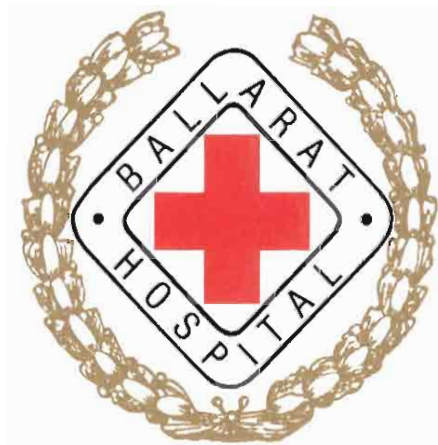


BALLARAT BASE HOSPITAL



“Mary-Helen Auxiliary”

1928 - 1988

Compiled by
H. W. MENADUE, F.C.N.A.



Sixty years of history of the "Mary-Helen" has been presented in this book.

I am sure it will stir the memories of many people in Ballarat. After so many years, it is good to know that there is still a group of generous hard working ladies who are following the pattern of ideals laid down so long ago.

Kindness brings its own reward and the ladies of the "Mary-Helen", in belonging to this Auxiliary, feel that they are well and truly awarded.

Our sincere thanks to Winsome Menadue and Lisa Coxall for the long hours spent compiling and typing this booklet.

*MARY F. JOHNSON
President, Mary-Helen Auxiliary,
Ballarat Base Hospital*

8th July, 1988

Mary Helen Auxiliary Founding Members



Mrs. Helen Eva Gardiner

Mrs. Helen Eva Gardiner

Elected Member of the Ballarat Hospital Committee of Management (Bd/Mtg.) 1928-1940; elected President 1933-1935 and Life Governor 1928.

Foundation member Mary Helen Auxiliary, the Helen taken from her name. President of the Mary Helen Auxiliary 1932/33 made Life Member on her retirement 1939. Foundation Member of the Ballarat Branch of the National Council of Women.

Trained Nurse, Alfred Hospital, Melbourne, husband Dr. J. Gardiner was the first radiologist of the Ballarat Hospital.

During her term as President of the Hospital Committee, she rendered valuable service in connections with the building of the Edward-Wilson Block, officially opened in 1934.

Following retirement to Melbourne, she continued to support and attended important functions. At the twenty-eighth Annual Meeting 1956, she unveiled the Honour Roll which perpetuates the names of the Past Presidents. Mrs. Gardiner was a much loved and highly esteemed Co-founder and Member; her passing in 1975 was learned with regret.

Mrs. M. Hutton-Jones

Foundation Member and elected as the first President of the newly formed Hospital Auxiliary. The Members of the Hospital Committee expressed the opinion that she was well placed as the Head of the Auxiliary as she carried out her duties with tact and judgement which inspired her members with enthusiasm and zeal. Her husband was

President of the Hospital Committee 1928-29 for whom a section of the Nurses Home was named.

She made an ideal President and on her retirement, a vote of confidence was recorded in appreciation for the splendid work she had achieved, encouraging membership, functions to raise the much needed finance to meet the objectives. The Auxiliary in these initial years had gained stability and absolute confidence had been placed in the status of the Auxiliary by the Hospital and the public in general.

Therefore, in recognition of the wonderful record and work performed during her President years, the members conferred on her the High Honour of Life Patroness at the third Annual Meeting 1931 of the Mary Helen Auxiliary; the position she held until her death in 1964.



Mrs. Alice Mary Pittard

Mrs. Alice Mary Pittard

Elected Member of the Ballarat Base Hospital Committee of Management (Brd/Mtg.) 1928-1935.

Life Member of the Hospital 1930. Life Membership Mary Helen Auxiliary 1947.

Foundation Member Mary Helen Auxiliary; Mary taken from her name. President Mary Helen Auxiliary 1934/35, 1946/47.

Instrumental and supported by Mrs. Gardiner, a Foundation Member of the Ballarat Branch of the National Council of Women. Mrs. Pittard was Mayoress of Ballarat 1927 and the family have contributed and been involved in Ballarat civic affairs over many decades.

Her passing in 1956 as co-founder and valued member was learned with regret.

MARY HELEN AUXILIARY

Founded 24/10/1928

PAST PRESIDENTS

1929-1931 Mrs. J. Hutton-Jones
1932-1933 Mrs. J. M. Gardiner
1933 Mrs. A. J. Pittard
1934 Mrs. J. C. Douglas
1935 Mrs. T. T. Holliway
1936 Mrs. B. Henderson
1937-1938 Mrs. A. Darling
1939 Mrs. E. D. Little
1940 Mrs. E. Ross
1941 Mrs. G. F. Morton
1942 Mrs. F. T. Morgan-Payler
1943 Mrs. C. M. Chisholm
1944 Mrs. W. Barrell
1945 Mrs. J. C. Rowe
1946 Mrs. A. J. Pittard
1947 Mrs. J. Ritchie
1948 Mrs. W. Rolf
1949 Mrs. F. Mather
1950 Mrs. R. H. Lancashire
1951 Mrs. F. Hook
1952 Mrs. E. D. Little
1953 Mrs. J. C. Rowe
Mrs. E. D. Little
1954 Mrs. J. S. O'Haire
1955 Mrs. S. E. Hobson
1956 Mrs. G. A. Gilbert
1957 Mrs. A. J. Curnow
1958 Mrs. A. St. C. Wallace
1959 Mrs. W. Messer
1960 Mrs. E. Simpson
1961 Mrs. J. E. Murray
1962 Mrs. A. Muir
1963 Mrs. C. W. Pennant
1964 Mrs. J. E. Chamberlain
1965 Mrs. A. Stanistreet
1966 Mrs. J. F. Owen
1967-68 Mrs. J. K. Feary
1969 Mrs. J. E. Chamberlain
1970 Mrs. C. W. Pennant
1971-1972 Mrs. A. Benjamin
1973-74 Mrs. J. E. Chamberlain
1975-1976 Mrs. A. Benjamin

