J. W. Burgess for a house in Noel Street set on fire by disinfecting apparatus. The first resident medical officer for Bagthorpe was appointed, and the Department had an account with the Nottingham daily Express Company for lavatory paper costing £2 10s. 0d.

In 1897-98 a deputation from the Health Committee went to Germany to see the latest knackery at a cost of £67. This deputation bore the fruit in that in 1902-03 the latest knackery plant, as seen in Germany, was installed at Old Basford. Another item of interest from the accounts at this time shows the expenditure of £47 on diarrhoea mixture which apparently was used in connection with the cleansing of pails and closets. Was this a prophylactic preparation to protect against an occupational hazard?

In 1914-15, the T.B. Dispensary was opened in North Circus Street, and two years later the first war crèche was set up. The first mention of the purchase of a motor car appears in this year. Records of the same year mention a claim for damage to the Carrington Street lavatory, to Eastcroft, and the T.B. Dispensary by aircraft! Was the aircraft too big to be towed through the streets? The Thurgarton Homes, Homes for tuberculosis children, were opened in 1917-18. The first expenditure on treatment of venereal diseases appears in that year and the Pathological Laboratory in Park Row was opened. After the war in 1918-19 came the purchase of the first motor wagons for the collection and disposal of night soil, and a Maternity Home was opened in Queen's Walk, presumably now Queen's Drive. During the 1914-18 was, there was increased concern for general maternity welfare with a bigger expenditure.

In 1920-21 another home for T.B. children was opened at Bulwell Hall as well as two hostels for mothers, one in Queen's Walk and the other on Carlton Hill. Several 'welcomes and clinics' were opened.

In 1921-22, during the smallpox epidemic of that year, the smallpox hospital at Bulwell was opened. Three hostels for mothers were now in existence, two at No's 1 and 95 Queen's Walk, which appears to confirm that Queen's Walk is Now Queen's Drive. The third hostel was on Carlton Hill. By 1922-23 the expenditure had reached £120,523. The hostel for mothers on Carlton Hill was closed. In 1924-25 Greendale House, which was apparently a hostel for V.D. patients was opened, and the first motor ambulance was purchased for the epidemic hospital.

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In 1928-29 appears the first mention of cancer research, in that a grant of £25 9s 0d was made for cancer research project undertaken that year. The Ultra Violet Ray Clinic was taken over by the Health Committee. This was a gift from the late Sir Julien Cahn. In 1930-31 public vaccinations were mentioned for the first time. There had been some small expenditure in previous years but this was mainly fees for emergency vaccinations during smallpox epidemics.

By 1931-32 a separate Cleansing Department was set up under the control of the Health Committee and the Medical Officer of Health. The separate Department had direct control of Eastcroft and Radford destructors, and the salvage plant at Basford. By 1932-33 the expenditure had reached £171,868.

In 1935-36 expenditure on the City Hospital was brought into the Health Committee accounts for the first time, and the following year the public conveniences and the Cleansing Department were transferred from the Health Committee to the General Works and Highways Committee. Obviously rationalisation and re-organisation are not the prerogatives of the present day.

During the Second World War, in 1940-41, Newstead Sanatorium was opened. The following year a Daily Minders' Scheme was begun, and the three day nurseries were set up at the annexe 95, Queen's Drive, at Radford, and King Edwards Park. The following year again, 1942-43, the daily nurseries at Arnold Road, Sycamore Road, Bell's Lane, Bulwell and Pierrepoint were added. The total expenditure now reached £419, 855. In 1944/45 saw the start of three new services, the Home Help Service, Mass Radiography, and an Almoner's Department.

In 1952-53 the John Ryle Health Centre opened, the first in the City, and the total expenditure had reached £388,482. The reduction of expenditure in 1952/53 reflected the transfer of the hospital service to the new National Health Service in 1948.

The gross expenditure over the hundred years for each decade is tabulated below.

