

Stonehouse History Group

Did you work at Standish Hospital as a cook, nurse, in the laundry or in the school.
Please tell us your memories of the time when you were there.

Mel Stanton

As a child many years ago I can remember my granddad and uncle doing a radio station for the hospital. Derek and Steven Sell. I must have been about 12 but really excited to read weather reports and choose some records to play

Patricia Mary Morgan

My mother worked there running a shop for the patients & staff in the '60s and I could go there on a Saturday & school holidays. I loved it. There was a hospital fete every summer which brought people from miles around.

I was heartbroken when it closed & went to look in 2019 to find a derelict site.

Then in 2024 I went back to find houses & apartments- I could live there myself with the beautiful views down to the river Severn!

Robert Lloyd

That was the best hospital. I used to love seeing the peacocks when I was a patient there.

Lyn Gibbs

Robert Lloyd My Dad loved the peacocks. He told us he saw a big black cat in the field below!

Robert Lloyd

Lyn Gibbs awwwwwww wish I had.

Lyn Gibbs

Robert Lloyd Well Dad had a good chance - he was in Standish on and off for 13 years. Lovely hospital!

Pat Piercy

I was a patient in 1952 age 6 months until I was age 3 yrs.

Nicole Walton

I loved my time there as a nurse and patient. 7 consultants operating 5 days a week.

Rebecca Croke

My Mum worked at Standish (not sure when she started, late '70s early '80s I think) until it closed. She made some of the most wonderful dear friends there.

Tracy Binns

Sally Simmonds I volunteered at Standish one winter when the bad snow stopped staff getting in. We walked up and were put to work on a ward serving refreshments and generally helping out. No idea what year that was, must have been around '79 ish. Sally and I and my sister Kay also danced there at a fete with the Susan Cambridge dance troupe. That was probably around '74.



Karen Lowen

I volunteered at Standish hospital radio for several years. We used to go round the wards collecting requests. This would have been the early eighties.

Trudy U'ren

I helped my best friend do the Saturday radio. Her name was Melanie we had great fun.

Martine Russell

Worked as a cook there 1980 to '83, great times.

Trudy Paul

My Grandma worked as a Sister on the TB ward in 1950s and early '60s. I remember going to the Christmas parties as a young child in the 60s. My Grandma was also a patient in orthopaedic ward in the early 1980s. Have lots of fond memories.

Jackie Colebourne

I was a patient on the children's ward for a while. The staff were so lovely and caring.

Barbara Adams

I had a Saturday job about 1970. I remember preparing veg in the kitchen, peeling spuds and chopping cabbage.

Michael Strathern

Met my wife (Alison Law) there in 1988 when she was training for her orthopaedic certificates. She worked on C2 and ended up as a staff nurse until we departed to New Zealand in 2000. I remember my first Nurses' party at the Woolpack in Stonehouse and I had to take the next day off! Wonderful people. Work hard play harder!

Val Wright

I worked there from 1974 until it closed. I also worked on E block. Many friends and happy memories.

Alison May

Loved working there - worked on c block.

Christine Margaret McAdam

My mum, Patricia Silk, worked at Standish in the late '60s as a nurse's aide I believe.

Francis John Clark

My late wife did her orthopaedic training there in '73. My current wife was on the same course and they remained friends until she passed away in 2018.

Toni Collier

My nan Elsie Billau was a nurse there in the late '50s. My mother-in-law Megan Collier was there for years in the '70s before going on nights at Stroud hospital. Spent a childhood of summers at the fete - always sunny and the peacocks noisy.

Michele Caudrey

I was there after my registered nurse training in 1988 as an Orthopaedic Student Nurse. The course was called the ENB 219 at that time. Only 6 of us in my group. Met many others in other groups also doing the course. My parents lived near Stroud. I lived in the nurses' home - North house and loved it. Thoroughly enjoyed the course and made lifelong friends. Four months were spent at Gloucester Royal Hospital, on an orthopaedic

ward and A&E (a very different place then - no patients on trolleys in the corridor and ambulances queuing up outside). I lived in there also before finishing the course at Standish Hospital. Small rooms, but we had great camaraderie and social lives, as well as working shifts and studying hard. In those days we were allowed to take back a bag of bones home to study and learn all the different names of the parts of them before our exams. Exams were done regularly throughout the year. Worked on the Orthopaedic and rheumatology wards there. The grounds were beautiful and I remember the peacocks well.

