

Code 28-345



SUPPLIED FOR THE PUBLIC
SERVICE

S.O. BOOK 345

(Indexed at front 256 pages)

~~W. W. W. W.~~

Stantip Nov '84
Notes on ERIC in
Smethwick & New Cross 84

Re - Stantip Nov. 85

People in Smethwick. - Sylvia & Stan
(Sylvia stays hours a home fighting for Stan)
Bro separation for Stan)

Par & Martin Hessian.

Par works with Bham police on Transport work. 021-236-5000
2225.

Mr. Williams.

Dr. Hughes.

Dr. Mantle.

Par Sunley. Social Worker - Smethwick.

Stan Sylvia. Stowbridge. 373888.

Dr Fairbank. Consultant radio therapist.
Royal Hospital

New Cross.

Dr. Hughes (Julie Bloxham Personal Sec)

Doguel poem for Eric's birthday.

1984

"It doesn't seem quite right to me"

Said DOR

(in contemplative mood)

"That no-one says

"Good-night - sleep well"

No Hannibal - no cups & tea

The house is really very quiet

without the chair and chair"

So both of us send no love

(DOR with nodding head)

He might wake up for Christmas Time

but as you know so well

As donkeys go to sleep for months

A bit like me I fear

I'll wake him up when you come home

and then we'll celebrate -

November 8th. 1984.

Today is Thursday and I've been into Smethwick to the Highland Centre for Neurology. Eric had another operation on Tuesday. I went across to the hospital for $\frac{1}{4}$ to 9^{am} and was fortunate enough to see Eric before he went down to surgery. I sat and waited until 12.30. When I was told he was out of theatre and in Ward 10. I didn't see him and could only get information from the ward doctor who said Mr Williams was pleased with the operation. I could have seen Mr Williams if I had waited until he had finished operating ^(about 4.30) but my fear of driving in the dark was enough to make me leave the hospital before he had finished. I heard afterwards that he had asked 'if I was about - so maybe I should have stayed and risked the driving in the dark. I feel so tensed up that the extra strain of night driving is something I find almost impossible to contemplate. I can manage the local drive from Bignorth to Broseley, but not the main roads and the constant flashing the headlights.

Eric seemed to come through the operation very well and was sitting up yesterday (7th) when I went in at 2 p.m. and was transferred to Ward D. He was incapable of understanding requests and unable to ask for bedpan or bottle.

Phoned this morning and was told he had had a restless night, and was trying to get out of bed and dress and go home - so they were agreeable for me to go over to keep an eye on him. When I got there he was sitting in a chair - carefully held in by the fixed table. I think he recognised me, but kept falling asleep - I managed to persuade

him to eat some pudding. Difficulty in swallowing (due to the tube insertion during the operation). Very halting movement with hand to try to convey the food onto spoon to his mouth. Called me Hong. So I think there is an improvement. The nurses are very pleasant. I left about 2.30 as he was asleep. Mother had made me some lovely stuff for a meal. She is being so kind can never repay her.

Had shock when I got home as Malcolm Clark had written letter wanting comment on the accident way back in Wales. Hunted for original letter copy but couldn't find it. Eventually phoned Bob Turner as he was in the car at the time. and he is going to phone for me. I really am ashamed of my inability to know what to do business wise.

Alan phoned - its wonderful hearing his voice again. Rather crazy as both of us no longer know each other. Feel absolutely whacked - feel so helpless -

Friday 9th November 84.

Phoned at 7.30 and was told Eric had had a good night. What a relief. Foggy outside. so hope it clears up. Have written cheques for the insurance policies. but not sorted them yet. Will do so by Monday.

Went to Bridgnorth as Rum wanted to go to the Rates office. Weather Terrible - Cvt to Smethwick about 1-4.5. Eric in leisure room. Seemed to recognize me. Walked well. but sides asked me to persuade him to go to bed as he had been protesting around and was tired. He was exceptionally shaky when trying

to drink. Staff Nurse said he had a Temperature and should drink plenty of fluids. Eric refused to drink - emphatically say No. No.