1977-1979 Mrs. J. E. Chamberlain
1979-1982 Mrs. A. Johnson
1982-1983 Mrs. J. E. Chamberlain
1983-1988 Mrs. A. Johnson

TREASURERS

1928-1935 Mrs. E. Little
1935-1939 Mrs. W. A. Spring
1940-1946 Mrs. E. G. Crocker
1947-1948 Mrs. M. L. Ritchie (act)
1948-1950 Mrs. F. W. Weickhardt
1951-1953 Mrs. S. Hobson
1954-1984 Mrs. H. S. Trevenen
1985-1988 Miss I. Glover

SECRETARIES

1928-1930 Mrs. W. Chaplin
1931-1939 Miss E. Turner
1940-1947 Mrs. M. L. Ritchie
1947-1948 Mrs. W. E. Roff
1949-1954 Miss E. M. Simpson
1954-1955 Miss E. M. Simpson
Mrs. G. A. Gilbert
1955-1956 Mrs. P. Frood
1956-1957 Mrs. A. J. Curnow
Mrs. M. J. Ritchie
1957-1959 Mrs. M. J. Ritchie
1960-1967 Mrs. R. J. Buchanan
1967-1968 Mrs. G. A. Pennant
(act)
1968-1988 Mrs. R. J. Buchanan



LIFE MEMBERSHIPS OF THE MARY-HELEN AUXILIARY

Life memberships of the Mary Helen Auxiliary were awarded to members of the Auxiliary, as an honour for services loyally given over many years to the organisation of the Auxiliary.

- 1943 Mesdames Darling & Gummow
- 1945 Mrs. Holloway, Snr. H. E. Gardiner, Miss E. B. Turner
- 1946 Mesdames W. Patterson, J. Ritchie, Mrs. E. Crocker
- 1947 Mesdames A. J. Pittard, J. D. Eddy, C. P. A. Taylor
- 1950 Mrs. E. D. Little
- 1954 Mesdames W. Barrell, R. Humphreys, E. D. Patterson,
Miss E. Simpson
- 1959 Mesdames F. Hook, G. A. Gilbert
- 1962 Mesdames S. Hobson, H. Orpen, F. Penney, H. Trevenen, M.B.E.
- 1963 Mesdames W. Messer, J. F. Kittson
- 1964 Mesdames J. Feary, A. Wallace, F. W. Weickhardt
- 1965 Mrs. E. Froid
- 1966 Mesdames A. Muir & R. J. Buchanan
- 1968 Mrs. J. Murray
- 1969 Mrs. J. Owen
- 1970 Mrs. J. Chamberlain
- 1971 Mrs. A. Stanistreet
- 1972 Mrs. C. Lederman
- 1974 Mesdames T. Brown & W. Segrave
- 1977 Mrs. A. Benjamin
- 1987 Mrs. J. Johnson
- 1977 Mrs. J. Ritchie accepted and received on behalf of the Mary Helen
Auxiliary the Ballarat Community Award.
Mrs. Ritchie had been a Member for 43 years, Past President,
Secretary, Assistant Secretary and a Life Member of the
Ballarat Base Hospital since 1940.

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

The Committee-Board of Management of the Ballarat Base Hospital have throughout the past 60 years shown their appreciation of the work of the Mary-Helen Auxiliary by electing members and office-bearers Life Governors and Life Memberships.

Life Governors

- 1929 Mrs. M. Hutton-Jones — President
Mrs. E. M. Chaplin — Hon. Secretary
Mrs. E. Little — Hon. Treasurer
- 1931 Mesdames Capell, Merlin and Patterson

Life Membership

- 1932 Mrs. A. J. Pittard, Mrs. F. Davies
Life Member appointed by special appeal
Mrs. W. H. G. Segrave
- 1933 Mrs. H. Shaw, Miss E. Turner
- 1934 Mesdames Morton and Henderson
- 1935 Mesdames Douglas, Taylor, Spring and Cameron
- 1936 Mesdames Gummow & Carley
- 1937 Mrs. A. J. Darling and Mrs. T. T. Holloway
- 1938 Mesdames B. Henderson and I. B. H. Batten
- 1939 Mesdames C. Cooke and J. L. Eddy
- 1940 Mesdames Oxbrow and J. Ritchie
- 1941 Mesdames G. F. Morton and E. Ross
- 1942 Mesdames Barrell and Hobson
- 1943 Mesdames Chisholm, Lawrie, Dixon, Morgan, Payler
- 1944 Mesdames H. J. Smith, J. H. Slyth, E. Lister and E. Burston
- 1945 Mesdames J. C. Rowe, Miss E. Simpson, Miss H. Crocker
- 1946 Mr. Corbett, Hon. Auditor to Mary Helen Auxiliary
- 1947 Hon. Life Governorship Certificates
Mesdames Nice, Ainsworth, Freeman, Hocking, Roff and Sheil
- 1948 Mesdames Cochran, Mather and Trevenen
- 1949 Hon. Life Governorship Certificates
Mesdames S. Pollard, R. Swan and F. W. Weickhardt
- 1953 Mrs. F. Penney
- 1959 Mesdames G. A. Gilbert and F. G. Hook
- 1961 Mesdames R. J. Buchanan, C. W. Pennant
- 1962 Mesdames E. Frod, C. Lederman, A. St. C. Wallace
- 1963 Mesdames A. E. Muir, J. E. Murray
- 1964 Mesdames S. E. Hobson, W. H. G. Segrave
- 1965 Mesdames J. Chamberlain, W. Messer, M. Freeman
- 1966 Mesdames E. Barclay, K. Chambers
- 1967 Mesdames A. Stanistreet & J. E. Owen
- 1968 Mesdames J. Hobill, R Stevens
- 1969 Mesdames J. K. Feary, Mrs. T. Brown
- 1970 Mrs. A. Benjamin
- 1971 Mesdames N. Gazzard, H. Knox
- 1972 Mesdames N. Black, J. Lockhart

LIFE GOVERNORSHIPS OF BALLARAT BASE HOSPITAL

- 1987 Mesdames H. Trevenen, M.B.E., J. Johnson, L. Chamberlain,
R. J. Buchanan

HISTORY OF MARY-HELEN AUXILIARY

The Mary Helen Auxiliary of the Ballarat Base Hospital celebrating its 60th year have striven to uphold the original aims and ideals initially established at the time of foundation 1928.

