



EAHN

EUROPEAN
ASSOCIATION
FOR THE HISTORY
OF NURSING

Editorial

Completed by Karen Nolte



Nurse with patient and Christmas tree in the military hospital, 1914-1918,
(Käthe Buchler, Collection of the Museum of Photography Braunschweig)

I'm happy to present you the eighth edition of the EAHN Bulletin with the nursing history activities in Europe.
Thank you for your various contributions!
With best wishes for Christmas from Heidelberg in Germany

Karen Nolte

Denmark – The Danish Museum of Nursing History

by *Gunilla Svensmark*

About the museum

The Danish Museum of Nursing History was founded 1999 by the former president for the Danish Nursing Organization, Kirsten Stallknecht. Her vision was to promote knowledge of the professional nursing history in Denmark. This vision is still the driving force at the museum in exhibitions, publications and teaching sessions. The museum is located in buildings dating from a former TB-sanatorium, and the exhibitions are set up in the former ward for infants.



Activities in 2018

2018 has been a busy year. In April we launched a book about Danish nursing during WWII and the German occupation. 50 nurses have been interviewed about their experiences and memories 1940-45. Our primary focus was initially on every day's work in the hospitals: How to manage without proper cleaning products and linen, and how to cope with food rationing and the constant air raid alarms. There are not many reports on this in our archives, and we wanted to secure the memories from these 100-year-old nurses.

The interviewees were all eager to talk, and we soon found out that there was much more to talk about than just cleaning, feeding and nursing. It is common knowledge in Denmark, that a few large hospitals in Copenhagen were very active hiding and helping Jews and members of the resistance. It turned out that most hospitals in Denmark did the same. Most of the interviewees told about 'patients' with a fictional diagnosis and name who arrived late in the evenings, got at bed, a bath and plenty of food before being transported to neutral Sweden. One hos-

pital appears to have been almost a hotel for the resistance, where members of the resistance moved in to work by night from the wards at ground level.

All these illegal activities could not be kept unknown to Gestapo, and several of the nurses talked about scary experiences during their night shifts with Gestapo prowling the hospital grounds and wards. None of them, however, consider themselves active members of the resistance movement; as they said, "It was part of the job at a weird time".

The result is a book, based on the principles for oral history, presenting the war conditions and consequences for the hospitals, and the interviews are used to illustrate what it was like. It shows in detail the nursing education, the hierarchy and the many creative ways to survive the constrictions and still maintain proper hygiene and nursing standards.

The book has been very well received by the press and is still selling unexpectedly well.

Another project has been and still is acting as advisor and consultant for a film company producing a very popular television series about a nursing school in the early fifties. The story is based on the first male nurses in Copenhagen who graduated in 1954.

The plots are fictional, of course, but the company is eager to maintain correct historical surroundings, furniture, utensils and teaching material. The nursing museum has a huge collection of hospital and nursing equipment that is not part of the museum collection. We use it normally for teaching, but it is also frequently borrowed by film and television companies. Most of the things shown in the series thus belong to the museum.

The main task related to the advisory role for the production is research, and it turns out that the museum so far has benefitted from it. New knowledge has been unearthed that will be published on the museum web site.

What has surprised even the television company is how popular the series is. The nursing museum experiences a vast increase in inquiries and hits on the web site.



Germany – German Association for the History of Nursing (GAHN)

Workshop, 13-14 July 2018 in Bielefeld (Germany):

Shortages of nurses in history – causes, perceptions, interpretations and consequences



German Association for
the History of Nursing
Fachgesellschaft Pflegegeschichte e.V.

by *Susanne Kreutzer*

Complaints about a shortage of staff have been a frequent topic in the history of nursing. There was hardly ever enough nursing staff for the multitude of potential working areas to cope with it all. Yet, we can identify phases of an increased perception of crises during which nursing staff shortages were announced, at times even transnationally. The 5th Workshop of the German Association for the History of Nursing that took place 13-14 July 2018 at the hospital museum in Bielefeld was dedicated to the history of these shortages.



Workshop GAHN 2018 in Bielefeld, Germany

The goal of the workshop was to put the current shortage of nurses that has been discussed in the media and in politics within a historical perspective, and to explore the numerous dimensions of such shortages and their meaning for the history of nursing. The time period under discussion encompassed the 18th century to the 1980s. *Relinde Meiwes* (Research project: Catholic nursing care in the 19th and 20th centuries, in cooperation with the office of Franciscan Research, Münster) showed that Catholic communities of nurses significantly contributed to the expansion of nursing in the 19th century in the face of a dramatic shortage of staff. *Meiwes* pointed in particular to the shortage of nurses in rural areas that has often been neglected in historical research. *Monja Schünemann* (Berlin) presented her analysis of the journal of the Catholic association of hospitals titled “Krankendienst” from the 1920s. Here, the shortage of nurses was largely interpreted as a consequence of changes in women’s life plans. *Uta Kanis-Seyfried* (University of Ulm) used a longitudinal approach to analyse the development of psychiatric nursing between the poles of staff shortage, precarious working conditions, gender specific discriminations and efforts for a professionalisation of the field from the 18th to the 20th century.

