

Molly Badley née Southgate

1932-2020

When the Oxford Kidney Unit first opened in 1967 it was to provide for home haemodialysis only. This required a lot of organisation: home alterations or a Portakabin, special arrangements for supply and payment for water and electricity, supplies of disposables, eligibility for benefits and friendly advice and sympathy.

At one point there were 140 Home Haemodialysis patients and about twenty new ones a year. Molly was the Office and Home HD manager and was unflappable and extremely efficient despite her huge workload. She was the go-to person for problems. I had one once. A consultant asked for a patient to be transferred to a hospital in Glasgow on Friday afternoon after the office closed. Molly always worked late. I needed a typed discharge summary and begged for help. This was 1979 – so no word processors. She said she did not do shorthand or type from a Dictaphone but she would type my dictation directly but there would be no corrections even with Tippex. Forty minutes later it was done and my reputation was saved. All the staff and patients were fond of her but in awe of her too so we did as we were asked! We were all delighted when she found love on the Renal Unit and married Paul Badley ex RAF, who was our Stores and Supplies manager. She kept in touch with the Kidney Unit through the SCKPA for many years.

Chris Winearls

Molly

I was saddened to hear of Molly's death. As my life was turned upside down with dialysis, Molly pulled me back to reality by making home dialysis safe and comfortable in her calm efficient manner. I always recall her with a big smile and a genuinely caring nature as she liaised with the family for the erection of a portacabin in my parents garden and all the paraphernalia required to ensure the home set up worked and was safe. I remember Molly driving over for my first three dialyses to Chesham to see me up and going and dealing with the local council who refused to collect the clinical waste.

We would often meet up whilst coming into clinic and Molly would remember my family's name and recount a recent problem connected to the machine. Molly was a good friend of the SCKPA who owned several self-catering holiday sites. Each one had to be set up for dialysis like at home involving long trips to the south coast and even the south of France.

In 2011, Molly & Paul joined me and Chris to celebrate a milestone in my dialysis journey. They were so happy, gracious and enjoying retirement.

Bob Price

