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B.C. HISTORY OF NURSING SOCIETY NEWS

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HONORING NINA RUMEN

At the luncheon on November 14, 2009 the B.C. History of Nursing Society honored Nina Rumen for her devotion and dedication to the History Group.

A Memorial Portrait Doll will be added to the history group collection. Nina will dedicate the doll to a portrait of her choice.

Even before the history group was founded, she was active in the collection of Oral History tapes for the RNABC's 75th Anniversary. Nina was the group's first treasurer and has served on many of its committees. She also served with great distinction on the planning committee and as treasurer for the successful International History of Nursing Conference in 1997. As well, she has been active with the B.C. Registered Nurses Foundation, the St. Paul's School of Nursing Alumnae, and the Nursing Sisters Association of Canada. Nina's colleagues appreciate and enjoy her enthusiasm and know that as "one of the world's workers" she gets things done.

Continued from page 1

Nina was born in 1927 in what was then Poland, and which is now Belarus. When Nina was age 2 (1930), she "brought her mother to Canada" to join her father, who had immigrated earlier to the Fernie/Cranbrook area of B.C. She is the eldest of four surviving daughters.

She graduated from St. Paul's Hospital School of Nursing in Vancouver in 1949. She joined the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps in 1951. Her military career took her to Churchill Manitoba (1952-54) when Canada's north was opening up. From here she went to Iserholme Germany with the British Army of the Rhine, then to Lahr Germany. She served with NATO from 1970-72.

Nina completed her Bachelor of Nursing from the University of Toronto. Following retirement from the services, she moved to Vancouver, where she worked on short-term contracts with various agencies.

Nina, in addition to being enthusiastic, energetic, warm, friendly, hard-working, honest, bright, happy (and other positive attributes), can also be described as "feisty". She loves a challenge and will battle for what she believes is right no matter what the odds. In 2006, the history group mounted the Florence Nightingale opera thanks to Nina's belief and determination. She has enriched our group and our lives - this tribute is well deserved.



Hand crafted miniature doll, created by Sheila Zerr, and dressed in the street uniform of the WWI nursing sister. This consisted of the brass buttoned navy blue serge jacket and skirt, the veil used for working occasions and the navy blue felt hat for outside wear.

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NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Diana Bright, Beth Fitzpatrick, Naomi Miller, Ethel Warbinek, Lynne Esson and Sheila Zerr (co-chairs).

The BC History of Nursing Society Newsletter is published 4 times Per year. Submissions are welcome. Deadline for the Spring Issue is March 15, 2010. Please send submissions to:

Sheila Zerr: srzerr@telus.net.



President's Message

BY KATHY MURPHY, PRESIDENT

Best wishes to all as we commence this New Year. It is a pleasure to report that the History of Nursing Society had a very busy time in 2009 with the many activities that the various committees carry out.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE DECEMBER, 2009 MEETING ARE:

>>> The meeting dates at the CRNBC have been confirmed for: Monday February 1 (due to other bookings and the Olympic impact), Thursdays on March 11, April 8 (AGM), June 10, September 9, October 14, and December 9. The meetings are held from 4-6pm and the AGM will probably be a supper meeting. Any member is most welcome to attend.

>>> After many years as the Chair of the Newsletter Committee, Beth Fitzpatrick will be stepping down from this position. Sincere appreciation is extended to Beth for the many hours she has put in to this role. She has agreed to continue on the Committee. We are thankful that Lynne Esson and Sheila Zerr have agreed to Co-Chair this Committee.

>>> Michelle Curran, our new Archivist, has been very busy learning her new role and assisting with the archival activities.

>>> The fall luncheon, arranged by Lenore Radom, was attended by 28 guests who enjoyed hearing of Genelle Liefso's volunteer international work.

>>> Scholarship awards were given to Nerrisa Bonifacio and Charlene Ronquillo.

>>> News of previous recipients was also shared. Rosalyn Choi has completed her study of The History of Deinstitutionalization and the Emergence of Survivor Groups and Jennifer Dunlop's study of Nursing and Anaesthesia: Historical Developments was published in the Canadian Operating Room Nursing Journal in June 2009.