He dropped off to sleep. and dozed until I left at 3.30. Awful drive home through drearily rain - Quite dark by the time I got to B'north. Mother had cooked a meal for me. She really is spoiling me.

Got home about 6.30. Still raining.

Found Telephone Bill £55 - roughly. and all the Giro information. Must find time to sort it all out.

I phoned Sue and Keith as Iain had phoned Mother. Christine phoned so I brought her up to date. Carole phoned to say she had had her operation and is now waiting on the test results.

• Tried to sort out the money. but my mind is a bit blank.

10 p.m. phoned Ward D. Eric quite comfortable. but still has Temperature.

• Alan phoned. He has had a shock. Delfina had to go into St Thomas. re some internal problem. The quickness of getting her in has really worried him. Wish I was nearer so that we could support each other.

The staff on Ward D do seem to be very pleasant. Dr Mantle thinks Eric might be moved back to New Cross next week. but didn't mention the Temperature. I phoned Mr Williams secretary and hope to see him on Monday just after one o'clock.

Saturday. 10th November. 84.

Phoned this morning but got very little information apart from the fact that Eric is disoriented and his temperature still slightly up. I went to Bridgnorth to do some shopping and got to Smethwick about 2.15 p.m. Very easy journey. Sun shining and comparatively little traffic.

Eric sitting in a chair in the corridor. Said "What are you doing here. I was going to phone to say don't come". He was very shaky - and continually clasping and unclasping his hands. Very occasional reasonably quiet

answer to question. but can't remember Nancy's Beth's names. Does remember his phone number. looked very tired but wouldn't go to have a sleep. Seems to be a large swelling under the edge of the head bandage on the left hand side. left about 3.30 hoping Eric would go to the leisure room to watch TV and maybe close. He looked out the window to find the car, and saw it although it was hidden behind the trees. I said I would wave as I went out the front door. It took me a good 5 minutes to get there as I stopped to go to the "powder room". He was waiting at the window and waved. I brought the car up to the entrance and he waved again - so this was reassuring as his memory is fading.

Had meal at 4 p.m. - She really is keeping me up - left about 6 p.m.

- Christine phoned; Alan phoned - Delfina has ovarian cyst but unexpected kidney trouble. He is very worried.
- Nothing from Bob Turner. I wish now I had not bothered him as I've drafted out a letter and his phone call might have led something out medically harmful about Eric and the claim. Oh dear why can't life be more straightforward.
- Nothing from The N.H.H.S. - Hope something comes on Monday.

Sunday 11th November. 84

Day started quite well. Des phoned and so did Pat (wife of Martin who was first in near bed to Eric - he has been released for blood tests) Then Eric phoned. Very tired and had made the call from a call-box. Quote "Come in this afternoon and bring my clothes - I'm coming home and not coming back". I countered by saying I could only bring him home if the doctors gave permission. I promised to be at the hospital by 4.52. Phoned

The word rolls, and of course there was no Truth in it - but that Eric was very restless.

Had quick lunch with Mother and when I got to Smithwick - John the charge nurse had fixed Eric up in his cubicle with the portable television as he had been annoying the other patients in the rest room by continually turning the television up and down and generally making a nuisance of himself. He immediately asked me if I had brought his case. I explained I hadnt because he couldn't come home because he still had stitches to come out. He couldn't remember that he had had stitches and was very confused about how many times he had been in hospital.

Spent a long time removing articles from the top part of his cubicle to the lower part. Had refused to shave - and John (charge nurse) said try to persuade him so he had got quite nasty when asked. I eventually got him to shave. By this time he was very shaky so I suggested he had 20 minutes (this phrase for having a zig in the afternoon). He agreed and slept & very restlessly for about 30 minutes. Then woke up and asked what time it was - he had a cup of tea and walked with me to the corridor door. I promised to wave to him. He sat in a chair and I had to go close to the window area to attract his ~~attention~~ attention. He then stood and waved me goodbye and waited until I had brought the car up to the entrance and waved again. He has flashing headlights - I don't think he is as confused as last time he had an operation -

Came home and wrote letter to Malcolm Clark. Had phoned Bob this morning and he said the letter was fine and that he was sending a brief statement himself. Hope there is no more outcome.