Mrs. Alice Mary Pittard and Mrs. Helen Eva Gardiner, ladies who had a deep community commitment successfully contested the two vacancies on the Ballarat District Hospital Committee (Brd/Mtg.). These two ladies had decided it was time women were included as members of this community committee. To their delight, they were successfully elected in 1928 as members of the Hospital Committee.

Visiting the Hospital complex and Wards, they quickly became very aware of a need for the establishment of an Auxiliary to assist the Committee to improve conditions and comforts for the patients and staff.

Wednesday, 24th October, 1928, forty-five (plus 13 apologies) Ballarat ladies responded to an appeal for the formation of a Hospital Auxiliary convened by Mesdames Pittard and Gardiner. Mr. W. J. Coghlan, President of the Hospital Committee was present in attendance.



*Outpatients Tea Trolley — 1959
(Funded by Mary Helen Auxiliary)
Mesdames A. Wallace and M. Murray serving patients waiting in
Outpatient Hall.*

The Mayoress of Ballarat, Mrs. J. Pryor occupied the chair and conducted the first election of office-bearers resulting:—

President — Mrs. M. Hutton-Jones

Vice-President — Mrs Hill — Mrs. H. Shaw

Hon. Secretary — Mrs. W. Chaplin

Hon. Treasurer — Mrs. E. Little

Membership Fee — Two shillings per annum

Life Membership Fee — Two pounds and two shillings



Spring Tea — 1970

(Cafe Chantant)

*Left to right: Mesdames Ritchie, Buchanan, Rogers, Bromeley;
Mayoress of Ballarat, Mrs. Chamberlain; Curnow, Pennant.*

The initial objectives of this newly formed Hospital Auxiliary were outlined by Mrs. Gardiner.

1. To promote the welfare of the Ballarat District Hospital.
2. To co-operate with the Hospital with a view to receiving more widespread sympathy in its work.
3. To obtain additional support for the Hospital.
4. To procure for it additional voluntary service.
5. To obtain additional comforts for the inmates and also the nurses, doctors and staff of the Hospital.

During 1928, there was no doubt a need for extra assistance and support to community organisations by women in a position and able to contribute in a voluntary capacity. In a few years hence, depression and depression was soon to change standards of living conditions and the financial status of the Country.

It is, therefore, interesting to record the events in 1928 associated with the Hospital.

Mesdames Pittard and Gardiner were co-founders of the Ballarat Branch of the National Council of Women, which still meets in 1988 which contribute and debate national controversial topics which affect the Australian environment and citizens.

In March, 1928, the qualified General Nurse Trainees of the Ballarat Hospital formed the B.B.H. Trained Nurses' League. A group of young Ballarat ladies commenced the Hospital Younger Set. Both these groups meet monthly and continue to support the Hospital socially and financially in 1988.



*1978 Annual Meeting Presentation to Mr. W. Cochran, President
B.B.H. Board of Management
"Cardiac Monitor"*

*Left to right: Mesdames H. Trevenan, R. Buchanan, J. Chamberlain,
J. Ritchie.*

At the second Meeting of the newly formed Hospital Auxiliary 7th December, 1928, it was important for this Auxiliary to be named for identification purposes.

Mrs. Chaplin proposed and Mrs. Pryor seconded that as a compliment to Mesdames Pittard and Gardiner and as lady Members of the Hospital Committee, Convenors of the Auxiliary, that the Auxiliary be called the Mary Helen Auxiliary, their known christian names — Mary Pittard and Helen Gardiner.

The first commitment for the Auxiliary was to provide the forthcoming Christmas cheer in 1928 for the patients and staff of the Hospital. Matron submitted the list of goods needed, advertisements were placed in the local Ballarat newspapers, the "Courier" and "Mail" and deputations to local firms to ask for donations. Poultry, hams, puddings and delicacies were needed. The Community response was overwhelming as can be testified on examining the records from the first annual report.

R. M. Goodfellow — 4 day soft drinks
Mrs. Heagarty — fancy sweets
Sunshine Biscuit Co., J. R. McLeod & Co. — goods
W. D. & H. O. Wills — 1 box Capstan cigarettes
G. Farmer Pty. Ltd. & J. C. Frood & Co. — 1 ham each
Mrs. Irish — 1 pr. chickens
Mrs. Williamson, Smythesdale — 1 goose
Mrs. Tinney, Bungaree — 1 pr. geese
Mrs. Barry — 1 pr. fowls
Sun Toy Fund & Free Gardeners' Lodge — toys
Ms. Brazenor — Christmas cake
Mrs. Kirby, Napoleons — 2 prs. fowls
Mrs. Ramsay, Buninyong — 1 pr. ducks
Mrs. Jones, Mayoress of Sebastopol Special Appeal — 11 fowls
Financial contribution — Twenty-eight pounds and five shillings



Mary Helen Auxiliary 50th Birthday Cake — 1978
Left to right: Mrs. J. Ritchie (Secretary), Miss Barbara Gardiner
(daughter of Mrs. Helen Gardiner), Mrs. J. Chamberlain (President).