Additional talks focussed on the time after the Second World War, in particular the growing shortage of nurses since the end of the 1950s. *Christine Ludwig* (Institute for Labour and Technology, Gelsenkirchen) discussed in this context the development of an independent occupational profile of geriatric care. *Kerstin Stockhecke* (Main Archive of the v. Bodelschwingh Foundation Bethel) and *Maike Rotzoll* (University of Heidelberg) focussed on recruitment problems within the communities of deaconesses from the 1950s onwards. To bridge the time between finishing elementary school and starting nursing training, the deaconesses were fairly successful when they began to establish so-called nursing pre-schools. *Christoph Schwamm* (Institute for the History of Medicine of the Robert Bosch Foundation, Stuttgart) discussed the significance of male nurses in the discourse on the shortage of nurses during the 1960s and 1970s and investigated in particular the representations of men and masculinity in nursing journals at the time. *Markus Thulin* (University of Cologne), finally, shifted the perspective from Germany to Chile and looked at the time of the military dictatorship in the 20th century which was initially supported by large nursing organisations. This dictatorship ultimately introduced, however, a de-professionalisation of nursing and a privatisation and deregulation of health care that resulted in a drastic shortage of nursing experts.



Bielefeld Hospital Museum

Overall, all papers illustrated that a shortage of nurses is omnipresent within the history of nursing and that they have often been the starting point for necessary changes within nursing care.

Germany – The Historical Nursing Section of the German Society for Nursing Science

by Mathilde Hackmann

In 2018 members of the Section were involved in several activities. One major event was a symposium organized by the German Society for Nursing Science in Bochum, 13.04.2018. Andrea Thiekötter and Anne Kellner represented the Section in a workshop titled “Relevance of history as an academic discipline for nursing science – on the value of history to nursing”. The audience participated in a lively discussion. Showing the interest in historical aspects of nursing.

(programme in German language online: https://dg-pflegewissenschaft.de/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/2018-02-01-Sektionstag-2018_Flyer-www.pdf).

Currently we are busy preparing our fifth symposium on historical nursing research in Berlin, 20.09.2019. Papers in German are welcome, abstracts can be sent until 15.02.2019

(online: <https://dg-pflegewissenschaft.de/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Final-Call-for-Abstracts-SHP-2019.pdf>).

New laws for basic nurse education in Germany will be introduced in 2020. This is an occasion to discuss our statement on Nursing history in the curriculum dating from 2012 (online: <https://dg-pflegewissenschaft.de/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/H-HPF-english-version-Pflegegeschichte.pdf>). In 2019 it will be replaced with an updated version.

Individual members are still busy in teaching, researching and publishing papers on nursing history.



Nurses studying in St. Thomas

Israel – The Israeli Society for the History of Nursing (ISHN)

by Nira Bartal

The Israeli Society for the History of Nursing (ISHN) is celebrating the fifth anniversary of its establishment. 177 members are registered in the Society.

About seventy people attended the sixth conference of the So-



The sixth conference of the ISHN convened by the Tel-Aviv University Department of Nursing, 12th of June, 2018

ciety convened by the Tel-Aviv University Department of Nursing on 12 June, 2018, under the heading: "Nurses at the health front: 70th anniversary of nursing in the State of Israel."

Dr. Shoshy Goldberg, the national head nurse and the director of the Nursing Department of the Israeli Ministry of Health

opened the conference. She emphasized the importance of studying history for coping with the challenges of the present.

The conference included 18 presentations. The first session dealt with nursing missions during the first decade of Israel's statehood and the absorption of mass waves of immigration.

The second session discussed the development of advanced clinical nursing and the modifications of nursing roles. The third session was dedicated to the celebration of 50 years of nursing education in Israeli Universities, and the last session dealt with the role of nurses at the frontiers during wartime. Abstracts of the papers have been distributed to around 280 addresses of our internet network.

On behalf of the The ISHN, my colleague, Nima Amit and I produced and presented a film on significant issues of the history of nursing in the first 70 years of the State of Israel. The film is based on 17 interviews with leaders in the recent decades of Israeli nursing.

In the last year the 12th newsletter of the ISHN has been distributed via internet network. We hope to distribute the 13th newsletter before the end of 2018.

