

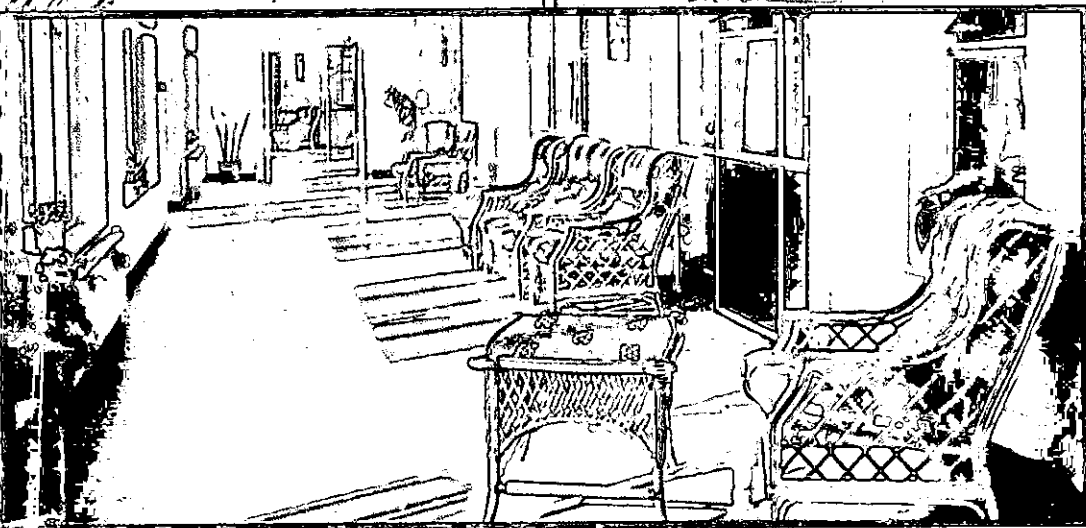


**EASTERN
HEALTH
BOARD**

BORD
SLAINTE
AN OIRTHIR

ST. COLMANS HOSPITAL

Rathdrum,
Co. Wicklow



**ANNUAL
REPORT
1998**



ST. COLMANS HOSPITAL

Rathdrum,
Co. Wicklow



MS. MARION MAC SIURTAIN, DIRECTOR OF NURSING



DR. JAMES LEITCH, MEDICAL OFFICER



MS. LILY BYRNES, LOCAL HOSPITAL MANAGER



ANNUAL REPORT

1998

ACUTE HOSPITALS AND SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY PROGRAMME COMMITTEE MEETING THURSDAY 18TH FEBRUARY 1999 ST. COLMAN'S HOSPITAL, RATHDRUM

1.

Matron	-	<i>Ms. Marion Mac Siurtain</i>
Medical Officer	-	<i>Dr. James Leitch</i>
Area Hospital Manager	-	<i>Mr. John Hempenstall</i>
Local Hospital Manager	-	<i>Ms. Lily Byrnes</i>
Engineering Officer	-	<i>Mr. Michael Kinsella</i>

2.

BED COMPLEMENT

Admissions/Rehabilitation	12
Extended Care	92
Welfare	22
Respite	10
Young Chronic Sick	4
Terminal	2
	142

Day Care	45 Places
Physiotherapy Service	
Occupational Therapy	
Chiropody Service	
Speech Therapy	
X-Ray Service	

AGE BREAKDOWN OF PATIENTS

	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>
Under 65	1	1
65 - 74	18	17
75 - 84	17	35
85 - 94	8	35
95+	3	3
	44	91

DEPENDENCY LEVEL OF PATIENTS

Single Incontinent	24	Doubly Incontinent	47
Dress Themselves	43	Help with Dressing	92
Mobile	68	Immobile	34
Feed Themselves	77	Help with Feeding	58
Bed Bound	17	Partially Mobile	16

<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>
Admissions	503	447
Discharges	419	378
Deaths	75	75
Bed Days	47,194	48,203
Bed Occupancy Rate	91.05%	93.1%

3.