In 1938, 7 turkeys, 6 boiling fowls were purchased from Lloyds Turkeys 1/1 per lb., nine pence each for cleaning. Fowls were 4/6 each, a leg of ham was also required.

1940 — 121 patients and 129 total staff

1942 — 150 patients and 135 total staff

all received Christmas dinner and delicacies.



Luncheon (Hancock home) — April 1979

Left to right: Mesdames Johnson, Buchanan, Hancock, Ritchie, Chamberlain, O'Brien, McGowan, Bryant, Benjamin, Hornby.

Each subsequent year, the ladies have contributed substantial financial support for the Christmas dinner delicacies and tray decorations for all patients and staff.

Easter cheer was another similar commitment from the commencement of the Auxiliary's activities and continued for many years. Items for the first Easter Cheer, as recorded in the Minutes, are as follows:—

42 lbs. of Shetland Cod
9 small turkeys
18 dozen hot cross buns
7 lbs. salmon and trout

Cost — 13 pounds, 6 shillings and two pence. The cost to provide patients and staff 1988 would be far in excess.

On the Auxiliary's first Christmas Eve, the President and Hon. Secretary visited the Maternity Ward to provide and serve each mother

with afternoon tea and present the baby with a gift of clothing. This practise continued until recent years.

Christmas morning, each female patient received a gift of a washer and soap while male patients, a packet of cigarettes. Since the establishment of the Mary-Helen Ward, each patient at Christmas time, receives a gift.

Fund Raising

A feature of all women's organisations is that of raising money to meet the objectives. The ingenuity of the office-bearers and executive Committee is much to be admired in retrospect.

Cafe Chantant

The most consistent event has been the yearly cafe chantant or as known in recent decades, a Spring Tea. These afternoons must have been high on the social calendar of the supporters. Preparation meant floral arrangements and musical programmes arranged by Ballarat artists and sumptuous afternoon teas. The venue for these afternoons were held in the various Ballarat Church Halls.

Card and Bridge Parties

The first of these social events was held at the Alexandria Tea Rooms generously donated by the Miss Brazenors. To ensure the financial commitment was met, five or more a year were arranged.



Garden Party

Left to right: Mesdames Hobill, Penney, Ritchie, Robinson.

The Hospital Board Room was once an ideal reception room and in later years, the Hospital Social and Conference Rooms have been utilised. Hostesses were responsible to fill their table commitments and attend their guests to afternoon tea.

Time and Talents

It wasn't customary to record individual member's efforts, Mrs. D. E. Patterson, at the age of 82 years, is recorded in the 29th Annual Report 1949 of conducting this successful fund raising event.



*Luncheon (Hancock home) — March 1981
Left to right: Mesdames Buchanan, Benjamin, Hancock, Johnson.*

Cake Stalls

Cake trading tables must be the most popular and profitable method of fund raising of any charity organisation. Hospital Gala and fete days, Ballarat Travellers' Charity weeks held in Sturt Street, any social event the Members conducted a cake stall. All members worked tirelessly to ensure adequate stocks. The year 1940 (WWII), President, Mrs. E. Little, asked Members to be responsible for six cakes each and a jar of jam — 600 cakes and 100 jars of jam were sold on the Cake Stall at the 1940 Gala Day.

Making and Sale of Soft Toys

Mrs. Chisholm, President (1943), introduced a new form of fund raising; the making and sale of soft toys. Working parties took place in her

home. Many delightful and novel toys were made. Her husband assisted by making dolls' beds, children's chairs and tables. Lady machinists, Members of the Lucas Factory, assisted making dolls' clothes and dressing the dolls. In subsequent years, working sewing parties have been held in the homes of Members, material purchased to make aprons and other household gifts to sell at Hospital fetes, Gala Days in the week long Ballarat Travellers' Charity Fund Raising held in Sturt Street. Mrs. Marjorie Ritchie, for many years, made gifts and opened her home for these sewing days which raised many dollars.

Opportunity Shops

Another original method of raising money was the opening of a shop, as proposed by Mrs. Gardiner. The shop to be called an Opportunity Shop and to be situated in Mair Street opening 3.00 p.m. Thursday, 27th June, 1929. The first shop remained open for a month with a return of £133 with no effort. Twice a year, autumn and spring, these shops were opened for ten or more days. Several Members a day in attendance. All Members were encouraged to keep a box in their homes to deposit unwanted clothing or household goods. These shops were popular throughout WWII, when the Commonwealth Government clothing rationing schemes were introduced, to supplement the need for extra clothes and save clothing coupons for other needed household essentials.

Opportunity Shop financial returns enabled the Auxiliary to purchase substantial items of equipment the Hospital needed.



March Tea — 1983

Left to right: Mesdames Anstis, Pennant, Chamberlain, Johnson.

Garden Parties

Many members have been keen gardeners and have opened their homes and gardens to hold Garden Parties. These have been relaxing, happy, social, friendly and successful financial days. Gardens featured have been Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Heinz, Mr. and Mrs. J. Feary, Mrs. Gilbert, Mrs. Pennant, Mrs. Hancock, the Hospital Garden and many others.

Golf Gymkhanas

A completely new venture commenced in June, 1963, held at the Midlands Golf Club. Golf Associates from Ballarat Country and District Golf Clubs have been very supportive of this day event. Held yearly, successful financial return in recent years has varied from \$600-\$800.

Monetary Donations

Financial donations from individual citizens, members of the Auxiliary, business firms, professional organisations and personnel have been of valuable assistance. These contributions have been meticulously recorded and preserved.