Monday 12th Nov. 84.

Went early and had my hair done. No par. so nothing from the D.H.SS - Phoned hospital. Staff nurse said Mr Williams might do a morning round so I had better come straight away. Leaving with rain but got to the ward about 12:15 a.m. Eric went to lunch, not very communicative. Eyes looked very dull. He had a sleep so he couldn't keep his eyes open. A very Tired sleep. Also talked in sleep. When got up after about $\frac{1}{2}$ hr but once again hardly spoke - falling asleep.

Mr Williams came about 2:30. Spoke with Eric. looked at Eric's stitches and said there was a little swelling. Also said if I could manage Eric could then come home - I had a few words with Mr Williams. He says he has cut out all the Tumour that can be seen with the naked eye. but fears it will grow again. and therefore might help for Eric to have X-Ray treatment. He is going to discuss it with Dr Hughes - also Eric's coming out. He mentioned that he was puzzled by Eric's vocabulary. and the inability to express himself. (Sanity questionable) - I must hope that the sense and sensibility come together once he is home. Eric decided he was tired and went back to bed. I felt very scared at the thought of Eric being home so soon after the operation. but if it will help the rehabilitation process I shall have to cope.

Called an Mum. She had once again made me a mess. Came home - filled in doctor's form. ready to send tomorrow. Must make some plans - e.g. money & food - in case I cannot leave Eric on his own. as I'm quite expecting that suddenly I shall go into the hospital and find it's time to bring him home.

Alan phoned. Delfina is not good - Her kidney tests are taking 1001 and she is running a temperature. Alan worried as he feels she is worse now than when she went into hospital.

Tuesday. 18th Nov. 84.

Got up at 6 a.m. to phone Corvinia. Brought her up to date. Phoned D.H.S. re ~~gino~~ gino. They said one was in the pool. It came later after the pool had gone. Tried to get an appointment with Dr Hughes. but according to his secretary (who had hoped to get me an interview Friday morning at New Cross) Dr Hughes is going away for a week. So I decided to wait and hope to see Dr Plantle -

Went to Midland Bank to draw out money to put into Barclay's Co-op bills. Electricity bill arrived today. An estimated bill. Can't decide whether or not to query it, as it is over £40. Probably will pay it this time as I don't feel I can face any more hassle. Lain phoned about 8.15 a.m. He had overlooked on a shift he was doing, so hadn't heard the phone last night.

I went to Smeethwick. Sent out messages for Dr Plantle but no reply to his bleep ('they' said). Eric a little brighter today. Has had his crutches out but the swelling is almost 3 times ~~the size it was.~~ I mentioned this to the charge nurse (John?) and he said he would get a doctor to look at it.

Eric had some lucid moments and did wave at the window to wave me goodbye. I managed to get him to shake. Still very shaky when holding a cup.

Returned for meal at mums. Hold cups en route with road-works - Lain had phoned her to say he had been trying to get hold of one of the doctors, but I think he had about as much luck as I did. Will await with interest the comments on the swelling on Eric's head. He also has quite a bad cough, and although the physiotherapist saw him she said it wasn't too bad. Don't know if he has seen a speech therapist.

(Phoned Alan late. He must have had a 'bird' with him as he was very angry - and wasn't having a D.I.F.I.C.)

Wednesday 19th Nov. 1984.

Up early to go shopping. Paid telephone bills (cash) & put £10

Wednesday 14th Nov. contd.

Lain phoned. He had spoken with Dr. Mantle, who said there was no intention of sending Eric home. He was to go to New Cross, and Dr Hughes would arrange for an X-Ray expert to come up with some ideas -

I saw Dr Mantle. Asked about the swelling on Eric's head. He said he would get Mr Williams to decide what to do, but it was a normal aftermath of an operation - Eric quite talkative. Told me vaguely that he had been a "guinea-pig" in fear of some students but couldn't remember what was said. He hadn't shaved but I persuaded him to do so. (One of the nurses told me she had said he should shave, and he had made one of two SEVERE answers. 'Are you asking or telling me?'. He had a sleep whilst I was there. Very restless when sleeping.

