Step back into the past 100 years

A look back at how the NHS has developed, alongside key events

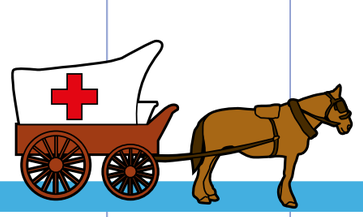
1910s 1920s 1930s

Before 1948 and the NHS
Patients generally have to pay for their healthcare.

"Before the war hundreds of thousands of people were just too poor to see a doctor."
Shirley Murgraff
Source: www.guardian.com

At the start of World War Two an Emergency Hospital Service is set-up to care for injured soldiers.

It gives a taste of what a National Health Service might look like.



1918: World War One ends

1918: Women get the vote
Parliament says they deserve it after doing men's work during the war.

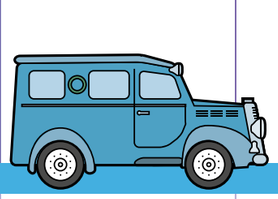
1922: First BBC radio broadcast
"Listening-in" becomes a popular pastime.

1936: BBC Television Service begins
It is put on hold when war breaks out.

1939: World War Two begins
Women are called up for the first time.

1940s

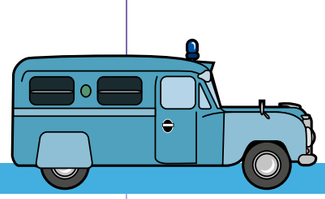
1948: The NHS is born
It provides free healthcare to everyone and employs 144,000 people. Over 11 times more people work for the NHS now and it sees **one million patients every 24 hours.**



1945: World War Two ends

1950s

1958: A vaccination programme is launched for under 15s
The vaccines greatly reduce disease. Children can now receive far more vaccinations to **prevent diseases.**



1955: ITV, the first commercial TV station, is launched

1957: Russia launches Sputnik
First satellite orbits the Earth.

1960s

1960: First UK organ transplant
Organs are donated from one person to another in a life-saving operation. Transplants are an **incredible achievement** of modern medicine.

1969: Man walks on the moon

1970s

1972: CT scans allow doctors to inspect the inside of the body like never before
CT scans use X-rays and a computer to create detailed pictures. They are carried out in hospital by **specially trained operators.**

1975: A new law is passed – Sex Discrimination Act
It says men and women need to be treated equally and given the same opportunities in the workplace.

1979: First woman Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher

1980s

1983: Men can work as midwives
Back in 1975, the law said men and women should have the same opportunities.

"From my experience, if you have drive, the opportunities are there – you have to go for it."
Jamie Richardson, Midwife

1989: The World Wide Web is invented

1990s

1998: NHS Direct launches
It provides health advice to the public by telephone or through a website. It went on to become one of the **largest e-health services in the world.**

It was later replaced by NHS Choices and the 111 service.

1991: First website goes live
It provided information on the World Wide Web project. It was made by the inventor, Tim Berners-Lee.

2000s

2007: Robotic arm is used in groundbreaking heart operations
Doctors control the robot arm through a computer using a joystick. In future, it might be possible to **program the robot arm** to target a place in the heart chosen by the doctor.

2000: Britain celebrates the start of a new millennium

2005: First ever video is uploaded to YouTube

2010s

2012: NHS is celebrated at the London 2012 Olympic Games

2017: There are over 350 different jobs in the NHS. It's not just doctors and nurses!

2018: NHS turned 70!

2010: First iPad is launched

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