



National Association of Women Pharmacists

Newsletter

Centenary Issue June 2005

Celebrating Women in Pharmacy



A company of PHOENIX group

Centenary Congratulations!

PHOENIX Healthcare Distribution Limited is proud to design and print this newsletter on behalf of the NAWP.

We send congratulations to the NAWP on its Centenary and extend best wishes for the future.

The President's Letter

Dear Fellow Members,

Your Executive Committee (EC) has been thinking about and planning the NAWP Centenary celebrations for so long that it is really difficult to appreciate that June 2005 has nearly arrived.

Women, who make up more than 50% of the Pharmaceutical Register and more than 60% of pharmacy undergraduates, owe much to those early pioneering women pharmacists who in 1905 founded the Association of Women Pharmacists which later became the National Association of Women Pharmacists. In short, their aims and objectives were to promote organised action with regard to the unsatisfactory state of the employment of women in pharmacy. As Nicholas Wood, President of the RPSGB, said when he addressed guests at the NAWP centenary conference dinner 'the picture is much different from that 100 years ago. NAWP has exceeded the expectations of its founders'.

Our celebrations seem to have taken on a momentum of their own, a video has been produced featuring an older woman pharmacist talking to a newly qualified graduate; NAWP badges have been distributed to the membership; the Centenary Conference was held in April and one of its highlights was the Edwardian dinner when the first public meeting of the AWP was re-enacted. Plans for the Centenary Luncheon to be held in Lambeth in June are well in hand and HRH The Princess Royal will be our principal guest. Contacts have been made with other organisations and we were delighted to welcome to the Conference two students from the BPSA and three Dutch women pharmacists from NOVA, their equivalent of NAWP. A presentation on the foundation of NAWP will be given to the International Congress of the History of Pharmacy meeting in Edinburgh in June and members of NAWP are hoping to attend a meeting of European Women Pharmacists in Heidelberg in August. It makes me exhausted even to think of it!!

Whilst the EC has been determined to celebrate the past achievements of NAWP it is also concerned to ensure that the organisation is strong and 'fit for purpose' for the future. To that end the EC held a pre-conference 'brainstorming' session and then sought the views of conference delegates. We will publish an account of these findings in the next Newsletter and hope in this way to garner further thoughts and ideas from you, the membership.

The RPSGB has been immensely supportive of us this year and I should like to take this opportunity to publicly thank them. One delegate to Conference described NAWP as her professional family, the Society is the 'family' of all pharmacists. It is vital therefore that those members of the newly elected Council, who will be leading us into an unknown, challenging and very different future, fully appreciate the responsibilities that they have undertaken not only for pharmacists and their patients but also for the future of pharmacy itself.

Members of the NAWP Executive have ALL worked tremendously hard this year and I should like to thank them for their dedication and support. We look forward to meeting many of you in Lambeth in June.

With my kind regards

Monica Rose

Women and Work Commission

On behalf of NAWP, Monica Rose and I submitted evidence to the Government's consultation on barriers faced by women in the workforce (which was mentioned in the January Newsletter). Amongst other things, we drew attention to the actions that RPSGB had felt forced to take concerning CPD and fees. We suggested that as a result, many female pharmacists who could have been contributing to healthcare for a further 15-20 years may cease to do so. We further suggested that the difficulties could have been foreseen if the Government and other regulators had conducted gender impact assessments, when considering the issue of CPD.

Christine Heading

From the Archives – 1944

At a joint meeting of the Western Pharmacists Association and NAWP on November 2nd the lecture theatre was packed to capacity, and it became necessary to turn people away.

The topic was a Ministry of Supply ciné film illustrating the preparation of penicillin followed by a lecture by Mr H Davis Ph.D, B.Sc, Ph.C, A.R.I.C. (Chief Pharmacist, University College Hospital, London)

Chemist and Druggist, 18 November 1944

Centenary Celebrations 2005



Those of you who attended the Annual Conference in Abergavenny in April will have seen the Exhibition board prepared by Briony Hudson, Keeper of the Museum Collections. This panel will be on display in the Foyer at Lambeth during June, at the International Congress for the History of Pharmacy in Edinburgh and at the British Pharmaceutical Conference in Manchester.

The Annual Conference was very successful and a report of the sessions will be published in the Autumn Newsletter. As many of you will have read in the Chemist and Druggist, the highlight of the Conference Dinner in April was the re-enactment of the first public meeting of the Association of Women Pharmacists as it was then known. Many members entered the spirit of the occasion and wore Edwardian dress, thereby contributing to this colourful and atmospheric occasion. The President of the RPSGB, Nicholas Wood, attended the dinner and also took part in the re-enactment in the role of the President of 1905.

At the time of going to press the final arrangements are being made for the Centenary Luncheon on 15th June and we are delighted so many members are able to share in this event. For those of you who are unable to attend, it is planned to produce and distribute a Newsheet featuring highlights of the day.

Virginia Watson



Centenary Congratulations!

Boots The Chemists is pleased to have been able to support NAWP's centenary celebrations. We recognise the important contribution that the Association has made in the support of women pharmacists over many years, helping them to play a greater role in the profession for the benefit of patient care.

Congratulations on your achievement.

Letters to the Editor

The members of the Blackpool branch of NAWP do not dispute the value of CPD as the way for pharmacists to be given due recognition amongst modern health professionals, who are required to demonstrate their competence to practice on a regular basis throughout their careers.