Year	Amount £
1872-73	10,093
1882-83	29,368
1892-93	36,992
1902-03	43,656
1912-13	50,901
1922-23	120,523
1932-33	171,868
1942-43	419,855
1952-53	388,482
1962-63	731,906
1972-73	1,203,355

**Twenty-first Century medical definitions of environmental diseases treated
in the Garden Hospital and later the Bagthorpe Isolation Hospital**

1. "Enteric Fever," or as it is now known as "Typhoid Fever" is a bacterial infection carried by water, food milk. It is marked by a headache, mental confusion and excitement, cough, watery diarrhoea, rash and high fever.
2. "Diphtheria." A serious contagious disease, it produces a poison throughout the body and a false lining of the throat. The poison is very harmful to the tissues of the heart and central nervous system. The thick membrane lining the throat may interfere with eating, drinking, and breathing. The membrane may also occur in other tissues. Lymph glands in the neck swell. If not treated, the disease is often fatal, causing heart and kidney failure. Patients, when diphtheria is diagnosed, are placed in isolation wards. Fortunately, cases of diphtheria are extremely rare.
3. "Tuberculosis." A disease associated with the poor, in particular those who lived in damp and overcrowded conditions. It is a disease which is formed by spore-forming mycobacteria. In developed countries, the infection is spread by inhalation of infected droplets whereas in underdeveloped countries the infection is spread by ingestion or by skin contact.
4. "Smallpox." A highly contagious virus-caused disease marked by fever, prostration, and a blister like rash. It is caused by one of two species of poxvirus. Because human beings are the only carrier for the virus, worldwide vaccination with vaccinia, a related poxvirus, has been effective in wiping out smallpox. For several years no natural case of the disease has been known to occur.
5. "Scarlet Fever." An acute, contagious bacterial disease characterised by a skin rash and a skin rash and a strawberry tongue. Also known as "scarlatina." A very easily spread disease of childhood caused by a type of Streptococcus. The infection is marked by a sore throat, fever, enlarged lymph nodes in the neck, prostration, and a widespread bright red rash.

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Records of the Borough of Nottingham concerning the building of the Garden Hospital, Huntingdon Street formally Windsor Street.

11th December 1871: Sanitary Committee report “That the Town has been visited as the Council are aware by an epidemic of smallpox.” Precautions are taken before the outbreak included the provision of “sedan conveyances” for the removal of cases to hospital. The first cases occurred on the 3rd March in Carter Gate; there were two cases on 23rd June in a common lodging house in Red Lion Street; others followed, and on 21st November eleven deaths were reported and the epidemic was spreading. The hospital taken over from the Guardians provided inadequate and a new Guardians building in York Street was used, and also a temporary wooden structure in the Workhouse garden. The Committee have appointed Dr. Trueman Public Vaccinator under title of Medical Officer of Health (temporary).

5th February 1872: Finance Committee report, in connection with the smallpox epidemic that “It will be necessary to build additional hospital wards in the Workhouse Garden with accommodation for nurses, cooking, washing, etc. at a probable cost of about £800. If this is done it will enable the Sanitary Committee to vacate the buildings in York Street and Clarence Street belonging to the Board of Guardians, and so permit the Guardians’ to use for the purposes for which they were originally erected and thus save the Town a large unnecessary outlay for new buildings which will be forced upon the Guardians if their buildings are retained by the Sanitary Committee.

5th August 1872: Sanitary Committee reports the end of the smallpox epidemic. The Garden Hospital was opened 20th November 1871, and since then 434 patients have been admitted, of whom 65 died. York Street Hospital, lent by the Guardians, was opened on 5th December 1871, and closed 24th February, 1872. It received 235 patients, of whom 34 died. The cost to the Corporation was £9,119 5s. 5d.

Records of the Borough of Nottingham concerning Bagthorpe Isolation Hospital and the Workhouse and Infirmary

3rd March 1883: Health Committee submit report of Medical Officer of Health on extending the notification of infectious diseases, deferred to future meeting. Council resolves itself into General Purposes Committee. Town Clerk reports of attempts to acquire from the War Office land on Bagthorpe Hill for an infectious diseases hospital. Resolved to offer to exchange part of Bulwell Forest or land else where for the site desired.

6th February 1888: Health Committee recommended the building of permanent isolation hospitals on Basford Glebe Land, stressing the need on account of out-breaks of smallpox and scarlet fever. Resolved, that first reading is deferred for one month.

6th April 1888: Health Committee’s plans for Bagthorpe Isolation Hospital approved.

7th January 1889: Health Committee report, with detailed plans, on the hospital for infectious diseases at Bagthorpe, to cost approximately £25,000. Agreed.

5th May 1890: Health Committee report that the new Epidemic Hospital at Bagthorpe is nearing completion, and recommend the building of a new Disinfecting Section at Eastcroft, to replace one at the “Garden Hospital in Windsor Street,” which is about to close down.

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23rd October 1893: The following reports are printed at the end of the Council reports for 1892-93, but were not submitted to Council:- Annual Health Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1891, which refers to the opening of the “new Isolation Hospital at Bagthorpe.”