Came straight home as Mum was at her church meeting. Phoned Lain & told him that his phoip had had results. Also phoned Christine at work to bring her up to date.

Lain Keir phoned today and hunted Eric down through the N.C.J. I had phoned him the other evening and he had been blind drunk and mo was just talkable. Hadn't left any numbers. Did it out of devilment as I couldn't care ~~care~~ about him or them or all. Felt very tired driving today =

Thursday 15th Nov. 84.

Present for Eric from Christine came today. Beautiful framed portraits of Fanny and myself and Lain & Christine in black cocktail dress.

I took them in plus birthday cards. Eric very taken with the photographs but couldn't understand how he could be in a photograph - Rather dis-jointed conversation. I don't think he

Eric still got swelling on side of head. Larger than yesterday.

Thursday 15th Nov. 84

understands he is moving tomorrow to New Cross -

Drove through some fog again. but coming back it was getting foggier. I went to Mums and had a lovely meal. Then drove home. It was very thick fog and I felt very panicky. Was so relieved to get home.

Feel very low - think I'm now worrying about the routine of the new ward. Its always a fight to get through to the doctors.

- Alan phoned. Debra has had an operation. full hysterectomy - and bladder damage. Awaiting Test results on ovarian cysts. So he is very worried too.

Slept badly.

Friday 16th Nov. 84

Wakened by Christine who had set her alarm to go at 2 am. Phoenix time. I had overslept and it was 8:20. Told her that Louise had been delighted with the photographs -

Feel very tired - Phoned Smethwick at 10:30 am. They said phone back in One hour. I did and they said Eric had been taken to New Cross. I drove up and was allowed in. He is in a side ward. Very pleasant. About 10 in the room. Television. He was sitting on the side of the bed. His bag had not been unpacked but the student nurses were very pleasant. I asked about visiting in the afternoon but the nurse in charge said it was not likely, but I could phone each day to find out. Eric quite cheerful and a little more sensible. He actually bought himself something from the sweet trolley. I think it hardly registered that it was his birthday, and he was a little vague about where he was. He is obviously in a ward where he can relax and recuperate - I drove back. A little fog. I called a Mums. and dashed up to the library to get some books for Eric and some de-ice ^{for} the car. - Had lovely meal with Mum - Drove home. Very weary and very worried about night driving - Also has have to work out when to phone about seeing Dr Hughes or someone to tell me what is going to

Friday 16th Nov 84

happen. I wonder if other people find writing and finding out information so difficult to come by. Even the problem of finding a nurse in charge to write out a medical note seems a big problem to me. I think it is the weariness catching up with me.

Swelling still on head. A little larger I think //

Saturday, 17th Nov. 84.

A dank miserable morning. lay in bed for an extra half-hour. Almost too weary to get up. But went out to Bridgnorth and walked round Bridgnorth into Plumpton. Went to New Cross. Eric not in side ward. Saw sister (one who remembered me and Eric from before.) Very pleasant but said Eric had been very restless, packing his case (plastic bag) and saying he was going to get a taxi and go home. He recognised Plumpton and myself. Was rather withdrawn, and wouldn't unpack the plastic bag. Waved from the end of the ward. Got a medical certificate from Sister.

Had meal with Plum. Wish there was some way of repaying her.

- Came home. Fortunately no fog tonight. only a slight mist at Broseley.

Had lazy evening watching television. (Alan Parson.) He thinks Delfina is getting worse. Pat phoned (from Birmingham) to ask about Eric. Christine phoned again. Says she has passed off her Xmas gifts.

- Eric still has swelling on his head // No difference in size //

Sunday 18th Nov. 84

Phoned hospital about 10 a.m. and was told Eric had had a settled night and was not wandering about.