We acknowledge that younger pharmacists accept CPD as a necessary component of their work and will be prepared to continue these studies when they later become part-time workers. However, the majority of members of this branch are either retired (some having been on the register for 60 years), or work just a few hours per week, performing locum duties which are very much appreciated by local community pharmacists and hospitals. It is difficult for this valuable group of experienced pharmacists to commit to paying the full membership fee and to embark upon CPD when they are employed for very few hours. Could consideration be given for a reduced fee for those who do undertake CPD but work fewer than, for example, ten hours per week; i.e. similar to the previous part-time fee?

Many older pharmacists have chosen to retire from the register rather than commit to undertaking CPD and/or signing the "non-practising" declaration. In the present form this declaration appears to insult the intelligence and integrity of members and shows no regard for the knowledge and experience gained over many years' work. The article by the President of the Society in the PJ of Feb.12th acknowledges this fact and, hopefully, the public consultation promised in advance of the new Pharmacy Order will result in a suitably amended declaration. Some members have signed the declaration this year, rather than resign, in the hope that such change will occur.

There must be many members who would like to retain their contact with the Society, continue to call themselves pharmacists (even if required to add "non-practising", or "retired"), and maintain due recognition as professional people. There seems little justification for such members to be required to pay a large fee; why should it be necessary for them to pay more than the cost of the PJ plus a suitable administration fee?

Anita Sutcliffe, Blackpool

Below is a copy of the email that I sent when I didn't renew my membership of the Society earlier this year. I did this because of the dictatorial attitude on advice, although I also thought the increase in fees was extortionate.

'It is a sad moment to be leaving the register after 55 years. Although mainly a locum I always liked to keep up to scratch by reading the journal and by regularly attending Branch meetings. More than doubling the fee was bad enough, but to take away my role as advisor after all my years of practice would have been too humiliating.'

I have been following all the arguments last year and fail to understand why you could not introduce the term 'Retired' after the qualification as they do with ranks in the Armed Forces and similar organisations. When my husband retired his company regularly sent him a magazine to inform him what was happening throughout the country and with news of friends. Many older pharmacists rely on the Journal for such news and I think they should have considered this. How can we treat our old friends and colleagues with respect when they retire or die if we have no relevant information available to us? I am quite disgusted by this lack of respect and consideration after having been a Blackpool Branch committee member for about 30 years and serving two spells as Branch president. When I moved to Yorkshire the Blackpool Branch ceased to function.

I used to attend study days on many Sundays and was presented with a certificate (C.P.D) by Prof. Alison Blenkinsopp at Manchester University in 1992. Several people came to the study days but did not follow up with the written examination.

I really enjoyed working as a pharmacist and I feel I had a useful life. I shall miss meeting my fellow pharmacists at branch meetings in Harrogate and keeping up with the latest scientific articles in the Journal.'

Mrs C D Helliwell, Harrogate

As a longstanding member of NAWP I was delighted to receive the Newsletter and see the variety of ways that NAWP is to celebrate the centenary. However, I would like to put forward an additional suggestion for the consideration of the organisers.

Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the Annual Conference as my son was organising a charity event that weekend. He is the manager of a band and the father of one of the players was terminally ill with cancer, so it was decided to give a charity performance in Gateshead in aid of Cancer Research UK. I felt that I should be there to lend my support. The event raised £2,000 although sadly the father did not live to see the event take place. This effort by young people has made me reflect on the many times our profession deals with cancer patients and their relatives and my suggestion is that we adopt a charity which would benefit from any funds raised during our centenary year. Cancer Research UK is a well known and benefits people from all walks of life.

I hope consideration will be given to this, as one of the roles of pharmacists has always been to help those less fortunate than themselves and I am sure that at a time of celebration this will not be forgotten.

Elaine Owen, Newcastle upon Tyne

President's Note: Monies raised at our Conference have been sent to the 'President's Charity', the International Myeloma Foundation (IMS)

Reminiscences and Reflections on a Career in Pharmacy

In our last issue, we featured the reminiscences of Audrey Wintle. Monica Rose has also visited Mrs Jessie Davies who reluctantly gave up working as a locum at the age of 88 in April last year. Having recently had a leg amputation she was finding it "difficult to stand at the computer with only one leg"

Monica talked to her about her work in pharmacy and we are very grateful to Jessie Davies for sharing her memories with us.

Jessie had been on the Register for 66 years until her retirement. She would have liked to train as a doctor but eventually qualified in Cardiff with a C&D diploma and had followed a two-year college course and a two-year apprenticeship. She then went to work in the valleys at a shop owned by a pharmacist whose main business was in Cardiff docks. The shop had a liquor license and they sold a range of spirits and wines. She confirmed that she had no difficulty in finding a position and there was equality of employment conditions for men and women.

She first met her husband-to-be at the examinations that they were both taking at Bloomsbury Square (he attended the South of England College of Pharmacy) and moved to London after marrying him. She worked at a pharmacy in the East End of London that was also a sub post office and regularly made pills, cachets and powders. They left London in the middle of the war because of the bombing and moved to Somerset where they jointly managed a pharmacy in Bridgwater.

They eventually purchased their own pharmacy in Rhyader, Powys only moving from there to be nearer to the family. The pharmacy that they bought in Rhymney, they owned for 25 years. Since selling it Mrs. Davies has worked continuously as a locum whilst her husband preferred the pleasures of retirement.

Centenary Congratulations!



As President of the Dutch Association for Women Pharmacists (NOVA) it gives me great pleasure to send our congratulations to the National Association of Women Pharmacists on reaching this special anniversary.

