

World War II broke out in the following year and Lt.-Col. Waterworth, the Hon. Treasurer, left for the duration. Mr. Eynon of Gore (later Goose) Hill was elected to serve in his place. Mrs. Sword of Corfe joined the Committee and Miss Selway became Collector for Blagdon Hill.

By 1941 there was a new doctor at Corfe, Dr. W. Johnston, who was invited to join, Miss Mansfield replaced Miss Selway at Blagdon and Nurse Criddle was planning to get married. County agreed that she could continue as Nurse until the termination of the war, but not after, and she must sign an agreement to that effect. (There seems to be, even at that stage, no shadow of doubt that she should win). She was given a wedding present when she became Mrs. Davies.

It was made clear that soldier's families were not nursed free and Old AGE Pensioners only given free nursing when they were entirely dependent on their pension. The Report of 1941/2 was printed "as this uses less paper than typed sheets" and only 50 copies were ordered. Total expenditure of £221-13-3 included Nurse's salary of £190.

Mrs. Vivian-Neal was still the Hon. Sec. of the Association and reported in 1943 that the Trull Nurse was likely to be leaving and Nurse Davies would have to cover that district also from her home at Littleham Cottages, Pitminster. Now a car must be provided and a telephone installed. At Trull, "the slate for messages will be hung in the porch of Mrs. E. Weaver's house, 6, Oakfield Terrace, who has kindly offered this facility".

A Joint Meeting of Committees was held at Trull Parish Room on Wednesday, 4th August, 1943, at 3 p.m. The County Superintendent urged them to amalgamate, as a temporary measure, and a Joint Committee duly met the following June, with Prebendary Freeman as its Chairman. Nurse Davies had unfortunately to give up all work for the present (which sounds like a first baby?) and Miss Waltham, a Temporary Nurse, was doing the job. She preferred to live in rooms and was lodging with Miss Manley, so Nurse Davies continued in her cottage.

The two oldest supporters of the Association died: Miss Drysdale of Howleigh and Miss Lawson of Pitminster - the last link with George Lawson, her father, who came here as Vicar in 1837. Miss Waltham went on nursing here for quite a long time, until her resignation in March, 1945, after she had been accepted for Queen's Institute training. (Queen's Nurses were paid between £250 and £340 p.a. with allowance of £12 for uniform and £8 for laundry). Our Association decided to seek affiliation.

After the end of the war in Europe, the Committee had to discuss the future of the nurse's cottage at Littleham, at last vacated by Mrs. Davies. We now learn that it did not yet have electric light, water for the bath or indoor sanitation - all of them required if it was to house a Queen's Nurse. The R.D.C. would not pay for such 'improvements' and the cottage could not be sold or sub-let, if the Association kept it - an awkward problem. "To buy a new house would cost about £1,200, plus garage. It was at last agreed to relinquish the lease of the Littleham cottage and to enquire about a new house at Blagdon Hill."

There was still no permanent nurse in July 1946, but a Miss Lamb had been recommended by County. This was accepted and subscriptions were discussed. Mr. Eynon mentioned a case where a subscriber paying 10/- a year had received a total of 29 visits. It was felt that the District Nurse should go to any subscriber need, but that "patrons in better circumstances" could be asked to contribute "something more than the bare fee" for maternity cases, at least.

Hearty thanks were given to Preb. Freeman for all his work as Chairman throughout the war years when he resigned in 1946; Major Newton agreed to take his place. Dr. Johnston of Corfe was also retiring and his successor, Dr. Burgess, was invited to become a Committee member.

Mr. H. Tottle of Sellicks Green organised a Concert in December, which raised £8-12-0 for the Association, and a suitable house for the Nurse was found at Sellicks Green also. A letter was sent to all parishioners, headed:

PITMINSTER and TRULL DISTRICT NURSING ASSOCIATION

PURCHASE OF NURSE'S COTTAGE

Dear Sir or Madam,

For several years we have had a success because one and all have desired to have a home of their