We were happy to welcome Professor Susanne Kreutzer, the President of the German Association for the History of Nursing on her second visit in Israel. This time Professor Hava Golander, our chair person, invited us to her home in Tel-Aviv, on the 27th of February 2018. Professor Kreutzer talked about "Writing European nursing history – what does it mean?"

Our member, Dr. Ronen Segev, has just completed his PhD studies at Tel Aviv University under the supervision of Prof. Hava Golander and Prof. Eran Dolev on the history of military nurses in Israel.



Professor Susanne Kreutzer, the President of the German Association for the History of Nursing on her second visit in Israel, 27th of February 2018, at the house of Professor Hava Golander

Italy – Italian Nurses’ Association with a Nursing History Group, CNAI (Consociazione nazionale delle Associazioni infermiere/i)

The important role of women in the Great War
by Anna La Torre

In November 2018, the Nursing History Group of Italian Nurses’ Association (CNAI) collaborated with the National Council of Women in Italy (Consiglio Nazionale delle Donne Italiane, CNDI) for the celebration of the anniversary of the end of the First World War. The project was sponsored by the

tion helped to provide, at this moment of historical reflection on the theme of gender, interesting food for thought. Despite the lack of recognition of the role of women in Italian society at the time, the outbreak of the First World War changed the perspective and women in general started to offer their service to society. Many of them left their houses by their own will, others were obligated to support the war effort. All of a sudden they became visible to the whole society. Women were employed in factories, they started to manage farm works, some became employees in public offices, others were employed as bus drivers and in many other jobs that had formerly and exclusively been performed by males.

The CNAI history of nursing section participated at this event, re-ordering the work and role of the nurses during the Great War, through a historical excursus of the sources such as diaries, letters and biographies of those who participated in the assistance of soldiers in battlefields and military hospitals.

The house of memory and knowledge of Rome hosted the event. This institution of the Capital operates in a breath taking setting together with associations that represent the historical memory of anti-fascism and the Resistance with the purpose of reconstructing, preserving and promoting the memory and testimony of that historical period.

The life of women is an invaluable source for understanding the Great War. A hundred years later the conference participants tried to fight the invisibility that until now has characterised the work and role of women during the wars. The role of nurses in particular provides an insight of the evolution of modern health professionals and helps to understand the progress of the profession throughout the twentieth century.

In conclusion, CNAI and the European Association is pleased to announce that we have reached a great goal: the challenging proposal made in 2016 will become a reality in February 2020. The congress that will celebrate the bicentenary of Florence Nightingale’s birth is a great event that needs to be supported by each and all of you, as admirers and academics of the nursing history. We invite you to visit the dedicated web-site WWW.FLORENCE2020.ORG and be an active part of this important event in our history...it will be the place to be... together with Florence FIRENZE VI ASPETTA! (Florence is waiting for you!).

CENTENARIO PRIMA GUERRA MONDIALE 2014/2018
Evento inserito nel Programma ufficiale delle commemorazioni del Centenario della prima Guerra mondiale a cura della Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri - Struttura di Missione per gli Anniversari di interesse nazionale.

Tavola Rotonda
“Il ruolo delle donne durante la Grande Guerra”
sul tema dell'omonima Mostra fotografica documentaria realizzata da Maria Canale

Venerdì 9 Novembre 2018 - ore 16.00
Casa della Memoria e della Storia
Via S. Francesco di Sales, 5 – Roma

ROMA
Asessorato alla Crescita culturale

CASA DELLA MEMORIA E DELLA STORIA

Biblioteche di Roma

official program of the commemorations for WWI centenary of the Presidency of the Italian Council of Ministers.

The initiative focused on the role of women during the First World War and it was attended by experts and professors from different cultural and academic backgrounds. Their contribu-



The Netherlands – The Dutch Centre for Nursing History: the Florence Nightingale Institute (FNI)

by Nannie Wiegman

About us

The Florence Nightingale Institute (FNI) is the Centre for the history of nursing and public health in the Netherlands. 2018 is the 25th anniversary of the FNI. The FNI performs scholarly research, manages the nursing collection, develops educational modules and communicates with the public. Its aim is to transfer knowledge of nursing history to (future) nurses. In 2017, the Dutch Museum Association recognised the FNI as the first online museum. We share the heritage in our healthcare with the public through pop-up exhibitions. Our entire collection has been digitised. See for more: <http://www.fni.nl/english>

Research

At the 2018 AIDS conference, the FNI presented the results of research into the role of nurses during the AIDS epidemic. The project “Nurses on the front line, battle against the AIDS crisis 1982-1996”, conducted in collaboration with the University of Amsterdam, supplied a good representation of the important role nurses at the hospital and in district nursing have played. While physicians flinched from touching AIDS patients, the nurses were undaunted. They looked for solutions and supplied education, also internationally. The FNI has in-depth interviews with six pioneers on film. We have also made a file for the website: <https://www.fni.nl/pioniers-in-aidsverpleging>