We look forward to meeting our British colleagues at some of the celebrations planned this year. In NOVA we recently reached our 15th anniversary, so it will be some time before we can return the invitation to participate in our centenary year! – but we hope that the initiative to share ideas and information about our mutual professional interests will be a lasting one, resulting in friendships and the building of international bridges towards better patient care. Wishing the NAWP continued success in the future,

Yours sincerely, Ineke de Roock

Pharmacy 2005 The Future

As a pre-registration student I keep asking myself about the future of our profession; where are the weaknesses currently in pharmacy and how can they be successfully addressed? How can pharmacists improve their role? Where does the profession wish to be in ten, twenty... years?

It is clear to me that increasingly pharmacy is being recognised as a core service in health provision. The government have specifically detailed the potential for pharmacists to take an extended role in patient care by publication of the 'Building on the best' and 'The NHS Improvement Plan'. Qualification and practice of groups of pharmacist supplementary prescribers highlights that the government are serious and determined to action their words. The review of the undergraduate degree to include a background in prescribing will seek to intensify the future role of the pharmacist in this area.

The start of this year saw registration of technicians, which marks a further step towards freeing the pharmacist time from repetitive dispensing and highlights further the competency framework within the dispensary. Likewise with pharmacists, the much debated registration categories and continuing professional development education records will hopefully produce a tighter regulated profession which may be greater respected.

As the future develops and control of entry regulations, NHS LIFT projects and electronic services become implemented, the face of pharmacy will have to diversify and become more integrated within other health professions. I believe the profession is aware of these challenges and I hope that such opportunities will be met in a unified and proactive manner to ensure pharmacy is maintained as a key healthcare service.

Helen Badham

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN PHARMACISTS

WAR AID FUND. SPECIAL EFFORT.

Hon. Secretary: MISS V. W. BURRELL, 17, APPLEBY ROAD, LONDON, E.8.

Dear Members,

The War is not being successfully fought by just one huge effort, but by repeated efforts again and again from everyone. The enemy bomb, shell and bomb again to destroy our shops, our hospitals and our supplies. They cause our centres of population to shift and try in every way to impoverish our services, vital to the nation. **DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN.** Our victimised fellow pharmacists must carry on with their work. Show them you know this and give them renewed courage, determination and some practical sympathy, by giving to the War Aid Fund, to keep them in practice.

Perhaps you have already given to the Fund in response to Mr. Descon's personal appeal, or through your local Branch. But we ask you for repeated effort, steady and sure, to maintain this most necessary aid to our less fortunate members. This we feel, is the particular part the women in pharmacy can play, in answer to a special request to members of our Association, from The President of The Pharmaceutical Society for their help.

We ask you to put regularly into the envelope provided, six contributions of one shilling (or more) and to encourage those interested in our cause to help with their donations too. Please fill in your name and address on the slip at the bottom of this page and return it with the cheque or postal order in the already addressed envelope and save paper.

Do your best and let our colleagues feel the value of our steady and united effort.

FRANCES M. HARVEY,
President.

(Cheques and Postal Orders to be made payable to Miss Burrell.)

Name _____

Address _____

Achievements of Early Women Pharmacists

Some of the early women members of the Pharmaceutical Society completed valuable and pioneering work in the profession. Margaret Buchanan passed the Major in 1887 and was the first woman to gain a silver medal and a Council prize. She went on to establish a School of Pharmacy for women in Gordon Square and later became the first woman on the Society's Council. Elise Hooper Higgins, a talented academic was awarded the Redwood and Burroughs Research Scholarships in 1902 and 1903 respectively. Her later work included papers on Beilschmeide Bark and on the alcoholic extraction of the Belladonna and Cinchona Bark, as well as working on the publication of the first British Pharmaceutical Codex.

Marilyn Creese

Celebrating Women in Pharmacy

Memories of Wartime Pharmacy

Soon after the outbreak of the 1939-45 war shortages began to appear. This was partly due to the government deciding that only essential goods should be imported. We soon cleared out all our old stock of cosmetics and perfumes. Customers didn't worry what state the containers were in so long as the contents were what they wanted.

Cosmetic firms introduced a bi-annual quota system based on what had been ordered in the full year prior to the outbreak of war. When we received a quota we would draw the dark blue blinds when we closed on Saturday evening and decorate the window with the "goodies". Where the blinds met, customers could see these, so when we arrived on Monday morning a long queue would await us. Within an hour all the quota would have been sold.

As there was a lull between quotas from the various firms we had to use our initiative to keep the customers happy. We made lipsticks in suppository moulds. Customers kept their cases and we supplied refills! Shampoo, perfume, 'Eau de Cologne'; you name it, we made it! When a unit of Indian soldiers arrived in town they came to the shop shouting "Tail", "Tail", meaning hair oil - we obliged with light liquid paraffin, coloured with chlorophyll and perfume.

Before the war if a girl came to work with bare legs, she would be sent home or sacked. When clothes rationing started, a pair of stockings (tights were unheard of) required 2 coupons so bare legs were allowed. Consequently, women wanted leg make-up. My boss had intended making deodorants so had labels printed, calling the product "Nodor". This did not happen so he used the labels for the leg make-up.

We normally stocked ¼ dozen Crookes Zinc Cream. Suddenly we realised that we were reordering on a regular basis ½ dz, 1dz, 2dz then direct from Crookes 3dz, 6dz, 1 gross, 2 gross and 3 gross. The reason for this was because one lady found that Crookes Zinc Cream made a very good vanishing cream. Buses took hundreds of women to the Royal Ordnance Factory at Glascoed, about 8 miles from Abergavenny for the 3 x 8-hour shifts. News soon spread about the cream so an Abergavenny woman was given the job of buying it.

