

Witness Name: Katherine Victoria Burt

Statement No: WITN6392001

Exhibits: WITN6392002 - WITN6392267

INFECTED BLOOD INQUIRY

WITN6392258



THE HAEMOPHILIA SOCIETY

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THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE HAEMOPHILIA SOCIETY was held on Thursday, 10th October 1974 at 7.00 p.m. at the Society's offices, 16 Trinity Street, London, SE1 1DE

Those present: Rev. A. Tanner (in the Chair)
Messrs. Abrahams, King, Knight, Leven, Morris, Polton,
Prothero, Rosenblatt, Dr. Kuttner

Apologies: Miss Atkin, Mrs. Stopford, Mr. & Mrs. Hunter

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 12.9.74.
2. Matters arising.
3. Honorary Treasurer's Report.
4. Honorary Secretary's Report.
5. Group Matters.
6. Report of meeting with Medical Advisory Panel.
7. World Federation & Overseas Matters.
8. Any other business.

The Hon. Vice-Chairman informed the Committee that the Hon. Chairman was unable to be present as he had to enter hospital for an operation, but he was expected to be there for a short while only. The Committee were very sorry to learn this and sent their best wishes for a speedy recovery.

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 12.9.74

Page 3, item 8, para. 3 - add at end "This was agreed". After this addition the Minutes were signed as a correct record.

2. Matters arising

The News Bulletin with the reproductions of the Lancet correspondence had been well received by members, many of whom requested duplicates to send to their MPs etc.

Mr. King reported that the production of cryo at Lewisham Hospital had shown an increase recently.

Mr. Polton reported that the case of Mr. Ritson had been considered by the Case Committee immediately preceding the meeting, following further representations by the Leeds Group. Mrs. Stopford had visited the family and discussed it with the Group, as had Mr. Rosenblatt and he when in Leeds for the Annual Draw. The Case Committee had recommended that the Society and the Group could each lend the family £200 conditional on the children in the family providing satisfactory guarantees of the repayment of the loan on acceptable terms.

Mr. Polton would contact the Group to arrange matters. The Committee accepted the Case Committee's recommendations.

3. Honorary Treasurer's Report

<u>Bank Balances 30.9.74</u>	<u>£.</u>
Current Account	2,950.49
Deposit Account	7,000.00
Lombard North Central	25,000.00
RFH Current Account	127.66
RFH Deposit Account	NIL
RFH Lombard N. Central	30,000.00

The Hon. Treasurer reported on the first Case Committee meeting held prior to the meeting (as mentioned above) and the Committee endorsed the other grant it had proposed, £25 to Mr. GRO-A, to meet some of his debts. Mrs. Stopford was experiencing some difficulty in contacting Mr. GRO-A, but had reported on the progress she was making in the case.

The Executive Committee agreed that the Case Committee should be empowered to grant up to £100, in any case, without previous reference to the Executive Committee, and that the Case Committee would report to the Executive Committee on each grant made.

4. Honorary Secretary's Report

Mr. Prothero reported that the DHSS had bought 500,000 units of commercial concentrate in order that the company concerned could recoup some of its costs. The concentrate will still have to be paid for by hospitals when used, but to the DHSS.

Prof. G.I.C. Ingram, St. Thomas' Hospital, asked if the Society could consider, if necessary, meeting the accommodation costs of Dr. Rugieri who would be staying in London for three months to set up a project for the Radio-immuno detection of Factor VIII like antibodies which would be continued by a holder of a WFF Scholarship from Nigeria for a year. After discussion, the Committee felt it should not make a grant in this case.

5. Group Matters

Dr. Kuttner reported on the activities of the Birmingham, East Kent, Jersey, North East, North West, Scottish, Solent, Southern and South Wales Groups and on the visits he had made.

The Director of the Southampton Centre, Dr. Leslie, was moving to Norwich and the possibility existed that his post would not be filled. At the Group's request Mr. Polton had written expressing concern at this possibility.

As a result of his conversation with Dr. Wood at Leicester, Dr. Kuttner had organised a meeting for 15th October 1974 of local members to be held at the Royal Infirmary, Leicester. As a result of the redirection of one of his invitations he had heard from a member in Exeter who has suggested the formation of a Group in Devon. The Committee authorised Dr. Kuttner to proceed with preliminary arrangements to establish the support for such a Group.

Mr. King reported on the Lewisham Group's activities and the assistance given to two members, Mr. GRO-A and Mr. GRO-A, in conjunction with Mrs. Stopford.

Mr. Prothero had heard from the Bristol Group who were holding their first social meeting next month.

There was discussion as to the best way in which the work of Groups in helping their members could best mesh with the work of Mrs. Stopford without unnecessary overlapping. It was agreed that the opinion of Groups should be sought for discussion at the next meeting of Council.

Mr. Knight reported on the Young Members' meetings. A selected number had now established an informal discussion group on the basis of common problems. It was hoped that meetings of young members can be arranged in the Groups and it was agreed that Mr. Knight should contact Group Secretaries.

6. Report of meeting with Medical Advisory Panel

The Hon. Vice-Chairman, Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Secretary had met the members of the Panel with the exception of Prof. Hardisty who was away. Very useful discussions had taken place regarding the supply of Factor VIII concentrate. The members of the Panel proposed that the Society should raise money for the purchase of concentrates to enable a reasonable research programme of Home Treatment to be carried out throughout the country. They emphasised that they felt that the case for Home Treatment, for those suitable, must be extended as the principal method of treatment for the foreseeable future. It was agreed that the Society should request a meeting with officials of the DHSS to discuss the position with regard to concentrates and Dr. Biggs and Prof. Ingram agreed to prepare a case for us to present. They are in the process of setting up a smaller home treatment project and it was hoped that any trial we sponsored could mesh with that, and they agreed to keep us in touch with the progress of their preparations. Prof. Ingram had agreed to see if it was possible to establish the costs of not adequately treating haemophiliacs.

Dr. Biggs also suggested that the Society should be represented at the next meeting of Centre Directors by two representatives. The Committee nominated Messrs. Polton and Prothero, and Rev. Tanner agreed to go, if possible, in the event of either of them being incapacitated at the last minute!