>>> Genelle Liefso reported that the membership for 2009 was 135 members. Genelle will be stepping down from her position as the Membership Chair as she has been appointed to a 2 year position on the Canadian Network for International Surgery. *A sincere thank you is extended to Genelle for all her efforts to encourage membership.*

>>> It was agreed that our Society should support the work being done by the volunteers who have created the Registered Nurses Network of BC. *(See upcoming article in the Spring Newsletter)*

WELCOME TO: MICHELLE CURRAN, ARCHIVIST!

Michelle Curran is a recent graduate of the School of Library, Archival, and Information Studies at the University of British Columbia. She graduated with a Master of Archival Studies and a Master of Library and Information Studies in May 2009.

Before joining BCHNS, Michelle consulted for West Coast Environmental Law in the areas of library, archives, and records management. While completing her studies, she also held various positions at the UBC Archives, J.R. Allison Library at Regent College, and the Anglican Church Archives.

Michelle returned to university after working as a technical writer for Macrovision Corporation, InstallShield Software Corporation, and 3Com Corporation. This Chicago native enjoys classic films, comfort food, and perusing used bookstores for hidden gems. She resides in Vancouver with her husband Jim.



Editor's Desk

BY BETH FITZPATRICK, EDITOR

It's always a pleasure to recognize nurses who have served Canada in the military. Seven former Nursing Officers (WWII and post-war Force or Reserves) were honoured guests at the BC History of Nursing Society November luncheon. You will enjoy reading the tribute to Nina Rumen (written by Sheila Zerr) which celebrates Nina's many contributions to the Society. Well done, Nina!

Just before Remembrance Day Barbara Bavinton sent us a touching story of a British Columbia nurse who served in World War I. For a short time the story was posted on our web site. We hope you will enjoy reading this fascinating story of *Christina Campbell: The Tragedy of the Llandoverly Castle*.

BCHNS membership chair, Genelle Leifso, spoke at the luncheon on *Leaving a Legacy: Humanitarian and Development Opportunities for Perioperative Nurses*. Excerpts from her presentation will be included in the next issue. Congratulations to Genelle on her appointment to a 2 year position on the Canadian Network for International Surgery.

This is a reminder that memberships for 2010 are now due. Just print or cut out the *Membership Renewal Page* from this newsletter and follow the directions. We value each and every member's contribution to the Society in these ever changing times and look forward to your continued support.

Thanks to all our readers for their many contributions to the Newsletter over the past years. I have thoroughly enjoyed the challenges of being chair of this committee and now pass the leadership on to co-chairs Lynne Esson and Sheila Zerr. I'm looking forward to new challenges and adventures ahead



**"I AM LOOKING
FORWARD TO
NEW CHALLENGES
AND ADVENTURES
AHEAD."**

Mark your calendar!

- >>> **Feb 1, BCHNS Exec Meeting**, 4-6 PM, CRNBC.
- >>> **February 5-6, Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing 15th Annual Ethel Johns Research Day**, St. Paul's Hospital.
- >>> **April 8, 2010, BCHNS Annual General Meeting**, CRNBC, Arbutus Street, Vancouver. *Details to be announced.*
- >>> **April 10, 2010, The Women's History Network of BC sponsors a Women's History Fair**, Vancouver Public Library, Georgia Street.
- >>> **June 18-20, 2010, CAHN/ACHN Annual Meeting**, Winnipeg
www.umanitoba.ca/nursing/CAHNconference2010
NOTE: EXTENDED CALL: DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS OF PROPOSALS EXTENDED TO Feb 1, 2010.
- >>> **Sept 14-16, 2010, International Perspectives on Nursing History, London England**. Conference sponsored by the European Nursing History Group (ENHG) and the American Association for the History of Nursing. (For abstract information, visit www.nursesvoices.org.uk/conference)

NURSING SISTERS ATTEND LUNCHEON



THESE SEVEN WORLD WAR II NURSING SISTERS HONORED US WITH THEIR PRESENCE AT THE BC HISTORY OF NURSING SOCIETY NOVEMBER LUNCHEON. From left to right are: Nina Rumen, Helen Niskala, June Newton, Joan Doree, Moya Jack, Shirley Riddalls and seated is Rosamond Watson. (Photo by Lenore Radom)

