

Parish Nursing News December 2019



Dates for Your Diary

Celebration Service for Parish Nursing 16th February 2020 15.30

Evensong at Peterborough Cathedral will include a celebration of parish nursing. Please mark the date in your diary and let us know if you plan to attend.

Preparation for Parish Nursing Practice - Foundation Days 1-4

30th March to 2nd April 2020

Annual Symposium 'Faith Health and Parish Nursing'

15th to 17th March 2020. The Hayes Conference Centre Alfreton DE55 1AU. Booking open on Eventbrite

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/parish-nursing-annual-symposium-2020-tickets-85628744881>

Christmas Greetings

At this special time of year when we celebrate the birth of our Saviour, I am delighted on behalf of the Trustees and Staff of Parish Nursing Ministries UK to send you our best wishes for Christmas and the New year and to thank you again for supporting our work in 2019.

For me Christmas is always a time for reflection and looking back it is clear that 2019 has been another busy year for the Charity.

We have continued to liaise with faith leaders and communities across the UK and to forge relationships with the NHS and nursing's professional leadership bodies. We also continue to improve our core systems and processes to provide a better service to our partners and parish nurses. As a result over the last year we have handled nearly two hundred and fifty enquiries, supported more than eighty-one services operationally and professionally, and facilitated the development of thirty-four new services that are likely to go live in 2020

We have also continued to grow the number of parish nurses in the UK, providing certificated education for over thirty students this year, with each course receiving outstanding praise from participants.

Parish nursing itself is taking hold in new ways being established in Northern Ireland and with many experienced parish nurses expanding their teams to include a second parish nurse, specialist practitioners and assistants.

We have continued to provide high quality professional supervision and continuing professional education for parish nurses through our quarterly Community of Practice meetings and our Annual Symposium which took place in March 2019. Over sixty people attended the Symposium to hear from high quality speakers, share learning and take part in practical workshops, and Christian fellowship. It was described by many as the best ever!

This has been a team effort and I thank God for our Trustees, Founder Director, Administrator, Development Lead, Bookkeeper, the Regional Coordinators, (past and present), and Advocates who play such a key role supporting parish nursing on the ground. So here to another year of growth and improvement in 2020.



Dr Ros Moore Chief Executive

Parish Nursing Service Stories

We are always inspired to hear stories of how parish nurses and their teams are making a difference. We have received a lot of stories this year and can only share a few of them with you.

Barbara MacFarlane, Parish Nurse and Regional Coordinator for Scotlad was awarded a Fellowship by the Queen's Nursing Institute Scotland.



The QueensNursing Institute in Scotland (QNIS) celebrates excellence in community nursing and Barbara was honoured by them for her work with vulnerable people experiencing poverty and homelessness. Working out of the Steeple Church in Dundee with her colleagues and team of volunteers Barbara runs two drop-in clinics a week, offering health support and guidance while providing a hot meal, good company and emergency clothing.

Talking about her work Barbara said “When working with very broken and hurting people, who too often die far too soon, sometimes our hearts are almost broken, but then at other times our hearts are brimming over with joy and pride for their achievements.”

Barbara was presented with a badge and certificate by Professor Sir Lewis Ritchie, Chair of QNIS Council, at an awards ceremony in Edinburgh on November 28. The award of a QNIS Fellowship aims to create a community of support for the charity which will provide expert advice on practice, education, research, policy and integrated care while honouring those who have made outstanding contributions to community nursing in Scotland.

Clare Cable, QNIS Chief Executive and Nurse Director, said: “Barbara is an extraordinary practitioner who is a real pioneer and inspiration to generations of community nurses in Scotland.

Barbara's commitment to improving the health and life quality of others is a complete inspiration to everyone at Parish Nursing Ministries UK and we thank God for her amazing work.

Find out more

<https://www.qnis.org.uk/parish-nurse-honoured-for-work-with-citys-homeless/>

Barbara's colleague Rachel McReady launched the 2019 edition of the Dundee Recovery Road Map.