Sunday 18th Nov. 84

I went to Plum for lunch. Then across to New Cross. Was a bit misty. I got there too early but sat outside the ward till visiting time. Eric saw me from the end of the ward at 5 to 3. and signalled 5 minutes by raising his hand with 4 fingers and thumb.

Walked to greet me and really seemed pleased to see me. Noticed I was wearing a new jacket (One I had bought for £5 second hand the day before). We sat in recreation room. Eric reasonably content. He hadn't shaved, and I don't think he had washed, and certainly needed clean pyjamas but I only suggested he tried to change them by tomorrow. Noticed at the swelling - Seems to have fallen down the side of his head and spreading towards the middle ear. He has a very sensitive spot on one hand.

I saw Sister and asked about the swelling. She is waiting for Dr Tedman to see it tomorrow as he has been off duty this weekend. Seemed a good idea - I asked when I could see Dr Tedman, and she said he would be about tomorrow and I said I would come over about 1 o'clock and hang about. Drove back in growing darkness - Stopped for a cup of tea with Plum. Still don't know how I'm going to take any information given as I just want Eric to be home and happy and contented.

Phoned Joan Gabbedy to bring her up to date.

Monday, 19th November 84

Remarkable change in Eric. Very lucid. Told me how Dr Tedman examined him. Had chats and played 25 squares, and Eric beat me hollow. Saw sister who says Dr Tedman is not worried about the swelling but will see me tomorrow at 12. I stayed for about 2 hrs. but Eric was beginning to muddle up his words so

Monday 19th Nov 84.

I felt he was getting tired. Travelled through fog both ways, but it had cleared by the time I left Compton W. I believe he is so coherent. I had taken his clothes in in case they decided to send him home. I think he will be home before the weekend. There is still the problem of "treatment". but that's tomorrow's problem. Maybe I shall know more after talking with Tedman.

Tuesday 20th Nov. 84.

Went up to New Cross. Waited and saw Dr Hughes and Dr Tedman going in to the ward to speak with Eric.

Dr Hughes came out and was obviously pleased with Eric's progress. Saw a Dr Fairlamb - a radiologist - with Eric and deciding what treatment he requires. e.g. out-patient - or 5 day in-patient. Asked about side effects - Bald head, and sickness probably. Asked about what treatment outcome would be. No promises but a chance of arresting the re-growth.

- Felt I hadn't asked enough questions and worried to find that Eric's treatment will be in the Royal as there is no good car-parking. As usual - into the Travellers and car-park which is turning me into a nervous wreck. Just hope at all works out in the end - Eric quite coherent. and sweating going down.

Phoned Lavin & Phoned Bob. Bob feels it's good news - I'm feeling very low. Really very weary. Maybe once the treatment is arranged I can take a day off - is that selfish?

Will set down to phone Christine.

Wednesday 21st Nov. 84

Couldnt have set the alarm as Christine phoned me having wakened in the middle of the night. Told her the latest news. Decided to phone Julie Bloxham to see if I could see Dr Tedman. She phoned back to say Tomorrow at noon. So then hopefully I shall be able to ask the right questions. Feel very weepy. Went to New Cross for 3 pm visiting. (Gave money and cards to Sister Wallbank). Eric's locker and bedclothes were being moved back into the annexe. Eric passed by and was very jovial. We sat talking - His head has been tightly bound. I find him very excitable and using long involved sentences some not making any sense. I think he is less sensible than yesterday. I mentioned it to Sister but she only said she would keep an eye on him.

Left exhausted driving home. as was glad to come straight home. as Mum was at her church meeting. I had the cottage pie she had given to me yesterday. Its lovely calyp and recipe has but such an effort to move after sitting for a while. I'm being very lazy this evening. Have washed Eric's pyjamas - and now hopefully am going to do nothing all evening.

Thursday 22nd Nov. 84.

Another very wet day. Drove up to New Cross. Saw Dr Tedman. He was very sympathetic and very helpful. Apparently the Consultant radio therapist is going to give Eric a course of X Ray Treatment - he thinks Gamma Ray. - Should last 2-3 weeks. Doubts about how many treatments per week. but promised ambulance service - if Eric comes home in between courses. So at least I will have to do the driving.