CHRISTINA CAMPBELL: THE TRAGEDY OF THE LLANDOVERY CASTLE

BY BARBARA BAVINTON

Christina Campbell left her native home in Inverness, Scotland and sailed to Victoria, British Columbia in 1893, when she was just 16 years old. Leaving her three sisters and parents, she travelled to the home of her brother Angus who owned a ladies wear shop on Broughton Street in Victoria. Four years later in 1897 she graduated from the Royal Jubilee Hospital School of Nursing as a graduate nurse.

In 1915 Christina was a member of the Army reservists when she enlisted in the Canadian Army Medical Corps (CAMC) as a Nursing Sister with the Canadian Over-Seas Expeditionary Force. She completed her army medical examination in Esquimalt, BC, the Matron-in-Chief MacDonald signed her attestation papers and on September 6th, 1915 Christina arrived in London for four weeks of training before she was deployed.

Prior to the outbreak of the First World War there were just five permanent nurses in the CAMC and 57 in the reserves. By 1917 there were 2030 nurses with 1886 serving overseas. Nurses recruited for the Nursing Service were required to be single, in good health, and have a nursing diploma from a recognized school. They received 4 to 6 weeks of training at the Halifax Military Hospital followed by an oral and written exam. Priority was given to those nurses who, like Christina, already had some military training.

When Christina arrived in London she had her kit of blue dresses and white veils, her duty boots, cape, and a few personal belongings. She joined other Canadian "Bluebirds" as they awaited their assignments. The nursing sisters received C\$50 per month in salary and an additional field allowance when away from home, and at that time were the only women in any armed forces to hold officer rank. Nursing Sister Christina Campbell had her pay assigned to the Bank of Montreal in London, had written her will, assigned David Miller as her executor, and bid her family goodbye. She was well prepared for active duty in the war effort.

She did not have to wait long as In October 1915 she was assigned to the #2 Canadian General Hospital (CGH) in France. A tent hospital of over 1,000 beds it had just been

set up just 6 months before and had consistently coped with a heavy patient load since opening its doors. As many as 500 soldiers could arrive in a convoy and all had to be received, diagnosed, and allocated to wards with minimal delay. The work was relentless and the conditions challenging.

By mid November Christina was transferred back to London and then on to the #5 CGH of the medical evacuation force, where she worked ferrying the wounded to hospitals in England until June 1916, when she disembarked on the Du-luce Castle to Salonica, Malta. This assignment was cut short

when she became ill and was invalided back to England with neurasthenia and insomnia. After a year of active service and several months of continuous night duty and heat, Christina was ill and debilitated, so she was admitted to the Kings Cross Canadian Red Cross Convalescent Hospital in Bushey Park, London to regain her strength before returning to the #5 CGH and more medical evacuation work.

In August 1917 Christina was moved yet again to the Eye and Ear Hospital in Westcliffe in the UK, where she stayed until March 1918 when she was posted to transport duty on the Canadian hospital ship the Llandovery Castle. Hospital ship assignment was considered an easy posting and was often given as a reward to overworked nurses. The assignment entailed caring for

the injured soldiers who were being shipped home to Halifax for convalescence, further medical attention, or medical discharge. On the return journey the Canadian doctors and nurses could enjoy the relaxing sea voyage under the hospital ship lights and designation, which by international agreement, protected them from enemy attack. After 2 1/2 years of active war service Christina probably looked forward to the slower pace of hospital ship life.

The Llandovery Castle had been assigned to the Canadian Government in early 1917 and had completed 4 voyages in which she had carried 3,223 sick and wounded soldiers back to Halifax, Nova Scotia. The ship carried the full lighting and Red Cross insignia which designated hospital ships and in accordance with the 10th Hague Convention the name of the



vessel had been communicated to the enemy powers. From that time on the ship had been used exclusively for transportation of the sick and wounded. The hospital ships had bunk beds stacked to the ceiling and the Canadian Nursing Sisters worked on schedules that were like those of any active hospital. They did dressings, ensured their patients were pain-free and comfortable, assisted the physicians with surgical procedures when necessary, and generally helped the injured soldiers to manage the voyage and prepare for their homecoming. Christina Campbell was one of fourteen Canadian nurses on board the Llandoverly Castle when she made her last voyage in June 1918.

