

Nursing in the 1960's at Home and Abroad

Miss Margaret Davies

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The presentation is a brief run through a time line of part of the career of the presenter from 1962 to 1971 in the NHS in this country and travelling to and working in Australia as a £10 migrant

Having left school but with seeming very little choice of career other than teaching, nursing or secretarial work the presenter leaves West Wales for Cardiff

Having completed Nurse training at the Cardiff Royal Infirmary, spends a year as staff nurse in the Theatres and then undertakes Part 1 Midwifery in St David's Hospital Cardiff. Part 2 is completed in Bristol and then on to The London Hospital and the Private Wards which was a new experience

Application was made in 1968 to emigrate to Australia by the £10 scheme and a nursing post was obtained at Canberra Hospital in the Australian Capital Territory

Travelling by sea from Southampton via The Canaries, Cape Town and then to Perth, Melbourne and Sydney which took about six weeks

Nursing was certainly very different there as the Hospital was one of the most modern in Australia at the time and the conditions and salary were very favourable. Later worked in St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney and Sydney Hospital where experience was gained in the developing Renal Dialysis Service and transplant work before returning to Wales.

During this time there was much discussion about Nurse training moving to degree level status in Australia and in the UK

Travelling around Australia was undertaken during that period and returned by sea to the UK via NZ, Panama Canal, New York and Southampton.

This was a snapshot in time when nursing and travelling was certainly very different and reminded us of the "good old days"