BUDGET 1998

Pay	£2,298,242.00
Non-Pay	£ 306,322.00
Gross Total	£2,604,564.00
Less Income	£ 475,000.00
Net Total	£2,129,564.00
Average gross daily cost	£55.18
Average net daily cost	£45.12

4.

ADMISSIONS/REHABILITATION UNIT

There are no direct long stay admissions to the Hospital. All admissions to the Hospital are to the Admissions/Rehabilitation Unit.

An Assessment Team meets weekly at the Hospital. The team consisting of Hospital and Community Care staff is as follows:-

- Consultant Geriatrician
- Hospital Medical Officer
- Director of Nursing
- Senior Area Medical Officer
- Liason Public Health Nurse
- Unit Sister
- Hospital Manager
- Senior Physiotherapist
- Occupational Therapist
- Social Worker

The Team monitors admissions to the Assessment Unit and considers applications for admission. Patients who are admitted through the Admissions/Rehabilitation Unit will be discharged to one of the following locations:-

- Home
- Other Hospitals
- Long Stay Beds in St. Colmans
- Other Beds in St. Colman's
(Respite Care, Terminal Care)

Patients admitted to the Unit are assessed from a medical, nursing and social view point in their home environment prior to admission with the emphasis on retention in the Community with the appropriate support of the Community Services. For those admitted the process of assessment and rehabilitation continues to enable as many persons as possible to return home. In 1998, over 65% of patients who were admitted to the Unit were treated, rehabilitated and returned to their own homes with the back-up services of Community Care.

STATISTICS

	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>
Admissions	500	447
Discharges	494	453
Home	329	313
Respite	51	15
Welfare	5	17
Transfer - Other Hospitals	17	14
Terminal Care	7	3
Long Stay	58	68
Deaths	27	23
<u>Occupancy at 31st December 1998</u>	12	9

<u>Source of Admission</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>
General Practitioners	427	361
St. Columcilles Hospital	55	63
St. Vincents Hospital	6	10
Newcastle Hospital	3	-
Nursing Homes	-	2
Other Hospitals	9	6
Sheltered Houses	3	5
	503	447

<u>Geographical Analysis</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>
Wicklow/Ashford	62	64
Arklow/Avoca	181	167
Aughrim/Tinahely	61	72
Rathdrum	69	44
Glendalough/Roundwood	34	25
Newtown/Bray	96	75
	503	447

5.

Respite Facilities

There are ten beds available for respite care to allow relatives a break for social reasons, holidays or to offer regular intermittent care to those who can as a result lead a fuller and more satisfactory life at home. There is a flexible approach however to the number of beds available for respite care and the number of beds can be increased to meet demands at particular times throughout the year. Numbers of respite admissions for 1997 and 1998 were as follows:-

<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>
331	312

This has proved to be a very valuable facility and is a tremendous support to the population in maintaining their elderly in the community. The respite programme has been developed over the past number of years and has become one of the most important services that the Hospital provides.

The service is fully availed of by the Community and families are more encouraged to retain their elderly at home in the knowledge that a regular respite break is available to them from the Hospital.

6.

Day Care Facilities

The total number of patients currently on the Day Care Register is 203 with an average of 40 attending each day. The frequency of attendances depends on the individual needs of patients. However, the objective is that each patient attends at least once a week. The total number of attendances in 1997 and 1998 were as follows:

<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>
7,154	7,483



Attendances at the Day Care Unit are arranged from the lists drawn up by the Public Health Nurses in close co-operation with the General Practitioners. Patients being discharged from the Hospital who would benefit from attending at the Day Centre are also catered for. Persons attending receive a full range of services including Medical, Nursing, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Chiropody and X-Ray.

