

'How Sammy Hahnemann got his name'

by Linda Mower

Taken from *Homoeopathic Links* with kind permission of the editor.

It all started 15 January 1994. I had to work that Saturday morning. When I got home, at about 1.00pm, my friend Nancy had just left a message on my answering machine, 'Call me as soon as you get home.' When I called, she sounded excited, 'Can you come over to my house immediately? I have a present for you.' I quickly drove over and there was this tiny little black Doxie-mix male puppy - the skinniest, saddest thing I had ever seen. She said, 'Look what I found in my driveway, your new puppy.' He could barely wag the tip of his tail.

Our little refugee

At first, she thought he was just lost and hungry but when she tried to feed him, he wouldn't eat. He was so weak he could hardly stand and there was a strange pink stain on his chest like paint or lipstick. I could see all his bones because they stuck out so much, like a little refugee. There was no sparkle or twinkle in his eyes, only pain.

'I don't want him,' I said, 'You keep him, you found him.' Nancy reminded me, 'You have been wanting a dog, that's why you fenced your yard this summer.' I quickly replied, 'You know I want a female dog, and besides he is too small. To which she sweetly said, 'Doesn't he remind you a lot of your old dog, Andy? I'll even pay for his first vet visit.' So we bundled up the poor little thing and off we went to see the vet.

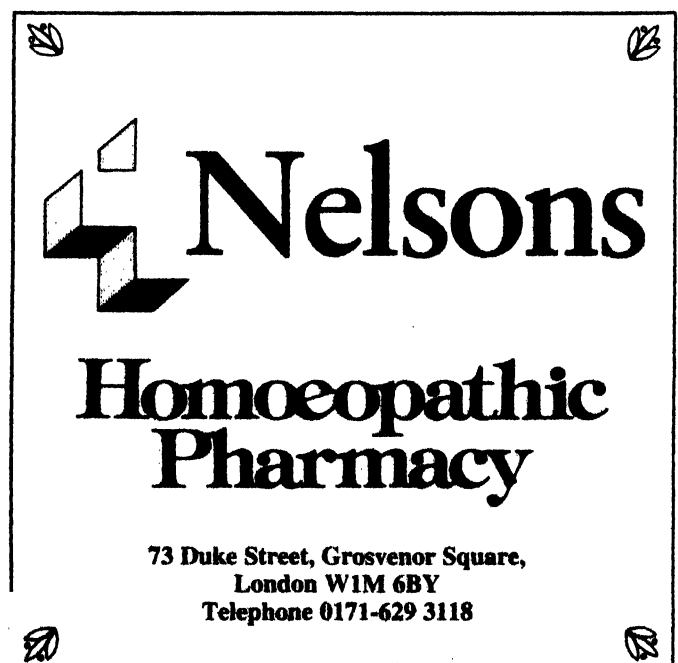
Do you want the truth?

Dr Laurie Morgan took one look at the puppy and said, 'Do you know anything about Parvo virus? Heck no, that's why we brought him to you.' She did the Parvo test, which quickly showed up positive. She lifted a loose fold of his skin, 'See how dehydrated he is?' But maybe there is still a chance.' She took his temperature rectally and the thermometer came out bloody. 'That's not a very good sign,' Dr Morgan said, 'This little puppy had all the classic Parvo virus symptoms: extreme dehydration with vomiting

and diarrhoea. If only you had gotten him sooner.' She went on to explain, 'The pink stain on his chest is from Pepto bismol. Some people try that, but it's not for dogs. I don't expect him to live through the night. He is in very, very bad shape and needs special care that would cost \$400-500 or more. I'm not even sure that would help. I think you should consider putting him to sleep as he is just a stray and you only found him about 45 minutes ago.'

She left the room so Nancy and I could talk it over. I surprised Nancy by saying, 'I'm taking him home.' (I didn't need any time to decide - after all, I was a first-year homoeopathic student).

Dr listened as I told her about homoeopathy. She explained again how sick the puppy was. But I was determined. 'Well, if that is your decision, first I'll give him some antibiotics to help fight the infection.' 'No,' I said remembering what I had been reading in *Beyond Antibiotics* by Michael Schmidt. After seeing the bloody thermometer I knew that his digestive system wasn't working and giving antibiotics would



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only kill any good bacteria left and affect the absorption of nutrients. The only thing I allowed Dr Morgan to do was administer Ringer's lactate subcutaneously because of the severe dehydration. That would give me a little time to find the 'well-indicated remedy.'

