



LOTTERY FUNDED

Reg Charity No 287936

Brighton leads the way in NHS celebrations

Brighton and Hove branch of the NHS Retirement Fellowship is leading the way in celebrations of the 70th anniversary of the NHS, which was founded on 5 July 1948.

Thanks to the initiative of two of its members, Peter and Sheila Sheppard, the 27 member branch which was founded in 2011 has collected memories of life in the NHS to form the basis of an exhibition at the Jubilee Library, Brighton from July 3 to 15.

It's the first of 10 events in England, Wales and Scotland being organised by the NHS Retirement Fellowship, supported by a £10,000 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The Brighton exhibition will be officially opened by the Mayor of Brighton and Hove, Councillor Dee Simpson at 2 p.m. on Tuesday 3 July.

“The exhibition has been a team effort” said Peter Sheppard, “our members have some good stories to tell. I am hoping that people who come to see it will find it informative, educational and entertaining.”

Sheila Sheppard, a former nurse, added: “Thanks to our members we have uncovered some fantastic bits of history, including memories from 91 year-old Maud Agnew, who started her nurse training before the NHS and was later a ward sister at Brighton General Hospital or Maureen Davies who worked as a nurse in Bosnia during the war there. There is a long history of health care in Brighton. It's 190 years since the first hospital opened as the Sussex County Hospital and Sea Bathing Infirmary (now the Royal Sussex County Hospital).”

2018 is a year for double celebrations for the NHS Retirement Fellowship because it is also the fortieth anniversary of the organisation, whose 10,000 members played their part in building the health service of today and who now provide social, leisure and welfare support for each other through a network of 150 branches.

For further information please contact: Sheila Sheppard, Secretary, Brighton and Hove branch NHS Retirement Fellowship 01273 562761 barneycalls@gmail.com

Or: Bob Middleton NHSRF Project Manager for NHS Retirement Fellowship 70/40 celebrations 07969 056939 maxietom@yahoo.com.

11 June 2018