Andrew Deane

Hello my name's Andrew Deane.

I worked there as a Gardener then moved to Gloucester Royal Hospital.

I looked after the trees and shrubs and mowing the lawns. Also looked after the peacocks and helped with cleaning the swimming pool.

I loved working there, I would go back tomorrow.

Wendy Lanham

Worked on E2 very early '90s. Used to get picked up in hospital transport (the specimen van) from Gloucester and dropped back after 12 hour shift. Fantastic memories and worked with a fabulous team.

Sarah Townsend

My dad was an electrician for years.

My mum worked in the kitchen for a few years in the '70s.

Fond memories of Standish hospital & grounds. The highlight of the year was the annual summer fete.

Jo Jardine

I worked on D Block and left just before it closed. Loved it there!!!

Met some amazing people, including my husband and my fabulous in-laws [Margherita](#) and Richard Jardine

Jan Robbins

All my family worked there.

Max Bygraves came for a visit once to the children's ward.

Julie Sharpe

My Mum worked here, also Della Martin on E block nights.

Was great friends with Pat Woodward. I also still see Kay Townsend/Darwent.

I've loved reading all these comments.

Nicole Walton

I worked there as a nurse from 1984 to 1988 on C2 and C3. Wonderful place to work. Also was a patient in 1987 and 1992 with knee and spine surgery under Mr Bruce Morris. Then had to retire aged 36. Sister Anne Gearon was my boss. Val Flemington the Theatre Sister helped me choose my honeymoon hotel. Bless her. My dear friend Angela Wager and I were a formidable team. Good memories of my last years as a practising nurse. I trained in Dorset in the early '70s. Loved Standish.

Pauline Brooks

A wonderful hospital, my late Mum spent quite a bit of time in there for her arthritis and had nothing but praise for it there.

Sandra Hymas

My mum did her State Enrolled training at Standish when it was still a TB hospital in approx 1955 (she was 18). She stayed in the Nursing Home before lodging with her best friend (also a nurse at Standish) with a widow in Stonehouse. They often talked of eating like queens the first week after being paid, then scouring the garden for old potatoes the last week. I think she left about 1960 - give or take a year. She then went back in 1975 to work in the Orthopaedic theatre under Sister Flemington for 18 years. The theatre parties were legendary. Mum is now 86 and met up with 30 odd theatre staff at a reunion held in Stonehouse Court last month.

Richard Stock

Did my orthopaedic ENB219 course 1990 then stayed as a staff nurse and eventually a charge nurse on C1. Left for pastures new in 2001 as plans to close it were being agreed. Great times. Ducklings in the spring, peacocks and the occasional adder, and of course every building had its own ghost story.

John Mace

Photograph shows the Matron's invitation to the Staff Dance for my wife and partner, an annual and popular social event.



John Mace

Met my wife (she was nursing at Standish Hospital) whilst working as kitchen porter (1958 - 1960) before I joined the Police Force. Married her in 1962. As was the case in those days we moved away from home territory, but she went back in 1975 when we ended up locally again and stayed until it closed (30+ years). Photo is of our wedding at St Cyr's Church on 24th March 1962. Still together happily, before marriage she was Joyce True, now still Joyce Mace.



Kevin Bingham

It WAS the best hospital.

Peter Jones

My mother Pat Jones worked there as a cook in the late '70s and '80s.

Liz McLoughlin-Watson

Did my orthopaedic student nurse training there from January 1977 to September 1978 and stayed on until December 1977 as a night auxiliary on C2, looking after post op patients until I left to start my SRN training in Gloucester. Lived in North house where we had a fantastic group. Made lifelong friends. The training we had there was amazing - it was proper nursing care to a high standard. The tutors were Mr Smith and Miss Small as well as the consultants giving regular lectures.

We had a reunion of my group two years ago and we all went up to look at the site which has changed such a lot, sadly our nurses' home was being demolished but D block and C block are easily recognisable.

I remember the canteen had a vending machine so we could get decent meals at night, loud peacocks in the grounds, coming back after nights out in Gloucester and climbing in through the fire escape which had been left open by colleagues.

We had a basement sitting room with TV that we gathered in at North house adjoining the laundry building. Cockroaches came out of the walls at night so we always wore shoes and kept the lights on in that area.

The laughter and camaraderie in the home was amazing - shouting up and down the corridors, arranging nights out, all getting into the back of the 1900 hour pathology vehicle to get a free lift into Gloucester.

