



Museum Matters

Volume 4, Issue 2

June 2020

IPSWICH HOSPITAL MUSEUM Inc.

Committee :

Chairman: M. Parcell

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Chairman's Chatterings

How ironic that the year that the World Health Organization designates 2020 as the year of the nurse in honour of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale, the entire world would be in the grip of a Covid 19 pandemic. Nurses this year have been one of the first lines of defence in managing this pandemic.

During the height of the Covid pandemic our nurses have played an important role, not just in caring for people who were suspected of having contracted this disease but also in a much more preventative role. Our Contact Tracing team of nurses were our absolute first line of defence when it came to Covid 19.

Nurses that work in the contact tracing unit have two very important functions. They typically are the first healthcare workers to contact people to inform them of their disease status. Being the first person to deliver shocking news can always be difficult and it requires compassion and patience as people process the news of their disease status. The contact tracer nurses gently assist people to understand what steps are required to ensure that the disease is not transmitted to others, and also provide advice on how to access care. The second main role of the contact tracer nurse is then to work with the infected person to carefully step out all the interactions/ contacts they have had with people, places etc. during their infectious period. This is painstaking work and requires tenacity and diligence. Once the contact tracers have a picture of the infected persons movements during their infectious stage the contact tracer then has the arduous task of making contact with each person to advise them to undertake testing as well as providing advice on how they should self-quarantine whilst they await test results. As you could imagine contact tracers can contact up to ninety different people, places for a single incident.

So whilst our nurses who work in the high pressure areas of the Emergency Department and the Intensive Care Unit should be regularly praised, it should be recognised that during this pandemic I think our true healthcare heroes have been the contact tracing nurses who quietly worked to track, contain and educate infected people who were not even aware they were a risk to others. I imagine that Florence would have loved to have a team of contact tracers to assist her in improving the impact on the spread of disease. I am sure that Florence who was an advocate for simple infection prevention techniques such as frequent hand washing, clean sheets and reducing over crowding would be pleased that we are returning to such basic tenets of cleanliness.

Hospital on Fire



Fire almost destroyed Ipswich Hospital's oldest building more than 15 years ago.

On February 6, 2005 a massive fire erupted in the heritage-listed Jubilee Building about 5.20pm, according to reports, and spread rapidly, blowing out windows and gutting the two top floors of the Court Street building.

The tin roof collapsed as flames leapt from the top floor about 5.40pm. Dense, black smoke attracted scores of onlookers from throughout Ipswich.



Small Fire in Children's Ward

Child patients at the Ipswich General Hospital were given a chance to see the Ipswich Fire Brigade in action yesterday when an electrical fault in a light in their ward started a small fire.

The children were entertained while the brigade set about extinguishing the fire which burnt a part of the ceiling around the light and a ceiling batten.

Queensland Times 6 June 1974



They were soon urged to clear the area as the building's brick wall appeared to flex, prompting fears it could collapse due to the extreme heat inside.

Some wards were evacuated, with patients gathering outside the Renal Dialysis Unit on Chelmsford Avenue. More than 55 fire fighters from six crews were called in to help fight the blaze. The fire was brought under control about 6.30pm.

Ipswich police inspector Dominic McHugh said, "The fire looked a lot more spectacular than it was because the old building (which was built in 1887) really produced a lot of smoke," Insp McHugh said.

"(Emergency crews) did a fantastic job working together to control the fire and evacuate people from the hospital." *Queensland Times 7 February 2005*

Fowlhouse Blaze

Some workmen were burning rubbish at the hospital when a spark from the fire started a patch of grass burning near the fowl house, about 75yds. from the nurses' quarters. The men almost had the blaze under control with wet bags, when it extended to the fowlhouse, and some surrounding bushes. They summoned the Ipswich Fire Brigade which arrived quickly and soon extinguished the flames, but the fowlhouse was completely destroyed. From the centre of the city it seemed as though the blaze was at the nurses' quarters, and a large crowd flocked up Nicholas Street to the top of Denmark Hill. *Queensland Times 8 October 1931*

Jubilee History

The Jubilee Building, nearly destroyed by fire in 2005, is the only original building on the Ipswich Hospital campus.