The commemoration of the end of the First World War was an occasion to investigate the role of Dutch nurses. Although the Netherlands was neutral between 1914-1918, approximately 300 nurses travelled to the hospitals in France and Belgium to lend assistance. These were private nurses who were very motivated and were not afraid of the uncertainty. They were not affiliated with the Red Cross and travelled on their own accord, often by train, in the direction of the front. One of these nurses was Janny Folmer, see photograph. Her diary, objects and photos have been digitised and are available for further research. Another nurse, Rosa Vecht, tragically died during the hostilities. We have created a website in her honour: <https://www.fni.nl/moedige-meid-in-oorlogstijd>



Picture 1: Janny Folmer (left) and nurse Pimentel with 3 wounded on the porch of the Pré Catelan hospital, 1917

Events in 2018

On 4 July, the 3rd Nightingale Symposium took place in Utrecht, on the theme “Careful, Contagious. Nursing Infectious Diseases (1890-2018)”. The afternoon was opened with a lecture by Dr. Alice Juch on the fatal consequences of tuberculosis and the role of the district nurse in fighting these. Consecutively, Nannie Wiegman gave a lecture about the nursing of victims of the Spanish flu in 1918-1919. Due to the neutral position of the Netherlands during the First World War, many prisoners of war lived in proximity. Therefore, the Spanish flu was particularly virulent. Who did nurse this great number of diseased, how did they go about their task and were they successful? After that, there was a lecture by Hugo Schalkwijk on the nursing of AIDS patients. Dr. Floor Haalboom, historian of science, closed the day with illnesses that are nowadays transferred from animal to human, and how nursing will have to prepare itself of further disasters.

On 8 March, International Women’s Day, the FNI organised a “Who is who” in which we, with many FNI friends, studied old photographs, photo books and scrap books. In this way, much knowledge could be recorded and added to the collection.

On 4 October, King Willem Alexander opened an exhibition about historic Dutch women at the Amsterdam Museum. The FNI had arranged for 6 nurses to be represented and supplied



photos and objects of these nurses. A book was published, and a website was launched. In October, we also celebrated the 25th anniversary of the FNI. On this occasion, we published a

Picture 2: A nurse at the Wilhelmina Hospital in Assen, 1962

top 25 of prominent Dutch nurses, each with a singular achievement. The Top 25 can be inspected here: <https://www.fni.nl/top-25>

Poland – Central Historical Commission in Cooperation with The Main Board of Polish Nurses Association

by *Krystyna Wolska-Lipiec and Małgorzata Marcysiak*

The Main Historical Commission has been operating at the

Main Board of the Polish Nursing Association for 56 years. It gathers enthusiasts and historians of medicine/nursing. They are scientists and practitioners. A large group are retired nurses/teachers, but also young nurses. For all, the overarching goal is to disseminate knowledge about the history of nursing with emphasis on the humanistic role of the profession.

The year 2018 was special due to the 100th anniversary of regaining independence by Poland and nurse Hanna Chrzanowska's beatification. The Commission took many initiatives and worked very intensively. Members of the Committee, especially its President, Krystyna Wolska-Lipiec, participated in the preparations for the beatification of the Blessed Hanna Chrzanowska. The ceremony took place on April 28, 2018 in Kraków-Łagiewniki and gathered over 20 000 people. She also participated in the recording of the film about Blessed Hanna.

One of the new initiatives were the participation at the Night of Museums. On May 19 from 18.00 to 0.00 the Central Archives of Polish Nursing was visited by 107 people. The exhibition contained nursing costumes from the 19th and early 20th centuries. An important element was the presentation of first nursing schools in Poland. Valuable exhibits were nursing textbooks and the first magazine "Polish Nurse" and instruments reaching back to the beginning of nursing and showing the dynamics of changes in the performance of nursing procedures and also the exhibition "Polish nurses in the struggle for independence".

A historical event was the signing of a cooperation agreement between the Historical Commission and the Warsaw District Nurses and Midwives Association on October 25, 2018. It concerned the joint creation of the Museum of the History of Polish Nursing, whose first exhibition will take place at the end of January 2019.

Until November this year 7 meetings of the Commission were held during which the current work was evaluated, and tasks were assigned. The collections were enriched with subsequent archives.

The Commission continuously promotes nursing history among nursing students by conducting educational activities.



The exhibition "Polish nurses in the struggle for independence" (From left: Krystyna Wolska-Lipiec, Barbara Kaliwoda, Maria Kocent, Grażyna Gierczak, Monika Mrowicka), Source: Collections of Grażyna Gierczak

The exhibition was also presented on September 15-18 during the 14th Congress of Polish Nurses in Kielce and on November 11 during the celebration of regaining independence.