We wouldn't be allowed to make goods today but we never heard that anyone had suffered any ill effects from anything we supplied. "Necessity is the mother of invention." Pharmacists, and even Chemist and Druggists, were well qualified to adapt to the situation.

Audrey Wintle



Centenary Congratulations!

"Congratulations to the National Association of Women Pharmacists on completing your first hundred years of promoting women in pharmacy. Chemist & Druggist looks forward to a second century of reporting on your members' successes and those of all women involved in the profession and practice of pharmacy."

Secretary's Postbag

NAWP receives items of news from women's groups. If you would like more information on any of these items please contact Brenda Ecclestone on 01453 759516.

Médecins sans Frontières

MSF staff have reported their delight and amazement that so many people working worldwide have responded to the Tsunami appeal. MSG is working in remote communities in Banda Acer, where other agencies are unable to act. In trouble spots elsewhere, such as Darfur in the Sudan, MSF is working alone and some Tsunami donors have been asked whether part of their donations could be used for aid to these equally desperate victims.

National Library for Health

The NLH was launched in November 2004 and is intended to provide clinicians with access to consolidated high quality information derived from all sources including the Cochrane Library. The NHS National IT Programme will be crucially important for delivering NLH data to all NHS staff and eventually to patients.

Brenda Ecclestone



Centenary Congratulations!

Pfizer would like to congratulate NAWP on achieving their Centenary and wish them every success for the future.

Random thoughts Looking back at 1954-5

Looking at the programme of meetings of Merseyside NAWP, half a century ago, I wondered what today's highly qualified pharmacy graduate would think of it? Make-up demonstration? Trip to a soap factory? Blackpool Illuminations?

Before you laugh, think 1954. Although the war had ended in 1945, rationing had continued for some years and we in Merseyside, in common with everyone in the country, were trying to return to some sort of normality. We had all spent a large chunk of our student and professional lives in drab and often frightening circumstances, and we longed for a bit of colour and luxury. At last we could stock a perfumery counter with tempting gift packs of scented soap and cosmetics. Away with those bottles of messy brown sludge (leg tan) which nearly every pharmacy concocted to replace stockings, thus saving precious clothing coupons. (We rather envied the lucky girls with GI boyfriends and access to nylons). So Atkinsons cosmetics and Cussons soap came high on our list. And, after years of blackout and a complete ban on all but essential travel, a drive to the seaside and a trip along the prom to view the lights was a treat indeed.

Of course we tried to keep up to date with our pharmaceutical knowledge, though I don't think we called it Continuing Professional Development in those days. Except for the very recently qualified, we were all skilled in the art of producing batches of perfectly rounded pills or elegant emulsions, and we could do complicated calculations involving grains, drachms and minims. Suddenly, our Winchesters of Mist. Rhei. Co. and Mist. Mag. Trisil. were pushed aside to make room for a bewildering galaxy of antibiotics, antidepressants, corticosteroids, and anaesthetics. The mortar and pestle went to the back of the cupboard and was replaced by the tablet counter and the aseptic screen.

We invited Dr Nussbaum to tell us something about the exciting new drugs which were beginning to revolutionise the treatment of mental illness, and which would eventually lead to the release of many patients from life in mental hospitals.

Pharmaceutical manufacturers were, of course, very willing to spread information about their recent discoveries and we might have seen a film illustrating new operating techniques made possible with the use of muscle relaxants and safer anaesthetics.

Surely, we of the 1950s were involved in a great revolution in the world of medical treatment. Working with doctors, nurses, scientists, we had to let go of our previous ideas and make way for a new and - we hoped - better world.

At least we tried!

Mary Hirst



(German Association of Women Pharmacists)

Message of Congratulation on the occasion of the Centenary of NAWP

The German Association of Women Pharmacists express their warmest and heartfelt congratulations to the National Association of Women Pharmacists regarding their Centenary.

For the last hundred years NAWP has worked ceaselessly in order to gain acceptance of British women in pharmacy. Professional and social acceptance of women pharmacists today are a matter-of-course in Great Britain. This is a great success which could not have been achieved without NAWP.

Since the early eighties more than half of all German pharmacists have been female; at the moment seventy two percent of the newly qualified pharmacists are women. It is undisputed that women pharmacists cope with their professional assignments as well as their male colleagues. Nevertheless, women in Germany are clearly under-represented in professional associations as well as in management, especially in industry and at university. The objective of our federation, which was founded in August 2002, is to change this situation by motivating and promoting female pharmacists.

We thank NAWP for their excellent work. Their enthusiasm and their long tradition serve us as a model and encourage us to intensify our own endeavours. For the future we wish NAWP success in their work and look forward to productive team-work in an ever-merging Europe.

Deutscher Pharmazeutinnen Verband e.V. (German Association of Women Pharmacists)
Vorsitzende Frau Karin Wahl (Chairwoman Mrs. Karin Wahl)

Half a Century of NAWP in Blackpool and District

In 1953 Mrs Alice Greenwood, a regular member of BP conferences and a staunch member of NAWP attended as usual the NAWP AGM held, I think, that year in Portsmouth. To her dismay she found that there was a proposal to disband and, as a tribute to her eloquence and fighting spirit, returned to Blackpool as Chairman of the Executive Committee. Wasting no time, she formed the Blackpool and District Branch of NAWP. I can't remember if I was asked to join, or told to join - those of you who remember Alice will know that she couldn't be refused.

