

How the Acorn was Planted

by Roy Stenning

A brief history of the origin of The Chichester Homoeopathic Medical Clinic which was established in 1969.

Around the year 1910 my father was given up to die at the age of 21 by the local orthodox doctor. He was suffering from exophthalmic goitre and his pulse was running at 144. A friend suggested that he should consult a well known homoeopathic doctor in the Brighton area and under this doctor's treatment my father's pulse came down to 72.

Father was in very poor financial circumstances and could not continue under the homoeopathic doctor. Around this time he heard of a brilliant homoeopathic practitioner in Glasgow who treated patients for what they could afford and father remained under homoeopathic treatment until he died at the age of 70 in 1959.

Naturally, with this kind of family history my two brothers and I, and, later, my wife became very interested in the medical science of homoeopathy. More especially so as the central principle of homoeopathy is in absolute accord with God's principle of healing on the infinitely higher spiritual level as shown in the Holy Scriptures. I took a course in homoeopathy under Mr Parker-Wood and we began treating members of the family - then friends - and I might say some very successfully indeed.

About this time I wrote a letter to the local papers asking if anyone would be interested in having a medically qualified homoeopathic doctor in the area. The response over a wide area was most encouraging and the people who responded were invited to sign a petition which we then sent to Dr Margery Blackie who was at that time Physician to the Queen and also Dean of the Faculty of Homoeopathy. My wife, Mary, offered her services as local Administrator. Dr Blackie responded by sending down one or two doctors from time to time but they could

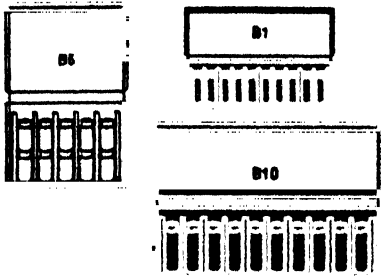
not keep up the pace as they had their own practices in other parts of the country.

Finally, Dr Blackie sent down to Chichester one of her own assistants. He was Dr Max Deacon who has now been with us since 1976. Around 5 years ago when patients were having to wait up to three months for an appointment Dr Deacon recruited a colleague whom he had trained. Dr Mark Draper joined the clinic in 1990. He had been Medical Officer of Health for the Turks and Caicos Islands.


The two doctors now operate their separate practices on Thursdays and Fridays in Chichester and my wife is assisted by three very helpful lady colleagues in her administration duties. Usually two twelve-hour days are operated each week and phone calls are received from patients in Spain, Switzerland, Germany, France, Italy and Norway besides the Isle of Man and from a wide area in the UK.

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