I remember a friend of mine trying out the then very modern hydraulic pump-up beds that we had had delivered to the wards, only to find that she had pumped it to the highest level with a patient in bed and it wouldn't come back down! The same nurse on our first days on the wards was tricked by a patient on B block into thinking his temperature was abnormally high - she hadn't seen him put the thermometer into his tea!

Loved working with the staff on B block. I remember Sn Pratt and I think Sr Robson.

Remember Sr Gearon, Sr Chamberlin, Sr Crocker?, Shipley, Sr Flemington and Dot in theatre.

Great days.

Paul Perry

I was a student there from '63 - '67. It was an amazing experience - the staff and fellow students were so full of fun and really kind and generous. I made lifelong friends there.

The setting was magical -in wonderful grounds surrounded by beautiful trees. We used to hike through Standish Woods up to Haresfield Beacon. We even put on shows in the hall and invited locals to attend. I believe the show that we put on was not too shabby. One of the girls had been a young professional, so gave us some guidance. I have not been to visit the site since it closed but I am thinking of visiting to see what has become of the place.

Christopher Connett

My wife Ann née Rankin was a nurse at Standish from '75 to '81. She did her Orthopaedic Diploma there. Her tutors were Miss Small and Mr Smith. After qualifying she worked on D block. Lived in nurses' home and Sisters' House. Good times with swimming pool and parties.

Christine Stewart

I worked there from 1993 until it closed. I started my nursing career on C1 as a bank nursing auxiliary. I then did my registered nurse training and returned to work on E1 & E2 respiratory wards. I loved working at Standish. We were a family and supported each other to provide the best nursing care. Sadly it closed which was the worst mistake. I made life-long friends and sadly a lot of them are no longer with us now. The yearly fete was a wonderful occasion bringing the community together. The best days of my 30 year nursing career were spent there.

Mo Shirley

Christine Stewart it was a fantastic place to work with so many memories - the pantomimes, Xmas parties, parties in North House with Mr Smith on the door. Met so many lovely staff.

Jeana Sutton

I worked there as a domestic and my mum was an occupational therapist. Loved it there. There's loads of stories, memories, funny moments, sad ones. It was funny when the ducks and peacocks use to come in to the bays! I was there between 2000 to 2003. My mum was there a long time. They shouldn't have shut it - very sad.

Alison Richards

I worked with Jenny back in 2000. I'll never forget the awful lift we would use to take OT equipment down in. You could hear it creaking! Beautiful place to work with the peacocks, ducks and deer....perfect rehab setting.

Elizabeth Hebditch

Wonderful memories of the Christmas parties round the pool by the physio and OT departments.

Karen Leach

Day duty in the early '70s on C 1 C2 and D block and also B block with Sister Gearon. Great memories. Then on to E2 for Night Duty. Worked with some amazing staff bless them. Hard work but great fun - so sad when it closed down.

James Wright

I was there as a patient for years on the children's ward. A few years ago, I got my nurses' notes from Standish Hospital and to say they had their hands full with me is an understatement! Stealing the sweets from the cupboard, racing up and down the corridors in wheelchairs causing big black skid marks. Going walkabout, not coming back for hours. Refusing to go to their school. Yes, they were good days.

Charmayne Ash

I was there too in 1980. I went to school. It was OK. I was 6 at the time.

James Wright

Charmayne Ash Glad you found it OK. School and I just never got on. That's why I went to Cam House. There were good times at Standish though. In between the operations, general needles and physio every week it seemed.

Jules Stevens

Aged 16 in 1971, I had a spinal fusion - very unusual in someone so young. It was needed because when I was 11 a girl at school pulled a chair away from under me, and not known for another painful 4 years, I had a cracked vertebrae.

Mr Merryweather performed the operation. I was told the operating theatre was quite full as staff came to watch. I was put on the adult ward.

I was put in a plaster of Paris jacket from just below my neck to my hips for three months - it was horrible. All these years later the bone graft has lasted but that doesn't mean I don't suffer with pain.

I am very grateful to Mr Merryweather. If I hadn't had the fusion he told my Mother I would be in a wheelchair by the time I was 40.

I remember Mrs Morse at the school. I think Mr Morse also worked in the hospital?

Lee Clift

Jules Stevens I remember Mrs Morse at the school. I was on the children's ward, '71 I think, for a year.