Very intensive work was carried out on the further development of documents and historical materials and their dissemination.

K. Wolska-Lipiec published works in the magazine "Nurse and Midwives Magazine" (in six issues) and in the bulletin "Impuls" issued by Historical Commission and the Warsaw District Nurses and Midwives Association.

Members of the Commission participated actively in scientific conferences – nationwide and international, among others organized by the Museum of the History of Medicine of the Warsaw Medical University, the Polish Academy of Sciences, and the State Higher Vocational School in Ciechanów. A special event was the International Scientific Conference "The Medicine of the Polish Borderland of the Second Polish Republic" organized by the Institute of the History of Science of the Polish Academy of Sciences, under the direction of Prof. Bożena Urbanek.



Night of Museums (Krystyna Wolska-Lipiec with visitors), Source: Collections of Dorota Jacyna

(www.wmpp.org.pl) are also systematically enriched. It enjoys great interest of Internet users, as evidenced by an increasing number of visits to the site and rich correspondence.

Collections of the Virtual Museum of Polish Nursing (www.wmpp.org.pl) are also systematically enriched. It enjoys great interest of Internet users, as evidenced by an increasing number of visits to the site and rich correspondence.

The Commission continues to cooperate with scientific societies, universities and other organizations.

Plans for 2019:

- organization of the exhibition of the history of nursing at the headquarters of the Warsaw District Nurses and Midwives Association
- reprint of the oldest Nurse Poland magazine,
- dissemination of history among nurses,
- digitization of collections.

Spain – Associació Febe d’Història d’Infermeria de Llengua Catalana

by *María Eugenia Galiana*

The Associació Febe d’Història d’Infermeria de Llengua Catalana was officially constituted on May 29th of 2017, although its history began in 2004, as a group of nursing history researchers from Catalonia, Balearic Islands, Andorra and other territories. The Association was originally led by Dr. Roser Valls Molins, the first nursing professor of the University of Barcelona. The current leader is Dr. Anna Ramió. The fundamental goal of the Association is to consolidate nursing history in the environment of education and research, and develop its remit into other disciplinary and social areas. Since its establishment it has had a very productive career with multiple publications, research and dissemination projects and attendance to scientific meetings and conferences of national and international scope.



Authors of the book: "Les infermeres en l'atemptat del 17A. Històries de solidaritat i professionalitat"

For the members of Febe, 2018 has been a singular year, with events that have left their marks in their reflexion about what “being a nurse” means, and about what studying the nurses’ history connotes. On the one hand, the terrorist attacks in Barcelona and Cambrils in August of 2017 have left a significant mark in their research. A team of researchers analysed the experience of the nurses who had cared for the victims of these attacks. This study, coordinated by Dr. María del Carmen Olivé, was funded by San Juan de Dios- Campus Docent Editions and counted on the Universidad de Barcelona’s grant. Thanks to this research the book “Les infermeres en l’atemptat del 17A. Històries de solidaritat i professionalitat” was published, whose first edition was solidary for the Unity of Assistance and Valoration of Victims of Terrorist Attacks (UAVAT). The results of this research were presented in various forums of scientific discussion.

On the other hand, the celebration of the 16th National and 11th International Conference of Nursing History of Palma de Mallorca (Spain) from October 29th to 31st, has also been a very important event in which Febe’s members have participated actively. The President of the organizing committee was Dr. Gloria Gallego and the rest of the members of the association have collaborated by participating in the scientific and organizing committees, working as moderators, presenting papers and communications or giving workshops. As a parallel activity to the celebration of the Conference, on October 26th the exhibition “Enfermeras en la Memoria. La fuerza invisible de una profesión” (Nurses in the past. The invisible strength of a profession) was inaugurated. Dr. Gloria Gallego was also the curator of this exhibition, its success was marked by the numerous visitors during the conference.

A very important result of the research developed in Palma has been the publication of the book “Poder e influencia de las enfermeras en la Historia” (Power and Influence of nurses in history, available at:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EEA1xt2sgnhvSFSN509RsA2hdkwP8VjT/view>

Members of Febe participate as well in other research projects, like “Past and present in the control of poverty diseases: the historical example of the mediterranean Europe and the international cooperation”, funded by the Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness. In this project, the Dr. María Eugenia Galiana leads the line “Health education in the fight against poverty diseases: health visitors and the importance of the profilactic barrier”, whose goal is to deepen in the analysis of the role of the public health nurses during the Interwar period. This project allows publish papers in the international area.

