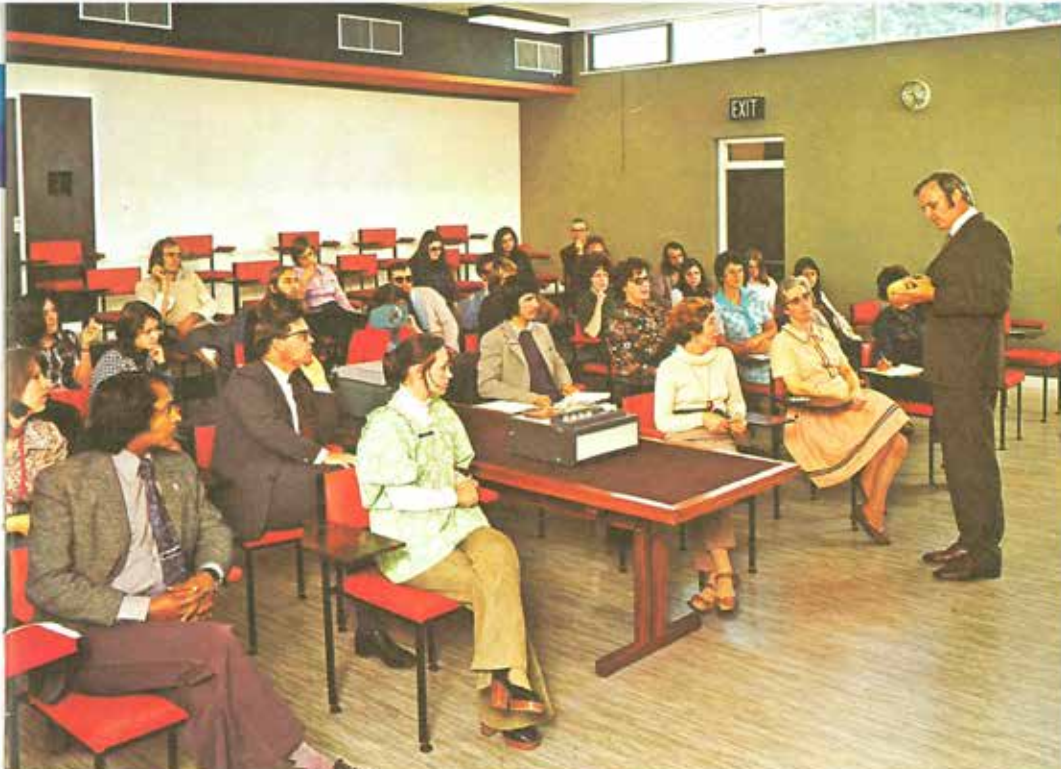


Old Manor Hospital Salisbury

History

Old Manor Hospital was originally a private residence. In January 1813 it became a private mental hospital catering originally for only 75 patients. By 1922 the patient capacity had increased to 291. Adjoining buildings were purchased and the hospital grew in size until it reached its maximum of 672 a few years ago. As such, Old Manor Hospital was the largest private mental hospital in the country. Now of course it is a National Health Service hospital serving the needs of a largely rural and widespread community. Modernisation is a continuing operation in the hospital whilst preserving the best features of the Georgian and Regency architecture.



Treatment

All psychiatric hospitals provide a sophisticated range of treatment. The story of the development of psychotherapeutic drugs is an exciting part of medical history. Thanks to these and to the growth of Community Services and Community Nursing, many more patients are now discharged than in the past. In this decade the number of hospital beds has been reduced by nearly one-third.

Apart from participation in the newer forms of treatment, training for psychiatric nursing is an immensely human experience, with a great deal of emphasis being placed on the student acquiring an understanding of, and a compassionate regard for that most complex of creatures – Man



Psychiatric nursing offers excellent career prospects. With the grouping of hospitals together, there is a wide demand for well-trained and experienced nurses as administrators, with posts carrying salaries of over £7000 p.a. In the reorganised National Health Service, nurses are involved in the administration of huge complexes combining hospital and community

services. Shorter working hours have created the need for clinical teachers to supervise the nurses' training in the wards. Many nurses take University Diploma Courses, leading to registration as a Nurse Tutor, and then spend full time in education. A growing number of nurses are going into research, and there is a need for more if future skills are to be science based.



