



Parish Nursing
Ministries UK



Spring News 2021

Save the Dates

Preparation For Practice Course

26th – 29th April 2021

8th – 11th November 2021

Symposium 2022

27th -29th March

The Hayes, Alfreton.

Welcome to our Spring Newsletter 2021. We hope that in these challenging times you are finding time during Lent to reflect and prepare for Easter. Our most recent Activity Reporting data for the three-month period October to December 2020 shows that parish nurses are continuing to support the health needs of their local communities with 3374 service users being seen during that period. The vital role that Parish Nursing plays in church outreach is also evident with 1191 service users who were not regular worshippers receiving care from a parish nurse.

We are aware that as well as running busy parish nursing services many nurses are also working in local health services and are part of the national vaccination programme. We continue to give thanks and pray for all our parish nurses, church partners, volunteers and supporters and wish everyone a blessed Easter.

Good News Stories

Rose Maylin Parish Nurse for Grace Church Salisbury & Amesbury

During the Pandemic, Rose has been supporting people with mental health issues and long-term conditions, as well as encouraging healthier lifestyles and giving spiritual inputs where needed. She has also supported someone through their pregnancy and subsequent follow up, even setting up camp in her garden in the Summer, to look after the other children within Covid-19 restrictions, when the Mother went into labour overnight!

Rose has continued to make referrals to GPs and other agencies and earlier in the pandemic, gave advice and support to local shops helping them set up social distancing procedures. During the Summer, Rose set up a drop-in clinic in a local park and gave out free hand gel with her name and work phone number on it, to make herself known a little more in the community - an inspiring idea.

Rose has also been involved in the provision of a six week 'Sing and Breathe' online course for people with Respiratory conditions. She provides health inputs that complement those of her co-trainers - a community musician, creative practitioner, and co-director for music for wellbeing. Those of you who attended PNMUK's Annual Symposium in 2020 will be aware of the evidence base for this approach which was presented by Heather Henry of BreathChamps.

Rose has further innovations in mind and is hoping to work more closely with a Christian podiatrist in the future when she can have face to face clinics.

Thanks to Rose for sharing, which really illustrates how Parish Nurses have continued to innovate throughout the pandemic and have adapted their practice accordingly.



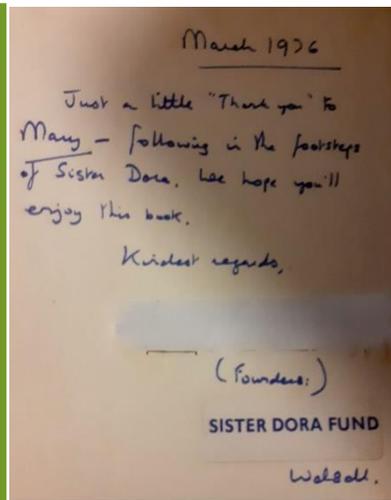
Mary Carroll Parish Nurse for The Narthex Centre, St Johns Church, Birmingham

Mary started her Nursing career 1979 aged 18 and her first ward was the Old Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham. Mary looked after a man whose wife daily came to sit by his bed and who gave Mary a book called 'Sister Dora The Life of Dorothy Pattison' by Jo Manton.

Sister Dora was an Anglican sister who arrived in the town of Walsall in 1865 to work as a nurse at the cottage hospital. At the time, the hospital was overcrowded and understaffed, but her dedication ensured that the death rate amongst the many victims of serious accidents in this industrial area, was kept lower than that of London's best teaching hospitals. Her work was influential not only in the field of medicine, but also in faith. One story shows her praying with Catholics and Protestants together, at a time when Catholics were despised by the local Protestant majority. Sister Dora was adored and respected by the people of Walsall and the whole town mourned her death erecting a statue in her honour which was the UK's first public statue of a woman not of royal blood.

During the pandemic Mary has started working shifts at Walsall Manor Hospital and on her first morning noticed a statue of Sister Dora and a memorial plaque. She reports feeling that her nursing career had come full circle and that every time she walked past the statue and saw posters about Sister Dora displayed on the hospital wards to encourage staff, felt re-inspired by her work. Mary wishes she could tell the lady who gave her the book about Sister Dora about its impact on her personally, but instead she has generously shared the story with us as an encouragement for other parish nurses.

Some of you may remember that Mary was honoured with an invitation to the royal wedding of the Duke and Duchess of Sussex in 2018 in recognition of the many years she has given to voluntary service. Examples of her work include providing practical help to people at devastating times in their lives such as arranging a funeral for a still born baby and helping a person whose house was overrun by rats. Her amazing work has continued since then and during the pandemic she has worked tirelessly to support isolated vulnerable people delivering anything from a fish and chip meal to word search books and even a red rose on valentine's day! She has also sent out a regular parish nursing newsletter to keep in touch with people who do not have digital access. We thank Mary for the service she provides as a parish nurse and for sharing this wonderful story of encouragement.



PN Catherine Scarborough

Cathy and Ruth Parish Nurses at Croxley Parish Nursing Service Hertfordshire

The Croxley Parish Nursing service supports a community that is diverse in age and need. For example, they frequently support the mothers of teenage children experiencing mental health difficulties, carers of those with conditions such as dementia, and families where a member is under palliative care services.

During the pandemic, for various reasons, the parish nurses at Croxley have been restricted to working from home in the main but have found their workload has increased due to the number of people experiencing problems associated with isolation. They are happy to report that there has been a lot of networking between different agencies in the area, which will be beneficial for the future of the service and has meant the nurses have been able to signpost service users towards specialist support.