Irwin Wilson

I moved with my family to Standish Hospital from London in 1987 and was appointed Clinical Nurse Manager with Margaret Hood as Matron. Lived at Beacon View, next door to the Juggins before moving to Kings Stanley. Became Matron and then hospital manager before taking on more senior management roles within GRH in the mid '90s, which then merged with Cheltenham to become the hospitals trust. Lots of memories from stopping people as they drove up the drive (dressed as Dick Turpin to put money in the pot for Comic Relief) to Clinical Grading for nursing staff. In the process of writing my memoir but haven't got to Gloucestershire yet....But for example:

As I looked out of my corner first floor office at the 1990 hospital fete, (a major event in those days) I saw the Sealed Knot preparing their cannons for fire on the main lawn. I also saw the staff, who had brought in their ponies, parading around giving toddlers a ride on the small lawn outside C1. I ran down to try and avert disaster but was too late! As I got near C1 a loud boom from the cannons caused the horses and ponies to bolt. They ran past the main house, past D block and came to a stop outside the chest block. Several grannies, mums and staff had managed to hang on for dear life and were clearly distressed and out of breath. It was with great relief when I saw the children had hung on and there were no injuries. "Can we do that again?" a giggling little girl asked.

Jacqui Uzzell

I worked there from September 1971 until 2004, starting with my orthopaedic diploma and ending up in theatres and ultimately leaving to train in Bristol/Plymouth to become an RODP (registered operating practitioner), returning 3 years later until the theatres were transferred to GRH.

It was definitely the best working days of my life. I have such fond memories of a wonderful environment and very friendly and supportive team.

Such a shame that it had to close.

Lynette Corengia

I did my Orthopaedic diploma there. Mr Smith was head of the school of nursing.

I was there from 1972 to 1975 and loved every minute. I lived in North house nurses home.

Matron ruled the wards. You had to do ward rounds with her and know everything about each patient. I fainted watching a lumbar puncture while on duty. I was 17 years of age.

We had bad back patients on skin traction or girdle traction in bed for weeks.

I remember we had a poor young man who had suffered a terrible brain injury and he was personality changed. He would stand on the balcony and urinate on us when we went on duty. He could be quite violent too.

We also had a poor lad with cerebral palsy in a wheel chair and I regularly had to feed him his food.

We would start the shift I think early - about 7.15 in the morning and we did split shifts which living in I quite liked. We would all go over for tea and cake before going back on duty.

If we wanted to go out at night we had to get a late pass and the night sister would let us in. Or we would climb the fire escape.

Best years of my life I loved Standish.

I was a nurse for 50 years until I retired a few years ago. Best job ever - I met some amazing people - lots of highs and lows and made friends for life.

Nina Weyman

The swimming pool was awesome. Childhood memories of the aeroplane and peacocks - the perks of having your mum working there!

Jan Carter

Standish fete was one of the best in the county, the sun was always shining. Also I used to go to the hydrotherapy pool. My father used to teach the children on the ward how to swim.

Julian Biddle

Jan Carter I can remember a man called Kevin that taught us swimming there. I think he was a policeman during the day

Jan Carter

Julian Biddle That's my Dad, from New Zealand, Kevan Price, he's still keeping well.

Julian Biddle

Jan Carter That's good. He was such a great gentleman. Remember those days well. With staff McDougall and sister Goodridge. Fond memories.

Jan Carter

Julian Biddle I will mention it to Dad.

Sandra Lewis

I did my Orthopaedic nurse training there in 1968. Our uniform was starched white cap and apron and cuffs and yellow dress - very smart. I felt very proud to be there. Shame it closed - beautiful location.

Angie Probert

I didn't work there but I was one of the last people to have stayed on a ward. It was Boxing Day 2004 I can remember it as it was the year of the big Tsunami. I watched it on TV in the family room. It was full of furniture and packing boxes. I was transferred later that week to GRH. The staff were amazing so caring.

Sara Phillips

I worked there from 1996-2003 firstly as a Domestic Assistant then later a Healthcare Assistant. It was one of the best places I worked.

Sam Lord

Sara Phillips I could have been here the same time as you! Was in for an op in 1996!

Keiran Bingle

I was a cleaner in the main house around 1993. I used to clean all the non clinical areas, nurses' accommodation, resident doctor's house in the woods and of course, the badminton court as well.