Can't phone Christine as she is away for American Thanksgiving.

Friday 23rd Nov. 1984.

Very windy, wet day - Tried to tie up the coccythms. Went to Wolverhampton. Eric well in himself. Had remembered that Dr Hughes had seen him, and had mentioned Gaerlamb. (According to one of the patients Dr Hughes was very pleased with Eric's X. Ray. He also said to Tedman that Eric could go home next weekend. I'll deal with that when we arrive).

Eric pleased to see me, but easily distracted. Still jumbling up Ray's involved sentences - His bandage has been removed and the swelling practically gone - He was trying to ask me why he can't remember the operation or what is going to happen next. Tried to explain, he seemed concerned about maybe losing hair. Said his father bothered him when he first heard of it but was concerned about the foolishness of the man Gaerlamb who was thinking of balding him. Did have one more, he thought that he wouldn't be coming out this weekend as he had to stay in another week.

Drove straight home, calling on library - and was actually in the house before it was dark.

Christine phoned. Thought she was away for the weekend. The Mackay phoned to ask after Eric, and Alan phoned to tell me that Delfina had recovered well from her hyperreflexy, but that there was cancer in the bladder, and she had to return each month for a drip. Fortunately she has been told so they can talk about it. This is what I find so hard. The fact that I cannot discuss anything with Eric. He is just incapable of taking it in.

(Phoned for things from catalogue for Christine's present.)

Saturday. 24th Nov. 1984.

Went to Bridgnorth. to do shopping. Mum came with me to New Cross. Eric incredibly better. Saw me reflected in glass door and came out into the corridor to talk (Weight $10\frac{1}{2}$ stone) weighed by nurse. He spoke quite a lot about remembering agonising scripping pain over his whole head, and talked about being bald. Asked Mum and me what we thought of the looks of someone being bald - We assured him there was nothing too unusual about baldness. Obviously remembers his head being shaved prior to operation. Seems quite content.

Had lovely meal at Plum and watched blockbusters -
- for home - and thankfully found a letter from Malcolm Clarke saying that the £25 excess was not forthcoming. Just hope that is the end of that for I was really worried -

Bob phoned. He is so kind and thoughtful. Feels I should take a day off. but I would feel so guilty if I did. (A phone 1.30 am. Call remissed of many years ago)

Sunday 25th Nov. 1984.

Got up reasonably early for me. 8. am. As it was dry and not too cold put on some old clothes and went out and dug up the dahlias. Have put them in boxes until I have time to go out and hang them to dry properly. (Just do some more tying of the borders and sweep up the leaves one morning. Afraid to do too much at one time because of my back. Still it is a beginning. Took about an hour -

lunch with Plum. Her cooker oven switch has broken.

Went to New Cross. Eric reasonable most of the time.

Sunday 25th Nov. 84.

Found out that his Treatment starts Tomorrow - Joan Gabbrady phoned. and explained that when one had deep X Ray the part bombarded must not be washed. and eventually peeled - The Treatment was one session a week,

Still worry about how best to deal with the possibility of Eric coming home - Got medical certificate. Told nurse about Eric's memories of head scraping.

Monday. 26th Nov. 84.

Had a dreadful night - unable to sleep worrying over Eric - just realising into all one of my hands. When I did get to sleep found morning came very quickly. Had my hair done. Pooled letters (cards) to the overseas people. Some for them and one to Christine and one to John in Sabah.

Went to New Cross. Eric quite well. I got there at 12.30 and stayed with him until the ambulance man came to take him to the Royal at 2.15. Phoned hospital at 6 and Sister said he had been back for about $\frac{1}{2}$ hr. and didn't seem to have any side effects. Also said she doesn't think he will need to have his head shaved. Thank heavens. Am going in tomorrow at lunch time. Apparently he is to have Treatment every day.

Sue phoned. She has got her job as laboratory assistant. Very delighted. Also asked about Eric's Treatment.

I hoovered. and dusted this evening - Feel the house is now a little cleaner. Must get in some flour to make cake and shortbread.