Having dispatched 644 military patients in Halifax on June 17, 1918, the Llandoverly Castle commenced her return voyage to Liverpool on June 20th. She was just 114 miles off the coast of Ireland with all lights ablaze, when at 9:30 pm on the clear evening of June 27th, 1918, she was torpedoed by a German submarine. Most of the medical personnel had not retired for the night so when the ship suddenly lost her lights and power and the order was received to evacuate, they quickly crossed the sloping decks to the life boat stations. The listing ship made their passage difficult but the fourteen nurses entered their life boat with Sergeant Knight, a non-commissioned officer of the CAMC, and a crew of eight men. The boat was quickly loaded and lowered to the water where Sergeant Knight had great difficulty cutting the ropes that bound them to the ship and had to use the oars to prevent the small boat from smashing into the sides of the rapidly sinking ship. Finally, with broken oars and loosened ropes, their life boat started to

bly toward the whirlpool caused by the submerged afterdeck. Nursing Sister Margaret Fraser turned to the sergeant and asked if there was any hope for them, to which the helpless sergeant answered "no". Christina Campbell and her fourteen comrades, some in nightdresses and all in life-belts, sat quietly as their boat was sucked into the whirlpool and they were all tipped out into the maelstrom. The sole survivor, Sergeant Knight was submerged and surfaced several times, and later reported never seeing any of the nurses again. The Llandoverly Castle had been torpedoed by a German submarine and went down within ten minutes of being struck, however every survivor of the explosion had been successfully loaded into life-boats.

Sergeant Knight was later rescued from the sea by a lifeboat carrying the ship's Captain, Major Lyon a medical officer, and four other survivors of the hospital ship. The German submarine was then seen to surface and move among the wreckage ramming into surviving lifeboats and firing shells from its large guns. Over the next two hours the Germans repeatedly fired on the survivors as the captain's boat attempted to rescue as many as possible from the wreckage. The submarine appeared beside the Captain's boat and there was a revolver shot and a call to come alongside at once. The German commander then accused the Captain of the Llandoverly Castle of carrying American flying officers and ammunition. The Captain and Major Lyon replied that "it was purely a hospital ship and that we never carried ammunition at any time". They were ordered back to the lifeboat when the submarine came alongside a second time and took the second and third officers on

board for questioning. After returning them to the lifeboat the submarine then proceeded to move at full speed toward the small craft, missing a collision with it by less than two feet. The Captain and crew were frantically rowing away from the area when they heard multiple explosions as the submarine crew continued to fire on the few remaining survivors as they cruised a zig-zag course through the wreckage. The sole surviving lifeboat floated in the sea until it was picked up over 36 hours later by a British destroyer. Of the 258 crew and medical staff aboard, including the 14 nursing sisters, most escaped the sinking, but only 24 survived the further attacks from the German U-86.

At just 40 years of age and after almost three years of active wartime service with the CAMC, Nursing Sister Christina Campbell was declared missing and presumed drowned on June 27th 1918.

The sinking of the hospital ship the Llandoverly Castle caused a stir around the world and was the topic of heated discussion in both the British and Canadian parliaments. Sensational editorials describing the German's actions were published to international disbelief and general condemnation. A poster depicting a drowned nurse being supported in the water by

The "Llandoverly Castle" Lifeboat Murders.