It was built in 1887 as the Jubilee Children's Ward, to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of Queen Victoria, with just a single storey. A second storey was added in 1908.

In 1964 the hospital board requested that loan funds be set aside to convert the ground floor of the Jubilee building for use as a School of Nursing and to provide medical officers' quarters on the top floor. The Health Department agreed but funds were not made available until 1967.

The board decided that the retiring Matron should be

honoured by naming the new school the "A.E. Wilcox School of Nursing".

The school was opened in 1968 by Health Minister Douglas Tooth. Miss Wilcox travelled from Sydney, at the board's expense, to attend the ceremony.

One room on the bottom floor of the floor was dedicated the "Catherine Evans Memorial Reference Library" in honour of Sr Evans who spent many years as doyen of the male surgical ward and in whose memory also an award was annually given to an extraordinary nurse of each graduating class from 1956 until 1992.

This room now houses the Ipswich Hospital Museum.

A demonstration ward was added on the top floor in 1971.

Rising from the Ashes

Four years after it was nearly razed the Jubilee Building reopened.

Fire insurance money helped pay for the restoration and modernisation of the distinctive red brick building that once served as a children's ward and nurses' quarters.

Many of the former nurses who lived in the Court Street building as students attended its re-opening on 26 June 2009.

Miss Margaret Macfarlane began and ended her nursing career in the building, first as a student in 1946 and finally as Director of Nursing.

"Beginners always lived in this building," she said.

"We slept on the open verandah.

"I was a country kid - it didn't occur to me to be scared."

Ms Macfarlane said she was "delighted" by the building's transformation into a training centre.

Public subscriptions funded the old building in the 1880s, and it was opened during Queen Victoria's

jubilee year.

Member for Ipswich Rachel Nolan said it was a beautiful building that wasn't getting the best use when the fire happened on February 6, 2005.

"I certainly thought there was no prospect of doing anything but knock down the remaining walls (after the fire)," she said.

"This is a project that's been really well done.

"It's tremendously respectful of the architecture."

Brisbane student architect Ben Doolan, from the firm S2F, was involved in the renovation.

"The building was severely damaged by fire - the timber framing was still here," he said.

"All we were left with was the brick shell of the building."

Former nurses said the back of the building was known as "onion alley", supposedly because the residents wept a lot.

Extracted from the Queensland Times 27 June 2009



The Jubilee Building, c. 1951, before it was gutted by fire in 2005.

Jubilee Building Timeline

- 1887 Jubilee Ward erected. One level Children's Ward
- 1907/8 Jubilee 2nd storey commenced and front façade altered
- 1909 Jubilee 2nd Storey opened as nurses accommodation
- 1922 Conversion from gas to electric lighting, in Jubilee building and Nurses quarters, completed by 1923
- 1935 Sunshine ward opened 27 July. Two storey brick for 44 patients and an operating theatre. Jubilee used as nurses' quarters.
- 1965 Jubilee Building interior renovation, tiered lecture room, Matron's flat
- 1982 Listed Significant Building in "Ipswich Heritage Study"
- 1996 Recommended Listing Heritage Act 1992, in "Queensland Health Heritage Survey", October 1996
- 2005 Jubilee Building top floor and roof destroyed by fire.
- 2008 Jubilee Building rebuild commenced
- 2009 Jubilee Building rebuild completed.



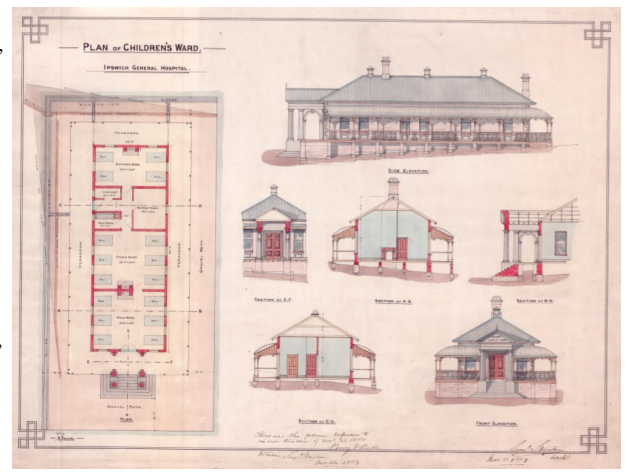
The Jubilee Building today, beautifully restored. The front doors open into the Ipswich Hospital Museum but access to the building is from the side entrance on the left.