Other Fund Raising

Other fund raising activities have varied from hat and mannequin parades, coffee parties, table settings, competitions, raffles, theatre parties and many other ideas. During 1940, Mrs. Pittard donated a pair of stockings to be raffled. Tickets sold at three pence each.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Food in Hospitals

Hospitals in early decades were renowned for substandard food, the cost of food is the administrators' dilemma.

The monthly meeting, March, 1929, it was decided to launch a jam appeal for a week in April. The collection place, the bandstands of Sturt Street; Members volunteered to take charge of the collection each day. The collection resulted in 3,000 lbs., a value of £132 for use for patients and staff. The jam was placed in a locked store to which only the Matron had access. The citizens of Ballarat showed their generosity for many years when jam and honey appeals were launched.

Hospital Linen

The need to improve the Hospital facilities and meet the objectives, the maintenance of the supply of linen was of a major concern. The much needed linen was supplied to the Hospital at the Matron's request in the early decades in association with the Hospital's "Ladies' Aid Society" — the Ladies' Aid Society provided and made up the Hospital linen requirements for many years. Requests from the matron for linen were met, misuse of linen by the Nursing Staff was frowned upon. Items of linen



*V.I.P. Presenting Cheque to Mary Helen Auxiliary — 1985/86
Left to right: Mrs. White, Mrs. Anstis (V.I.P.); Mrs. J. Johnson (President M.H.A.),
Mrs. M. Buchanan (Hon. Secretary M.H.A.)*

were donated until 1977 when the Hospital linen and laundry facilities were transferred to the Central Highlands Linen Service, Bell Street, Ballarat.

Mary Helen Bed and Ward

October, 1931, Mrs. Pittard suggested the time was opportune for the Auxiliary to work to endow a bed for the Hospital, the motion was not accepted.

To commemorate Victoria's Centenary celebrations, monies were raised and donated to endow a children's cot; a second and third cot were subsequently donated and appropriately labelled.

December, 1937, Mrs. Gardiner proposed that a bed be endowed in perpetuity to mark the Auxiliary's 10 year anniversary, similar organisations were supporting Hospitals throughout Victoria. The cost £500 a bed.

Mrs. Lawrie moved that two members visit the endowed bed on the Sunday prior to the Meeting. The patients appreciated these visits and favourable comments were well received. A second bed was presented in 1946.

Mrs. Pittard and Mrs. Gardiner officially presented the first bed plaque to Mr. H. J. Smith, President of the Board of Management. Accepting the plaque, Mr. Smith thanked the ladies and presented them with a £100 cheque in memory of his late wife who had been an Auxiliary Lady. The money invested, the balance raised and the Ethel Smith memorial bed was presented in 1951.

The fourth bed was presented in 1956 with a suitably inscribed brass plaque in memory of Mrs. A. J. Pittard.

Following the presentation of the second bed, deputations to the Hospital Secretary to seek a ward or area to place the endowed beds. The Board of Management, ever mindful of the services of the Auxiliary, an honour was conferred in 1950 and the naming of Ward Two, Ground Floor, the Edward Wilson Building (1980 Intensive Care Unit area).

Following the remodelling of Yuille House 1972, the Ward was transferred to the remodelled second floor (Y2) which is suitably labelled.

Prior to each monthly meeting, two nominated ladies visit the Ward and patients. The aim to make the Ward as comfortable as possible is still upheld by the yearly contributions of facilities to assist the nursing staff care for the patients.

Tea Trolley Service

The Winter of 1961 was cold and damp, patients attending outpatients and casualty had long hours of waiting in the long cold hard passage way (ground floor below present outpatients' department) waiting to keep their appointment with the doctor.



*Cheque Presentation from V.I.P.
Miss I. Glover (Hon. Treasurer), Mrs. J. Johnson (President).*

The Auxiliary, ever mindful of the welfare of patients and the Hospital, commenced a portable tea service in 1962 and since have continually financed the service.

Members and volunteer helpers have served patients with a cup of tea and biscuit. This little known consideration for patients is still faithfully served weekly. In recent years, has been reduced to one day a week. Volunteer ladies, Mesdames J. Harris and P. Edwards have not only served the hot cup of tea these past eighteen years to the nervous patient whatever the weather elements, but have a bright, happy disposition and able to put waiting patients and visitors at ease.

Membership

Appeal for membership has never had to be enticed until recent years. At the end of the first year of the Auxiliary, there was a registered membership of 120 members, keen and active to contribute.

Throughout the depression years, membership remained stable in spite of the scarcity of money. These years were successful and the ladies worked tirelessly to fulfil the obligations, supply the much needed linen, blankets, shelting and food for the patients at the hospital.

A slight decline of membership in the 1940's (WWII), many ladies, no doubt, became involved in activities to raise money for the war effort.

On the 1st March, 1940, Mrs. Trevenen paid her first membership fee of two shillings.

In 1952, Mrs. A. W. Nicholson was the seventh Mayoress to become a member and assist in the various and many fund raising activities.

The 1960's Membership remained static; in the 1980's, the lowest ever membership, an average of 30. In spite of the decline in membership of each past decade, the ideals and objectives as established by Mary Pittard and Helen Gardiner have been maintained and achieved.

Throughout these later years, the consistent dedication and contribution of the late Marjorie Ritchie as Secretary, she recorded her thoughts at the conclusion of every annual report, she upheld the skill of the founders and inspired all to continue providing for the purpose the Auxiliary was established for in 1928.

Mrs. R. J. Buchanan was another young lady and mother who joined and has carried on the work when older members have retired.

Mrs. H. Trevenen, for nearly 30 years, had been the Treasurer, a contribution to the Ballarat Base Hospital that probably has never been surpassed. In 1962, she was the recipient of the order of the member of British Empire (M.B.E.) amongst the Queen's Birthday Honours.