Rehabilitation

The primary aim is to get the patient back into the community. Often this means re-socialisation, and a full programme of work and leisure activities can be provided to prepare the patient for discharge. Occupational therapy and industrial therapy are used extensively to ensure that the patient can fit easily into the workaday world. Pottery, painting, handicrafts and productive light industrial work are some features of the patients' day. Social activities include dances, whist drives, outings to shows, camping, seaside holidays and cinemas. All the normal home facilities are here; colour TV, radio, newspapers etc., and regular visits by relatives are encouraged. For many, weekend visits home are routine, and shopping expeditions into town are commonplace, since Old Manor Hospital is close to the city centre. Of course, many of our patients are physically ill too, and bedside nursing is a feature of a few wards. Rehabilitation is a three way endeavour; mental, social and physical. A team of experts ensures that a positive approach is maintained in caring for rehabilitating and eventually discharging the patient fit and well. The key member, providing a 24 hour service, is the nurse.







Nurse Training

At present 25 weeks are spent in the School of Nursing during the three year R.M.N. (Registered Mental Nurse) course. There is a six week introductory course followed at intervals by two week study blocks. Between blocks students gain practical experience in all the various types of wards and departments in the hospital. Currently, some part of the training programme is conducted at the Salisbury General Hospital and in conjunction with the local Social Services Department and Local Authority. Practical work is assessed in the hospital wards in the latter part of training. Written examinations are taken after three years, in January, June and October.

A two year course for SEN (Staff Enrolled Nurse) is also conducted. This is aimed primarily at providing a mainly practical, shorter course for interested candidates.

A wide variety of subjects are taught by qualified teachers and doctors, including human biology, psychiatry, psychology, medicine, nutrition, sociology, nursing, and many more

Hours of duty: 40 per week. Night duty occurs during the second half of the second year.

Age: Men and women aged 18-45 yrs.

Education: Three 'O' level GCE passes or equivalent (minimum) for student entry. English or history is essential. A G.N.C. entrance test may be used for applicants without G.C.E. passes, especially for older applicants

*Applications to the
Senior Nursing Officer,
Old Manor Hospital,
Salisbury, WILTS*



Accommodation

Where possible we encourage all nurses to 'live out', usually in their own homes. Hospital accommodation is provided for nurses who live too far away. Modern single accommodation is the rule.

Cafeteria type dining and coffee rooms provide all meals, and a varied menu is available very cheaply. Limited regulations are observed in the residences, aimed at ensuring that others are not disturbed.

Close to the city centre, on a main bus route, and within 200 yards of the hospital entrance, these residences are very convenient.

Laundry facilities are provided for both uniform and personal linen





Amenities

Football and cricket are popular off-duty amenities. Playing fields are right on our doorstep. Or is your interest hockey . . . or table tennis . . . or dancing . . . or TV . . . or tennis?

Old Manor Hospital provides for most tastes in leisure-time activities.

Weekend discotheques are a popular feature. During the winter months feature films are shown in the weekly cinema programme.

Within the hospital group is the Odstock Branch of the general hospital. Here, a full length heated indoor swimming pool is a popular facility with the staff. Another entertainment is the Social Club bar. In the Clubhouse, close to the

hospital and residences, the bar provides drinks at cheap club prices. Here also is a place to meet your friends, dance, or just watch colour TV. Health: we are of course, admirably equipped to deal with all health problems. A staff doctor is in post and the hostel wardens can deal with any minor illnesses that may occur. A plentiful supply of nurses is always at hand!

The environment is superb . . . Salisbury city and the surrounding Wiltshire countryside can hardly be bettered. Fast train services take you to Southampton or London, and a very frequent local bus service passes the door







Location



Close to the city centre, on the main Salisbury-Warminster road (A30).
2 minutes from the main railway station.

Wilton 3 miles

Southampton 23 miles

Bournemouth 28 miles

Winchester 21 miles

London 84 miles

Andover 19 miles

Stonehenge 14 miles

Situated on the edge of Salisbury Plain and close to the beautiful New Forest, Salisbury is uniquely placed to benefit from both country and seaside amenities.

Salisbury is one of England's oldest cities and its cathedral is certainly the finest of its type. Whilst possessing all the facilities of a modern city, Salisbury yet retains the charm of a smaller market town.



