Who Cared?
Oral History, Caring, Health and Illness: Marking 60 Years of the National Health Service

2008 Oral History Society Annual Conference
University of Birmingham
4th – 5th July 2008

In association with the Centre for the History of Medicine, University of Birmingham
To mark 60 years of the National Health Service, the Oral History Society is collaborating with the School of Medicine at the University of Birmingham, to organise a conference aiming to understand the development, provision and experience of health care in the twentieth century. The event will be of interest to both new and experienced oral historians in diverse fields of research, with opportunities to discuss and reflect on themes and issues that arise in oral history projects. The conference will combine key speakers and informal workshops around themes of:

- Professional groups – experts, elites and the public health service
- Therapeutic communities – voices and silences
- Healthy encounters? Service users and practitioners
- Counter histories – contesting and representing health interests
- Institutional histories – more than bricks and mortar
- Informal caring

The conference keynote speakers will be:

**ANEEZ ESMAIL**, Professor of General Practice at the University of Manchester, is a former general practitioner and public health physician who currently works as a clinician in an inner city practice in Manchester. He has carried out research into racism and discrimination in the medical profession, on patient safety, and was medical advisor to the Shipman Inquiry. Between 1997 and 2003 he was President of the Medical Practitioners Union (a trade union of doctors working in the NHS).

**VIRGINIA BERRIDGE** heads the Centre for History in Public Health at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, and is the author of many publications including *Marketing Health. Smoking and the Discourse of Public Health in Britain, 1945-2000* (Oxford University Press, 2007); *Health and Society in Britain since 1939* (Cambridge University Press, 1999); and *AIDS in the UK: The Making of Policy, 1981-1994* (Oxford University Press, 1996).

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With thanks to the Society for the Social History of Medicine
**WENDY RICKARD** (Institute of Primary Care and Public Health, London South Bank University) Longitudinal oral history research on HIV

**KIM LACY ROGERS** (Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA) The Turn Towards Caring: American Buddhist Converts Confront Aging, Illness, and Dying

**KATRINA GATLEY** (Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine at UCL) ‘Caring for Kin’

**ALAN PRINGLE** (University of Nottingham), **DASS MUSRUCK** (Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust) and **RAMGOPAL TEERANALL** (University of Stafford) An oral history of nurses who came from Mauritius between 1965 and 1975 and stayed to build careers in the NHS

**MARIAN BARNES** (Health and Social Policy Research Centre, University of Brighton) Caring histories: lay carers’ accounts of caring relationships

**KATH START** and **CAROL MCCUBBIN** (Nurses Voices, Kingston University) Memories of nursing at a London teaching hospital 1930-1990

**ALEX MOLD** (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine) Oral history and the patient: Interviewing illegal drug users

**ANGELA DAVIS** (University of Warwick) ‘I put more trust in Chloe Fisher… than anybody else, she was absolutely brilliant.’ Women and their midwives, c. 1945-1970

**KRISTA WOODLEY** (University of Brighton) Haemophilia and HIV Oral History project

**MATTILDA SVENSSON** (Malmo University, Sweden) Were you ‘crippled’? The informant, the researcher and the story

**GARY WINSHIP** (Centre for Human Relations, University of Nottingham) Experience vs evidence: Psychiatric nursing care in the late twentieth century

**TRISH THOMAS and JOANNE WILLIAMS** (Sussex Partnership NHS Trust) ‘The staff are making candles again’: 15 years of therapeutic relationships and PsychoTic videos from a house in Bognor

**RONNIE JOHNSTON** and **ARTHUR McIVOR** (Glasgow Caledonian University / University of Strathclyde) Dust and disability narratives: Using oral history as a source for understanding occupational health in twentieth century Britain

**VAL WOOD** (University of Derby) Nottingham Nursery Nursing Training, 1947

**STEPHANIE SNOW** (Centre for the History of Science, University of Manchester) Organisational Change in the NHS: The Manchester experience, 1980-2007

**VERITEE REED HALL** (Therapeutic Community Oral History Workshop Group) ‘Who Cares?!…’ The experience, meaning and consequences for current and former staff, residents and families of the traumatic closure and threat of closure of therapeutic community environments

**LEA HOWARD** (Therapeutic Community Oral History Workshop Group) ‘Who are we to say how you coped is abnormal?’ An oral history of service users by service users