Activities amongst members haven't always been fund raising. The 21st birthday party was a happy day, held in Victoria League Rooms, both founders were present to cut the birthday cake donated by the Board of Management.

A 25th birthday dinner was held at Craig's. Recent years, members have enjoyed a Christmas dinner with friends at the Hospital in the Services Block.

The Mary Helen Auxiliary is a record of contribution to the Board of Management and the staff of the Ballarat Base Hospital which the Hospital must be justly proud.

The Board of Management replying to the 1979 donation, thanked the ladies for the continued support and enthusiasm in being able to present equipment during times of financial restriction at Government level.

The late Mrs. A. Benjamin added an addendum to her President's year report in 1972 which is probably explanatory of the thoughts of many Presidents of the Mary Helen Auxiliary. She mentions, that as President one gained a deeper interest and realised the sacrifice the women of organisations contend with, when attending and working for all the special functions and so deserve admiration and respect. She concluded in her recall of her year that the reward is one of gratification as "we do have a wonderful friendship with each other as we work together". The late Mrs. Benjamin was a loyal Member of the Mary-Helen Auxiliary for as a past trainee of the Hospital, she was able to work for the Hospital to assist to provide for the patients and the staff.



CONTRIBUTIONS AND GIFTS TO THE HOSPITAL

		£
1929	Refrigerator, two Kelvinators and cooling Chamber	325.0.0
	3,000 Lbs jam	132.0.0
	Christmas cheer — patients and staff	43.5.0
	Easter cheer	11.19.4
1930	Jam	5.0.0
	Linen	250.0.0
	Blankets	50.0.0
	Easter cheer	
1931	Christmas cheer	30.0.0
	Jam appeal and honey	4.15.10
	Linen	129.14.10
	Screens	7.9.3
	Doctors' renovations, carpet, curtains, etc.	19.15.9
1932	Chairs, 3 doz.	18.0.0
	Linen, towels, sheeting, etc.	330.17.5
	Jam and honey, 3/12 supply	7.17.6

1933	Linen	110.0.0
	Jams and honey	9.19.6
	Donation to Hospital	23.19.4
	Christmas and Easter cheer	27.18.7
1934	"Scarcity of money caused by the Depression"	
	Easter Cheer — 3 boxes of fish and Hot Cross Buns	3.1.0
	Linen and Knives	157.4.1
	Christmas cheer — Turkey (£12.19.6)	47.18.0
1935	Linen	200.0.0
	Jam and Honey	
	Christmas and Easter Cheer	
	Children's cot for Children's Special Appeal (Annual Report not available)	
1936	Hospital Appeal	16.6.6
	Easter cheer — 4 boxes of fish and Hot Cross Buns	
1937	Linen	
	Christmas and Easter cheer (Annual Report not available)	
	Linen	177.7.0
	Easter cheer	3.0.0.
1938	Linen	70.16.1
1939	Christmas cheer — 172 patients and 114 staff	40.2.10
	Easter cheer — 175 patients and 114 staff	5.9.0
	Cost endowment fund	20.5.0
	Linen	206.18.0
1940	Linen	162.13.6
	Cot endowment fund	129.12.3
	Christmas cheer — 300 patients and staff	56.14.1
	Easter cheer	5.18.10
1941	Christmas cheer — Turkeys, hams and puddings for 121 patients, 129 nurses, doctors and staff	
	Gifts for the patients, washers, soap, female patients; cigarettes, male patients and Easter cheer	43.9.7
	Linen	216.16.1
	Cot endowment — Mary Helen	63.10.6
	Since its inception in October, 1928, the Auxiliary has expended some £3,698.17.7 on linen, refrigerator, carpets and many other articles for the Hospital.	
1942	Easter cheer	3.18.2
	Christmas cheer	48.14.11
	Linen	179.18.0
	Cot fund	70.0.0
	Total (£276)	
1943	Christmas cheer — 150 patients, 130 nurses, doctors and staff	59.9.6

	Easter cheer	7.5.8
	Linen	105.17.0
	23 easy chairs	41.15.0
	Stainless kitchen ware	250.0.0
	Cot fund	68.0.0
1944	Easter cheer	8.6.2
	Linen	246.15.0
	35 overbed tables, maternity women's surgical wards and stainless food trolley	250.0.0
1945	Christmas cheer	
	Easter cheer	6.17.0
	Linen	305.0.0
	Stainless food trolley	118.10.0
	8 cane lounges, 6 wheelchairs, 18 easy chairs, 16 overbed tables, lockers	207.15.0
1946	Christmas and Easter cheer	82.7.11
	Linen	151.10.0
	Children's Ward, Refrigerator	95.5.0
	18 overbed tables	58.5.0
	Curtains — Nurses' Home, loose covers	82.4.2
	2nd cot endowment fund	189.9.0
	(Grand total raised since 1929 for the Hospital — £8,514)	
1947	Linen	325.18.4
	Stainless steel table ware	62.6.6
	2nd cot endowment	19.3.0
1948	Christmas and Easter cheer	84.17.1
	Linen	265.0.5
	Premature baby cot, stainless steel food trolley, tray, hair dryer	141.11.11
	Sisters' and Nurses' Home, 2 electric coal fires, 2 standard reading lamps, curtains	50.0.0
	Cot endowment	74.12.6
1949	Christmas and Easter cheer	113.8.4
	Linen	113.17.0
	Stainless steel	52.12.4
	Cot endowment fund	294.10.0
1950	Christmas and Easter cheer	144.15.7
	Linen	223.12.8
	Slippers	48.12.0
	Dressing Gowns	58.0.0
	Cot endowment	Credit 335.15.4
1951	Christmas and Easter cheer	155.13.2
	Linen	206.0.0
	Cot endowment fund from H. J. Smith	109.0.0
	Have now endowed second bed Ethel Smith Mary Helen Memorial Bed	