Pat Olsen

I worked there as a physio from 1971 to 1975, mainly on B Block (Sr. Hulbert) & in the Hydrotherapy pool, which was fabulous, & should never have been closed. Barbara Ebsworth was the Superintendent Physio, and it was lovely working with such a nice group, & in such beautiful surroundings.

Gemma Carroll

Standish E2? (The orthopedic ward on the ground floor) was my first placement as a student nurse on 1998. Lovely environment for patients. I was so excited to start my nursing career. Nick Jardine and [Jo Jardine](#), I remember you both there.

Tracy Mauquoy

Worked there 1984/1985 as a Domestic Cleaner, my first job I was 17. I had a chance to work in all the wards & the nurses' quarters. One time I had to "clean" the house that the Doctors lived in whilst training etc.

Couldn't find the cupboard that had all of the cleaning stuff & opened a door that was a bedroom.....

Also remembered that we had to disinfect/ clean the operating theatre & my shoes broke. As you entered the theatre you walked over a "sticky mat" that cleaned the bottom of your shoes - but this actually ripped off my soles. I had to borrow some clogs!

It was a great hospital that was very much needed for all the patients - open grounds for those who had TB/ Lung issues. Hydro pool /physio department.

Ward- C3?-for those needing to recuperate from surgery or physiotherapy after surgery. Shouldn't have closed.

Paul Ponting

I was a porter from 1982-88. Best job I've ever had. Lots of brilliant memories.

Claire Sidwell

[Paul Ponting](#) fantastic place to work. I worked on E2 1982-1983 before going to Somerset to do my nurse training.

Sarah Scotford-Smith

My grandfather was the head gardener at Standish. He started there in 1939 and retired in the late 1960s. He raised his family in Standish Lodge. My dad had fond memories of growing up there.

Sue Janssen[Sarah Scotford-Smith](#)

I too have happy memories. When I was seven we stayed with Granddad for the summer as we moved from Berkshire back to Gloucestershire. Remember the lodge so well.

Sarah Scotford-Smith

[Sue Janssen](#) that must have been a wonderful experience. I didn't know you'd stayed there for a while. I never got to see inside the lodge as Granddad had moved to Thrupp by the time I was born.

Sue Janssen[Sarah Scotford-Smith](#)

Oh yes, a piece of my heart remained at The Lodge. Many wonderful memories.

John Mace

I remember your grandfather. I spent the summer of 1958 as a part time gardener whilst GCE O and A levels. Always busy and the gardens supplied much of what was cooked to the kitchens at that time. Great memories

Sarah Scotford-Smith

John Mace I didn't know the garden provided the hospital with so much food. It sounds like it was a lovely summer job.

Marilyn Maycock

I worked at Standish from 1975 -1978. I vividly remember 1976, a very hot summer. The swimming pool was restored and was a very welcome cool off in between split shifts. Hated split shifts but that year when it was so hot it was great. Great place to work. George Dunn was the manager (male version of the matron) back then.

Diane Sewer

I was in A block from about '69 to '74. My claim to fame was to be the first person in the hydrotherapy pool. I went every day. What a wonderful place. Remember the school well and the playroom at the end of the ward.

Jon Shaw

Have just been reading some of these posts to my wife Alison Shaw who worked as a staff nurse on C2 for two or three years in the late 1980s.

Zoe Seed Mandeville

I was in A med in 1986 aged 13. A struggle for me and my family then, but looking back, what a place! A place I remember as a huge part of my life and with happy memories. Mrs Morse was the teacher then and tried to teach me French whilst I was struggling with my health - bless. My nan Elsie Lord was telephonist in the main house whilst I was there but way before that too. My bro Paul Seed was DJ for Radio Standish also at the same time. I used to go and say hi to my Nan as long as I walked (I wasn't allowed to jog) and my bro used to play me songs which I listened to in the playroom. The playroom - I vaguely remember an investigation for a poltergeist and remember a whole lot of noise in the kitchen one night.

My dad Ray Seed used to play in a band who performed at Standish at the end of A med (if that's right!) that would have been before 1986. Let me know if you remember Elsie or Ray, or know Paul.

Cathy Newman

I did the last post reg Orthopaedic training in late '80s and have wonderful memories of very supportive staff and a very cold swimming pool!

Carol Meadows

Cathy Newman Especially being thrown in there after one of the nurses' parties!!!

Pauline Kent

Did orthopaedic certificate '73 to '74. Née Aubrey.