The inaugural meeting was held on 21 June 1953 and officers appointed. Alice took on the position of Secretary and Lillian Anderson was our first President. I was Treasurer and Christine Upton (now Holden) was Registrar, and with the death of Mrs Joan Limb last year, Christine and I are the only two remaining members of that meeting.

To gain some publicity we organised a meeting in a local hotel, to which we invited Miss Winifred Atwell, who was appearing in one of the many season shows in Blackpool. It had been reported that before becoming a famous TV pianist, she had been a Pharmacist in Jamaica and we asked her to speak at our meeting. She explained that she wasn't a qualified Pharmacist but worked in her father's Pharmacy and held a Pharmacist's Diploma from the Medical Board of Trinidad and she discussed conditions of Pharmacy in Jamaica. This led to publicity in the Blackpool Gazette and Herald, including a photograph of the group with Miss Atwell.

The Blackpool NAWP members always supported the local Pharmaceutical Branch, eventually becoming the mainstay of the Branch Committee and holding positions of office. Alice Greenwood, after many years visiting BP Conferences, had been elected to the Conference Executive Committee, and in 1964 she announced that the BP Conference would be held in Blackpool in 1967. This curtailed normal NAWP activities during 1965, 1966 and 1967 as we became involved with the local Branch working towards the 1967 BP Conference.

After the 'Weekend School' held in Manchester in February 1967, preparations for the BP Conference were stepped up. I had been elected local Conference Chairman as 1967 would be my term of Office as Branch President, and so for the next three years, along with the local Conference Secretary and Treasurer, we accompanied Alice to the Conference Executive Committee meetings at Bloomsbury Square. The NAWP members supported the local Branch in fund raising, holding coffee evenings, jumble sales, tombola, etc to make a contribution to the £250 required by the Conference Executive for initial expenses.

The Local Conference Committee had no facilities for help as in previous conferences held in Universities, where clerical and secretarial help was available. All the typing was done by the wife of the Secretary. Alice, as well as being on the Executive Committee, was Chairman of the local Accommodation Committee. Joan Limb was Chairman of the Ladies Committee, organising Conference excursions and Lillian Anderson was Assistant Conference Secretary. During Conference week, all members who were available acted as stewards and assisting in manning the Conference Office, including one eighteen year old student - Susan Lewis, who is now Sue Andrews, and hosts our Annual Trivial Pursuits evening.

The National NAWP were sponsoring a Czechoslovakian Woman Pharmacist, Mrs Travnikova, to attend the Conference and it was proposed that we should fund the cost of her Banquet ticket. Her thanks to NAWP took the form of a gift of a lead crystal vase to the NAWP President, Miss Mary Burr at the NAWP cocktail party.

Since 1957 NAWP had been represented by various members on the Standing Conference of Women's Organisations, attending bimonthly meetings and bringing back reports on any health issues. Both Mrs Greenwood and Mrs Lee Helliwell had served terms of office as Chairman of SCWO and Mrs Helliwell attended the 1980 Conference in Rhyl as delegate.

In 1981 two Australian Pharmacists, Mrs Gladys Heedes and Miss Margaret Finlayson, were met by Mrs Greenwood and entertained by NAWP in London. As they were visiting Blackpool for a few days, it was agreed that we should meet them and entertain them. Mrs Heedes gave us a talk on Pharmacy in Australia, particularly the benefits of patient records kept in some Pharmacies. She presented our Branch with a wooden platter made from the wood of a Jannah tree, engraved with the words "Greetings to our colleagues in Blackpool from the Western Australian Women Pharmacists". Our President accepted the platter and wished them to convey our good wishes to the Australian Women Pharmacists on their return home. Also in 1981 we were pleased to send a letter of congratulation to Mrs Estelle Leigh on receiving her OBE.

In November 1989 we were saddened by the death of Lillian Anderson JP. She was a founder and 1st President of our NAWP branch. She had been a Committee Member of the local Society Branch for many years, serving as Branch President, Secretary and also as Secretary of the North West Regional Committee. As a Wyre Borough Councillor she had negotiated that the annual floral decoration on the Mount at Fleetwood in 1991 should be a celebration of the Sesquicentenary of the Pharmaceutical Society depicting the coat of arms of the Society, and funded jointly by the North West Regional Committee and Wyre Borough Council. The Region agreed to proceed with this as a tribute to Lillian. As the local Branch were doing nothing to celebrate the Sesquicentenary, NAWP decided to organise a viewing of the floral coat of arms, followed by a meal at the North Euston Hotel, to which we invited members of the Blackpool Branch and the Regional Committee. Mrs Joyce Kearney was also a guest and provided flowers for all the ladies present.

At our AGM in 1999 the future of our branch was discussed. Because of the lack of new members and the difficulty of filling positions of office, various options were considered. The local Branch of the Society was in abeyance due to the apathy of branch members, so NAWP members felt they did not want to lose contact and friendships, and wished to

see in the Millennium together, so agreed to carry on until the year 2000.

A year into the new Century, the Branch position was again reviewed. I was asked to inform the Executive Council at the 2001 Nottingham AGM of the possibility of the winding up of our Branch, to ask how to proceed and what to do with our minute books and the gifts to the Branch. These should be sent to the Executive of the NAWP but Council Members would be sorry if this happened so near to our 50th Anniversary. After reporting the views of the Council at our AGM in May, and with the help of Margaret Barnes, we persuaded members to carry on so that we could celebrate our Golden Jubilee in 2003.

