

Empire of Care @ Hollytrees Museum, Colchester
October 29th 2008 to March 1st 2009

The National Health Service celebrates its 60th Anniversary this year and Hollytrees Museum will be hosting an exhibition about the lives and stories of the nurses who came to Colchester to work for the NHS, recruited from other countries throughout the Commonwealth Empire.

Following the Second World War there was a huge shortage of medical staff in the UK and the NHS began actively recruiting from Europe, Africa, West Indies, Malaysia and China. Colchester's hospitals became a centre for new nurses from overseas with some of them choosing to settle in Colchester and the surrounding area.

This fascinating exhibition displays objects, stories, photographs and press cuttings to bring the story of Colchester's overseas nurses to life. Insightful interviews capture the pioneering spirit of these trainee nurses; their journeys, experiences, the uniforms and the friends they met along the way.

This exhibition can be enjoyed free of charge in the beautiful surroundings of Hollytrees Museum.

FREE

Mon – Sat 10am – 5pm, Sun 11am – 5pm

www.colchestermuseums.org.uk

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