



Anne Watts CV

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My nursing career has taken me into war zones, refugee camps, hospitals and trauma units, and has shown me life at the sharp end. During very nearly 40 years, I have accumulated very powerful recollections, not only of the people behind the headlines, but of the people who never make the headlines. These percolated within me until, at a certain stage, I felt compelled to write down some of the stories which bring to life the people I have known, the places I have been, and the extreme conditions in which I have served. It is true that one cannot know what the life of someone suffering adversity is like unless one intimately knows someone in those circumstances. Through my stories, I hope to make my readers see and experience these lives. Set in circumstances where the boundaries of survival are being tested, some of my writing speaks of the unbelievable damage and waste which war and injury bring to the lives of children and adults alike. But these tales also achieve a unique amalgam of the sad and the heartening. They will almost certainly make you cry but their unique message is ultimately about our fundamental humanity and connectedness, which – despite the horrors of war and the grinding despair of poverty and adversity – enable us to find the purpose, dedication and sheer grit to press on, holding each others' hands as it were, and helping each other through.

QUALIFICATIONS

- 1962 Qualified as State Registered Nurse, United Manchester Hospitals, Royal Infirmary, England
- 1963 Qualified, Central Midwives Board, St David's Hospital, Bangor, Wales

NURSING AND ALLIED EXPERIENCE

- 1964-67 Emergency Staff Nurse, Vancouver General Hospital Canada
- 1667-70 Staff Nurse, South Vietnam Mission Hospital
- 1971-72 Staff Nurse, St Stephen's Hospital, Fulham, London, England
- 1973-77 A&E/OPD Sister in Charge, Alice Springs General Hospital, Australia
(120-bed Community Hospital)
Nurse, Royal Flying Doctor Service
- 1978-79 One of two Community Nurses, Canadian Health and Welfare, Eskimo Point, Canadian Arctic *(Traditional community of 1,200 Inuit)*
- 1979-81 Nurse, Save the Children Fund, Thai Kampuchean Border Camp
(Refugee Camp for 35,000 displaced persons)
- 1981-83 Deputy Director/Acting Director of Nursing, Al Salam International Hospital, Cairo *(300-bed acute care facility)*
- 1983-85 Senior Nursing Officer, Rafiq Hariri Medical Centre, South Lebanon
(350-bed facility affiliated to American University Hospital, Beirut)
- 1985 Attended 14-week full-time course *Women in Management* at Kingston Polytechnic College, Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey
- 1985-86 Matron, Meadbank, Battersea, London *(Recruited to oversee the conversion of a 90 bed council owned to a 70 bed prestigious nursing home).*

NURSING AND ALLIED EXPERIENCE, Continued

- 1988-93 Clinical Nurse Manager, Riyadh Al-Kharj Armed Forces Hospital
(85-bed satellite military industries hospital, Riyadh)
Accountable for day-to-day management nursing department
Responsible for designing, upgrading and delivering improved, cost-effective nursing service
Member of major disaster team responsible for educating the community on chemical warfare and treatment of mass casualties expected from the Gulf War.
- 1992 Organiser and Keynote Speaker: *Nurses Management in a Multicultural Setting*, Al Kharj Military Industries Hospital, Saudi Arabia
- 1993 Published *Delivering Health Care in a Multinational Environment* "International Medical Imaging Update", Riyadh Armed Forces Hospital
- 1993-94 Acting Director of Nursing Services, Royal Commission Medical Centre, Saudi Arabia (500-bed acute facility) Accountable to Medical Director
Restructured nursing department prior to handover to Saudi successor
Responsible for 360 on-site nursing personnel
Recruitment of senior nurses in London, Belfast, Dublin and Egypt
Formation and implementation of all departmental policies
Sitting on seven hospital committees upgrading quality of care and profile of nursing.
- 1994 Presented Keynote Address: *Healthy Families for Healthy Nations*
Royal Commission Medical Centre, Yanbu, Saudi Arabia
- 1994-95 Assistant Director of Nursing Services (Locum)
Almana General Hospital, Saudi Arabia
Accountable for upgrading 250-bed private, acute facility in preparation for accreditation in liaison with Aramco health personnel, quality improvement, infection control and environmental officers. Revision of nursing policies.
Planned and implemented recruitment campaign to India (selected 120 nurses of all grades)
- 1995 Presented Paper: *Budget Restrictions and Cost Implications*
King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 1995-97 Kalifa School, Kuwait. Teacher/Tutor to a class of 12 students aged 6 to 12 with special needs, including cerebral palsy and post severe head trauma.
Planning Individual Educational Programmes (IEPs)
Regular assessment of each child; Teaching core subjects, including English
Liaising with parents, school psychologist, multidisciplinary teams specialising in speech, physio and occupational therapies
Conducted workshops on management of the motor disabled child.
- 1997 Attended 4-day seminar "Early Intervention of the Motor Disabled Child"

GEARING UP TO WRITING

- 1998 Journalism Course (part-time)
- 1998 Teaching of English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) Course

PRIVATE GOVERNESS/CARE EXPERIENCE

- 1999-2004 To facilitate writing, undertook a long-term placement as private governess (Arabic-speaking) to a Saudi family in London.
- 2004-to date Private live-in nursing with a dialysis patient in London.