Pure willpower

I took my new puppy home and put him in a box in the corner of my bathroom. I didn't have any information on dogs - just one homoeopathic book on cats. I couldn't take too long working out the case because it was about 4.30pm on Saturday and I live in a very small town. I got Kent's Repertory, pulled out a couple of *Materia Medica*s and started to write down symptoms: 'sad, cold, weak, dehydrated, vomiting, and bloody diarrhoea.'

I had a few remedies at home, but of course I didn't have the one that seemed indicated from my study. It was often considered a 'cell salt' so I hoped it would be available at the health food store. I just made it to the store with a couple minutes to spare. They had the remedy but only in a 6x.

Signs of hope

I rushed home and gave the puppy one dose. About an hour later he had a bowel movement with bloody diarrhoea, so I repeated the dose. I kept him warm, quiet and confined. I gave him a tablespoon of Pedialyte every hour for the dehydration. In addition, I made a broth from chicken, carrots and celery with Esbilac and plain yogurt, and I fed him a couple of teaspoons every few hours in a small bottle. I gave him only two doses of the 6X remedy, nothing more. By Sunday evening when I went to feed him, he tried to play with me. The vomiting and bloody diarrhoea had stopped.

The following Saturday I took him back to the vet for his check up. The assistant said, 'This can't be the same puppy you brought in last week?' Dr Morgan was amazed: 'I've never seen a dog so sick with Parvo virus ever to recover.' To which I answered 'Homoeopathy.' Nancy is the one who named him. I said, 'Let's call him Samuel Christian Freidrich Hahnemann!' 'Who, what?' she said, 'I think he looks more like a Sammy.'

Today my Sammy is strong, healthy, has a shiny black coat and is the happiest dog I have ever

seen. Nancy says, 'Sometimes think his tail will fall off because he wags it so much.' My other friend, Linda, who didn't see him at the beginning, always tells me, 'I don't think that dog ever had a sick day in his life.'

All my thanks go to Dr Jeff Lester, my homoeopath and encourager, and, of course, to Samuel Christian Freidrich Hahnemann (the First). I attend the Institute of Classical Homoeopathy in Tiburon, CA.

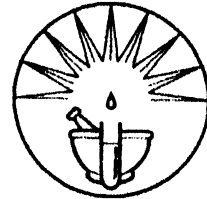
The remedy was *Natrum Muriaticum*. **BHA**

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NHS Status for Sussex Group

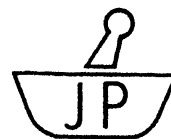
Angela Holroyd is the chairwoman of the Mid Sussex Homoeopathic Group which has recently gained NHS status. She has kindly written to us about the processes of obtaining the NHS status for the Group.

• **The Mid Sussex Homoeopathic Group** first opened in November 1983 and by November 1994 the clinic gained NHS status. Although we wanted to work within the NHS, it was impossible at that time because of referral procedures. As a compromise, we set our fees as low as possible aiming for a self-financing situation. The Group's objective was and is to promote homoeopathy and to make it accessible to all and so, apart from having low fees, we run a Patient Fund from which the clinic administrator can obtain money to help those patients who have little or no funds themselves. Only the doctor gets paid.

Thanks are due to many people for their help in setting up the clinic and they know we are grateful. I would like to mention just two of these people because they have been with us from the beginning. They are Mrs Olga Waugh and Mrs Mary Mitchell. Olga has let us use rooms for the clinic at a nominal rent and has been generally supportive. Mary is our second administrator, having taken over soon after the opening, and has been a constant source of energy ever since. Our first doctor was Michael Finnegan under whom the clinic obtained a strong base and he was popular. His career objectives unfortunately took him away from us in 1984. We had to close at this time until May 1985 - nearly a year - when David Fergie-Woods came in. We were fortunate to keep him with us until 1989 when Donald Roche took over and has been with us ever since - which speaks for itself. We are lucky to have the two latter doctors in our area. It means that the clinic rarely has to close.

Last year we decided to try for NHS status again as referral procedures had changed. The Mid-Downs Health Authority were supportive and after many hours of talk/discussion a contract was agreed. Fund-holding GP's have their own contracts. Homoeopathy has really been put on display here as Mid-Downs Health Authority sent a letter to every GP in their area advising them of this new service and suggested that we sent a letter from the clinic in the same mailing, which we did.

The clinic is busy and there is more bureaucracy to cope with which meant some changes in management but all is well. Some patients still wish to self-refer and this they are able to do. There is the odd - very odd - GP who still dislikes homoeopathy, most however like the service provided in Mid-Sussex. *BHA*



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Blackie Memorial Lecture and Symposium

'Proving the Unbelievable'

The Seventh Blackie Memorial Lecture is given by an eminent physician in memory of the contribution Dr Margery Blackie made to medicine, and homoeopathy in particular. In 1971, Dr Margery Blackie, at the time Physician to Her Majesty the Queen, founded the Blackie Foundation Trust. Its aims are the advancement of study and education in the science of homoeopathy, and the carrying out and publication of scientific research into homoeopathy.

