



Christmas arrives once more. The cards begin to brighten with budding and smiles, those extra ones that beam with glowing cheeks on this festive occasion. Mary, becomes excited as staff prepare for those Christmas Day babies, their cries to herald one more Christmas. This has been a year of tremendous change in the world. Even here at St. Mary's changes have begun: building begins to rise, staff move on, residents are transferred after living at St. Mary's for many years. It seems great changes are in the near future, for St. Mary's. A new era is born. So let's look forward to the New Year - a new year in the life of St. Mary's, the happy family.

A Merry Christmas to you all from the Editorial Staff.

"AUGURI"

Arriva Natale un'altra volta nell'Ospedale si comincia a vedere allegria e sorrisi contenti e tutti si preparano la grande occasione festiva. La Materita si prepara per le nascite di Natale. Questo è stato un grande Anno in questo mondo, anche qua a St. Mary's sono combiate tante cose. Hanno cominciato a fabbricare di nuovo, gli operai si muovono di qua e di là. I nostri vecchi ricoverati sono stati trasferiti dopo che hanno vissuti qua a St. Mary's per tanti anni. Sembra un grande cambio per il futuro di St. Mary's e un nuovo anno nasce.

Auguri e Buon Natale e felice Anno Nuovo
a tutti Italiani qui a St. Mary's.

CHRISTMAS DAY

"Sing hey for the moon and the starry sky,
The river, the wood and the sea,
For the fish and birds and animals all,
And the grass so green on the lea.
But most of all for the fair Christmas rose
And the lights on the candle tree.

Sing hey for the God who fashioned us
This bountiful splendour of earth,
Sing hey for courage and wisdom and love,
For beauty and healing and mirth.
But most for the Child who on Christmas Day
Took upon Him our human birth."

The Royal Cornwall Hospital,
(Treliske),
Truro, Cornwall.

Dear Editor,

28th November, 1968

Please convey my sincerest thanks to everyone at St. Mary's for the magnificent gift of Wagner's "The Twilight of the Gods" recorded in its entirety, not to mention the record token in addition, on my leaving. I should also be grateful if you would similarly convey my apologies to everyone to whom I could not say farewell personally.

As for forgetting the help and friendliness of everyone at St. Mary's it will, I hope, be a matter (if I haven't mixed my quotations up) of

'If I forget thee O Jerusalem,
Let my right hand . . . ' etc.

Warmest wishes to everyone and my thanks again.

Yours sincerely,

Brian Shrubb

CHRISTMAS SHOW

I should like to thank all who took part in this year's spectacular. After seeing this year's show and thinking back over the last two years efforts it staggers me on the high standard that has been achieved by all concerned, not only the cast but those not seen who built props. lit the scenes, gave the sound and made the tea. Well done all!! A total of £40 3s. 0d. was taken over the two nights and maybe next year we can make it £60.

"Editor"

THANKS FROM A WELFARE RESIDENT

"Please for give me but I feel I must send a few lines to say Thank you very much for the invitation to the Concert this afternoon. All of us from the Castle enjoyed every minute of it, and I think everyone else did too. It is very kind of you and your company to spend so much time, to learn items and practise for so many hours, which I am sure you must. Thank you very much we certainly appreciated it, and thank God for your kindness, which means so much when we come to the eventide of life. You all did your parts fine, and I guess you enjoy it too, don't you? It took me back a good many years. With many thanks, very sincerely yours,

F.A. Dickens "

CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES

Christmas Eve -- Tuesday 24th December. Matron and Hospital Secretary 'At Home' to all staff in the Welfare Residents' Dining Room at 3.30 p.m. until 6.p.m.

Thursday 2nd January. Resident Nurses' Christmas Dinner at 7.p.m. Followed by party in Nurses' Sitting Room.

Friday 3rd January. ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL STAFF NEW YEAR DINNER AND DANCE at the Ritz Ballroom Desborough at 8.30 p.m. Dinner at 9.30. Tickets price £1s. 0d. each available from Brian Dew or Teresa Higgins. DON'T LEAVE IT TOO LATE!