We celebrated our Golden Jubilee on 17 May 2003 at The North Euston Hotel, Fleetwood, the same venue as for our 40th birthday. We were delighted that our President, Mrs Monica Rose accepted our invitation. Mrs Rose spoke to us about the future plans for NAWP and outlined the preparations for the coming Centenary in 2005. So we had another goal and reason to carry on as a branch of NAWP and, two years later, six of us and our two former members from Yorkshire, Janet Davis and Lee Helliwell will be travelling to London to join the Centenary celebration of 15 June.

But I wonder, if Alice Greenwood had not won her battle in 1953 would we all be there? What about all the friends we have made from all parts of the country? What about all the Weekend Schools in so many Universities? Who can forget the cold weekend in Cambridge where the kitchen rose up into the huge refectory, and the icy blasts from its four corners covered only by billowing curtains?

We can remember all the good times and the sad times we have shared and look forward to our Centenary, and perhaps another reason to carry on.

Joan Alderson

Editor's Note: The above is an extract from a much longer article written by Joan. It has not been possible to print the complete article in this issue and further extracts will be printed in the next Newsletter. A copy of the full article can be obtained by sending a large SAE to me at the address given at the end of the Newsletter.



Merck Sharp and Dohme wishes to congratulate the NAWP and its members on the valuable contribution they have made over the last 100 years. We are delighted to be able to support the centenary celebrations and look forward to continuing to work with the Association in the future.

From the Archives - 1946

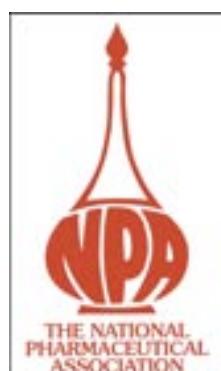
During the war, owing to paper shortage, the Women Pharmacist's page of the British and Colonial Pharmacist was closed. It was re-introduced in March 1946 in which it states:

'The activities of the National Association of Women Pharmacists during the war years were outstanding. A full service was carried out and meetings were held regularly, despite the black-out, bombs and rockets'

It also points out that during this period, membership increased and new branches were formed. For many years Manchester was the only provincial branch but by 1946 there were branches in Nottingham, Leicester, Newcastle and Birmingham.

Centenary Congratulations!

The National Pharmaceutical Association offers its congratulations to the National Association of Women Pharmacists on its centenary. Despite the huge advances it has helped women make in the pharmacy profession, they still have much to do. We hope they will continue to have great success throughout the next 100 years.



Networking 1905 Style

This year, as NAWP celebrates its centenary and is discussing the way forward, it is rewarding to look again at some of our 19th century founding mothers. These women had close ties with others who were working to break down the barriers that restricted what women could be or do. Foremost among them by 1900 were the suffragettes, whose single-minded, even reckless campaigning is well known, though the campaign to give women the same political rights as men had started as early as 1866.

'Enterprising Women' by Elizabeth Crawford, describes the lives of a circle of equally determined and brave women, predecessors of the suffragettes, who may not be so well known. It focuses on the numerous members of the Garrett family, who helped in their different ways to create new opportunities for women. Elizabeth Garrett Anderson, in 1865, became the first woman licentiate of the Society of Apothecaries; the Society immediately amended its regulations to prevent other women following her initiative! Her sister Millicent Fawcett was politically active, campaigning for equal pay and a greater role for women in public life. She also founded the Women's Library, until recently known as the Fawcett Library, which continues to promote her aims. Another sister, Agnes, ran a house decorator's business with her cousin Rhoda Garrett. Their brother George's wife, Louisa Wilkinson, worked after her marriage on her own bookbinding business. These were all independently minded people, who saw no reason to think that only men could be professionals or run businesses, and so become financially independent. They were helped in this, I'm sure, by some of their male relations, particularly their brother Samuel, a solicitor, who as President of the Law Society influenced the decision to admit women solicitors; his own practice was the first to accept them as pupils.

After Elizabeth Garrett Anderson (EGA) left school in 1851, aged about 15, she began to meet women who encouraged her to be independent. They included Emily Davies (who was sure there was more to life than becoming a wife), and through her, Jessie Boucherett, who had founded the 'English Woman's Journal' and who in 1859 started the Society for Promoting the Employment of Women. It was an article in the 'Woman's Journal' that helped to persuade EGA in 1859 to study medicine, aided by meeting Elizabeth Blackwell, who had qualified in the USA as a doctor.

Soon after qualifying, EGA gave 'drawing room lectures' on physiology to women, to help them understand their own bodies. She insisted that women could be as healthy as men, and encouraged them to take regular exercise, such as swimming or bicycling. This was to counter the arguments then current, that women were unable to study for any length of time because of their supposed physical handicaps.

Despite qualifying, EGA found that only junior positions were likely to be offered her. She therefore decided to open her own dispensary in Seymour Place, Marylebone, after much fundraising through dances and other social occasions. At first her dispensary had to employ a male dispenser, but she was willing to train women who could not find other training opportunities. Her first woman dispenser was Rose Minshull, who with her assistant Louisa Stammwitz had qualified as pharmacists in 1873, with financial help from the Society for Promoting the Employment of Women. When Louisa Stammwitz resigned in 1880 other women were employed, but the increasing number of patients meant that they did not stay long. The staff were expected to work fast and for long hours; inevitably, mistakes were made, and eventually three dispensers, working in shifts, were employed.