Left: Jubilee Building, the first children's ward, in 1889.

Right: The plans show the female ward at the bottom (nearest the front door) and then the male ward, both with six beds. At the top of the plan is the diphtheria ward with four beds separated from the other wards by a nurses' room and linen closet.

Note the two fireplaces.



International Year of the Nurse and Midwife

The museum is currently closed but on reopening a new exhibition will be planned: "A Tribute to the Ipswich Hospital Nurse in 2020—The International Year of the Nurse and Midwife". The Friends of the Ipswich Hospital Museum Facebook page is showcasing Ipswich Hospital nurses who have achieved extraordinary things. In this issue of the newsletter we are highlighting two Ipswich Hospital trained nurses who may not be well known locally but have had stellar careers.

Lieutenant Commander Angeneta Googe

Angeneta (Ange) Googe was born in Ipswich into a military family and attended various schools in Queensland and the Australian Capital Territory before completing her registered nurse training at Ipswich General Hospital in January 1985.

She briefly worked as a Registered Nurse in Maryborough and Ipswich hospitals before joining the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) as a Sub-Lieutenant Nursing Officer in 1987.

Ange deployed to the First Gulf War in 1990 with the Australian Task Group Medical Support Element on United States Navy Ship *Comfort*.

Outside of health-related postings, Ange held several Staff Officer positions including taking the lead to permanently relocate four Fremantle Class Patrol Boats to northern Australian ports and completely restructuring the Navy's industrial hygiene capability.

She maintained and improved her clinical skills by undertaking civilian work including with the National Health Service in England, at Frankston and Rosebud Hospitals in Victoria, the Royal Flying Doctors' Service, Cairns Base Hospital and Royal Darwin Hospital.

Passionate about education Ange provided clinical skills

upgrades for Navy Medics and Ships' Medical Emergency Team personnel and taught life support skills in the Republic of Palau. She also successfully completed an extensive tertiary



education of her own starting with a Bachelor of Nursing and finishing with three Masters degrees.

Very few RAN Nursing Officers have posted to a permanent position on a ship which Ange achieved on HMAS *Manoora* where she served in Operation Acolyte (Support to the 2006 Commonwealth Games in Melbourne), Operation Astute (East Timor), Exercise Croix du Sud (Noumea) and Exercise RIMPAC (Hawaii).

During her career, Ange managed a diverse range of Defence health facilities with specialities in

aviation, underwater medicine and public health. She was also as the Navy's first dedicated Aeromedical Evacuation Nursing Officer conducting maritime patient retrievals by sea and rotary wing aircraft.

Work as the Global Health Planner involved ensuring that people with an appropriate health status deployed on military operations around the world where she was also responsible for the ability to provide timely urgent care to those injured in warfare. This work involved her final operational deployment to the Middle East where she was recognised with an Australian Active Service Clasp for supporting the *International Coalition Against Terrorism*. This was followed by the high profile posting as the Executive Officer HMAS *Cairns* between 2014-2017.

Ange met her lifelong partner, and fellow Navy Officer, Bob Heffey, in 1993 and finally retired from the Royal Australian Navy in June 2017.



IPSWICH GENERAL HOSPITAL NURSES GRADUATION 1985

Back Row — Lynn Johnson, Karen Hauchildt, Angeneta Googe, Robyn Williams.
2nd Row — Lenore Holland, Maria Costello, Louise Griffiths, Colum Van Dyken, Jennifer Mahoney.
Front Row — Kay Fullerton, Janice Googh, Tracey Blacka, Dione Hogan.

WHITEHEAD STUDIOS, IPSWICH

Pandemic 100 years ago

Today's COVID19 has forced restricted living conditions on much of the world's population but previous pandemics and epidemic battles were fought without the use of modern technology and methods we know now.

