



The Florence Nightingale Foundation

Providing inspiration and
scholarships in healthcare
for the 21st century

About us...



The Florence Nightingale Foundation exists to support nurses and midwives in developing their full potential, be it through scholarships, research, mentoring, leadership development or other academic activities.

The Foundation is a living memorial to Florence Nightingale and it works to:

- advance the study of nursing and promote excellence in nursing and midwifery practice
- raise funds to provide scholarships for nurses and midwives to study at home and abroad, to promote innovation, and to extend knowledge and skill to meet changing needs
- promote the special contribution of nursing and midwifery to society and to the health of people
- encourage international understanding and learning between nurses and midwives.

Wherever and whenever we can, we will work to promote excellence in healthcare practice and ensure that nurses and midwives gain the recognition they so richly deserve.

If you wish to invite the Foundation to showcase our work at any conferences, exhibitions, or events please contact us and we will gladly get back to you with our availability.

The Florence Nightingale Foundation is governed by a Board of Trustees

Royal Patron: HRH Princess Alexandra, the Hon Lady Ogilvy KG GCVO

Patron: Sir Robert Francis QC

President: The Baroness Emerton DBE DL

Chairman: Mr Bryan Sanderson CBE

Chief Executive: Professor Elizabeth Robb

Charity Registration Number: England & Wales 229229 Scotland SC044341

A word from the Chairman



We continue to see much progress in our work to support nurses and midwives in the development of their careers and of the caring profession they promote.

This can be evidenced by the many achievements of nurses and midwives, both in their day to day roles as leaders in driving the quality agenda and also in the initiatives in health care they are shaping through research and training.

Working with colleagues in health care and academia, we are developing a network of academic chairs at leading universities and healthcare organisations. These roles are being filled by those individuals who are leaders in best practice for nursing and midwifery and can translate research into practice. This is a rich legacy indeed for our Foundation and chimes with the very ethos of Florence Nightingale and those early pioneers of the nursing profession.

Times and attitudes have changed since the “lady with the lamp” battled with ignorance and prejudice to establish nursing; above all, science and technology have transformed health care.

Through all the changes since Florence Nightingale’s day, the fundamental

need for good patient care remains and the burden on the front line staff in contact with patients is just as demanding and as critical as ever.

That this is still relevant can be seen when we are reminded sometimes that these standards can fall with a resulting damage to patients and to the reputation of the nursing profession. This reminder was manifest in the inquiry into the care at Mid Staffordshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. This Report has been received and accepted as heralding a step change in the drive for greater quality standards in our hospital wards and departments.

It is with great pleasure and pride that we welcomed the author of that Report, Sir Robert Francis QC, to become a Patron of the Foundation.

The Florence Nightingale Foundation sets out to equip the senior nurses and midwives of today with the confidence to represent their profession at the very top levels of our health system. As you can read in this brochure – it works. I need hardly add that with more resources we could do more, so if you are able to, please help us with a donation or a legacy. We promise it will be put to good use.

Bryan K Sanderson CBE
Chairman

Why Florence Nightingale still speaks to us in modern times



Florence Nightingale, without doubt the most famous nurse of all time, died over 100 years ago in 1910. At the Foundation set up in her name we celebrate her life and achievements but we also see her as the driving force behind our passion to improve health care for patients in the modern world.

So much of what she said and believed is very relevant in the 21st century, just as it was in the 19th when she worked with her team of nurses at Scutari Hospital during the Crimean War.

She reinvented nursing – and not before time. But she worked on a much bigger canvas, encompassing reform of the armed forces, public health, the environment, housing and health and world poverty.

She was adamant that nurses should be the servants of the art and science of medicine, surgery and hygiene, not just handmaidens to doctors. Her influence has, without question, given the nursing profession the credibility it has long needed, so that now nurses can advance in their education to degree and higher degree level, become

directors of NHS trusts and chief executives and, more importantly, work alongside senior doctors as equal partners in health care delivery.