A main meal and snacks are provided as are a range of personal services. i.e. bathing, hairdressing, laundry. Persons attending the Day Care Unit either travel by private means or by transport provided by the Eastern Health Board.

The availability of this service undoubtedly assists in maintaining people in the community who would otherwise have to be admitted for Long Stay Care.



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Sheltered Houses

The Sheltered Houses and Gate Lodge complement the already mentioned wide range of services available on the campus and provide a much needed secure facility for the community.

These twelve terraced bungalows are situated in the Hospital grounds and managed by the Elderly Citizens Trust. The bungalows continued to be fully occupied throughout 1998. The occupants of the bungalows have the back-up of all the hospital facilities.

The Gate Lodge (Nolan House) also provides accommodation for two ambulant/independent patients. Admission to the Houses is via the normal weekly assessment team meetings and support is available from the main Hospital as required.

Physiotherapy

There are two Physiotherapists employed at the Hospital. The Physiotherapy service plays a vital role in the rehabilitation and progressive recovery and discharge home of patients.

	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>
In-patients treated	586	540
Out-patients treated	578	572
Day Care Patients	454	288
Total Patients	1,618	1,400
Total Treatments	6,864	5,591



Occupational Therapy

There is an Occupational Therapist employed at the Hospital and she is a member of the Assessment Team. There is a fully equipped Occupational Therapy Department at the Hospital where patients are assessed and helped to cope with the activities of everyday living at home as part of their rehabilitation.

The total number of treatments in 1997 and 1998 were as follows:

	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>
No. of Patients	815	851
No. of Treatments	4,055	4,542

The Occupational Therapist also carries out home visits to advise on any alterations necessary or aids to be put in place prior to the patients discharge.

The services of the Occupational Therapist have assisted greatly in the rehabilitation and early discharge of patients back into the Community.



SONAS Programme

The SONAS communication programme will be implemented at St. Colman's Hospital in 1999. This is a special training programme, which aims to maximise communication potential for selected long stay patients with dementia. Members of nursing, non-nursing and paramedical staff will be trained over the next three months under this programme. The Board has provided this unique opportunity for staff training and is part of the 1999 plan to develop stimulation programmes for long stay patients.

11.

X-Ray

There is a limited Radiology Service available for all in-patients including the Assessment/Rehabilitation Unit and the Day Care Unit with Consultant cover provided from St. Columcilles Hospital. A small out-patient service is also provided.

	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>
In-Patients	103	76
Out-Patients	226	209
Total	329	285
No. of Examinations	389	349

12.

Chiropody

There is a Chiropody service provided at the Hospital for in-patients and day patients. The Chiropodist attends twice weekly and the availability of this service has proved to be of great benefit in the rehabilitation of patients.

	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>
In-Patients	832	753
Out-Patients	702	396
Total	1,534	1,149

13.

Nutritional Advisor

The Nutritional Advisor for the Elderly visited the Hospital throughout the year organising lectures and monitoring the progress of the Nutrition Education Programme initiated at the Hospital. The availability of this service to the Hospital has assisted in meeting the dietary needs of the patients.

14.

Voluntary Fund Raising

The Fund Raising Committee, the Elderly Citizens Trust continues to raise funds to provide additional comfort for the residents through varied activities and events organised throughout the year. In this respect the Hospital receives tremendous support from its local community in Rathdrum and indeed throughout East Wicklow.

Events organised by the Committee each year include, Annual Field Day, Sponsored Walk, Sponsored Swim and Raffles. The Committee also organise entertainment for the patients in the Hospital, i.e. Bingo, Music and Outings for the patients.