Marie Turner

I was a cleaner in 1982. I loved it there. Some happy times. It was a lovely little hospital - all the staff were great. I was there as a child on the children's ward.

Marion Johnson

I worked there as an auxiliary nurse in 1982-1989 then returned as a staff nurse in the '90s. Some lovely memories.

Bridget Hunter

Marion Johnson

I worked with you and have very fond memories of Standish.

Val Wright

Happy memories Marion.

Joanna Ashley**Marion Johnson**

I didn't realise you worked at Standish. I just missed you. Went to do my training in '81 at GRH.

Sandra Hymas**Marion Johnson**

Oh my goodness Marion it has been a while. I think I worked with you as an auxiliary on E block from '84 to mid '86 and I did a few bank duties on D and C. I often think of Val and Freda as I drive through Eastington.

Jerry James

Worked as a ka in 1992 aged 16 on weekends - walking from Ebley up Ash Lane in Randwick through to Standish. Sadly I lost my dad there unexpectedly years later in 1998.

Pauline Feltham

Beautiful place. I was a child patient and went to school there. Mrs Buckingham was one teacher I remember. Being carried every day to go into a room at the end of the children's ward to have injections. I don't know why. They pushed our beds outside and your name was stuck on the bottom of the bed. I was put in isolation as I caught Scarlet Fever in early '60s. There was a green van at the top of the children's ward, that sold groceries and you could buy ice creams. It all seems so long ago and sadly no longer there. Even though I must have been only about 7, I remember it so well.

Pilar Doctor-Bevan

My mum worked here probably around 1967 to early '70s when she then went on to Stroud Maternity where she stayed until she retired in the mid-'90s.

Jen Barradine Young

I was a patient for a few months on A ward '79 / '80.

I remember the school next to the ward.

Also the summer fete, with pony rides on the green by the ward.

Linda Newman Was Stephens

I did my orthopaedic training and SEN later in the main house. After getting married I worked as a bank nurse there - happy days.

Jean Clarke

I worked on A block in the late '60s, lovely place to work.

Amanda Edwards

I lived there as a child with my mum and siblings. My dad was Victor Juggins - the head porter until he died in 1989.

Jeremy Hodge

Amanda Edwards As a student I worked as a porter at Standish in the summer holidays for a couple of years, and remember him well. He always wanted things done exactly right and professionally, or you were sent on kitchen cleaning duty, which I did many times!

Amanda Edwards

Jeremy Hodge I remember he was always very punctual and it used to annoy him if others weren't. He used to say, "If you start work at 7, you should be ready to work at 7 - not be just taking your coat off."

Janine Smith

My late sister was an orthopaedic nurse there in the '70s.

Marie Newman

My Mother was there as a patient in the 1950s as she had TB.

Janet Troupe

I did my Orthopaedic Nursery Certificate at Standish from '74 -'76. I lived in Stonehouse so didn't move into the Nurses' Home straight away but soon realised I was missing out. I will never forget the great bunch of girls I trained with or Mr Smith and Miss Small of course. If I remember rightly we got the swimming pool reopened in the summer of '75 and had a big pool party. I worked on B Block, C1, C2 and the Children's Ward with Staff Nurse Lawrence.

Peter Clinch

I worked there from 1974 till 1976 in the stores. My co-workers were Ernie Morris and Jim Powling - great times and great memories.

Pat Neale

My husband was a night porter there early '70s.

Joan Shipton

I started in 1966 to do my orthopaedic nursing certificate and then my SEN. I lived in the Main house and North house. I left in 1970, had babies and went back in 1974 - 2005 when it closed. Best time of my working life, I made some wonderful friends and in my opinion we gave the best care.

Joanna Ashley**Joan Shipton**

Absolutely 'Shippy' hope you're well. I was a student nurse about '77-'79.

Julie Sharpe**Joan Shipton**

Totally agree. Time to give care.

A very different NHS to the one I retired from in 2025 (but I stayed on the bank and I still love it).

Debbie Lester

I worked in the kitchen from '82-'87. I remember the peacocks coming to the door for cake. Beautiful surroundings.

Jeanette Phillips

I was an orthopaedic student nurse. I lived in North House between January 1977 until the course ended in September 1978. I spent some time in nurses' quarters at GRH but loved my time at Standish.

Claire Jones

What a fab place! I did all my work experience on c block then worked on C2 from 1989 till it closed. Such a big mistake - fab time wonderful memories and made some amazing life-long friends.