**CRAIG FEES** (Planned Environment Therapy Trust Archive and Study Centre) ‘How do we know who cared? And what they cared for?’ A life story approach to archives of therapeutic environments and the people who saved them

**SUE ARMSTRONG and OLIVIA BENNETT** (Panos) A Matter of Life and Death: conversations with pathologists

**JANE BRADBURN, ALISON DONALDSON and JANE MAHER** (Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre, Mount Vernon Hospital) ‘Listen it’s my life you are talking about’

**JOANNA BORNAT, LEROI HENRY, PARVATI RAGHURAM and GAIL WILSON** (Goldsmiths University) Dialogue and play: Relationship, good practice and learning among clinical staff in an NHS democratic therapeutic community

**SUZAN KELLY** (Centre for the History of Medicine in Ireland) Time to talk? Thirty-three interviews with tuberculosis survivors. Who spoke and who remained silent?

**MADDY LOAT** (Camden & Islington Mental Health & Social Care Trust) ‘Sharing the struggle’: An exploration of mutual support processes in a therapeutic community

**MALIN ARVIDSSON** (Malmo University, Sweden) ‘I was happy at Marklunda’: Memories of a Swedish institution for pre-tuberculous children

**MAURA CRONIN** (Mary Immaculate College, Limerick) Memory, status and survival: The Limerick City Dispensary 1930-1970

**HELEN GRAHAM** (Faculty of Health & Social Care, The Open University) Instructor, Day Care Officer, Community Support Worker: What’s in a job title?
MICHAEL BEVAN
Centre for the History of Medicine, University of Warwick) Pulling the plug? An oral history of spa practices in the late twentieth century at the Royal Pump Rooms, Leamington Spa

ANTHONY SLATER, RENATE BURNS and ISABEL JOHANSEN
(Phoenix Haga, Norway) Telling our stories, shared experience and being challenged by online broadcasting

CHRISTINE FERRIS
(PRADO, Sheffield Hallam) Oral histories of x-ray workers

IAIN MACINTYRE and DAVID WRIGHT (Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh) Perceptions of a life in surgery

GRAHAM SMITH (Royal Holloway, University of London) Unhealthy professional boundaries?

MICHELLE WINSLOW, KATE WALSH and BILL NOBLE (Academic Unit of Supportive Care, University of Sheffield) Life stories in end of life care: Establishing an oral history service in a palliative care unit

EMMA WEST (University of Essex) Narratives on the onset of alopecia areata hair loss


RODGER CHARLTON (Warwick Medical School) The oral history of undergraduate medical education in the care of the dying at Birmingham University Medical School, 1930-1970

ERIN McCARTHY, HAUU, NEAL DANDADE and CHARLES L BENNETT (Chicago, USA) Veterans talking about life experiences: A pilot study

GLENN SMITH, MICHAEL KING and ANNE BARTLETT (Imperial College London) Treatments of homosexuality in Britain since the 1950s – an oral history: The experience of patients and professionals

IDA MILNE Oral histories of the Spanish influenza pandemic in Ireland, 1918-1919

ANNIE SKINNER (Oxford Brookes University) Workhouse, welfare and watersheds

TILLI TANSEY (Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine, UCL) Busy hands, hidden voices: An oral history of laboratory technicians in British medicine

DAVID PALMER (Mind, London) Out of place: Exploring Ethiopian narratives and oral testimonies into the resettlement experience and traditional health beliefs
CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

FRIDAY 4TH JULY
11.00-12.30 Registration and drop-in oral history beginners session
12.30-1.30 Lunch
1.30-2.30 Welcome and Plenary Session A. Speaker: ANEEZ ESMAIL (University of Manchester) Asian doctors in the NHS: Identity, migration and contribution
2.45-3.45 Parallel Sessions
3.45-4.15 Break
4.15-5.15 Parallel Sessions
5.30-6.30 Oral History Society Annual General Meeting
6.30 Wine reception (free)
7.30 Conference dinner at University of Birmingham Staff House (£25, booking essential)

SATURDAY 5TH JULY
9.00-10.00 Parallel Sessions
10.10-11.10 Parallel Sessions
11.10-11.30 Break
11.30-12.30 Roundtable session
12.30-1.30 Lunch
1.30-2.15 Plenary Session B. Speaker: VIRGINIA BERRIDGE (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine) ‘Hidden from history’? Oral history and the making of health policy
2.20-3.20 Parallel Sessions
3.20-3.45 Break
3.45-4.45 Parallel Sessions
4.45-5.30 Closing Session: VOICE, PRACTICE AND POSSIBILITY. Poster participants about to begin a project will discuss their research.