In 1888 more money was raised for building the New Hospital for Women in Euston Road. This carefully designed hospital had circular wards and a circular dispensary, open corridors and the latest thinking on sanitary provisions. The garden was designed by Fanny Wilkinson, who lived on Gower Street near Rhoda and Agnes Garrett, who later invited the widowed Millicent Fawcett to live with them.

At this time there was a growing emphasis on examinations to control entry to the professions, and EGA saw that women would be handicapped by their lack of formal education. Among the upper middle classes, girls were often educated at home by unqualified governesses. She therefore turned her attention to women's education, and contributed financially to the foundation of Girton College at Cambridge; initially there were 21 women students there. In London, Queen's College in Harley Street (founded in 1841) set up evening classes for girls aged 12 or more to train them as governesses. Frances Buss and Dorothea Beale, who had attended this College, were inspired to develop a style of teaching that broke away from the learning by rote common in girls' schools. Miss Buss founded the North London Collegiate School in 1850 and Miss Beale became the second principal of Cheltenham Ladies College in 1858. Much later, another Garrett, Amy Badley, worked with her husband John to open in 1893 the more revolutionary co-educational school at Bedales in Sussex, whose curriculum included modern languages, science and gardening. Amy Badley urged the first girls there "to work ceaselessly for women's rights, not to marry the first man who asked them, and never to wear corsets."

As the author of 'Enterprising Women' remarks, it now seems extraordinary that the work of one group, at the heart of which were the women of one family, could effect such great changes in the education and opportunities open to the women and girls of Britain's middle-class during the later 19th century. In the 20th century the suffragettes would extend their ambitions to include working class women and achieving political equality. Together, these determined, awkward women built the foundations on which organisations like NAWP could develop, and we should remember them.

Brenda Ecclestone

Supporting Local Pharmacy Leadership Development

12 January 2005

The day was organised by Anne Adams to determine if the Society should be involved in trying to develop local competent and professional pharmacy leaders.

For the purposes of the event we took the definition of leadership: 'An activity – an influence process – in which an individual gains that trust and commitment of others, and without reliance on formal position or authority, moves the group to the accomplishment of one or more tasks.'

The scene was set with definitions and explanations about the characteristics and the roles of managers and leaders – 'leadership skills cannot be taught but can be learnt, discovered and fostered'. Discussion groups worked on their ideas of who and what leaders should be like; how they are 'found' and how potential leaders can be developed.

Some of the organisations represented (especially NHS in Scotland, UKCPA/Guild; NHS in New Health and Social Care Leadership Network in England) were already working on identifying and developing leaders through various schemes, so the format of the day brought these groups together with other organisations. Thus, experiences could be shared and 'pooled' for use by the RPSGB and the profession as a whole.

It was agreed that leadership development was an area in which the RPSGB should be involved. The planning for a scheme should go ahead immediately with the idea that something should be organised for use by early summer this year. Organisations represented at the day were asked to endorse this idea and agree the qualities needed so that, with the hope of discovering and developing potential leaders at a local level, this would lead to better national leaders for pharmacy in the future. The NAWP mentoring scheme could be used as a part of the development.

The steps agreed are:

- The report of the meeting should be circulated to those who were invited, not just those who attended.
- Other stakeholders should be identified.
- Stakeholders should be consulted on the top-level descriptors for the leadership strategy to gain agreement on the way forward.
- A favourable climate should be created within the profession by raising awareness of the importance and urgency, of leadership skills development, linking this to pharmacy practice and continuing professional development. This may, for example, be through journal articles, case studies, show casing, conferences, the development of self-assessment tools etc.
- Together, national and other pharmacy organisations and networks could provide support for leadership development by identifying and promulgating, the means by which this can be achieved, finding flexible solutions.
- Those already in leadership roles and developing their leadership skills should be invited to contribute to the process.

Since this summit meeting took place in January the Society has received project money from the NHS Leadership Centre and has raised the issue of leadership skills development with Branch and Regional Secretaries at their annual meeting in March.

Vela Burden

From the Archives – 1952

'Cortisone' was the topic at a joint meeting of the Association of Women Pharmacists and the Western Pharmacists Association in November. The speaker, Mr A R G Chanings, pointed out that cortisone had been used in a case of rheumatoid arthritis in the United States four years previously but it was still not readily available in this country.

British and Overseas Pharmacist, December 1952



Centenary Congratulations!

Congratulations from AAH Pharmaceuticals

Presidents of the Association 1905 - 2005

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Mrs Clarke Keer | Miss M C Dodd |
| Miss M E Buchanan | Mrs E N J Jones |
| Miss A Gilliat | Mrs R Quintrell |
| Miss E K Hughes | Mrs D Skilling |
| Mrs A Freke | Miss M A Burr OBE |
| Mrs J K Irvine MBE* | Mrs I M Z Elliott |
| Miss E S Hooper | Mrs E J M Leigh OBE* |
| Miss G Dennis Hayes | Mrs C Lloyd |
| Miss R Sproule | Mrs E Lucas-Smith |
| Mrs C S Adams | Mrs J Gilbert |
| Miss E Hodgkinson | Mrs O Adams |
| Mrs K Skinner | Mrs L J Stone OBE* |
| Miss E B Glundell | Mrs D M Parker |
| Miss F M Harvey | Mrs V E L Burden |
| Miss M C Islip | Mrs C Glover* |
| Miss E Hodgkinson | Mrs P Baker |
| Miss M C Islip | Mrs S Insole |
| Ms C Moseley-Stark | Mrs M Gwillim-David |
| Miss D M Jones | Mrs P Hoare |
| Miss E F Hayward | Lady C Perris |
| Miss M A Burr OBE* | Mrs B Maude |
| Mrs A Greenwood | Dr C Heading |
| Mrs N Williams | Mrs M Rose |

* Presidents of the Pharmaceutical Society.

