



## **PRESS RELEASE**

No: 98/2009

Date: 12<sup>th</sup> May 2009

### **NATIONAL NURSES DAY** **TUESDAY MAY 12<sup>TH</sup> 2009**

Nurses in the Gibraltar Health Authority will be joining with colleagues from across the world in celebrating National Nurses Day today. This is a tradition marked in many countries on 12<sup>th</sup> May each year to coincide with Florence Nightingale's birthday. A poster presentation has been prepared by nurses to mark the occasion next to the main Foyer in St Bernard's Hospital reception area. The exhibition will be available for viewing between 08:30 and 16:00 and is open to all.

The posters depict work undertaken by nurses to improve care for their patients. These include work by staff in Captain Murchison Ward, the Operating Department, Infection Control and the Children's Ward and the new breast care services. In addition, Cancer Relief has also contributed to the display, highlighting the valuable contribution made to the community by this charity.

As well as celebrating nursing today- the exhibition takes a look back into history. A DVD showing life as a nurse in the 1940's is on show- as is a replica of a nursing uniform worn in Florence Nightingales day. By popular request, after the success of last years display, archive photographs of nurses who are part of Gibraltar's rich professional nursing history have also been prepared for display by Deputy Director of Nursing Eddie Holmes and Clinical Nurse Manager, Sandie Gracia, who have organised this year's event. They said they have been delighted by the enthusiasm shown by staff in marking the event and by the quality of the posters prepared by staff.

Minister for Health, Yvette Del Agua, said on visiting the exhibition, "This display is testimony to the commitment and dedication of our nurses and depicts how the nursing profession has evolved over the years. I take this opportunity to congratulate and thank all members of the nursing profession, both past and present, for their contribution to patient care."

**Note to Editors: The Minister for Health will be visiting the exhibition at 12.00 noon today.**