

The Spring 2025 Military Welfare History Network Symposium

## 'The Military Medicine and Welfare of the First World War: preparations, evolutions and legacies'

Date: Thurs 10 – Fri 11 April 2025 Venue: Muirhead Tower, University of Birmingham

## 10/04/2025.

Location: Muirhead Tower, University of Birmingham.

1700-1830hrs: Keynote Address – Dr Brian K. Feltman (Georgia Southern University)

'Another Mouth to be Feed: German prisoners of war and military Welfare during the First World War'

Conference dinner to follow Dr Feltman's lecture and will take place at the Edgbaston Hotel and Conference Centre.

## 11/04/2025.

Location: [room tbc], Muirhead Tower, University of Birmingham.

0830hrs: Registration and welcome

0900-1000hrs: Panel One: Nursing: Wartime Experiences and Legacies

Prof Alison Fell (University of Liverpool, UK)

'First World War nurses and humanitarian relief work, 1918-23'

Prof Juliette Pattinson (King's College London, UK)

"Here we were, girls of the twentieth century": gender, modernity and the First Aid Nursing Yeomanry in the First World War'

1000-1030hrs: Coffee break

1030-1230hrs: Panel Two: Race and Welfare

Prof Dónal Hassett (Maynooth University, Ireland)

'Towards a History of the Systems of Care for War-Wounded Veterans in France's African Colonies'

Francis van Berkel (University of Essex, UK)

"Sympathetic Treatment" and Sepoy Loyalty: the Indian Army, paternalism and welfare provision'

Dr Micah Bellamy (Valencia College, USA)

'Separate and Unequal: medical welfare for African-American soldiers in World War I'

Col (Retd) Dr Soundararajan 'Jag' Jagdish (Independent, UK)

'Misadventures in Mesopotamia: when health and welfare went awry'

1230-1330hrs: Break for lunch

1330-1500hrs: Keynote Address – Prof Jessica Meyer (University of Leeds)

'Returning to Health: the legacy of British disabled ex-servicemen of the First World War'

1500-1600hrs: Panel Three: Care for caregivers

Anna Elisabeth Gehl (Freie Universität Berlin, Germany)

"But the sadness of it all worked its way into my very soul": treating the mental and physical wounds of World War One medical volunteers"

Michael Robinson (University of Birmingham/National Army Museum)

"He Now Sees the Same Sights He Saw Then": studying the Great War veteran in 1930s Britain'

This event is one of the three-part 2025-26 Military Welfare History Network series, which is generously supported by the Wellcome Trust through the Social History of Medicine.

Symposium #1 will be hosted by the University of Birmingham and has also received additional support from the International Society for the First World War Studies.