Pru Pullin

My mum Lola was in the kitchens and my dad Henry was an ambulance driver, great times playing there.

Nick Jardine

1995 until 2004 as a porter, great times! What a special place it was!

Julie Gearon

My mum Sister Gearon worked there for many years, beautiful place & people.

Jo Holliday

Julie Gearon loved working with your mum. But always called her sister even after she retired. Amazing sister and never afraid of rolling up her sleeves and getting stuck in!

Joan Shipton

Julie Gearon we had such great times on and off duty

Julie Sharpe

The best time. So many happy memories

Sarah Garner

Julie Sharpe I remember you looking after Dad after his first hip operation there.

Trudy Paul

My Grandma worked as a Sister on the TB ward in 1950s and early '60s. I remember going to the Christmas parties as a young child in the '60s. My Grandma was also a patient in orthopaedic ward in the early 1980s. Have lots of fond memories.

Lesley S Weekes

Worked there as a nursing auxiliary from 1981 -1982 - worked on back ward, all the c wards, d ward and lastly e1 before starting my EN training in Bristol.

Linda Jones

I worked there from 1979 until closing then went to GRH. Worked on E block best time with amazing staff. Lifelong friends were made.

Hard work but the care and support was so good! 😊

Lyn Gibbs

My father Wally Webb was a patient on and off for many years from mid '80s to 2000. He passed away in Standish. He made many friends from his stays. The staff were fantastic. Dr Meecham - Jones looked after Dad - he was a great Doctor.

Val Wright

I remember nursing Wally, lovely man.

Clare Pearch

Lyn Gibbs I remember Wally

Linda Hilton

My husband Derek Hilton was a gardener there.

Peter Jones

My mother Pat Jones worked there as a cook in the late 70's and 80's.

Pauline Brooks

A wonderful hospital, my late Mum spent quite a bit of time in there for her arthritis and had nothing but praise for it there

Christine Margaret McAdam

My mum, Patricia Silk worked at Standish in the late 60s as a nurse's aide I believe.

Paula Causon

My mum **Rosemarie Mills** worked in the laundry back in 1981, she absolutely loved her job.

Jeremy Hodge

As a student summer relief porter, I had to have the traditional prank played on me on my first visit to 'Rose Cottage'.

Clare Ward

I had 8 teeth out there as a child aged 7.

Colin Hoskins

I was a patient - enjoyed my time there.

Alison May

Loved working there worked on c block.

Barbara Davis

I did my Orthopaedic training there 1976-78.

Jackie Colebourne

I was a patient on the children ward for a while. The staff were so lovely and caring.

Julian Plested

Gardener.

Val Wright

I worked there from 1974 until it closed. I also worked on E block. Many friends and happy memories.

Michael Langley

My stepdaughter worked on maintenance.

Debs Hewlett

I was an orthopaedic student nurse from 1977 to '79. Then SEN on E1 from 1979 to 1983. Lived in North house as a student. Sister Geale and Sister Gearon as a student. Then worked under Sister Howell, Sister Hill and Sister Parrot. Mr Smith and Miss Small were tutors. Miss Sivyver was matron. Anne Loveday and Karen Talbot senior SENs. Lucy Burr staff nurse and Sally Clarke SEN on E1.

Pauline Feltham

My Dad came from being in the Royal Army Medical Corps to a Male Nurse at Standish. He disliked the Matron who wasn't nice to him so he left. Whoops.

Monica Norton

Pauline Feltham was her Nickname "olive Oil" by any chance?

Jeanette Phillips

Our lovely tutors were Mr Smith and Miss Small - beautiful people and great teachers.

Karen J Evans

My mum was a patient in 1980 for her bad back. She had girdle traction for nearly a month. She was back in 2001 when she had cancer after the misdiagnosis by Mr Meecham - Jones. He said it was a skeletal contusion of her lung which turned out to actually be lung cancer which then spread to her liver, ribs and spine. Her care was transferred to Prof Brown still at Standish. The care she received up until her death at 57 years in 2002 was excellent. She was treated with respect and dignity right up until her last breath. She was surrounded by amazing nurses, healthcare assistants, deer, peacocks and squirrels which would take a malteser from our hands. It was a little piece of heaven on earth, a jewel in the NHS crown. It should have been used as a specialised unit for end of life care or cancer treatment centre. The surroundings alone would have aided recovery and eased the pain of a loved one passing. Such a shame.