

The way we were...

BJN editorial board member Alan Glasper has been collecting historic photos of NHS nurses for a number of years, which he shares here to celebrate NHS70



Many nurses will remember the annual nurses' Christmas carol services, with nurses in full uniform carrying candles visiting each ward in the hospital to sing to the patients



Long before skills laboratories were invented schools of nursing had practical rooms, where nurses were able to practise for the forthcoming practical General Nursing Council examinations



Prize-giving ceremonies for individual sets (now known as cohorts) of qualifying student nurses were the highlight of the year



Most nurses wore the uniform of their training hospital, with starched aprons and caps



In the days before prepacked sterilised theatre packs nurses would prepare equipment for use after autoclaving



Making beds was a daily task, and many nurses will remember hospital corners!



The Nurse of the Year award was a coveted title to attain and a fabulous addition to a CV