Many diseases which were rife during the 1800s were still plaguing the population well into the 19th century. Typhoid, dysentery and diphtheria had lessened but were still causing havoc. Plague and infantile paralysis (poliomyelitis) occurred early in the 1900s and in 1919 influenza, the "Spanish Flu" (called so because of its alleged origin in Spain) reached pandemic proportions in Queensland.

Many thousands had died in Europe from the influenza pandemic before it appeared in Ipswich in May 1919. It raged here for about four weeks. With a

short incubation period it spread rapidly. Over 3,000 cases were notified, although it is believed there many more. Many businesses were closed with often the whole staff afflicted. The hospital was fortunate that the epidemic hospital had been established, providing admission for many seriously ill patients. Staffing was a difficult problem. Early in the epidemic several nurses were also ill. The Acting Matron, Miss G.E. Waters, continued to work while she was sick until she was relieved by Miss Pampling, a former matron who volunteered to return temporarily. Dr Philip Thornton, who had returned to the hospital as assistant superintendent after retiring from the senior position, took charge of the influenza patients. Dr Gilmore Wilson, the Medical Superintendent, was forced to bed. About 20 people died in the hospital and several more in the community—mostly among young

adults whereas in other epidemics most fatalities came from the young and the very old. Drs Wilson and Mervyn Patterson, other victims, recovered but the highly respected Dr John Flynn died. The hospital authorities were grateful for the many volunteers who helped the overtaxed staff during the outbreak. They included teachers from the Ipswich Grammar School, ministers of religion, pharmacists from the Friendly Society's Dispensary, and members of the general community.

Worldwide the influenza lasted almost 36 months from January 1918 to December 1920. It infected 500 million people – about a third of the world's population at the time. The death toll is estimated to have been anywhere from 17 million to 50 million, and possibly as high as 100 million, making it one of the deadliest pandemics in human history.



Left: Annie Hertweck as a young nurse.

Below: Helping a group of young nurses with their Maternal and Child Welfare Certificate training, a role she enjoyed.

Article and photographs were supplied by Elaine Phillips, a descendent of Miss Hertweck.



Annie Pauline Hertweck

Annie was born at the family farm at Mt. Marrow on 26 September 1903, the daughter of Gottlieb Hertweck and Elisabeth Krebs, both children of German immigrants. Her grandparents and one great grandfather arrived in Australia between 1861 and 1865. Her grandfather, Lorenze Krebs, settled on land in the Rosewood Scrub about 1870. Great grandfather Johan Duhs built the steeple on St Stephens Presbyterian Church.

Educated at Mt Marrow State School and Gatton High School, Annie completed her General Nursing Certificate at the Ipswich General Hospital in about 1930 and then her midwifery at the Lady Bowen Hospital in Brisbane. She studied for the Maternal and Child Welfare Certificate in the late 1930s and worked as a midwife at both Lowood Hospital and Marburg Private Hospital and did some private nursing before being appointed to the staff of the department in April, 1939. She worked in Baby Clinics at Bundaberg, Townsville, and Charleville where she also travelled by train to Quilpie to staff the clinic there one day per week. During

the latter part of WW2 she was stationed at Charleville.

Near the end of WW2 Annie became the Matron of The Sandgate Maternal and Child Welfare Home, a government-run institution caring for children whose mothers were seriously ill and for whom no other suitable arrangements could not be made.

The Jefferis Turner Maternal and Child Welfare Home was set up at Fairy Knoll in Eastern Heights, Ipswich in 1952 and Annie was appointed Matron. She loved training the young women who came to do their Maternal and Child Welfare Certificates. Annie was appointed Deputy Superintendent of the Department in late 1959 and Superintendent in July 1967. She retired aged 65 in September 1968.

Annie spent her long retirement at Redcliffe and died in the Ballycara Nursing Home at Scarborough on 17 November 2002, aged 99. She had lived independently until she was 95 when she had a slight stroke. She then moved into the hostel and on to the nursing home a few months before she died.

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