

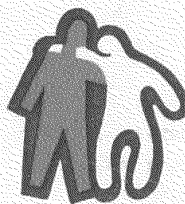
Witness Name: Katherine Victoria Burt

Statement No: WITN6392001

Exhibits: WITN6392002 - WITN6392267

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

WITN6392170



THE HAEMOPHILIA SOCIETY

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THE FIRST MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE HAEMOPHILIA SOCIETY was held on Saturday, 4th July, 1970, at the Society's Offices, 16 Trinity Street, London, S.E.1.

Those present: Mr. Hunter (in the Chair)
Messrs. Bowtle, Elliott, Leven, Polton, Prothero, Rosenblatt,
Rev. A. Tanner, Drs. Kuttner, Stern, Prof. Hardisty,
Mrs. Cowe, Mrs. Hunter, Mrs. Reeves.

Apologies: Lady Harvey, Mrs. Britten, Mrs. Phillips, Messrs. Crawley,
MacBryan, Morris, Drs. Biggs, Davies, Dormandy, Forty, Ingram,
Rizza, Scott Stevenson.

A G E N D A

1. Minutes of the previous Council Meeting.
2. Matters arising from the Minutes.
3. Group Reports.
4. World Federation and Haemophilia Congress.
5. Letter from Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street.
6. Vice-Presidents.
7. Any other business.

Minutes of the previous Council Meeting held on 26.4.70.

The Minutes were signed as a correct record.

Matters arising from the Minutes.

Sir Lionel Whitty Award A further nomination has been received which was too late for details to be circulated to the Council members before this meeting. It was agreed that this nomination and the one already received from the Oxford Group should be discussed at the next meeting. It was also agreed that Groups should be asked again if they had any further nominations.

Medical Panel Prof. Hardisty said that he would ask Dr. Dormandy to let the Council know the views of the Medical Panel on increasing the number of members of the Panel.

New Centres Dr. Kuttner referred to the correspondence he had had with the Secretary concerning the possibility of establishing the Royal Victoria Hospital, Boscombe, Bournemouth, as a Haemophilia Centre. Mr. Prothero had informed him that this was one of the matters to be raised at the meeting with the Department of Health and Social Security. The Department had still not fixed a date for the meeting. Dr. Stern said that originally Dr. R. Biggs had suggested that he should apply to the Regional Board but the Board had said that there could only be one centre in the Region, and Portsmouth was the centre. He spoke of the work of his department, which was organised on similar lines to some of the more effective Haemophilia Centres, and said that all his patients were very anxious that it should be established as a Centre. Professor Hardisty said that he could not understand why there should only be one centre in the region. Portsmouth was a long and often difficult journey for people living in the Boscombe, Bournemouth area. It was decided that the Secretary should pursue the matter with the Dept. of Health and Social Security and that the members of the Medical Panel should be asked to reiterate their support at the appropriate time. Dr. Biggs had already stated that she strongly supported the idea and Prof. Hardisty was also much in favour.

Group Reports

It was reported that an inaugural meeting of the South Wales Group was being held in Cardiff on Sunday, 5th July 1970. This was to be followed by a General Meeting when the Annual Draw would take place. Mr. Hunter, Mr. Polton, Mr. Prothero, Mr. Rogers and Mr. Elliott would attend this meeting.

Dr. Kuttner said that the Southern Group had now completed its first year and had held a successful A.G.M. on 7th June 1970, at which 40 - 50 members had been present, including Mr. Elliott. He spoke of the many activities of the Group and the efforts to keep in touch with members in the bigger towns - Southampton, Portsmouth. About 20 members had visited Lord Mayor Treloar College and had been impressed by the facilities there. A lecture on dental treatment for haemophiliacs had been well attended.

Mr. Bowtle, Manchester said he thought that too much time and money was devoted to external affairs, such as the World Federation, to the detriment of domestic matters. He thought that the resuscitation of lapsing groups, the promotion of new groups and the increasing of the Society's membership should be given more attention.

Mr. Rosenblatt agreed with Mr. Bowtle in that more time should be devoted to expansion and group activities and a close liaison maintained with the Society's Officers and Executive Committee.

Dr. Kuttner said that the Groups greatly appreciated any moral support given to them and that a close liaison between the Groups and Headquarters should be maintained.

Mrs. Cowe said that the Scottish Group relied a great deal on the Bulletins and all the information which was sent to them, which they found of great assistance and which was greatly appreciated. The work of the Executive Committee and the help it gave the Group was very much valued.

Mr. Leven said that he would like the Executive Committee to discuss ways of increasing the membership of the Society and of forming more groups based on the London Centres - as he felt the Executive Committee was acting as the London Group at present.

Rev. Alan Tanner stressed the importance of local initiative. He thought that the lack of attendance at meetings experienced in Manchester and some other areas might be due to the subject matter of the meetings not being what the local members wanted. He felt that careful thought should be given to the problem of what local members wanted and the experiences of one Group might help another.

Mr. Elliott said that most Groups were functioning well, that only two groups needed resuscitating and that, although he favoured a more effective liaison between Groups and Headquarters, approaches should come from the Groups to the Committee.

Mr. Prothero disagreed with Mr. Leven in that the Executive Committee could in no way be considered to be a London Group - and that he felt more interest needed to be taken by the Groups themselves in the work of the Executive Committee and Council Meetings.

Mr. Polton informed the Council that the Oxford Group had arranged a Garden Party at St. John's College, Oxford on 23rd August, 1970, and invitations were being sent to all members of the Council.

World Federation and Haemophilia Congress

Mr. Polton suggested that it would be helpful to Haemophilia Societies if the World Federation produced a Bulletin comprising extracts from the Bulletins of member Societies.

It was also suggested that the World Federation should consider setting up holiday centres throughout the world and also the provision of funds for medical treatment for people travelling. This could be arranged by the National Societies.

Letter from Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street.

Members of the Council had already received a copy of this letter. Mr. Polton said that about £18,000 of the target of £50,000 for Research had already been raised. £5,000 had recently been donated by the Worshipful Company of Drapers. The Council congratulated Mr. Polton for his part in obtaining this welcome sum of money.

Prof. Hardisty told the Council about the work he hoped to do in his department in the near future for the treatment of haemophilic children. Mr. Polton read a recommendation from the Executive Committee to the Council.

Mr. Bowtle proposed and Dr. Kuttner seconded that a grant of £1,200 should be made to the Department of Haematology at the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, to assist the work of Prof. Hardisty in accordance with his letter of 2nd June, 1970. This was carried unanimously.

The Chairman thanked Prof. Hardisty for giving his time and describing the work of his department so fully.

Vice-Presidents

The Chairman reported that the President had written to the Hon. Marcus Sieff but that he had been unable to accept the invitation to become a Vice-President.

Further suggestions were made for the Secretary to follow up.

Any other business

Mr. K. Cooper had asked the Council to accept his resignation. The Chairman said that all members would wish to thank Mr. Cooper for all he had done to help the work of the Society and hoped that in the future he might again have sufficient time to renew his support.

GRO-C

27.10.70