1st July 1895: (Building of the G.C.R.) Estates Committee report that last April that the Board of Guardians enquired if there was a Corporation site “suitable for a new workhouse, as the present Workhouse is required for the purposes of the Manchester, Sheffield and Lincolnshire Railway Company. The Committee pointed out two sites, Bagthorpe and the Coppice. Bagthorpe was objected to by the Local Government Board because of its nearness to the Isolation Hospital, and the fear of smallpox spreading from this to the Workhouse inmates; the Coppice was objected to be the Visitors to the Asylum and the Trustees of the Coppice Lunatic Hospital, because of its possible effect on the mental patients. The Commissioners in Lunacy supported the Coppice Hospital’s objection, that Hospital being much nearer the site than the Asylum. Sites were offered to the Guardians free, “to save the ratepayers expense.” Council resolved that they are willing to convey either site, if selected by the Guardians, and to memorialise the Local Government Board on the subject.

28th October 1895: Special meeting – On report of the Health Committee, agreed to sell at £200 an acre to the Guardians as much land at Bagthorpe, probably 50 to 60 acres, as the Health Committee may think prudent, for a new Workhouse, the difficulty with the Local Government Board having been overcome by the Corporation agreed not to treat smallpox cases at the Isolation Hospital.

4th December 1899: Council Committee receive report from the Health Committee that they are likely to be heavily overspent, owing to serious outbreaks of scarlet fever and typhoid fever during the year. They desire to enlarge the Epidemic Hospital at Bagthorpe. Supplementary expenditure authorised by Council and Committee ordered to provide a detailed report on the Hospital.

11th June 1900: Health Committee report on Bagthorpe Isolation Hospital, giving details of staff, pay, expenditure, cases admitted, and cost per bed. Referred back for further particular.

“The Open-Air Treatment of Smallpox”

An article that was published in the British Medical Journal on the 8th October 1904 discussing the theories of “The Open-Air Treatment of Smallpox” by Dr. Philip Boobbyer, Nottingham’s Medical Officer of Health.

An interesting part of Dr. Boobbyer’s report relating to smallpox. As in various other parts of England, that disease prevailed somewhat in Nottingham in 1903, there have been a total of 152 cases. The type was remarkably mild only 4 deaths having occurred in the 152 cases, and even as to those deaths it has been noted that two were due to causes other than smallpox.

On September 21st 1901 page 821 under the title of “A Sport of Smallpox,” we briefly discussed the extraordinary mild epidemic at that time prevailing in America, and called attention to the occasional existence of similar outbreaks of modified smallpox in Jenner’s time.

In this country during the past year or two, the epidemic has exhibited more or less similar characters. How long this may continue no one can tell, but in the meantime the percentage of deaths which are being recorded are trivial compared to the pandemic of the early 1870’s and subsequent outbreaks.

In this report Dr. Boobbyer mentions that he has lately adopted a uniform practice of nursing all serious cases singly in bell tents with open sides – that is, practically in the open air. This carries the cool regimen [prescribed course of treatment] in smallpox to an extent not attempted even by its great author Dr. Sydenham. Dr. Boobbyer states that the results of the open-air treatment have been excellent, and it is to be hoped that he will give more detailed record of the facts than can be expected in a report to a health committee of laymen.

Data as to atmospheric temperature and other conditions such as wind and rain, and as to the condition of the patients themselves in the way of temperature eruptions, complications, and so forth would be of interest. The question whether an epidemic of ordinarily severe type could be so dealt with is one regarding which Dr. Boobbyer’s opinion would be valuable; it rather appears as if he would be inclined to an affirmative answer, seeing that, as above noted, he states that he lately adopted the practice uniformly in all serious cases. As regards the Finsen red light treatment, Dr. Boobbyer agrees with Dr’s. Ricketts and Byles that it is quite useless in preventing suppuration of the rash. At the same time, the effects of direct sunlight have been found deleterious [harmful to the body or mind]. Concerning vaccination, though the total figures are small, their teaching coincides with that of universal experience. Of 128 vaccinated patients, 1 died; and of 24 unvaccinated, 3 died. The two who, as noted above died from other causes other than smallpox are included in these four, one of them being unvaccinated, and the other being the sole vaccinated patient who died. Dr. Boobbyer also notes the part played by tramps spreading the infection.

