



Nursing in the Past



Florence Nightingale, Mary Seacole and Edith Cavell are remembered in lots of ways. They all worked hard to care for the ill and injured soldiers in difficult conditions. There are statues, monuments, museums and hospitals named after them all over the world. Their work is still remembered and honoured today.

Key Knowledge

Florence Nightingale
1820 - 1910



Florence was based at the barrack hospital in Scutari during The Crimean War. The soldiers were dying from diseases that they'd caught in the dirty hospital. Florence introduced things like mattresses, bedding, soap, knives and forks. The nurses were disciplined and wore uniforms which included a sash. The hospitals became cleaner and healthier. Florence became known as The Lady with the Lamp. In 1860, she set up the first training school for nurses at St Thomas' hospital in London called The Nightingale Training School.



Mary Seacole
1805 - 1881



Mary was born in 1805, in Jamaica. Her father was a Scottish Military Officer and her mother was a clever doctress. As a child, she liked to nurse her dolls.

In 1854, the Crimean War started. Mary wanted to go there to help. There, she spent her time and money looking after the soldiers. After the war, she was given money and medals.



Edith Cavell
1865 - 1915



In 1896, Edith trained to be a nurse at the Royal London Hospital. In 1907, Edith went to Brussels to nurse and was asked by a doctor to be in charge of training nurses at a special nursing school.

In World War I, she nursed and saved the lives of soldiers from both sides - it didn't matter which country they were fighting for. She also hid over 200 soldiers and helped them escape. In 1915, Edith was arrested and sentenced to death.



Medals for Nurses Today

The Florence Nightingale Medal is given out by the The Red Cross. It is the highest international medal a nurse can achieve.



The Mary Seacole Nursing Awards are awarded to special nurses every year.

In 1917, the Nation's Fund for Nurses was set up (which is now known as the Cavell Nurses' Trust) and it helps nurses and midwives.

Key Vocabulary

barrack hospital	A hospital for soldiers.
cockroaches	A large insect.
Crimean War	October 1853-February 1856. A war fought in Crimea between the Russians and the British, French, and Ottoman Turkish.
diseases	Sickness that makes the body not work correctly.
infested	Lots of insects or animals there.
Nurse's uniform	Clothes worn by nurses.
Oil lamp	An old fashioned light that could be carried around.
Scutari	An area in Turkey where Florence went to nurse during the war.
soldier	Someone who fights in the Army.
The Florence Nightingale School of Nursing	A training school in London for nurses set up by Florence Nightingale.
wounded	Hurt or injured.



						
St Nicholas Church	Queen Elizabeth I	The Great Fire of London	Florence Nightingale	Queen Elizabeth II Coronation	Pyrford School opened	Moon Landing
1140	1559	1666	1820	1953	1950	1969
Year 2	Year 1	Year 2	Year 2	Year 1	Year 2	Year 1