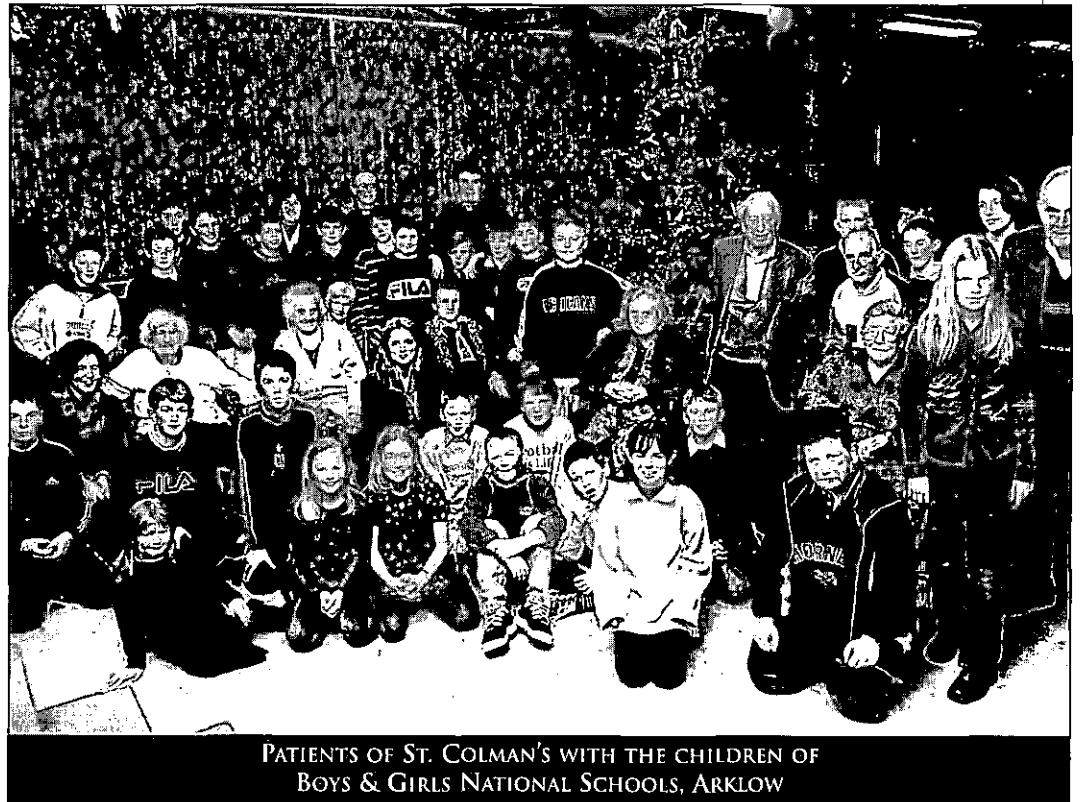
In the past the Committee has contributed towards the building of the sheltered houses, a new patient transport vehicle for the day care unit, the construction of a conservatory adjacent to Unit A and Unit B and the construction of a verandah on Unit C and many other extras for the comfort of patients in the Hospital.



15.

The Tree of Remembrance

The Tree of Remembrance was the highlight of the Christmas celebrations at St. Colman's for a second successful year. We remember deceased members of family and those who for whatever reason cannot be with us at Christmas. Ms. Niamh Penston and the children of The Boys and Girls National Schools, Arklow, entertained the large attendance with Carols and a Nativity dramatisation.



PATIENTS OF ST. COLMAN'S WITH THE CHILDREN OF
BOYS & GIRLS NATIONAL SCHOOLS, ARKLOW

A most enjoyable evening was had by all and the money collected will go towards the patients benefit fund. We look forward to the Tree of Remembrance being an annual event at St. Colman's.

16.

Technical Services Department

In the past year the Engineering staff have completed the following works in St. Colmans Hospital:-

- a) Painting of Unit D and DayC are Unit.
- b) Repair of Tarmacan - Hospital Grounds.
- c) General up-keep of Hospital and Grounds



17.

Service Requirements

- a) Erection of extension to enhance accommodation for confused elderly patients.
- b) Continuation of painting programme.

John Hempenstall
Hospital Manager

18th February 1998