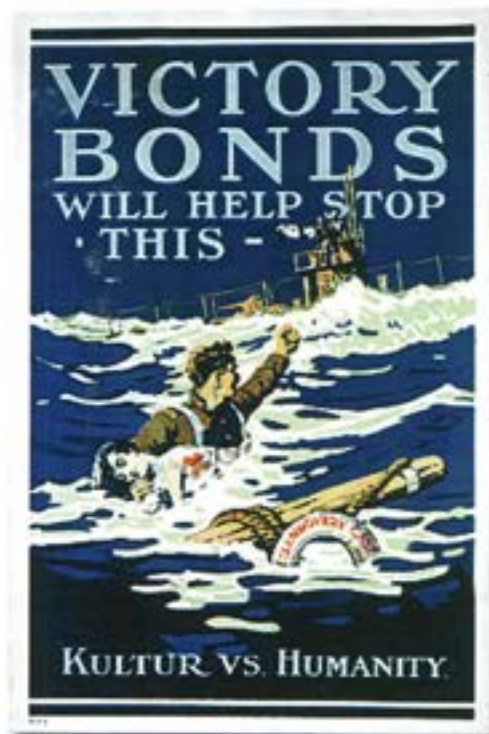
How the Huns Massacred nearly 200 of our British Seamen Comrades, Red Cross Nurses, and Staff.

Picture supplied by, copyrighted, and published by F. S. Lockwood, Agents, Bristol, England.

drift away just as the Llandoverly Castle slipped beneath the water. Without oars the small craft started to drift uncontrolla-

a valiant Canadian soldier shaking his fist at a nearby German submarine, was used to advertise Victory Bonds. After the signing of the Treaty of the Peace at Versailles in 1919 the case of the Llandovery Castle was one of six British cases presented at the Leipzig trials. In the absence of the submarine's commanding officer (who had disappeared after the war), the two surviving officers of the German U-86 were found to share in the responsibility for the killing of the Llandovery Castle personnel and received sentences for their crimes as accessories. Major Lyon had given evidence that one of the German officers had quietly warned him to "clear off at once" as he was leaving the interrogation on board the submarine, giving the impression that perhaps not all of the officers were in agreement with their commander's actions. However both officers declined to give any evidence during the trial and received their sentence stoically.

Christina Campbell's name is commemorated in the First World War Book of Remembrance held in Ottawa, just one of the 45 nurses who lost their lives in that conflict. She was one of the 3,141 Nursing sisters who served with the CAMC during the First World War and one of the 2,504 who served overseas. Together they cared for 540,000 soldiers and wrote countless letters to the families of those patients they lost. Her name is also inscribed on the Halifax Memorial in Nova Scotia's capital. Standing in Point Pleasant Park, the 12 metre high Cross of Sacrifice is visible to all ships approaching the Halifax Harbour. It stands as a memorial to the over 3000 Canadian men and women who lost their lives at sea in the service of their country during the two world conflicts.



"THEIR GRAVES ARE
UNKNOWN BUT THEIR
MEMORY SHALL
ENDURE."

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CHARITY BEGINS AT HOME!

Were you aware that the BC History of Nursing Society has a charitable tax status?

Donations can be given to help support the ongoing collection and preservation of the archives and artifacts and/or to the Scholarship account that twice a year presents financial assistance to nursing students studying some aspect of nursing history. Donations can be sent to The Treasurer, BC History of Nursing Society: PO Box 72082 RPO Sasamat Vancouver BC V6R 4P2

Member News



MICHELLE ENG tells us she has acquired another nursing skill: "driving a huge 4x4 truck on the logging roads for 45 minutes for a visit to this rural, remote community out near the Broken Group Islands, overlooking the Pacific Ocean. The residents' backyard views are stunning!"

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER LENORA MARCELLUS.

NAOMI MILLER'S class will be celebrating their 60th Anniversary in May. Our sincere condolences to Naomi on the death of her husband. She writes "Thank you to the members of the History of Nursing who sent kind cards and messages recently. It was heart warming to be remembered when I have attended only one meeting. (My arm was twisted to buy a membership back in 1997 when Ethel Warbinek and Glennis Zilm drove me to have tea with Miss Paulson)."

MANY THANKS TO JOAN DOREE who faithfully sends us news. In November 2009 the Abbotsford council approved a plan for a Canuck Place Children's Hospice in the Fraser valley. The original Children's Hospice in Vancouver was the dream of nurse Brenda Eng.

In Print

1 >> Duffus, Maureen. (2009). *Battlefront nurses in WWI: The Canadian Army Medical Corps in England, France and Salonika, 1914-1919*. Victoria: Town and Gown Press.

