



Committed to promoting the development of children's nursing through evidence based information about practice and education

Press release

Date: 18th September 2024

Title: *Honouring our Past*

The Association of British Paediatric Nurses (ABPN) is delighted to announce that the Oral History Project, Honouring our Past has concluded and outputs can now be accessed.

Over 100 children's nurses took part in the project between the summer of 2023 and July 2024, recording their career history and reflections of notable changes in practice, training/education and services provided for infants, children and young people. Many participants also highlighted concerns and aspirations for the future.

The collection of recordings covers training undertaken between the 1950's and 2020's, with participants from across all of the nations and regions in the UK. In total over 7 decades of children's nursing are encapsulated in the recordings.

The project was undertaken as part of the ABPN 85th anniversary celebrations and was supported by a grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund aimed at raising awareness of children's nursing by collecting narrative histories from a range of individuals depicting the breadth of career journeys children's nurses can have now and in the future.

The oral history recordings are available to access through the Library of Birmingham. The link to the archive is

https://birmingham.access.preservica.com/index.php?name=SO_a89754a0-7421-4713-9b16-9c8304744d9c

As the ABPN approached their 85th anniversary, members reflected on its past and considered previous celebrations. We recognised that much has changed over the years since Evelyn Margaret Hughes became the first registered children's nurse, but so much remains the same in terms of the need to advocate and care for children. This led to the idea of collecting an oral history from the nurses who are part of that history. We were fortunate to receive funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund. I am grateful for all of the nurses for their contributions and to Ann Daly, Birmingham Children's Hospital for her help and support.

Katrina McNamara-Goodger, ABPN Fellow and Project lead

Notes for editors

The term child refers to infants, children, young people and young adults up to 25 years of age

Evelyn Margaret Hughes trained 1909 - 1912, registered 28.10.1921

The ABPN is a network of children's nurses with a wide membership of experts in clinical practice, education, leadership and research. It is the oldest children's nursing association in the world, established in 1938.

www.abpn-uk.com

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