Whilst becoming a Queen's Nurse in 2017, Parish Nurse Rachel developed the Dundee Recovery Road Map – a visual aid which sets out all the recovery services available to people across the city, including addiction support, family carers support and health and wellbeing information. The map has been commended by the media and supported by Scottish Government.

Rachel shared her work with other parish nurses in an inspirational session at our Annual Symposium in 2019 which was enjoyed by all.

What an inspiration.



Parish Nurse Julie Ward named as a regional winner in the NHS Parliamentary Awards 2019.

Julie Ward, a much-loved member of Maybridge Community Church and a volunteer parish nurse for the past four years, won the regional volunteers award for her services to the community supporting the isolated elderly and other vulnerable individuals.

She was nominated by Worthing West MP Sir Peter Bottomley who recognised her work and noted the high esteem in which was held by her local community. Well-done Julie on this well-deserved award.



Parish Nurses, Gill Fenner and Mary Carroll do a fundraising walk.

We are thankful to all the Parish Nurses and churches for their fundraising but a special call goes out to Parish Nurses Gill and Mary who both work in the West Midlands. This intrepid pair braved torrential weather conditions in July and walked along the Grand Union canal from Wolverhampton to Birmingham. Other parish nurses from the region were on hand to cheer them on. During the walk they distributed healthy food to people without a home.

Gill Fenner and fellow Parish Nurse, Lesley support local farmers at Livestock Mart.

Farmers visiting Rugby Livestock Mart café on the 16th September found more on offer than the usual bacon butty and cup of tea. Gill and Lesley from the Midlands Region were on hand to offer blood pressure testing and health advice, while a massage therapist gave free massages to help relieve tension. Forty-five farmers had their blood pressure checked, of whom eight were referred to their GP and nine volunteered for a mini massage.



PNMUK at New Wine.

PNMUK attended New Wine, this year. Everyone enjoyed this opportunity immensely and over 200 exciting conversations were held with people about parish nursing. We would like to thank all the people who donated their time to support Helen run the stall and the help we received from our donors and grant funders to allow us to attend this event.



Parish Nursing gets a hold in Northern Ireland.

2019 saw Northern Ireland's first Parish Nurse Jennifer Gault begin her ministry. She is working out of Limavady Methodist Church and will work in partnership with local GPs, Social Workers and the church. We are looking forward to developing this exciting partnership further and with Jennifer on board we are optimistic about growth in this part of the UK.



Welcome to the latest group training to be parish nurses.

Twelve people attended the latest Preparation for Practice course in November. They were joined by two nurses, currently studying for mission in Africa. We used the new International Foundations for Faith Community Nursing course as a framework for our course, adapting some of the content as necessary for a UK context.



Parish Nursing Ministries UK is led by a diverse, multi-talented and committed groups of Trustees.

Working tirelessly as a Board in a voluntary capacity they provide strategic leadership to the Charity.

Trustee Debra Chand offers thanks and a Christmas message and prayer.

A Message and Prayer from Trustees

It's that time of year again when sparkling lights can help to brighten darker days. To celebrate the coming of Jesus, the Light of the World, we sometimes light candles, carefully transferring the brightness from a bigger candle to set many little candles aflame.

As we do so, we might reflect that although the size of flame may differ, the quality of light is the same. Through parish nursing, we can bring God's light to communities in need in all kinds of ways. Whether we feel big or small, the quality of His presence can shine through, and even the tiniest candle can make a difference in a dark world.

Lord, let your light shine through us wherever we go and in all we do today.

Thank you for all Parish Nurses as they reach out to help people of all ages and situations. May they shine brightly in your service.

Thank you for the many churches and groups, ministers and pastoral teams who are seeking your will to develop life-changing Parish Nursing services that respond to deep needs in the local community. May they be heartened by your love.

Thank you for the many supporters and groups who pray for, encourage and fund this mission. May they be encouraged and blessed.

Thank you for the PNMUK staff and Trustees who support, guide and inspire the work of this mission around the country. May they know your vision and leading.

May many more churches and faith groups catch your vision for Parish Nursing and may all who are battling physical and mental health challenges experience your healing presence through this ministry.

May we be lights in the darkness, pointing the way to health and wholeness in your name.

Amen