2 >> Nathoo, T. & Ostry, A. (2009). *The One Best Way? Breastfeeding History, Politics, and Policy in Canada*, Waterloo: Wilfrid Laurier University Press.

UBC NURSING DIRECTOR NAMED ONE OF CANADA'S 100 MOST POWERFUL WOMEN

Dr. Sally Thorne, Director of UBC's School of Nursing, has been named one of Canada's most powerful women. The award, presented by the Women's Executive Network at the Awards Summit and Gala held in Toronto, recognizes both the significance of Thorne's leadership position as well as the vital role of nursing in Canada.

Thorne received her BSN and MSN degrees at UBC, in '79 and '83, and completed her PhD at the Union Institute of Advanced Studies in Ohio. An established leader and scholar, she has been academic head of the UBC School of Nursing since 2002, during which time the School has expanded its research funding by over 300 per cent, launched a primary care Nurse Practitioner initiative, and made impressive innovations in undergraduate education.



Source: Press release: UBC This Week, Thursday, December 3, 2009

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FOR JAN-DEC 2010

DEAR HISTORY OF NURSING MEMBER:

It's that time of year again – time to pay membership fees for January 1 to December 31, 2010. Currently we have 164 members. We hope that we can count on your continued support. Please renew now.

Fees remain the same for the coming year. In our efforts to be fiscally responsible, we are again enclosing the Renewal Form in the Newsletter. As a further cost-saving measure, perhaps you would consider joining those who are receiving the Newsletter in an electronic format.

To renew, please fill in your renewal form carefully, indicating your preferences in the appropriate spots. Remove and mail the form along with your cheque to the address provided.

As in 2009, you will receive four Newsletters and a Membership Directory (mailed in the summer). We invite you to attend any Executive meetings, which are currently held at the CRNBC offices in Vancouver. Dates for these meetings are posted on our Web site – www.bcnursinghistory.ca. In addition, details about our Annual General Meeting, as well as information about the various special "programs" held each year, will be emailed to members and included in the Newsletters.

We hope that you will renew now. If you would like further information, please contact me.

Membership Chair: Genelle Leifso

Phone: 604-538-1789 | E-mail: gleifso@shaw.ca

PART 1: MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

It is time to renew your membership in the BC History of Nursing Society for 2010. Check the type of membership that applies:

- | | |
|---|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full (CRNBC members who pay practicing or non-practicing fees) | \$30.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affiliate (all other eligible nurses, individuals, or groups) | \$30.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student | \$ 5.00 |

Please print your name and address as you wish it to appear on the mailing label. Your name and city will be published in the Membership Directory, which is only sent to members. However, the BC Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, RSBC 1996, C165, s30 states that groups that maintain membership lists "must protect personal information by making reasonable security arrangements against such risks as unauthorized access, collection, use, disclosure or disposal." Please indicate clearly each other item of information that you are unwilling to have published in the Directory.

Publish in Directory:

No

Name _____ (This will be published)

Address _____

City/Province _____ (This will be published)

Postal Code _____

Phone (Only one number will be published) (home) _____
(work) _____

E-mail _____

I would like to receive the Newsletter by: ☐ Email ☐ Canada Post

Make cheque payable to the BC History of Nursing Society

Forward by March 1, 2010 to:

BC History of Nursing Society (Attn: Sheila Oxholm, Treasurer)

P.O. Box 72082, RPO Sasamat, Vancouver, BC, V6R 4P2



PART 2: INFORMATION ABOUT YOU (For use by Executive)

We would welcome information about History of Nursing projects on which you are working, especially if you would like to be in touch with other Society members with similar interests. For example: Were/are you a member of Canada's Military Medical Corps? Are you a student working on a thesis or dissertation related to History of Nursing? Do you have a particular research interest? Are you actively involved with a School of Nursing Alumnae Association (and which one)? Are you affiliated with a university or college? Would you like to be involved in a project – and if so in which area? Can we publish this information in the Newsletter?