Her first love was statistics and she was a founder member of the Royal Statistical Society. It is well known that she demonstrated the shocking fact that for every British soldier in the Crimea who died of his wounds, significantly more died from infection. Have we learned the lessons from that even now? Hopefully so, now that MRSA and *C.Diff* infections are thankfully on the wane. Florence Nightingale saved literally thousands of lives in the British Army - abroad and at home - by her work on good hygiene both in the hospital and the barracks.

She said: “It may seem a strange principle to enunciate, as a first requirement in a hospital, that it should do the sick no harm.”

Not satisfied with her work at home she was responsible for studies overseas which showed a child mortality rate, measured in schools and hospitals, twice the England average. And she understood the vital importance of clean water and proper drainage to the third world, even though that term had not even been invented then.

So these principles underline the work of the Foundation in its provision of scholarships to nurses and midwives and, more recently, the setting up of academic chairs at leading universities and based in clinical practice. The scholarships particularly require scholars to demonstrate that the skills they develop lead directly to improvements in patient care within the UK.

We believe the work and ideas of Florence Nightingale still have relevance to today's nursing practice and should continue to be remembered, celebrated and implemented. As a Florence Nightingale leadership scholar myself I feel proud to be playing a part in this vital work.

Professor Elizabeth Robb
Chief Executive



Florence Nightingale Foundation Chairman, Mr Bryan Sanderson CBE, and President, The Baroness Emerton DBE DL, with scholar Kaljit Kaur at the Presentation of Certificates of Completion to Scholars.

The scholarships

The Foundation's scholarships are designed, along with every other activity we undertake, to enhance the special contribution of nursing and midwifery to society.

They:

- promote innovation
- advance knowledge and skills, and
- encourage international learning and understanding.

Travel scholarships are available to qualified nurses and midwives. Each scholarship is funded up to £5,000 for the scholar to undertake a study of an aspect of practice and/or education in the UK or overseas.

Research scholarships provide up to £5,000 for a scholar to undertake a course in research methods, modules or a dissertation as part of a degree course. Support is also available for doctoral and post doctoral research studies.

Leadership scholarships are for experienced nurses and midwives, healthcare deans and heads of allied health professions. They will be capable of being fast tracked to more senior roles and have a personal development plan and clear goals for their scholarship. A range of scholarships of up to £15,000 are available for both national and international leadership study which includes mentorship.

For up to date information on the scholarships please visit our website at www.florence-nightingale-foundation.org.uk

What the Scholars say



I would say that the Scholarship has developed my thinking around strategic nurse

leadership. It has built self-confidence and this has allowed me to assert my opinion on nursing. I can influence the culture of innovation in my organisation. The Scholarship was an opportunity for me. Not only did I develop as a leader, but also I felt I was being valued and supported.

Charlotte McArdle



The scholarship was a brilliant enabler that allowed me to learn, think and reflect. There is no way that this could

have happened in my day-to-day work in the NHS.

Peter Blythin



The scholarship has increased my confidence, my skills of leadership, and it helped me understand myself

and to understand others. It really improved my personal self-awareness and how I behave. But it also helped me to think creatively both at work and in my everyday life. It has energised me. It was life-changing.

Ruth Taylor



Being a Florence Nightingale Leadership Scholar was a fantastic opportunity.

I would highly recommend it. It has affected my behaviour

as a leader, especially how I react to others. I am more confident in my role and in my style of leadership.

Caroline Alexander



I used my scholarship to go to Harvard and that experience has improved my ability to empower. That's something I learnt at Harvard. We spent five days where we looked at

organisations that renewed themselves – that moved to a different model.

I brought this back with me to my workplace. I was encouraged to study what was aligned with the aims of my hospital, which is to be the safest hospital in the NHS. So I took what I learnt, translated it, brought it back, and aligned it with patient safety.

Peter Murphy



The scholarship has given me time to reflect on how I operate, how to see opportunities to impact, and how to use my abilities to impact. It helped me to see

what I can influence – and what I can't. It refocused what I do to become more outcomes focused and to see and make clear the aim of our work. To focus yourself and focus your team on the outcomes. As a Director of Nursing, my focus is on increasing safety and experience.