Another very interesting project has been the one who has highlighted the nurses’ role during the last Francoism period and the democratic transition. The book “Pioneer Nurses in Catalonia. From Francoism to democracy”, published by Anna Ramió, Carmen Torres, Amelia Guilera, Roser Valls, Paola Galbany, Lydia Fernandez and Montse Fabra, shows the results of this research.

Other scientific activities are the direction of doctoral theses, the participation in publishing committees of national and international journals, the papers presented in History of Medicine Conferences, psychiatry or other health sciences, and as well the activities of scientific discussion and analysis developed in seminars, or interviews in mass media.



Exhibition “Enfermeras en la Memoria. La fuerza invisible de una profesión” (Nurses in the past. The invisible strength of a profession)

Switzerland – Swiss Society for the History of Health and Nursing

“Bads” in the History and Ethics of Healthcare: report from the European Conference in Winterthur, Switzerland (21-22.06.2018)

by Sabina Roth

It was a great pleasure for the Committee of the Swiss Society for the History of Health and Nursing (GPG-HSS) to prepare and host the Conference “Bads” in Healthcare. Almost fifty speakers, chairs and participants from Belgium, Bulgaria, Finland, Germany, Israel, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, the UK and the USA assembled in the lecture hall of the School of Health (Zurich University for Applied Sciences). They were welcomed by Alexander Gerber-Grote, head of the school of health, by Michael Künzle, Mayor of Winterthur, and by the author of this small report in her role as president of the GPG-HSS and of the Conference Committee.

The Conference was opened by the keynote lecture of Karen Nolte (Heidelberg University). She brought to mind the ethos of nursing care that was developed by the German deaconesses. Along with their interpretation a stream of Christian nursing discourse laid a fundament that was passed on from the long 19th century to the recent past continuously reformed by bourgeois women’s role, medicalization and professionalization. Within this constant pursuits of “goods” nurses reflected on “bads” in the care they practiced. In the first two panels scholars approached negative experiences in sources such as letters, novels, articles, demands, complaints or accusations of patients, spouses or other family members as well as of charity ladies, physicians and hospital directors. In the next two panels the papers focused on the effects of political or medical power on the notions of “bads” and “goods” in care. Christine E. Hallett (University of Huddersfield) gave her keynote lecture on the second morning of the Conference. She analyzed how British nurses dealt with the dilemma that occurred during World War I when patriotic feelings collided with the humanitarian nursing concepts. In the panels scholars unravelled how extreme times affected and politicized the work of nurses and midwives. The contributions in the last panel explored the impacts of public health concepts on care and nurses. To summarize a first result of the Conference: One part of the papers have given evidence that through time, health professions as well as medical

institutions have developed mechanisms for dealing with individual and/or collective negative experiences. Such processes of articulating, noticing and understanding “bads” gave impetus to button up reforms. The other part of the papers led to a kind of disillusion: Historians met many difficulties to tackle experienced “bads” in healthcare; even if concerned people addressed them outspokenly, they were eventually not perceived or even silenced. Instead, reforms in healthcare were executed top down. The impetus came from the powerful “better” concepts that created new “bads” in healthcare and a continuity in the lack of awareness for negative experiences.



Before the walk to the Conference Dinner at the Restaurant Goldenberg: Nursing and Healthcare Historians in front of the Winterthur City Hall (Photo: Mathilde Hackmann, June 2018)

“Bads” in Healthcare. Negative Experience as an Impetus to Reforms in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries, European Conference, 21-22.06.2018, Winterthur, Switzerland. Programme and all Abstracts can be downloaded at: www.gpg-hss.ch

United Kingdom –The UK Association for the History of Nursing (UKAHN)

by Sue Hawkins

UK Association of the History of Nursing Colloquium 2018: University of Chester

The UK Association for the History of Nursing's 2018 Colloquium was held at University of Chester on a glorious summer day in July. It was extremely well attended with a pleasing mix of 'old' and 'new' faces. A number of themes ran through the programme, starting with the First World War. Sue Hawkins' (Kingston University) paper was set in Holmfirth and investigated the role and work of VAD nurses in a small hospital in this northern outpost. The paper challenged us to question the stereotypical image of VADs, as well-born and well-educated and represented by women such as Vera Brittain. Helena da Silva (IHC-FCSH-Nova, Lisbon) reviewed attempts by the Crusade of Portuguese Women to establish a nursing corps within the Portuguese army after Germany had declared war on Portugal in March 1916. Further information on her research can be found at <https://healthcaregreatwar.wordpress.com>. Keiron Spires (QARANC Association Heritage Committee) and Jack Potter (QARANC) gave the final paper in this section, presenting an interesting comparison of diary writings of British and German Military Nurses. What emerged were the commonalities, such as caring for very young soldiers and the emotional pull this provoked.