APPENDICIES

“CITY OF NOTTINGHAM SMALLPOX AND VACCINATION”

A health warning issued by the Medical Officer of Health in 1903

Smallpox is once more prevalent in the District and many other parts of the County, and numerous fresh cases are reported daily. It is therefore, desirable for the residents of Nottingham (and elsewhere) to seek protection against it

GOOD RECENT VACCINATION IS AN EFFICIENT PROTECTION AGAINST SMALLPOX and the degree of protection it confers are directly proportional to the recentness and thoroughness of the operation.

All persons who have not been properly vaccinated or re-vaccinated within the past ten years should be well vaccinated without delay.

The risk of injury from vaccinated when considered in relation to the total amount of vaccination work done, is altogether insignificant.

PHILIP BOOBBYER, MD

*Guildhall, Nottingham
Medical Officer of Health*

**NOTTINGHAM CORPORATION, BAGTHORPE ISOLATION HOSPITAL SCARLET
FEVER**

“A warning issued by the Medical Officer of Health to Parents, Guardians and Individuals concerning patients discharged from hospital after receiving treatment for Scarlet Fever.”

Although every cases is being exercised the carriage of infection by persons discharged from Bagthorpe Hospital, it is impossible in some instances to insure against such an accident, of no one can say with certainty how long the scarlet fever poison may lurk in the system. Parents and others are warned against recently discharged patients to come into unnecessarily intimate contact with others. No person discharged from a Fever Hospital should be allowed to sleep in the same bed as another until at least a fortnight after such discharge. A short holiday in the country, spent as far as possible from others and in the open air, is always desirable for persons convalescing from scarlet fever. But all persons recovering from scarlet fever should be warmly clothed, and otherwise protected against the cold. Any recently discharged person who complains of a sore throat, nose, or ears, or who has breaking out of the skin, should be at once isolated, and placed under the care of a medical man. In any case the Corporation cannot accept responsibility or liability for the outbreak of infection, occurring among the companions of persons recently discharged from hospital.

PHILIP BOOBBYER, MD., Medical Superintendent.

APPENDICIES

Enclosure, The Boundaries of Nottingham and Basford, 1792.

Boundaries of Basford and Nottingham

Friday 6th July, 1792: Ordered that Mr. Alderman Thomas Oldknow, and the Town Clerk be requested to attend on the part of the Corporation to investigate the Boundaries between the land of this Corporation and the Parish of Basford and that the Town Clerk be desired to request in the name of this Hall the assistance of Thomas Oldknow, Mr. William Goodburn and Mr. Samuel James in the name of this Hall such investigation previous to the meeting of the Commissioners for Inclosing the open Lands in the said Parish of Basford and that in case of any dispute between this Corporation and the Parish of Basford respecting the said Boundaries the said Gentlemen be authorised to take such steps on behalf of this Corporation for settling the determining same as they shall judge right and to report their opinion thereon and the steps that may take in pursuance hereof to this Hall.

Nottingham Boundaries

Wednesday 11th July, 1792: Ordered that the Resolution made at the last Hall respecting the Boundaries of the Parish of Basford and the Lands of this Town be extended to the Boundaries of the Parishes of Carlton and Gedling.

Nottingham Boundaries

Tuesday 11th September, 1792: The Mayor now reported to this Hall that pursuant to the directions of the Basford Enclosure Act the Town Clerk had been appointed by himself Mr. Thomas Oldknow and Mr. Worthington an Arbitrator on the part of this Town and Corporation for deciding the disputes respecting the Boundaries between the Town of Nottingham and the Parish of Basford and that he be directed to take every proper step for bringing the same to a speedy conclusion.

“Reverend Robert Stanser”

The Vicar of Basford

The Reverend Robert Stanser was the Vicar of Basford from 1759 until his death in 1812. It was said of him, “he was an excellent example of a faithful parish priest.” He celebrated almost every marriage in Basford for over 40 years, except for a little help from his eldest son, also named Robert, who was later to become the Bishop of Nova Scotia from 1816 to 1825.

The Reverend Robert Stanser lived in Basford at first until in 1771 he was made the Rector of Bulwell, where he had a new Rectory built. In 1768 he became Curate of Edwalton as well. The appointment of Curate for Edwalton was not seen as a very onerous task, as there was on average only one wedding a year and probably only one Sunday service every two weeks. Up until 1781 he managed three parishes, only to give Edwalton in that year.

One whole page in the baptismal register at Basford he kept for recording the births and baptisms of his eight children, six of whom were born at Basford between 1761 and 1771. However, the names of his daughters – Elizabeth, Cassandra, Hannah, Sarah, and Maria have the authentic ring of the eighteenth century.