Tuesday. 27th Nov. 1984

Very windy day. Went into New Cross for lunch-time. Eric very well. Tried to remember what Dr Hughes had said to him this morning. Main thing was he thought he would come home this weekend. Sister said she thought he had only been measured for the treatment. Patient in next bed said Dr Hughes had expected a letter from Dr Fairbanks, and said something about calling early tomorrow for it before going to Smethwick. Also all depends on how many treatments Eric is going to need, and how the treatment can be arranged. Eric couldn't tell me any of this luckily. I have in therefore much news, but maybe by tomorrow I shall be able to find out something. Had intended taking tomorrow off as I'm getting very weary driving.

Phoned ward at 6.30. Eric back from treatment. Had eaten his meal and had a cup of tea.

Wednesday 28th Nov. 84.

Went up to New Cross. Eric quite lucid. Tried to tell me about the plastic case that is being made for his head at the Royal. Was under the impression that he had already had treatment. Sister phoned the Cobalt Unit and found out that he was still being measured, so no treatment yet. - So I still have to wait to see if he has any side effects. Stayed 2 hours. He was not taken to the Royal, but staff nurse phoned Cobalt again and said his treatment was to begin Thursday. Eric had already said he had been told not to go today, but that his treatment was to start next week. It seems that a lot of what is said to him registers but gets lost as time goes by, and rather muddled.

Wednesday 28th Nov. 84-

He is still bothered about how he had an operation and talks of being bald. Its awful not being able to help. Sister did say they would keep him in hospital for the treatment. I know it would be lovely for him to have but the travelling up and down to Walsingham would be very tiring. plus I cannot risk the weather. so he would have to go by ambulance. I know I'm being selfish in one way not volunteering to go by car. but I just would not be ~~okay~~ Did some shopping on the way. Total Eric I was not going in tomorrow. Have decided I need a rest. Will spend the day doing as little as possible and try and get some sleep during the day.

Thursday. 29th Nov. 84. (Phoned Christine at 7.15, getting her out of bed)

Went to Broseley to cash giro. Then down to Llanidloes to look for something Xmasy. Nothing of interest. Rains very high. Started to rain. So came home. Had sleep after lunch. Lain phoned.

I phoned hospital at 6.15. Staff Nurse said Eric had had treatment and seemed well. Had just put the phone down, when it rang and Eric was phoned from the cell box. Sounded very rational and said he felt fine. Then had a good day in Shrewsbury. I've really relaxed today. (but have a pain down my right thigh & leg.) think its tension from driving. Hope the treatment continues to be painless and that it kills off all the poison. Lain phoned. Offered to come this weekend, but I said ^{not really}

Friday, 30th Nov. 1984. would be difficult if he lived close or had a good car. Very painful leg. Think I've pulled the muscles in my right thigh & calf by being so tense when driving.

Friday - 30th Nov. 84

Went to New Cross for 12:30 and found that Eric had been taken to the Royal early and they didn't know when he would be back. Sister said that Dr Hughes had suggested that Eric could come home this coming week as he has to have 30 Treatments and that would be six weeks in hospital. They said they would arrange his Transport to and from the hospital daily. I agreed, but I do feel it's a long way to travel each day. Still he would be in his own surroundings even evenings and weekends - ~~agreed~~.

Eric came back from the clinic at 2.30 and said he was coming home in a hew. He packed all his goods together. but nurse said she couldn't let him home because his treatment had only just started. (She thinks they might let him home Wed or next weekend) - It took a long talk to get Eric conceded. I feel terrible - as he looked so poor. Oh dear, there are so many problems.

- I drove home - Got caught in a Traffic jam on the Home-rape (at 4 p.m.). Just remembered that Bridgnorth is like a football crush between 4 & 5.30 on a Friday - Mum had made a huge meal. Very nice but I had a job to eat it. Could do with half the quantity.

Christine phoned. I'd go to the bar -

Stayed up to watch the U. Snooker championship semi-finals -

Saturday 1st December. 84.