Flo Panel-Coates

Florence Nightingale Foundation Chairs in Clinical Nursing Practice Research



Over recent years, leading nurse innovators have been appointed to Florence Nightingale Foundation Chairs in Clinical Nursing Practice Research at a number of leading clinical practice organisations and universities.

Working closely with colleagues in the NHS and in academia the Foundation has set out to develop a network of Chairs in Clinical Nursing Practice Research which have real potential to translate research into sustainable clinical practice improvements to the benefit of patient care.

The Foundation professors are clinical academics who have gained a reputation in their specialist area. They act as role models both in giving care and in stimulating the development of a research culture in which the importance of evidence-based care becomes embedded. In doing so they strive to improve standards of care and generate and promote current best practice.

As leaders in their field they contribute to debate about professional issues in order to lead and form contemporary opinion. This will also be achieved by promoting translational research and by encouraging the adoption of research evidence into practice.

The establishment of a network of Foundation professors is of particular importance to the Foundation. The Trustees anticipate this will function as a support network for the holders and also be the matrix through which they generate new ideas, act collegially to bid for national and other research grants, and promote the profession nationally and internationally.

“There was an opportunity to develop foundation chairs in clinical nursing research to increase the capacity for research and improved patient care.”

Professor Elizabeth Robb



What our partners say about the Florence Nightingale Foundation Chairs

“Nurses are at the front line of patient care, playing a critical role in the quality of treatment patients receive. Just as Florence Nightingale changed nursing at the time, this new post will inspire nurses to address research questions which will have a profound impact on patient care.”

**Patrick Maxwell,
Regius Professor of Physic and Head
of the School of Clinical Medicine,
University of Cambridge**

“It’s a tremendous opportunity to focus on improving care for patients. Following Florence Nightingale’s example we need nurses to question practice, review and implement existing evidence into practice, and develop the evidence needed to deliver the highest quality care to patients. We are seeing increasing recognition of the importance of clinical nursing research and support for clinical academic roles for nurses nationally.”

**Dr Lesley Lowes, Professor in
Clinical Nursing Practice Research,
Cardiff School of Healthcare
Sciences**

“This is a unique opportunity to bring together the strengths of Imperial College, the Florence Nightingale Foundation and King’s College. Together we support nurses and midwives to develop research capability and capacity and to prepare nurse researchers of the future to focus on delivering compassionate, evidence-based care to patients and their families.”

**Janice Sigsworth,
Director of Nursing,
Imperial College
Healthcare NHS Trust**

“The Florence Nightingale Foundation Chair appointment recognises the importance nurses continue to play in developing new evidence-based techniques through research to improve the care of patients.”

**Professor Karen Luker,
Head of the School of Nursing,
Midwifery and Social Work,
The University of Manchester**

The Commemoration Service

The Florence Nightingale Commemoration Service is held annually. It is an opportunity for us to not only commemorate Florence Nightingale on her birthday, 12th May, but also to celebrate all that is good about nursing on International Nurses' Day.



The Commemoration Service at Westminster Abbey featuring students from the University of the West of England in the procession. The Lamp bearer is Gloria Rowland and Lamp escorts are Róisín McKeon-Carter and Lee Marklew.

Central to the service is the Lamp which was given to the Foundation by Sir Dan Mason OBE in 1968 in memory of his mother Kathleen Dampier-Bennett, a Trustee and supporter of the Foundation. The Lamp is kept in the Florence Nightingale Chapel in Westminster Abbey.

During the ceremony, a number of significant processions take place. Scholars of the Foundation process the Lamp to signify the knowledge of nursing and are escorted by student nurses signifying the transfer of knowledge to future generations. The Chelsea Pensioners process in memory of, and gratitude to, Florence Nightingale for her care of the troops – who were their predecessors – during the Crimean Campaign.