THE LITTLE RED BUS DELIVERS PARCELS

One day Joe opened the garage doors and the bus could see that the outside world looked like glittery tinsel. "A good frost this morning Scarlet" said Joe and jumped into the driver's seat. He turned the ignition key and "Brummmmmmm" went the bus. Joe switched on again and again but the bus wouldn't start. "Come on little bus, we have special work today delivering parcels". He turned the key again and the bus just manager to start. Off they went into the cold sparkly world but instead of going the usual way they turned and headed for the town. Soom they were going past shops whose windows were full of snowflakes, Father Christmasses and reindeer, snowmen and icicles. The little bus flashed his headlights from side to side in amazement. When they arrived in the middle of the town, in front of the big church was an enormous Christmas tree with many coloured lights shining from its branches. The bus was glad that the traffic lights were red so that he could have a long look. It really was most beautiful. Round a corner they went and there was the post office. Joe brought the bus to a halt and several men loaded up with parcels and sacks of letters. Then they all calmbred aboard and off they all went. The little bus felt very important. All day he went round the town delivering the parcels. Sometimes some of the children he usually took to school came to the doors of their houses when the postman knocked, and how excited they all were. The houses looked very pretty through the windows, with trees and decorations. On the way home after a very busy day, Joe and the little bus passed another church and outside was a group of figures round a wooden cot-like thing with a baby in it. The bus asked Joe about it because he was worried that the baby would catch cold. "It's not real little bus, just ornaments really. It's there because the baby Jesus was born at Christmas and that's why everywhere is decorated and pretty. It's the birthday present we give him each year". When the bus was all shut up for the night he had so many things to think of. Christmas trees, parcels, coloured lights, and the baby Jesus in his cot. Happy Christmas little bus.

'Pulse Christmas Crossword'

1.									
	5.			6.					
9.								7.	8.
				10.	11.			12.	
13.				14.				15.	
16.						17.	18.		
19.	20.			21.					
22.		23.	24.					25.	
26.									

ACROSS

1. This show looks like mine to Pam (9)
5. In a Christmas stocking (3)
6. William's accounts (5)
9. Often gets 'lit up' in the festive season (7)
10. Polite address. (3)
12. Headgear that goes with a bang (3)
13. They come on a flying visit (8)
16. A cutting cough (4)
17. See 4 down.
19. Pale beverage (3)
21. Sit Len on the Christmas tree (6)
22. A little one will keep out the gold (3)
24. & (3)
25. Knot a cravat (3)
26. They hang around a lot at Christmas (9)

DOWN

1. Perhaps at a party (5-4)
2. Signs of approval (4)
3. Harold's opponent (3)
4. (and 17 Across) I am cement (9)
5. Barrel containing 50% butter (3)
6. Robin's girlfriend? (4)
7. A backward friend (3)
8. Glitters (8)
11. Pen friend? (3)
14. Hard water (3)
15. Orient (4)
17. Variety of weasel (4)
18. That's the limit! (3)
20. One of many at an auction (3)
21. Thanks (2)
23. Shows the way (2)

THE ELIXIR OF LIFE (final episode)

I lay in the cot feeling contented for the first time in weeks. I had been fed and burped and washed. But there was no time to waste, stretching my toes out I managed to open my navel and with a quick jerk I flicked the anti-anything pill up into my mouth. As I began to grow my feet went straight through the bars and I was stuck once again. Exerting all my strength I ripped open the bars and I was free. I quickly gave Dungy a pill and she stood up. 'We must find that dastardly fiend!' she said. 'But where is everyone?' I said. 'Don't you know it's Christmas and all the nurses and sisters have gone on holiday? They must all be in the plot together!' she said. 'The fiends!'

Stealthily we crept up towards Dryland and there before our very eyes stood Dungy's doctor husband with the crooks, drinking and laughing. 'He has gone over to the other side!' I croaked. So, pulling off my false finger and straightening my shrinking gun, I advanced slowly into the room. 'Stick them up!' I said. 'Up where?' said the crook. 'In the air!' I said, 'and no funny business!'. 'You have got it all wrong!' said the doctor, 'it is she who is the crook. She is from the General Hospital Laundry, and it is not an elixir of life, it is a washing liquid to make their clothes whiter than St. Mary's!'. I swiftly turned, aiming my gun, and pulled my finger at her, and she shrank to nothing. Now I am waiting for my next client. My name is Huw Nose and my number is Kettering 2241567943921.

THE END.

WANTED - Good home for three kittens. Apply Mrs. Reeves, Sewing Room.

WANTED - Good home for three Siamese kittens - Apply Sister Chisholm, Broughton Ward.

SAVE your stamps from Christmas - pass to Mr. Dew for PULSE Charity.

'MAME'

There is a preview of the Ginger Rogers show 'Mame' on Saturday, February 15th at Drury Lane. The prices for this show range from Upper circle to front stalls 7s. 6d. to 30s. 0d. We are trying to organise a party to take front stalls at 30s. 0d. An estimate of the total cost should be in the region of £2 5s. 0d. per person which will include seat, coach fare, driver's tip and booking fee. This is a matinee show commencing 2.30 p.m. and leaving St. Mary's at 11.15 a.m. Will anyone interested please contact Mrs. Reeves, Sewing Room, or Mr. Reeves in the Laundry. In case there are no front stalls available we shall try for stalls £1 or £1 5s. 0d.

* St. Mary's Leading Newsheet.