Went to Bridgnorth. Did some shopping. Penny came with me to the hospital. Eric laythip and sleep with her. Seems to be getting much stronger. He ate some biscuits then had taken him.

Nothing much else to report. My leg is still painful.

Sunday. 2nd December. 84.

Had lunch at Mum's. Went to New Cross. Eric still very cross about what he calls a "mix-up" on Friday. Still concerned about going bald. Told me they said he would get a wig at the end of the treatment. Again not a lot to report - Worried in case I should be making an arrangement to see Dr Fairbank. Joan Gabbedy phoned. She was asking a question which I couldn't answer because I haven't seen Fairbank. Am so weary of continually trying to find things out. Told Eric I might not be in tomorrow.

Monday. 3rd December 84

Had hair done (cut also). Picked Christine parcels off to Arizona. 2:60 to 3:20. Its outrageous. Decided not to go to Wolverhampton. Phoned hospital. They said he had gone for treatment - I told Joan to tell him I was not coming in today. Asked if I could speak with Dr Hughes tomorrow. So will go across for 11-45 and hang about. Going across to Bridgnorth for lunch. Wet day again. Apparently Nov was one of the wettest on record - still I don't mind as long as the snow keeps away (plus frost & ice & fog). I'm a summer person!!

Eric phoned tonight. Said Tedman had implied he could go home. So we will see what happens tomorrow - H.W. phoned. so did Mackay.

Tuesday 4th December 84.

Went to New Cross by 11-45 am Popie to see Dr Hughes. Seemed to be no-one knowing whether he had been or not. Eric came back early from clinic. 12-30's. I sat with him until 2-30. No sign of doctor. Eric asked for his clothes and one nurse said there was no reason why he shouldn't have them - so I am now expecting to get news that he can come home any time. He is still trying to work out when he had an operation. Why he can't remember anything about it. I've tried to put it all in sequence for him but it will be interesting to see if he remembers tomorrow.

Called and had meat at Mum's. Came home. did some washing. Felt very low later that evening. Couldn't stop crying. Called Bob. He was marvellous. Just listened. I really did feel that life was pointless. Felt a bit stupid afterwards.

Wednesday 5th December 84.

Collected giro. Extra bonus this week. Barclay Card arrived. £53. Took Mum to Bridgnorth hospital. Went to New Cross. Eric had been for his treatment - Had dressed to go. Had strange ideas about the behaviour of the auxiliary nurse who had gone with him. Quite half-wally mad with the ambulance drivers who dump them at The Royal and then leave everyone wandering. No news of his homecoming. Thought Eric was a little mused in his thinking today. He mentioned playing the piano. Is still confused about the number of times he has been in hospital and can't understand why I can't understand what he is trying to get at - Said I ought not go tomorrow. Want to get some shopping done. Sent money to Christine. Am not sure if she will like it. Book and olive - but may act as an evening blouse. Sent money off to Trafford for it. Feel very tired.

Thursday. 6th Dec - 84

Went to Bridgnorth and took Mum to how town to do shopping. Went to New Cross. Eric crossed - looking well. Talked well. only occasional muddle. up.

Saw Dr Tedman. Very pleasant. Eric to have 4 more weeks of treatment. Then will see Dr Hughes in January. They will make arrangements for Eric Travelling.

Friday. 7th Dec. 1984

Phoned Dr Shgeriff. and told him Eric was coming home.

ERIC HAS BEEN TRAVELLING TO ROYAL 5 days
week for Deep X. Ray. Treatment (Cobalt)

Finished Treatment on Monday. 14th January 1985.

He saw Dr Fieldham. who was pleased with the Treatment.

21st January 1985

Went with Eric to see Dr Hughes. Hughes says he will be able to judge the situation better in 3 months when Eric will have a CAT SCAN.

Cut down the dexamethasone to 2 x 200 mg. per day to be cut again in a month and again the month after.

80. JAN 22nd first day of new dosage.

4th Nov. 85

18th Nov 85

20th Nov. Tegretol up to 800
per day.

"Abscess" found on Cat Scan

22nd. Course of antibiotics