**The UK Association for
the History of Nursing**

The second strand of the meeting focussed on the influence of the media and technology on the profession of nursing. The journal *Source* was used by Séverine Pilloud and Cécilia Bovet (HESAV, Lausanne) to follow the debates around the battle for an 8-hour day in 1930's Switzerland; while Catherine Sharples (University of Malta) investigated the impact of medical technology on the professionalisation of nursing in Malta, where the limitations of a small island with only one hospital become increasingly apparent. Professionalisation of nursing in Malta, she concluded, was more influenced by external forces than the nurses themselves.

Sarah Chaney (Queen Mary University of London/Royal College of Nursing) introduced a card game, 'Mind-Boggling Medical History', devised as an educational resource, to help students unravel the complexities of healthcare. Further information can be found at www.mbmh.web.ox.ac.uk.

After a splendid lunch, Kay Nias (University of Exeter) explored the rise of physiotherapy and physiotherapists, at the expense of

nurses. Her research is based on records of the Society of Trained Masseuses and has demonstrated how nursing lost out to the newly emerging profession, as physiotherapy became more in demand post-WWI. Paul Horan (Trinity College Dublin) gave an entertaining presentation about Belinda Kearns, founder of the Irish Nurses Association and (with others) of the Flanna Fail political party. She played a significant role in both the development of the Irish State and Irish nursing.

A final theme examined the over-looked pre-Nightingale nurses. Erin Spinney (Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine, Oxford) discussed the controversial decision to employ women as nurses on British hospital ships during the Napoleonic Wars; while Alannah Tomkins (University of Keele) presented findings from her research into experience and reputation in infirmary and hospital nurses before 1820. Perhaps not surprisingly, her work is casting doubt on the stereotype of drunken and incompetent nurse (as popularised by Dickens).

Helen Sweet closed the Colloquium by summarising the day and pointed to resonances between the unknown future faced at the end of WW1 and the uncertainties we face today. The need for humanitarian nursing has never been greater, she pointed out, introducing this as the main topic for our next Colloquium, which will be held in Cirencester on 5 July 2019 (<http://ukahn.org/wp/ukahn-colloquium-2019/>).



Please find the Call for Papers here: <http://ukahn.org/wp/2018/10/23/call-for-abstracts-ukahn-colloquium-2019/>

Particular thanks were given the large number of volunteers from the Riverside Museum, who provided much needed cakes and scones!



The European Association for the History of Nursing (EAHN)

The European Association for the History of Nursing (EAHN) was established 2012 to promote development and advancement of Nursing History through scholarly work and public outreach. The Association brings individuals and associations together in order to provide mutual support and opportunities for collaboration.

The purpose of the Association is to provide a European focus for the development of the discipline of Nursing History. It has three aims:

- To promote scholarly work in the Nursing History, by providing a mutually supportive network of individuals working in the field and by creating opportunities for direct collaboration on significant research projects.
- To promote the public understanding of Nursing History, by supporting initiatives for public engagement.
- To gain recognition for the discipline of Nursing History throughout the European region.

The Association has a federal structure. Constituent member associations are autonomous and self-governing. A constituent association may be administered through an academic centre, a scholarly society or an interest group. Each constituent association will be eligible to send at least one member to a European Coordinating Committee.

The membership comprises individuals who are members of a constituent association. The membership is intended to be inclusive. Members may be nurses or non-nurses, and might or might not hold an appointment in a recognised academic institution. An individual from any part of the world may join any of the constituent associations, and thereby become a member of the EAHN.

EAHN member associations (and contact email addresses)

Austria: *Historical nursing research in Austria* (golla@pflege-professionell.de)

Denmark: *The Danish Society of Nursing History* (s-malchau@mail.tele.dk)

Finland: *Finnish Association for History of Nursing Science* (irja.savolainen@saunalathi.fi)

Germany: *German Association for the History of Nursing (Fachgesellschaft Pflegegeschichte)* (kreutzer@fh-muenster.de)

Germany: *The Historical Nursing Research Section of the German Society for Nursing Science* (thiekoetter@fliedner-fachhochschule.de)

Ireland: *The Irish Association for the History of Nursing and Midwifery* (gerard.fealey@ucd.ie)

Israel: *The Israeli Society for the History of Nursing (ISHN)* (nirabartal@gmail.com)

Italy: *Italian Nurses' Association with a Nursing History Group, CNAI (Consociazione nazionale delle Associazioni infermiere/i)* (latorretintori@gmail.com)

Netherlands: *Dutch Centre for Nursing History: Florence Nightingale Instituut* (nwiegman@fni.nl)

Norway: *The Norwegian Association for the History of Nursing* (ashild.fause@uit.no)

Poland: *Museum and Archive for Polish Nursing History at the Polish Nurses Association* (zgptpiel@gmail.com)

