



## Notes to Editor

**Mary Seacole** was born of Jamaican/Scottish parents in Kingston, Jamaica in 1805 and followed in her mother's footsteps as a doctress, nurse and entrepreneur. In 1850, she nursed victims of the Jamaican cholera outbreak.

Mary loved to travel and in 1851 single-handedly cared for patients during a cholera epidemic in Panama. Back in Jamaica, Mary looked after victims of a yellow fever epidemic in 1853 and the British army asked her to supervise nursing services at their headquarters in Up-Park Camp, Kingston.

Mary Seacole's role in the Crimean War is well documented. She was mentioned in dispatches where her contributions were praised, and she was warmly described as 'Mother Seacole'. Mary died in London in 1881 and is buried in St Mary's Cemetery, Kensal Green.

**The Mary Seacole Memorial Statue Appeal (MSMSA)** was set up in 2003 by Lord Soley of Hammersmith. In October 2016, the charity was reconstituted as **the Mary Seacole Trust**, just a few months after the statue was unveiled in the grounds of St Thomas' Hospital on 30 June 2016.

### **The Mary Seacole Trust aims:**

- To educate and inform the public about the life, work and achievements of Mary Seacole
- To ensure the maintenance of the permanent public memorial in the garden of St Thomas' Hospital
- To promote Mary Seacole as a role model, supporting those involved in tackling social challenges of inequality, with a particular focus on young people and the promotion of good citizenship, entrepreneurship and achievement
- To build on the legacy of Mary Seacole and campaign for fairness and equality, promoting diverse leadership in private and public service, including, although not limited to, the NHS in the UK.

**Further information on the Mary Seacole Trust can be found at:**

**<https://www.maryseacoletrust.org.uk/>**



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