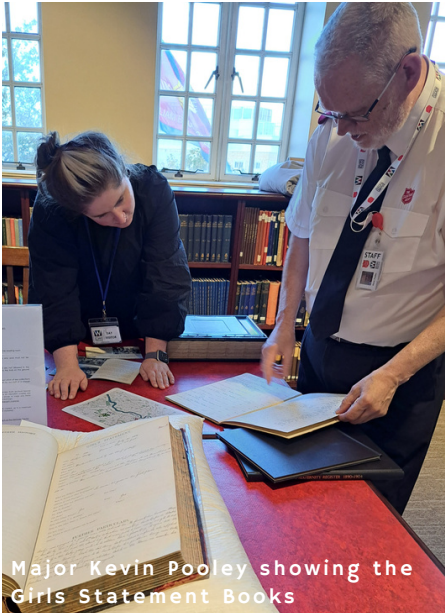


Archives Newsletter

Updates from Barts Health NHS Trust Archives

Out of Office: Trips to other Archive Services



Major Kevin Pooley showing the Girls Statement Books



William Booth College in Denmark Hill, where the Salvation Army Archives are held

After hosting several visits of sector colleagues to the archives over the summer, the archives team has been delighted to be able to make some external visits ourselves over the last couple of months. At the start of November, we visited the Salvation Army International Heritage Centre in south-east London to find out more about the 'other half' of one of our most popular collections, the records of the former Mothers' Hospital in Hackney. Set up by the Salvation Army in the early 20th century, it became part of the NHS, and at its closure in 1985, some of the records were retained by the then health authority and some, mainly covering the social work aspects of the hospital authorities, remained with the Salvation Army. It was really fascinating to see the 'Girls Statement Books', which we have often directed researcher to, and other historic records and objects, and to finally meet the team that we often correspond with.

In mid-November, we visited Tower Hamlets Local History Library and Archives, another service which holds many complementary collections to ours, and saw records relating to health and social care, as well as a sneak-preview of material for a forthcoming exhibition! Many items in their collections will be relevant to the research of Aleph Ross, the PhD student who has recently commenced work on a Collaborative Doctoral Award led jointly by the University of Birmingham and Barts Health NHS Trust Archives, so this was a really helpful fact-finding visit.



Ginny and Kate looking at records in the Tower Hamlets Search Room





Eva Lückes with senior nurses on the steps of the London Hospital (RLHLH/P/1/14/34)

Researcher Profile: Dr Nina E. Harkrader on Eva Lückes

Matron Eva Lückes revolutionized nursing at the London Hospital during her tenure (1882-1919), and believed that women of strong moral character, professionally trained in a hospital, made the best nurses. Lückes also argued that proper housing was important to nurses' physical well-being, morale, and professionalism. During my recent research at the Trust archives, I explored how Lückes might have influenced the three homes for London Hospital nurses (and nurse trainees) constructed 1884-1912.

I consulted Lückes' detailed evaluations of London Hospital pupil nurses, as well as records of successful graduates' nursing careers. Not only did this research illuminate Lückes nursing philosophy, but notes, letters, and ephemera from several nurses (including a few photos) greatly enhanced my understanding of life at "The London".

Also preserved in the archives: Lückes' letters to the all-male House Committee, written prior to the construction of the first nurses' home in 1884-87. In them, Lückes made specific requests regarding not only the location of the Home, but also its organization and furnishings. Lückes also insisted the nurses have individual bedrooms (hitherto unheard of at The London). The Committee evidently took the Matron's requests seriously as the completed home incorporated many of them. Later materials made it clear Lückes also influenced the construction of the later Nurses' homes as well.

Installation of Portraits at the QMUL Garrod Building

We are delighted to share that artwork, portraits and busts are now back on display in the Garrod building. Over the last 18 months the Garrod building at Queen Mary University of London has undergone a huge refurbishment project. Medha Chotai, the medical school archivist has worked with senior staff and the project team to reinstall the items in their new locations, ensuring that the heritage of the medical school is reflected within the building.



Portraits on the Garrod stairs



STAFF PROFILE: GINNY DAWE-WOODINGS, DEPUTY TRUST ARCHIVIST

I became aware of archives when I was completing my undergraduate degree, realising it combined my favourite things - filing and history. I qualified as an archivist in 2015 and since then I have worked in a variety of medicine and health related archives, joining the Barts Health Archives team in July 2022.

My current focus is documenting some of the built-heritage at Whipps Cross Hospital, overseeing the conservation of some St Bartholomew's Hospital case notes, and managing our social media profiles.

I love working with the incredible collections at Barts, and I enjoy finding ways in which to make them available. I recently enjoyed cataloguing the records of the London Hospital Ligature Department; a department set up after the First World War to produce material for suturing wounds. The records cover the production, marketing and sales of the ligature and show a different side to the Hospital. I will be putting on a display in the new year.



Visit from University of Westminster Heritage Students

On 23 November, we hosted students from the University of Westminster's Exploring the Archive module, to discuss archival ethics as part of their studies on the MA Art and Visual Culture course. We have contributed to the module over a number of years but this was the first time that a group had been able to visit the archives since before the Covid pandemic, and it was wonderful to have so much engaged discussion with the students on balancing access with the rights and needs of individuals and the development of trauma-informed practice in the archives.



Discussions with the students



Students exploring the records

Other ways to follow our service

To learn more about our collections visit our [website](#) where you can search the Barts Health NHS Trust Archives online [catalogue](#), and find out how to book a visit to the search room at St Bartholomew's Hospital.

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