1952	Christmas and Easter cheer	141.14.9
	Cot endowment, 3rd commenced (£280.13.2)	73.16.0
	Room — New Nurses' House	50.0.0
	Linen	246.9.0
	Mattresses	128.0.0
1953	Christmas and Easter cheer	167.0.0
	Bed endowment — Mary Helen Ward	352.13.2
	Linen	200.0.0
	Mattress	15.0.0
	Hospital Radio Appeal	216.15.0
1954	Endowment third bed for Mary Helen Ward (Total to date £427.13.3)	57.0.0
	Linen	245.8.9
	Material	23.8.2
	Vitamizer and electric blanket	23.9.10
	Christmas and Easter cheer	162.11.0
1955	Cot endowment	73.0.0
		(500.0.0)
	Linen	216.18.9
	3 ARC lamps and air circulator	88.17.9
	Christmas and Easter cheer	170.0.0
1956	Refrigerator	50.0.0
	Linen	124.10.0
	Christmas dinner	143.18.1
	Easter cheer	35.0.0
	Hospital Appeal	50.0.0
	4 rubber mattresses and covers	68.16.0
	Cot endowment	41.10.0
1957	Christmas cheer	142.0.0
	Easter cheer	22.10.0
	Rubber mattress and pillows	132.2.3
	4 lounge chairs	66.0.0
	Electric Griller	71.3.10
	Linen	119.11.0
	Cot endowment	39.17.0
1958	Christmas cheer	143.0.0
	Easter cheer	22.10.0
	Cot endowment	12.10.0
	Linen	37.10.0
	Curtains — Mary Helen Ward	20.17.0
	Cubicle curtains — Mary Helen Ward	203.0.0
	Electric toasters	26.0.0
1959	Christmas cheer	143.0.0
	Easter cheer	22.10.0
	Boyles Anaesthetic Machine	232.7.6
	Levitt Bath Lift	50.0.0

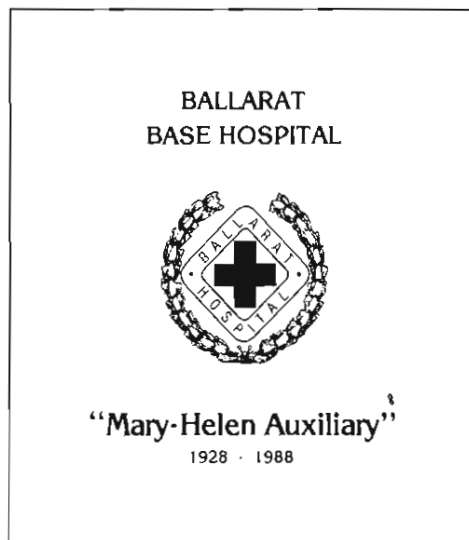
	6 rubber mattress covers	24.0.0
	2 chairs for Ward 5	24.8.4
1960	Christmas cheer	143.0.0
	Easter cheer	22.10.0
	Screens each bed	
	4 Laminex Tables	
	24 Dining chairs Wards 5 & 7	550.0.0
	18 Sitting-out chairs	
	Electric dish washing machine, auto tray	60.0.0
1961	7 electric toasters	
	Refrigerator Children's Ward	
	Air-conditioning unit nursery	
	50 stack-n-stack	
	Sterilizer — Mary Helen Ward	627.11.1
	Spirograph	45.0.0
	Christmas cheer	143.0.0
	Easter cheer	22.10.0
1962	6 motorised ripple mattresses	298.8.6
	170 each water jugs, fruit baskets, salt & pepper shakers, tumblers	64.7.6
	Avery chair scale	90.13.0
	6 bridge tables	17.17.0
	10 ward chairs — Mary Helen Ward	35.0.0
	Light for Children's Ward	35.0.0
	Christmas cheer	143.0.0
	Easter cheer	22.10.0
	30 chairs	45.0.0
1963	Multi-pot trolley	76.3.3
	Avery scales	37.18.6
	Curtains — Ward 10	97.19.6
	20 chairs in Clinic	145.15.0
	12 sheep skin bed rugs	42.18.0
	100 stainless steel dishes	63.15.0
	1 sphygmotach	50.12.9
	Insulcot and wheelchairs (£252.0.0)	766.19.0
	Tea trolley expenses	16.1.4
1964	Christmas cheer	143.0.0
	Easter cheer	22.10.0
	Curtains — Ward 10	60.3.0
	Sheep skin heal pads	21.3.0
	Curtains — Mary Helen Ward	24.17.11
	Tea trolley expenses	43.19.11
1965	Christmas cheer	143.0.0
	Easter cheer	22.10.0
	Tea trolley expenses	30.6.4
	7 testing cabinets	74.3.9

	2 can-o-mats	7.8.5
	Curtains — Ward 9	48.5.6
	Operating theatre trust account for B.B.H.	580.0.0
		\$
1966	2 hair dryers	45.00
	Electric milk warmer unit	96.00
	Teenage Quest Appeal	74.00
	Christmas cheer	286.00
	Easter cheer	45.00
	Tea trolley expenses	47.00
	Operating Theatre trust account for B.B.H.	1,007.00
	Conversion to decimal currency adjustment	0.1
1967	Christmas cheer	286.00
	Easter cheer	45.00
	Tea trolley expenses	34.69
	Ripple mattresses	191.00
	Sheep skin rugs	116.72
	Jardinieres	4.00
	Samaritan Fund	30.00
	Material work party	6.61
	Operating Theatre trust account for B.B.H.	1,126.00
	Bird Respirator	150.00
1968	Christmas cheer	286.00
	Easter cheer	45.00
	Tea trolley expenses	34.35
	Samaritan Fund	30.00
	20 knee rugs, 3 electric fans, sheep skin heel pads, bouncettes	204.23
	Operating Theatre trust	650.00
1969	Christmas cheer	286.00
	Easter cheer	45.00
	Tea trolley expenses	31.29
	4 cane lounges, 12 bunny rugs, 1 electric blanket, 1 strip heater	143.38
	Y2 Yuille House Renovation Appeal	500.00
	Samaritan Fund	30.00
1970	Christmas cheer	286.00
	Easter cheer	45.00
	Tea trolley	29.00
	Lifting device	125.00
	24 Baley blankets	40.00
	2 air viva units	
	70 jason milk jugs	199.00
	2 water beds	70.00
1971	Christmas cheer	286.00
	Tea trolley expenses	31.77