There have been eight women presidents of the Pharmaceutical Society, five of whom have also been Presidents of NAWP. The three other RPSGB Presidents, Marion Rawlings, Ann Lewis and Gill Hawksworth, are also members of NAWP.

From the Archives - 1879

Letter from A W Postans refuting the fear of women on council or as President: -

Depend upon it, sir, no lady would every become President of our Society unless she showed not only talent, ability and fitness, unless she gave most unmistakable proof that she was the right person in the right place; and should that point be reached it might not be altogether unprofitable for us to remember that we live in a most privileged age, in a great country, indeed in the greatest of all countries, under a noble monarchy, and yet it is under the brilliant and unequalled government of a lady.

Pharmaceutical Journal, 29 March 1879

Annual Subscriptions

Full time £20
Part time £10
Retired £5

If you have not renewed your Annual Subscriptions please send a cheque to the Treasurer and Registrar, Barbara Maude, 292 Lutterworth Road, Nuneaton, Warwickshire, CV11 6PN, as soon as possible. Cheques should be made payable to NAWP.

Following the question raised at the AGM on data protection, the Executive Committee would like to confirm that the mailing list held by PHOENIX, who so generously sponsor our Newsletter, is used solely for sending out the Newsletter and is not used for any commercial purpose whatsoever.

The Editor would like to thank everyone who has contributed to this issue of the Newsletter.

If you would like to contribute to the next issue, please contact the Newsletter Editor or any member of the Executive Committee.

Forthcoming Events

Centenary Luncheon
15th June 2005
at
The Royal Pharmaceutical Society

People and Places
37th International Congress for the History of Pharmacy
22-25 June 2005
University of Edinburgh

The British Pharmaceutical Conference
26-28 September 2005

A NAWP pre-conference session to pilot a CPPE workshop on Mental Health will take place on Sunday 25th.
For more information and to book a place, please contact Brenda Ecclestone on 01453 759516.

Centenary Memento

Pestles and mortars engraved 'National Association of Women Pharmacists 1905 – 2005' on the base of the mortar have been produced to commemorate the Centenary. These are available at a cost of £33.50 plus postage and packing. To purchase, please contact Vela Burden. Tel: 0116 2767694, Email: vela16@ntlworld.com

From the Archives - 1946

A report of a special meeting of the Bolton Pharmaceutical Association meeting states that

"women may have been used in the past as a source of cheap labour, but they have proved beyond doubt that they are able to undertake work in almost any branch of pharmacy equally well with men and they wish to compete for posts on an equal footing with them".

A proposal for equal pay was rejected at this meeting on the grounds that this would limit the number of vacancies open to women.

British and Colonial Pharmacist, November 1946

Centenary Congratulations!

Marix Drug Development Limited would like to congratulate the NAWP on reaching its Centenary this year and would like to wish them all the very best for the future.





Executive Committee

(year to retire in brackets)

President: Mrs Monica Rose (2007)
Glangors, Tregaron, Ceredigion, SY25 6JS
Tel/Fax: 01974 298165
Email: monica@eidosnet.co.uk

Vice President: Mrs Vela Burden (2006),
105 Scraptotf Lane, Leicester, LE5 2FE
Tel: 0116 2767694, Fax: 0116 2767697
Email: vela16@ntlworld.com

Secretary: Mrs Brenda Ecclestone (2007)
Princess Royal Cottage, Butterow West, Rodborough,
Stroud, Glos. GL5 3UA
Tel: 01453 759516

Treasurer & Registrar: Mrs Barbara Maude (2006)
292 Lutterworth Road, Nuneaton, Warwickshire, CV11 6PN
Tel: 02476 383748
Email: barbaramaude@aol.com

Newsletter Editor: Mrs Virginia Watson (2008)
6 Hollis Gardens, Luckington, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN14 6NS
Tel: 01666 840639,
Email: virginia@watson7717.freeserve.co.uk

Also: Dr Christine Heading (2008),
Mrs Hazel Baker (2008),
Lady Constance Perris (2008),
Mrs Veronica Pearson (2008),
Dr. Sue Symonds (2007),
Mrs Mary Gwillim-David (2006),
Mrs Renata Inglis (2006),
Mrs Pat Hoare (co-opted)

Hon Vice Presidents: Christine Glover; Linda Stone
Hon. Life Members: Peggy Baker; Vela Burden;
Christine Glover; Dorothea Parker
Hon. Members: Jennifer Archer; Joyce Kearney

Branch Secretaries:

Blackpool: Miss Jill Feaks
3 Wren Close, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancs. FY6 7QL
Tel: 01253 891486

Cardiff: Mrs Hazel Baker
153, Whitchurch Road, Heath, Cardiff. CF14 3JQ
Tel: 02920 411841

Exeter: Mrs Lyn Pearson
4 Fairfield Road, Crediton, Devon. EX17 2EQ
Tel: 01363 773201

Leicester: Mrs Veronica Pearson
41 Tynedale Road, Loughborough, Leics. LE11 3TA.
Tel: 01509 230463