Spain: *Qalat Chábir. Asociación Cultural para el Estudio de las Humanidades* (hiades@arrakis.es)

Spain: *Associació Febe d'Història d'Infermeria de Llengua Catalana* (galiana@ua.es)

Sweden: *The Swedish Society of Nursing (Svensk sjuksköterskeförening)* (catherine.jacobson@umu.se)

Switzerland: *Swiss Society for the History of Health and Nursing* (gpg@gpg-hss.ch)

United Kingdom: *The UK Association for the History of Nursing* (webmaster@ukahn.eu)

EAHN Coordinating Committee

The Coordinating Committee consists of delegates from the member association. The committee meet at least once per year.

EAHN Coordinating Committee elected officers

President Prof Dr Christine Hallett, UK (Christine.Hallett@manchester.ac.uk)

Secretary Dr Gerard Fealy, Ireland (gerard.fealy@ucd.ie)

Communications Officer Prof Dr Karen Nolte, Germany (karen.nolte@histmed.uni-heidelberg.de)

EAHN Bulletin

The annually EAHN Bulletin is published on the EAHN web page. Editor of the Bulletin is Prof Dr Karen Nolte, Germany (karen.nolte@histmed.uni-heidelberg.de)

EAHN webpage

The EAHN webpage <http://www.eahn.eu> is managed by webmaster Keiron Spire, UK: keiron@britisharmynurses.com

EAHN Twitter account

The EAHN Twitter account [EAHN@HistNursingEU](https://twitter.com/EAHN@HistNursingEU) is edited by Dr Anja Peters, Germany (pflugewirtin@web.de)

Membership

If your association would like to affiliate with the EAHN please contact EAHN president Prof Dr Christine Hallett, UK (Christine.Hallett@manchester.ac.uk). There are no fees for membership.

EAHN meeting 2019

The UK Association for the History of Nursing is hosting the EAHN Coordinating Committees annual meeting in Cirencester, UK on Saturday 6th of July 2019, 10.00 to 1.30 in the Friends' Meeting House. Further information will be provided via email.

CALL FOR PAPERS: UKAHN COLLOQUIUM 2019 - HISTORIES OF HUMANITARIAN NURSING

The Friends' Meeting House, Cirencester, United Kingdom, 5th July, 2019

The UK Association for the History of Nursing is hosting a one-day colloquium on 5th July, 2019, in collaboration with the European Association for the History of Nursing. The theme will be 'Histories of Humanitarian Nursing', but abstracts on other subjects related to nursing and healthcare history will be welcomed and considered. Selected papers will be presented at the Colloquium, and then further reviewed for possible publication in the 2019 issue of the Bulletin of the UK Association for the History of Nursing, or the 2020 issue of the European Journal for Nursing History and Ethics.

Colloquium Theme: Humanitarian Nursing

Nursing, as an occupation committed to the relief of suffering, may be said to be a humanitarian endeavour. However, the notion of the 'humanitarian nurse' is a contested concept, embedded in a colonial past dominated by powerful religious, political and military interests. Even the introduction of non-governmental organisations in the twentieth century, arguably, only replaced these power-bases with new sources of vested interest.

Although the organisers will be pleased to receive research-based papers on any theme relating to the history of nursing, we are particularly interested in bringing together works that critically interrogate the claim that nursing exists only to relieve suffering; analyse the notion of the 'humanitarian nurse' from a historical perspective; and locate the contribution of nursing within wider humanitarian debates.

A deeper understanding of nursing's historic roles and activities can help inform the current global debate on how to meet the unprecedented demands for humanitarian assistance. Although nurses remain the largest frontline healthcare providers in humanitarian and global health projects, the voice of nursing was marginalized in the debates that culminated in the World Humanitarian Summit in May 2016. Recovering nurses' historical narratives may inform current requirements for nurses' education, and their preparation for, and recovery from humanitarian deployment. Attention to the history of humanitarian nursing will enable present-day leaders to protect nurses' wellbeing, security, and effectiveness in the multiplicity of roles and responsibilities that far exceed mere technical competency. It is intended that the Colloquium will help inform not only the debates enveloping humanitarian nursing's conflicted historic role but also its contemporary challenges in navigating a global system where the concept of humanitarian space is increasingly under attack.

Abstracts

Abstracts should be no more than 300 words in length. In-text references are welcomed, but a reference list is not required. Please do not include footnotes or endnotes. Please ensure that your abstract includes information on: the background to your project; the methods used; your findings; and a discussion and conclusion. 'Works in progress' are welcomed; in these cases, the inclusion of 'preliminary findings' is sufficient. Please forward your abstract to: webmaster@ukahn.org

Deadline: 31 January, 2019