

JANUARY 2025

HAPPY NEW YEAR !!

We hope that you had an enjoyable Christmas and it is good to welcome you to our first meeting of 2025. The new year is always a fresh start when we plan the year ahead which is something that we need to do as a Branch regarding our talks and an activities for 2025. Your suggestions are important for us to do this and always welcome.

We are delighted to welcome our speaker today, **Rhiannon Phillips** whose talk is entitled **From Home Remedies to the Creation of the NHS'**. Rhiannon is the Education and Outreach Archivist for Gwent Archives, and has been with the service since 2013. Originally from Swansea, Rhiannon started her career as a trainee at West Glamorgan Archive Service before undertaking the Archive Administration course at Aberystwyth University. Her current role involves working with everyone from schools to universities to local community groups to engage with their collections; supporting volunteer and work experience placements; creating social media content; and delivering a variety of talks, tours and other events.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH 2024

54 members enjoyed an excellent Christmas Lunch last month. The staff at Greenmeadow worked hard to make this an enjoyable event as always. Lynda was delighted to win the raffle for the Christmas Cake kindly made by Delyn for the occasion.



TRIP TO SWANSEA CHRISTMAS MARKET

On the 5th December, a group of our members, family and friends went on our annual Christmas market trip. Oh dear, the weather was dreadful. It rained and rained all day. The actual Christmas market was disappointing as there was not much there. However, we did enjoy Swansea's famous indoor market and the opportunity to get together, have lunch and socialise with others so the day was not a write off by any means. We always appreciate and enjoy each other's company.

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The new Chair of the Board of Trustees, Mark Bailey

The NHS Retirement Fellowship is delighted to announce the appointment of Mark Bailey as our new Chair of the Board of Trustees. Mark was formally endorsed as the new Chair of the NHS Retirement Fellowship – the first time a non-member has been appointed to the role – at the Charity's Annual General Meeting and Conference.

Mark is a serving non-executive director at Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and Derbyshire Community Services NHS Foundation Trust. Mark is also a board trustee at Ashgate Hospice in Derbyshire and Visiting Fellow at the Cranfield University School of Management.

With a 30-year executive career in the private sector at FTSE 100 company, Rolls Royce plc, Mark brings significant commercial and customer service transformation experience to the Charity.

Speaking of his appointment, Mark said: "I very much appreciate the opportunity to serve the NHS Retirement Fellowship as Chair of the Board. Locally and nationally the Charity has for more than 45 years been a valued source of continued fellowship and created opportunities for new experiences for those who provided care for us day in day out in their professional lives.

"I will lead our Board to realise its strategic intent of continuing to offer membership services which meet the needs of both existing and future members and to do this sustainably, inclusively and with innovation for the good of our members at our heart. My role is also about how we engage and work with existing and potential stakeholders, funders and decision makers to promote and further our cause and as such I look forward to spending time as an ambassador for our Charity and representing us at the highest levels where possible."

Mike Seaton, Chief Executive of the NHS Retirement Fellowship, added: "I think Mark brings a great fresh perspective and has a clear vision for the Fellowship's future sustainability and how we can deliver our ambitious five-year plan. I'm very much looking forward to working alongside him and it was clear at conference our members are keen to welcome him and are excited to see what we can all achieve together."

Mark is married and lives in the market town of Ashbourne at the edge of the Peak District in Derbyshire with two school age children and an elder son who is away at university. He loves spending time with family and friends, enjoys home and garden and all sports. A keen cricketer, he now coaches junior age group cricket teams and a recently formed women's team.

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Links with Bryn Ivor Lodge Care Home

Last year a number of our members visited residents of Bryn Ivor Lodge who would love our members to join them again for a return visit. **Barbara Davies** is in contact with the Activities Co-Ordinator who is keen for the links with our Branch to continue as a number of the residents are former NHS employees. If you are interested then please let Barbara know.

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TRAVEL UPDATE JANUARY 2015

CHICAGO

8TH MAY 2025

MATINEE SHOW MILLENNIUM CENTRE

COST £48

PAYMENT JANUARY 2025

20 TICKETS RESERVED

TINA TURNER – THE MUSICAL

12TH FEBRUARY 2026

MATINEE SHOW MILLENNIUM CENTRE

COST £44

PAYMENT MARCH 2025 MEETING

20 TICKETS RESERVED

DARTS MATCH AT THE GLEBELANDS INDOOR BOWLS CENTRE

SADLY THIS HAS BEEN CANCELLED AS OTHER GROUPS ARE UNABLE TO TAKE PART..

HIGHGROVE GARDENS 2025

A VISIT TO HIGHGROVE WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR BOOKING IN FEBRUARY
WE WILL BE LIMITED TO 26 PLACES. THOSE MEMBERS WHO HAVE NOT BEEN BEFORE WILL HAVE PRIORITY . ANY PLACES LEFT WILL BE OFFERED TO OTHER MEMBERS ON PAYMENT OF FULL COST. THIS WILL BE ABOUT £35 ENTRY TO THE GARDENS PLUS COACH. AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS ONLY UNLESS PLACES ARE NOT FILLED. ONCE DATE HAS BEEN ARRANGED A DEPOSIT OF £15 WILL BE NEEDED TO SECURE PLACE . NAMES OF INTERESTED MEMBERS AT JANUARY MEETING PLEASE

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE OUTINGS

WE HAVE VISITED MANY PLACES OVER THE YEARS THAT MEMBERS HAVE ENJOYED AND SOME ARE WORTH ANOTHER VISIT. FOR EXAMPLE, HIGHGROVE GARDENS, SEVERN VALLEY RAILWAY, GLOUCESTER QUAYS WITH TEA ON THE RIVER, AS WELL AS THE TRIP ON THE BRECON CANAL WITH AFTERNOON TEA, WESTONBIRT ARBORETUM TO SEE THE AUTUMN COLOURS OR CHRISTMAS DISPLAY.

IF THERE IS ANYWHERE WE HAVE VISITED BEFORE THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO VISIT AGAIN PLEASE LET DELYN OR ANY COMMITTEE MEMBER KNOW.

Forthcoming meetings

• 2pm, Monday, 17th February 2025 - our speaker will be **Graham Duke** with a talk entitled 'The Code Breakers of Bletchley Park'.

• 2pm, Monday, 17th March 2025 - this will be our **AGM** plus tea and scones

YOUR COMMITTEE

Chair	Lynda Evans	Vice Chair	–
Secretary	–	Treasurer	Denise Coldrick
Assistant Treasurer	Lilwyn Griffiths	Speaker Secretary	Joanne Butler
Membership Secretary	Ann Hyde	Trips/Activity Organiser	Delyn Hunt
Welfare Officer	Megan Williams	Book/Sales/Vote of Thanks Coordinator	Pam Jones
Raffle Organiser	Jen Martin		
Greeters/Meeting Support	Cynthia Matthews Caroline Pitt	Carol Cunnell Kay Davies	Barbara Davies

NHSRF National Contacts

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