# Whipps Cross Voices

July 2022



## Summer news from our first event

This month we began our first events, have collected our first oral histories and added new memories and items to the collection. There will be another drop in on 19th July in the canteen - join us if you can!

In the meantime, if you have any items to show us or information to share please get in touch. We've created a gallery on the website and will be adding photos and documents all the time. If anything sparks memories please let us know. We're keen to identify people, places, events and dates and maybe you have just the information we need.

Soon we will start to collect everyday sounds around the hospital, thinking about how to preserve these for the future. Keep an eye out for a way to nominate your 'must hear' sounds and places for our project sound artist Frazer.

Finally, can you tell us about sports and recreation around Whipps Cross? <u>Email</u> or be in touch through the <u>website</u> and you might see your memories in future displays.

#### Animals around the hospital



Our theme for the June display was animals around the hospital. Dogs in particular, but also cats and fish, have been a common sight around Whipps Cross Hospital for most of its history. Even deer and cows have been spotted. Matrons Kathleen Fogarty (left) and Letitia Clark both had dogs accompanying them as they worked and today therapy dogs such as Dodger and Coco make special visits.

Animals in healthcare have a surprisingly long history, from ancient Greeks recommending horse riding to lift the spirits to

pets and people treated together in medieval Belgium as part of 'natural therapy' for humans. Even Florence Nightingale recognised the health benefits for humans of looking after animals.

Our theme for July is sport and recreation with a look at team sports played on the hospital site and the hospital social club. If you have any memories or information you can share with us on this theme please head to <u>Share with Us</u> on the website.

### Missing the Ferry

Band Missing the Ferry have been in touch sharing the link between their latest song Castlebar and Whipps Cross Hospital. The poem at the beginning of the song was given to Roseanna Casey by fellow nurse Beatrice Mugan on their way to London from Ireland in 1966. Roseanna reads the poem at the start of the song.

Missing the Ferry say "the tune is aimed at all those who came over to England from Ireland, many to be nurses, never to return unless in a casket or urn. Although a serious subject matter, Castlebar is an upbeat tune and a celebration of life and of London-Irish culture."

Search for Missing the Ferry on YouTube to listen to Castlebar.

#### Dates for your diary

The first Whipps Cross open day for 3 years takes place on **Saturday 16th July**. Everyone is welcome to drop in between 11 and 3 for music, entertainment and refreshments.

We will be back in the hospital canteen on **Tuesday 19th July** between 11.30 and 2.30 so please drop by if you have any items you'd like to show us, to share your memories or to find out how else to be involved.

We've also pencilled in **Wednesday 21st September** as our autumn date with one more event planned for October that will take place away from the hospital site.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Kate and Claire

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