

Florence Nightingale: using graphical statistical analysis to combat the spread of disease

A talk by Noel-Ann Bradshaw (University of Greenwich)

6.00 pm, Tuesday 12th November 2013

Venue: The Club Room, The Old Joint Stock 4 Temple Row West, Birmingham, B2 5NY

This will be a joint talk with the West Midlands branch of the Institute of Mathematics and Its Applications (IMA)

Abstract

Florence Nightingale (from Lea, Derbyshire) is well known in mathematical and statistical circles for her graphical representations of data. But what exactly did these diagrams show and what other diagrams and statistical methods were being used at the time to analyse data? This talk will look in detail at Nightingale's graphical representation of the causes of mortality during the Crimean War. It will demonstrate how these were used by and others to show Nightingale that preventable diseases contributed to the army's high mortality rate and how the use of this data led to dramatic changes to nursing practices in Army hospitals.



Non-members welcome, no charge is made.

After the talk, you are welcome to join us and the speaker for a meal.

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