The service was delighted to have recruited a new team member. Ruth is a Mental Health Nurse and joins Cathy, who is a Registered General Nurse, thus widening the skills and experience of the team. By doing this, the Service has doubled their parish nursing hours to 15.5 per week so they are able to provide more support to the Croxley Community.

The service is also supported by four volunteers at present.

We pray for this developing service and for the success of its work in the local community and look forward to hearing further updates in the future.

Good Luck Rachel

Rachel McReady has been a Parish Nurse at Steeple Church Dundee since 2014. Rachel has worked tirelessly in the role to support the homeless, people in poverty and other vulnerable groups and is known for her high levels of empathy and care. In 2017 Rachel became a Queens Nurse, and became a national figure in Scotland by developing the 'Roadmap to Recovery' an innovative resource which supports people accessing local addiction services. Fellow Parish Nurse, Barbara Macfarlane, remembers when Rachel started the role and the vast experience of working with homeless people she brought to the team. We would like to wish Rachel good luck in her new role in the NHS and are all very grateful she is able to continue contributing the service in a voluntary capacity.

Happy Retirement to Claire Gillett

Claire Gillett joined the parish nursing family in 2011. Her first parish nursing role was at St Marys Church in Ely where she quickly made her mark and alongside this took on the role Regional Coordinator for PNMUK in the East of England. Claire's most recent role was at the Granta Vale benefice of seven churches. Claire has worked tirelessly with an exceptional leadership team to grow this service and developed an innovative and formal partnership with a local GP surgery. Her pioneering work and that of PNMUK, was highlighted in a report by the Cinnamon Network, "The Churches Impact on Health and Care 2017-18

(https://www.researchgate.net/publication/332653195_The_Church%27s_Impact_on_Health_and_Care_2017-18) and reported in the Guardian leading to an invitation to the Point of Light Awards hosted by then Prime Minister David Cameron in Downing Street. He said: "Good healthcare isn't just about drugs, injections and treatments. It is also about relationships between people. As a Parish Nurse, the care and support Claire has given has been a lifeline for hundreds of people suffering from poor health. I'm delighted to recognise Claire's service today by making her a Point of Light".



Claire has always been very generous with her time to PNMUK. In an interview Claire talked about how being a parish nurse had enabled her to use her gifts as a nurse and as hands and feet of Jesus in the community, she had direction in life.

We thank Claire for her service, joyful presence and the massive impact she has made in her role. She will be sorely missed by the parish nursing community and we wish her a very happy retirement.

Our new Trustee.

We Welcome Amanda Allchorn who has joined the Board of PNMUK as a Trustee. She also serves Churches Together in England (CTE) as a Trustee, joining their Board in 2018. and we are grateful for her specialist experience and knowledge of national strategic church communications and media.

Amanda has held Governor and Trusteeships with Spurgeon's College, The Church Conferences Trust (CCT) and National Chair of Girls Brigade England and Wales (GBEW).

She trained as a Spiritual Director at the London Centre for SD, and now 'journeys' with 6 women in leadership and leads Retreats for Anglican women living in Aquitaine in SW France. She developed the Waterways Chaplaincy (WWC) Ministry from a regional to a national initiative, working initially as a consultant leading on Fundraising and Communications, then for a short period as the charity Director.

Amanda is also Grandmother to three grandchildren. She is semi-retired from professional corporate and church senior leadership roles. We are so grateful that she has found the time to join the PNMUK trustee team and help with the promotion of Parish Nursing in the UK



If you feel able to join our Trustee team, please get in touch.



PNMUK LENT APPEAL continues

We have already been blessed with kind donations both for our Lent appeal and for the alternative Symposium, our online refresh event held over two days in March.

Online Refresh Event

This event was well attended by many Parish Nurses and was clearly an enjoyable time of connection, reflection, learning and looking forward. Our thanks go to Anne and all participants for their work to make this event such a success.

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Parish Nursing Ministries UK Lent Appeal: Change From Change

During this period of Lent please could you help us to continue to support both our parish nurses, those setting up new services and to encourage new growth in Parish Nursing in the UK by raising funds for PNMUK.



Jars of Change

If you could collect any spare change or the money saved by giving up something for Lent in a jar we could use this money to change lives through the work of parish nurses throughout the UK.

We would be very grateful if any gifts collected could be added up and the total amount sent to PNMUK by cheque, JustGiving or bank transfer marked Jar21.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

A message from Sue our CEO

On writing this, I have just been debriefing and reflecting together with the Central PNMUK team on the wonderful time we shared with our Parish Nurses at our online event on the 15th – 16th March. This newsletter, for me, continues the theme that was visited over and over in this event, of nurses telling their stories. We can never capture the beauty and effectiveness of this ministry without the stories of how people's lives have been impacted by God through parish nurses throughout the UK.

It is a time to look forward and as spring has sprung, our moods lift and our minds unconsciously turn to hope. Out of a place of exhaustion, we can see buds of new life. There is yet a journey ahead, but here at PNMUK, we continue to stand in faith for what God has put in our hands 'to do'.

Briefly, in this vein, some of the areas we'd like to develop over the coming year include: Investing in church partnerships in a more relevant fashion, reviewing how we communicate to all our various stakeholders, aiming to reflect a more diverse nursing and church community by working hard to raise the profile of parish nursing to a wider audience, delivering on a clear fundraising strategy, improving our internal systems and processes, and ongoing investment in prayer support.

And finally, as is reflected above, I would like to add my personal 'thanks' to those parish nurses who are retiring and moving on, and a warm welcome to our new trustee as well as all our 'new' parish nurses and churches.

Sue Bretherick.