The final procession is of the Nurses' Roll of Honour which was compiled by the British Commonwealth Nurses' War Memorial Fund and is also kept in the Florence Nightingale Chapel in the Abbey. It is carried to honour those killed in conflict and to underpin the links with military nursing and nurses who have lost their lives in the service of others.



Student nurses and midwives from the University of the West of England who took part in the procession of the lamp at the Commemoration Service at Westminster Abbey.



The bearer of the Roll of Honour, Staff Sergeant Julie Ann Sessions, Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps, and the three Matrons-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Armed Forces at the Florence Nightingale Commemoration Service.

Students' Day

Students' Day is an annual event – one of the most popular in our calendar – in which students from each University in the UK that has a School of Nursing and Midwifery are invited to spend the day with the Foundation in London.

The main venue for the day is The Governors' Hall at St Thomas' Hospital. The events are split into three segments:

A morning plenary discussion session in which students are invited to raise questions or concerns with a panel of senior nurses and engage in professional debate.

The afternoon is spent at the Florence Nightingale Museum and includes a full tour of the Museum together with a history of the life and times of Miss Nightingale and her continuing influence on nursing today.

Finally, a visit to the Florence Nightingale Chapel in Westminster Abbey and attendance at the Annual Florence Nightingale Commemoration Service.



Participants at Students' Day.

The Annual Conference and Gala Dinner

The Florence Nightingale Foundation Annual Conference is aimed at all nurses, midwives and healthcare professionals across all aspects of healthcare delivery seeking to enhance their continuing professional development.

The purpose of the event is to improve and motivate delegates by showcasing our scholars' work and national and international best practice.

The event is a two day healthcare learning and development conference providing delegates with the opportunity to:

- hear from a range of inspirational, high profile speakers;
- take part in a wide variety of outstanding masterclasses focusing on sharing best practice and practical innovations in healthcare
- network with other senior healthcare professionals and leaders in an academic environment

The Foundation introduced the conference in 2010 and it has grown each year with over 400 delegates and 25 exhibitors annually.

The Gala Dinner is held on the first evening of the conference and is a wonderful opportunity for sponsors, scholars, delegates and guests to come together to network and to celebrate their profession.



Dr Dan Poulter MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Health giving the opening address at the Florence Nightingale Foundation Annual Conference.



Guests enjoying the Gala Dinner.

Keeping in touch - Our Alumni

The Florence Nightingale Foundation Alumni Association aims to encourage the continued involvement of scholars once they have completed their scholarship. The Association allows members to continue to be connected with excellence as they progress through their careers, remain engaged with the Foundation and fellow scholars, building on their work and being part of a wider learning community.

The Alumni Association acts both virtually with online forums, blogs and seminars, and face to face, hosting annual gatherings throughout the UK; all of which continue to encourage the development and networking of scholars upon completion of their scholarship.

If you have benefited from a scholarship and would like to join the Alumni Association please email: alumni@florence-nightingale-foundation.org.uk



Florence Nightingale Foundation Patron Sir Robert Francis QC, Chairman Mr Bryan Sanderson CBE and President The Baroness Emerton DBE DL at the Alumni Association launch.



Guests at the Florence Nightingale Foundation Alumni Association launch.

Donations, legacies or sponsorships

Donations, legacies or sponsorships make a great difference to the achievements of the Foundation's aims and objectives.

As a charity we rely on raising funds to complete our work.

Sponsorships

We always welcome new sponsors and partnerships. If you would like to offer funding to support our scholarships or become a funding partner, please contact us at the address below.

Donations and legacies

If you feel able to assist in the valuable work of the Foundation, details of how to donate can be found on our website at www.florence-nightingale-foundation.org.uk or you can donate to the Foundation by:

- Cheque – please post to our office and make payable to “The Florence Nightingale Foundation” and also enclose your name and address
- PayPal – if you would like to pay via PayPal please visit www.fnfalumni.org where you can donate online via the donations page

Contact us at:

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34 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0DH

Tel: 020 7730 3030

Email: admin@florence-nightingale-foundation.org.uk



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