PART 3: I WOULD BE INTERESTED IN SERVING ON ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES DURING 2010:

- ☐ Archives ☐ Membership ☐ Biography ☐ Programs ☐ Memorial Portraits
☐ Nominations for Memorial Books ☐ Newsletter ☐ Pages of History ☐ Oral History ☐ Displays

Please Remember: All members are welcome to attend Executive meetings, which are usually held at the CRNBC in Vancouver. Please check our website: www.bcnursinghistory.ca or telephone an executive member to confirm the date, place and time.

Office Use:

- ☐ Received ☐ Receipt Sent ☐ Entered Member List ☐ Label Made

DISPLAYS

SUBMITTED BY GLENNIS ZILM

The two History of Nursing displays at UBC – the Case near the Administration Offices and the table in the Learning Centre – contain Remembrance Day tributes. The main display case features member Nina Rumen's military buttons and insignia badges, flashes, and medals and other memorabilia from her time with the Canadian Forces in the 1950s and 1960s. Nina was a Nursing Officer with the Canadian Forces and served in Canada's North (Churchill) as well as in Germany (Lahr) before returning to Canada to teach in various Forces' bases in Eastern Canada.



"CREELMAN LEFT A SUBSTANTIAL ENDOWMENT TO UBC TO ESTABLISH A FUND FOR RESEARCH BY THE SCHOOL OF NURSING INTO PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING"

The mannequin in the Learning Centre is wearing a naval nurse's white uniform supplied by member Stephanie Buckingham of Nanaimo and the display table features a photo and biographical notes about her as well as a display copy of the annotated list of the UBC graduates who served as Nursing Sisters during World Wars I and II. Stephanie spent 27 years as a Nursing Officer with the Naval Reserve, finishing her time as interim Commanding Officer of HMCS Carleton in Ottawa. She was awarded a Canada Decoration with clasp and the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal. She served in three Naval Reserve units: HMCS Malahat (Victoria, BC), HMCS York (Toronto, ON), and HMCS Carleton (Ottawa, ON).


The displays will remain up until the end of November, although the mannequin likely will remain up throughout December as well. These displays were put up by Sheila Zerr and Glennis Zilm.

The current display in the History of Nursing Case in the CRNBC Board Room features the life and contributions of Lyle Morrison Creelman (1908 - 2007). Acclaimed as one of the world's most famous nurses of modern times, Dr. Creelman left a remarkable provincial, national, and international nursing legacy. After a brief career as a teacher, she graduated from the University of BC School of Nursing in 1939 and began work as a public health nurse in Revelstoke and then with the Vancouver Metropolitan Health Unit. In 1944, she joined the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Agency (UNRRA), supervising care of displaced persons awaiting repatriation or resettlement in Germany at the end of World War II. On her return to BC, she was co-author of an influential report recommending major changes in public health practices in Canada and was elected president of RNABC. In 1949, she began an extraordinary 19-year career with the World Health Organization, pioneering a transcultural approach to international nursing. She was WHO's Chief Nursing Officer from 1954 to 1968. Recognized for her philosophy of improving global health by connecting nurses across national borders, she was a staunch supporter of the education and inclusion of local health care workers within the developing countries.

On her death, Creelman left a substantial endowment to UBC to establish a fund for research by the School of Nursing into public health nursing, and Creelman scholarships totalling \$3,000 annually are available for UBC Nursing students. She also left a legacy of papers, diaries, photographs, and memorabilia to the UBC Libraries, where the Creelman Fonds in Special Collections is available for future scholars. As well, she left artefacts and memorabilia to the School of Nursing and to the BC History of Nursing Society.

The original display honouring Creelman was set up in the UBC Main Library Rare Book Room in May 2009 by a committee including History of Nursing Society members Glennis Zilm, Lynne Esson, Geertje Boschma, and Susan Armstrong-Reid. The materials in the display case at CRNBC are based on that display.

The display in the CRNBC Library is also a Remembrance Day tribute and features a Nursing Sister's uniform and some artefacts and memorabilia of June Newton, one of our members who served overseas as a Nursing Sister in World War II. This display was set up by Cheryl Entwistle and Marg Saunders.



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BC HISTORY of NURSING