	2 water beds	170.12
	4 cane lounges	71.20
	Linen for Children's Ward	70.00
	Viva adaptor	40.00
	Oxygen trolley	27.50
	Laryngoscope	30.15
	Theatre instruments	72.58
	Samaritan Fund	50.00
1972	Christmas cheer	286.00
	Tea trolley	36.56
	Infusion Pump	81.00
	Cotton Blankets	40.02
	Student Nurses' Library	105.30
	6 pair pillow slips	7.74
	Y4 renovation appeal	1,000.00
	Samaritan Fund	100.00
1973	Christmas cheer	286.00
	Tea trolley	34.00
	Samaritan Fund	100.00
	Occupational Therapy Department Equipment in Hospital	20.00 196.79
	3 recovery trolleys	600.00
1974	Chrome chairs for Children's Ward	
	2 lounge covers	15.90
	4 foot stools for Y2	
	30 water jugs for Wards	138.00
	40 quilts — Maternity Ward	416.00
	Vitamizer	46.73
	Samaritan B.B.H.	50.00
	Christmas gifts — patients in Y2	11.55
	Operating theatre trust	580.43
1975	Bird Respirator	257.00
	3 Lounge chairs — QG	119.70
	Samaritan Fund	50.00
	Hospital Building Appeal Fund	1,500.00
	Christmas cheer	286.00
	Patients' Gifts — Y2	8.64
1976	Dental Clinic — X-Ray unit	580.00
	Christmas decorations for wards	100.00
	Medical Text Book — QG	18.53
	2 electric fans	76.70
	Vases — Y2 Ward	39.64
	2 tables for service block opening	100.00
	Samaritan Fund B.B.H.	50.00
	Gifts — Patients Y2	8.00

1977	Samaritan Fund B.B.H.	50.00
	Christmas decorations	300.00
	Tray cloths	30.00
	Electric fan	38.00
	Electric toaster	18.00
	Infra ray lamps	68.00
	Kylic Bed pads	165.00
	Arshythimia Resuscianne	1,500.00
	Christmas gifts — Ward Y2	9.36
1978	Golden Jubilee	
	Foetal Heart Monitor	807.88
	T.V. tables for Patients	
	Curtains — Q.G.	300.00
	Samaritan Fund	50.00
	Christmas gifts — Patients Y2	8.30
	B.B.H. Operating Theatre Fund A/c.	793.00
1979	Foetal Heart Monitor (Balance)	4,000.00
	15 new beds for new Children's Ward	2,600.00
	Samaritan Fund B.B.H.	50.00
	Christmas gifts — Patients Y2	8.10
1980	Mobile lifting machine Y2	2,220.00
	Prize — Mary Helen Nurses' Graduation	10.00
	Samaritan Fund B.B.H.	50.00
	4 bed tables	240.00
	Christmas Gifts — Patients Y2	9.72
1981	Samaritan Fund B.B.H.	50.00
	Prize — Mary Helen Nurses' Graduation	15.00
	Sphygmomanometer	110.00
	Ward Y2 mixture trolley	1,400.00
	Christmas gifts — Patients Y2	8.00
	32 Members	
1982	Television set colour Q1	
	(½ share V.I.P. Ladies)	425.00
	Vital sign monitor	
	(½ share B.B.H. Younger Set)	1,950.00
	Samaritan Fund B.B.H.	50.00
	Prize — Mary Helen Nurses' Graduation	15.00
1983	Samaritan Fund B.B.H.	100.00
	Urology Operating Table	2,800.00
	(\$5,000 share from B.B.H. V.I.P. \$2,200)	
	Prize — Mary Helen Nurses' Graduation	10.00
1984	Samaritan Fund B.B.H.	100.00
	Prize — Mary Helen Nurses' Graduation	15.00
	Urology Operating Table	2,000.00
	(\$5,000 share from B.B.H. V.I.P. \$3,000)	

1985	Samaritan Fund B.B.H.	100.00
	Urology Operating Table	4,000.00
	(\$8,500 share from B.B.H. V.I.P. \$4,500)	
	Heat sealer C.S.S.D.	3,000.00
	Prize — Mary Helen Nurses' Graduation	20.00
	Christmas cheer	17.00
1986	Medtal Monitor	6,000.00
	1 Apnea respirator monitor	1,300.00
	1 croupette fitting	600.00
	2 Walkam tape recorders (I.C.U.)	106.00
	Samaritan Fund	100.00
	Prize — Mary Helen Nurses' Graduation	20.00
1987	Rhino Plasty equipment and Simulator	
	Intensive Care Unit	
	6 High Low beds	12,656.71
	Samaritan Fund B.B.H.	100.00
	Prize — Mary Helen Nurses' Graduation	20.00
1988	2 Oxygen Monitors	2,730.00
	Insulcot — Children's Ward	5,500.00
	Pictures — Outpatients	300.00
	Grand Total is	\$508,000.00
	assumed considering change of currency 1966/67 and inflation.	



We would like to thank the printers, Baxter & Stubbs Pty. Ltd., for their help and assistance in the production of this booklet.

