

Witness Name: Katherine Victoria Burt

Statement No: WITN6392001

Exhibits: WITN6392002 - WITN6392267

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

WITN6392256



THE HAEMOPHILIA SOCIETY

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THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE HAEMOPHILIA SOCIETY was held on Thursday, 10th August, 1972 at 7.00 p.m. at the Society's Offices, 16 Trinity Street, London, SE1 1DE.

Those present: Mr. Hunter (in the Chair)
Mrs. Hunter, Mrs. Britten, Dr. Kuttner, Messrs. Abrahams,
King, Knight, Leven, Morris, Polton, Prothero, Rosenblatt.

Apologies: Rev. Tanner, Mr. Elliott

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 13.7.72.
2. Matters arising.
3. Honorary Treasurer's Report.
4. Honorary Secretary's Report.
5. World Federation and Overseas Matters.
6. Group Matters.
7. Holiday Scheme.
8. Any other business.

1. Minutes of the Third Meeting on 13.7.72

Corrections: P.1 Agenda. Add to item 1. "and 22.6.72"
P.3 Group Matters. Line 5, insert "summer camp"
between "Dr. Britten's" and "film".

These minutes were then signed as a correct record.

2. Matters arising

P.2 The cheque for £20 has been sent to Mrs. GRO-A and the Medical Social Worker at St. Thomas' Hospital is looking into the case.

Mr. GRO-A was now in hospital and it has not yet been possible to contact him.

Mrs. GRO-A was not, in the event, able to go to Buenos Aires and the grant was not therefore needed.

3. Honorary Treasurer's Report

The bank balances at 31st July, 1972 were:-

	£
Current account	5,212.77
Lombard North Central account	10,000.00
RPH Current account	376.60
RPH Deposit account	2,000.00
RPH Lombard North Central account	18,000.00

Mr. [GRO-A]

It was agreed that a grant of £5 should be paid from the Benefit Fund in respect of car garaging charges, if no assistance was forthcoming from the Department of Health and Social Security.

[GRO-A] of Colchester.

The Chairman had received a letter from Miss Atkin concerning the costs incurred by [GRO-A]'s parents in visiting him during his frequent admissions to the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street. Their local authority has refused help and substantial payments towards the costs had been received in the past from other charities. In view of the situation, it was agreed that the sum of £20 be sent to Miss Atkin to assist with the costs when necessary.

4. Honorary Secretary's Report

Assistance with Transport

As a result of queries from some members of the Medical Advisory Panel and other members, the Honorary Secretary had raised several points with the Department of Health and Social Security on the question of the provision of cars for some haemophiliacs. The main points of their reply were:- The criteria for the provision of vehicles for haemophiliacs will be the same regardless of whether a car or allowance is applied for, and eligibility depends essentially on walking ability. Haemophiliacs are issued with cars to enable them to get to and from work and therefore cease to be eligible when no longer employed, although in practice the vehicle would not be withdrawn if there is a reasonable prospect of a resumption of work before too long. The basic car supplied will be a 'Mini' but there are a few reconditioned Minor 1000's available for those demonstrably unable to manage a Mini and for whom a Minor is medically recommended.

Mr. [GRO-A] of Ramsgate.

The advice of Dr. Sterndale had been asked as to the best course of action to adopt to help Mr. [GRO-A]'s sons. Dr. Sterndale feels that the situation would be eased if they went to Valence School and he and his Principal Social Worker have seen Mr. [GRO-A]. He has agreed to look at the school although the outlook is not too hopeful. He asked for assistance with the cost of going to see the school and after consultation between the Honorary Treasurer and the Honorary Secretary, a cheque for £2 had been sent to the Social Worker. This action was confirmed by the Committee.

Office Staff

Following Mrs. Dodd's resignation, several ladies had been interviewed as her replacement. The most suitable, Mrs. Smith, could not start until mid-September. The salary agreed for her was £11 a week and in view of this and in recognition of the responsibility carried by Mrs. Watson, it was proposed by the Honorary Secretary that her salary be increased to £15 a week with effect from 1st August, 1972. This was carried unanimously.

5. World Federation and Overseas Matters

A full report on the 8th World Congress held in Buenos Aires will be presented after the return of the Rev. Alan Tanner from his holiday, but it was noted that the following officers had been elected unopposed:-

Chairman: Mr. Frank Schabel
Vice-Chairman: M. H. Chaigneau (France), Dr. B. G. Grobbelaar (S. Africa)
and the Rev. A. J. Tanner (U.K.)

Medical
Secretaries: Dr. L. Aledort (U.S.A.), Dr. J. P. Allain (France),
Prof. P. H. Mannucci (Italy) and Dr. I. R. Vanderveld
(Australia)

Mrs. Britten reported that the WFH finds it difficult to manage financially between July and January as many societies delay payments of their dues and she proposed that the Haemophilia Society pay its full dues for 1972/73 immediately. This was seconded by the Honorary Treasurer and carried unanimously.

The next meeting of the WFH European Zone will be held in Heidelberg, West Germany from 4th - 6th October, 1973. This, which will be officially the 2nd European Meeting, will have two main topics - (a) Treatment and Home Treatment Programmes, and (b) Vocational and Family Planning Matters.

6. Group Matters

Mr. King reported on the arrangements the Lewisham Group had made for the Metropolitan Police Male Voice Choir concert to be given in aid of the Society on Thursday, 21st September, 1972.

7. Holiday Scheme

Mr. Leven outlined the pilot scheme which had operated with the Southern Group this year to give six children from the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street a holiday at Bournemouth. Following its success, the Southern Group offered to organise holidays for about 30 children from all over the country, at different times of the year. They hoped to run various fund-raising efforts to pay for it and the Committee accepted the offer with thanks, and offered any help necessary.

3. Any other business

Dr. M. Dormandy joined the Committee for part of the meeting to discuss Mr. Morris' report on the supply of concentrates to a London Haemophilia Centre. She congratulated Mr. Morris on his report and suggested that the Society forwarded this to Dr. R. Biggs who is organising a meeting of Centre directors within the next few months, as Dr. Dormandy had already asked Dr. Biggs if the meeting could discuss the means for procuring an increased supply of Factor VIII concentrate and she felt that Mr. Morris' report could be of benefit to the meeting's discussion of the situation. After discussion, the Committee agreed that Mr. Morris should send a general report on the situation as it appeared to patients based on similar reports he would obtain from the Groups etc. on as many Centres as possible. Ways that the Society might be able to assist in increasing supplies were discussed and Dr. Dormandy described the various situations that can arise to cause shortages of material and the changes in treatment patterns which would necessitate an increased supply to be fully implemented.

Before Dr. Dormandy left the meeting, Mr. Hunter expressed the Committee's gratitude to her for attending the meeting and for her useful comments.

Mrs. Britten informed the Committee that she had obtained a copy of Dr. A. Britten's film on Home Treatment and it was agreed to show this at the Council Meeting on 23rd September, 1972.

GRO-C

GRO-C

7.9.72.