

RESTRICTED**STATEMENT****Number: S438**

Age	[67]
Statement Date	[29/AUG/2006]
Signed Name	[C.D. Green]
Telephone No	
Postcode	Code A
Date Of Birth	
Occupation	[RETIRED NURSE]
Address	Code A
Forename 1	[CECILIA DIANE]
Surname	[GREEN]

I am Cecilia GREEN and I am a retired nurse.

I have been asked to outline my qualifications. I qualified as a State Registered Nurse in November 1961 at the Royal Portsmouth and Queen Alexandra Hospital, Portsmouth. I worked on a female surgical ward for approximately ten months and then moved with my family in Scotland. I ceased nursing at this point and didn't resume my career until 1969 when I returned to Hampshire and began working as a Theatre Staff Nurse at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital on a part time basis.

Some time around the October/November 1969 I was promoted to Sister working on the children's ward at the same hospital. I continued working in this position until 1975 when I became a night sister covering the whole hospital. I remained as a Night Sister until 1979 when I left nursing for a year.

I returned to nursing at the Gosport War Memorial Hospital in October 1980 as a Staff Nurse in order to assist Sister WOOD who was acting as Matron for the hospital in the absence of Mary TODD, who was off sick. I was involved with the administration side of the hospital and this post was only supposed to be a short term commitment. After this role had finished I remained working as the hospital as a Staff Nurse, I worked two nights a week at the Redcliff Annex. This was an 'off site' geriatric unit, which catered for female patients who had suffered a stroke, not recovered well from a fracture or had arthritis or dementia. They all needed general nursing care, any medical care was provided by the patients own GP or the consultant from the Geriatric Department of the main hospital.

Some time around the end of 1980, beginning of 1981 I took over the post of Sister when Sister JARMAN retired.

I remained as Sister of Redcliff Annex until I retired in February 1991, due to my ill health. I had been absent from work from 1989 due to health issues and returned in March 1990.

When I initially went to Redcliff Annex in 1980, it housed 11 female patients and all beds were on the ground floor as the upstairs was considered to be a fire risk. I wanted the patients to feel that they had choices and to make it as home like as possible. Patients could choose when they went to bed. The patients tended to be long stay and there was a waiting list for beds.

The medication given to patients was mainly antibiotics, anti-inflammatory, night sedation and paracetamol and parocodal. There were one or two patients who required stronger pain relief and were prescribed opiates. I have been asked if I can remember any patients who were prescribed opiates. There was a lady who was terminally ill with cancer of the breast, who had oral Diamorphine, she then went on to have Diamorphine via an injection every four hours. There was another lady who has gangrene in her leg and she received Diamorphine intra muscularly.

Later the hospital had a clinical assistant who was Dr BARTON. I believe the consultants at this time may possibly have been Dr WILKINS and Dr GRUNSTEIN. Dr BARTON would visit the annex daily and was responsible for seeing new admissions.

Around this time the annex had alterations carried out and more beds were added. We also merged with another off site geriatric unit, called Northcote Annex and took their patients, some of whom were male.

The working day was divided into the following shift patterns, day's which began at 0730hrs and ended at 1615hrs. Half days which began at 0730hrs and ended at 1300hrs. Late s which started at 1300hrs and ended at 2030hrs and nights which began at 2030hrs and ended at 0745hrs the following morning. I have been asked if I can recall any of the names of staff members who worked at Redcliff Annex from 1988 onwards.

I believe that the following staff worked the day shift, Staff Nurse HAMBLIN, Staff Nurse BARRETT, Staff Nurse Betty WILLIAMS and Staff Nurse Beverley TURNBALL. Both Beverley and Betty came to Redcliffe as State Enrolled Nurses and converted to State Registered Nurses.

The Night Staff were Staff Nurse GIFFEN, Staff Nurse TUBBRETT and Staff Nurse BREWER. I also recall a lady called Maggie WIGFALL.

There were also Auxiliary Staff, I recall Joyce TEE, Joan FORFAR and Sonia TAYLOR and ladies called Ann PERRIN and Lynne FLUX. There were also, on occasions, a number of agency staff, the names of whom I cannot remember.

I have been asked about syringe drivers and any training I received in their use. When I first went to Redcliff Annex, there were no syringe drivers.

I believe that I became aware about them through staff meetings and study days arranged by the hospital.

I never received any official training in their use, I believe that I was shown by someone how to use one but I didn't have a course on it or attend any study days. I believe that the nurses learnt by the same method. I don't know if any of them received any training in their use after I retired.

When Redcliff and Northcote Annex merged I interviewed applicants for the post of Senior Staff Nurse at Redcliff Annex. I and Bill HOOPER, the Patient Care Manager, who was Isabelle EVANS' predecessor, conducted the interviews. One of the unsuccessful applicants was Gill HAMBLIN. We didn't feel she was suitable for the position.

Towards the end of 1987 I had an extended period of holiday leave, I had arthritis in my hands and nerves. When I returned to work in February/March 1988, Bill had been replaced by Isabelle EVANS and Gill HAMBLIN and been given the job of Senior Staff Nurse at Redcliff Annex. I returned to my position of Sister and Staff Nurse HAMBLIN was my number 2. We had what I would describe as a clash of personalities and a difference of opinions. She had her own favourites amongst the auxiliaries, these including PERRINE and FLUX. The other auxiliaries, Joyce TEE, Joan FULFAR and Sonia TAYLOR, were not in her gang.

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In February 1991 I officially retired due to my ill health.

I believe that it was after I retired I received a telephone call from Isabelle EVANS. She told me that Kathy was very ill and would like to see me. Isabelle asked if I would like to visit Kathy.

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I spoke to a member of staff, I cannot recall who it was, but I said to her "Doesn't anyone down here have a natural death these days?" She told me "Someone else had concerns and it's all been investigated and it's all alright." She told me that the person who had concerns was Sylvia GIFFIN.

I remember that I went home and said to my husband "If I end up being unable to communicate, please don't let them send me down here, I'll be dead within six weeks."

By this I meant that although I felt that everything that was done would be with the best of intention, I suffer with a lot of pain and if I went there unable to speak then and might moan and groan to communicate and that could be misinterpreted and I could well end up on a syringe driver.

I remember that Kathy died but I cannot recall when, but I received a telephone call from a member of staff from Redcliff Annex telling me that Kathy's mum was trying to get hold of me to find out why Kathy had died. I never had any contact with her mother,

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C.D. Green

Statement taken by