VENUE

UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

THE UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM is a leading research university in one of the most vibrant and cosmopolitan cities in Europe. THE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE is a major international centre for research and education in medicine and medical sciences. In recent years the School has expanded dramatically. The School has centres of excellence in cancer, immunology, cardiovascular disease, neuroscience and endocrinology and provides an environment in which basic and clinical scientists work together to find cures and treatments for major diseases.

● For information on how to find the Medical School on the University’s Edgbaston campus, please see the campus map at www.bham.ac.uk/about/maps/edgbastonmap.shtml
● For directions on how to get to the University (Edgbaston Campus), please see the instructions at www.bham.ac.uk/about/maps/unidirections.shtml

There is no car parking on the campus on the Friday. On the Saturday, car parks near the Medical School may be used on a first-come-first-served basis. The University Railway Station is located two minutes walk from the Medical School (turn right when you leave the station and it is in front beyond the roundabout) and is on the cross-city line with six trains an hour from Birmingham New Street station.

ACCOMMODATION

For University of Birmingham campus accommodation, call the Conference Office on +44 121 415 8400 or email conferenceoffice@bham.ac.uk
For hotel and B&B accommodation in Birmingham town centre, see the Tourist Office website: www.birminghamuk.com/touristinfo.htm

CONFERENCE OFFICE

Belinda Waterman, Conference Administrator, Who Cared?, Department of History, University of Essex, Colchester CO4 3SQ, email: belinda@essex.ac.uk website: www.ohs.org.uk/conferences

The Oral History Society is a registered charity which publishes a twice-yearly journal, Oral History, organises an annual conference and operates a comprehensive regional advice and information network for members using oral history in schools, colleges, with older people, in libraries, museums and communities. Individual membership costs £20 per year, and benefits include reduced rates for conferences and publications, the illustrated journal, special members-only web resources, and mailings of activities of interest to members. ● For details contact Rob Perks, The British Library Sound Archive, 96 Euston Road, London NW1 2DB, tel 020 7412 7405, website: www.ohs.org.uk

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I would like to register for the **WHO CARED? ORAL HISTORY, CARING, HEALTH AND ILLNESS: MARKING 60 YEARS OF THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE** conference and have ticked the appropriate boxes below and provided the necessary payment (one copy of the form per person).

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Please tell us if you have any special access, mobility or dietary requirements and contact the conference administrator if you require further information: Belinda Waterman, belinda@essex.ac.uk, tel: +44 (0)1206 872313.

**CONFERENCE FEE**

Your conference fee covers all conference sessions; lunch, tea and coffee on both days; and the conference wine reception.

Please tick the appropriate category:

- [ ] £110.00 standard fee
- [ ] £90.00 fee for Oral History Society members. Joining now entitles you to the reduced conference rate, in which case please include the appropriate additional payment (see subscription rates below*)
- [ ] £50.00 concessionary fee for full-time students/unwaged/pensioners (please provide evidence)
- [ ] £25.00 for Conference Dinner on Friday evening (not included in the fee for the conference): **pre-booking essential**
- [ ] Please tick the box if you require a vegetarian meal

- [ ] I enclose payment of £___________ to cover my conference fee/conference fee plus new membership fee/ conference dinner (delete as necessary). Cheques to be made payable to the Oral History Society **OR**
- [ ] Charge the above amount to my credit card: Card type: Visa/Mastercard/American Express

Credit card number: .............................................................. Expiry date: ................. Signature: ...............................................................

Please return this form **by Friday 13 June 2008** to the conference administrator: **BELINDA WATERMAN, WHO CARED? CONFERENCE, DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY, UNIVERSITY OF ESSEX, WIVENHOE PARK, COLCHESTER CO4 3SQ**

Please retain a copy of this form. Final programme information will be available on the conference website in June: www.ohs.org.uk/conferences

*Subscription Rates. Individuals: United Kingdom £20.00, International £30.00; Institutions/Groups: United Kingdom £30.00, International £40.00. Note: All subscriptions run yearly from 1st January.*