Since 1971, the Blackie Foundation has been funding objective research into homoeopathy. This has been carried out by medical and scientific professionals and has played a significant part in establishing where homoeopathy is most effective. The Trust is pleased to consider applications for research projects which will advance the understanding and practice of homoeopathy. Although the Blackie Foundation is unable to provide bursaries directly to doctors it has, since 1990 been funding bursaries through the Faculty of Homoeopathy for students attending courses.

The Seventh Blackie Memorial Lecture will be held on 7th December 1995 at 6pm at the Barber Surgeons' Hall in London. The Lecture, entitled, 'Proving the Unbelievable?', will be given by Dr Klaus Linde and will include an overview of clinical trials in homoeopathy, some laboratory work and the basic problem of providing scientific proof for the efficacy of homoeopathy. Dr Linde is a leading epidemiological statistician and lecturer at the Ludwig-Maximillian University in Munich, and has

reviewed the world's homoeopathic literature. His lecture will be reported in 'Communications' issue no. 24 to be published by the British Homoeopathy Research Group (BHRG).

The Lecture will be preceded by a symposium at which controversial areas and research issues in clinical trials will be discussed, including the results of three of the studies funded by the Trust. Speakers will include Ms Morag Taylor, University of Glasgow (the results of the homoeopathic immunotherapy trial in perennial rhinitis), Ms Kate Carne, a homoeopath in Oxford (homoeopathy and autism), Dr Steven Kayne and Dr Neil Beattie, Saltire Homoeopathic Research Team, Glasgow (an investigation of three different isopathic dose regimes in the treatment of allergy), as well as Dr David Reilly (Glasgow Homoeopathic Hospital) and Dr Peter Fisher (Royal London Homoeopathic Hospital). *BHA*

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- BHA Members are welcome to attend. The meeting is held on 7th December, 1995.

Please contact:

The Administrator,
The Blackie Foundation Trust,
1 Upper Wimpole Street,
London W1M 7TD.

Tel: 0171-224-1704 or
Fax: 0171-224-1094.

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ENDOMETRIOSIS

Some women are afflicted with a distressing condition called endometriosis which has been increasingly recognised by doctors over the years. Dr Webb analyses the condition from a homoeopathic viewpoint and makes some recommendations on how to help it.

Endometriosis: what is it?

Endometriosis is the name given to a condition resulting from retrograde menstrual blood flow, so that at the period times some of the blood, as well as coming through the cervix and the vagina in the normal way, also goes down the fallopian tubes and may indeed go into the abdominal cavity. This blood flow also contains particles of endometrium (lining of the womb) so that the hormonal influences that affect the uterine cavity will also affect these satellite lesions. These satellite lesions are known as 'chocolate cysts.' The sequela of these satellite lesions is to cause reduced fertility as a result of adhesions, and pain which may be worse on intercourse. Premenstrual tension symptoms can be magnified with this proliferation of uterine tissue in other parts of the body.

Useful remedies

- A homoeopathic remedy that is useful for treating premenstrual tension symptoms is *Folliculinum 30c* or *200c* to be taken at approximately the midcycle part of the menstrual cycle, that is at ovulation. These tablets should be taken one every 12 hours with a maximum of 3 doses.
- A remedy that is helpful where there is a lot of anger and resentment at having to come to terms with infertility is *Staphisagria*, to be taken either in a *30c* potency on a monthly

basis or *10M* potency as a single dose, to be repeated when the symptoms of resentment are beginning to become prominent again. The remedy that is helpful for dyspareunia (pain on intercourse) is *Sepia* to be taken as *6c* potency twice a day.

- If the perineum (vulva and vagina) are particularly sensitive *Coffea* is the indicated remedy to be taken in the *6c* potency twice a day.
- If there is generalised abdominal pain particularly in the area of the ovaries radiating downwards to the thighs and maybe radiating from hip to hip, the indicated remedy is *Cimicifuga* to be taken in a potency of *6c* three or four times a day.

The constitutional remedy helps to give a general boost to the overall well being as do certain food additives particularly Evening Primrose Oil, to be taken in a dose of at least 1 gram a day. Multi vitamins and multi mineral preparations and avoidance of caffeine helps as well. However, if the symptoms persists it is wise to see a homoeopathic doctor to help alleviate the symptoms as much possible and in some cases cure them completely.

BHA