

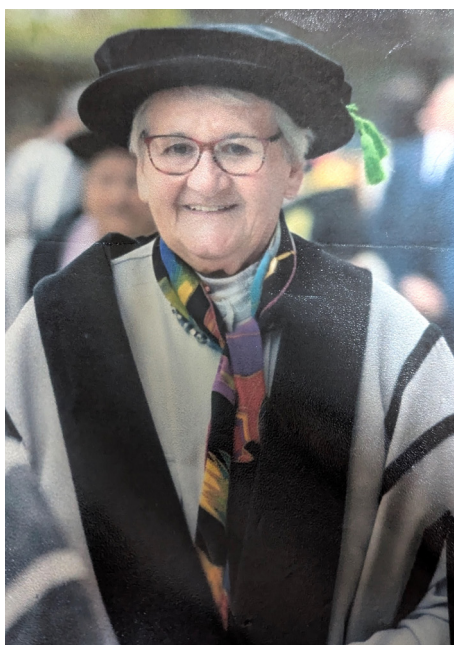


# ENDA Newsletter

## SPECIAL ISSUE

# Professor Jacqueline Filkins

## Celebrating a Wonderful Milestone in an Extraordinary Nursing Career



*Professor Jacqui Filkins was one of the founding members of ENDA in 1992. She then led the implementation of the first advanced nurse practitioners in the UK.*

Dear ENDA Members,

With immense pride and great joy, we recognise an extraordinary achievement: this month, our Honorary President, Professor Jacqui Filkins, celebrates an incredible 60 years of dedication to the nursing profession.

A true pioneer and visionary, Jacqui Filkins founded ENDA with her colleagues in 1992, bringing European nurse managers together into a strong, united, and forward-looking professional community. What began as a bold vision has grown into a powerful and lasting organisation that continues to inspire and connect us all.

Jacqui first qualified as a nurse at the Lindenhoff in Switzerland (with her best friend, Mädi). She soon moved to Africa with her husband and nursed in Malawi and Madagascar before returning to the UK for a nursing career which has spanned night shifts, to hospital management, to director of nursing, to fellow of the faculty of health at the University of Cumbria.

Jacqui's impact reaches far beyond ENDA. As a director of nursing in the UK, she led the implementation of the first advanced nurse practitioners (ANPs) in the mid-1990s, once again demonstrating her courage to innovate and her unwavering belief in the future of nursing.



*“Jacqui’s influence on the nursing profession, both nationally and internationally, is nothing short of remarkable.”*

Sabine Torgler

ENDA BOARD MEMBER

For decades, Jacqui has been a passionate voice in policy and decision making, shaping the direction of nursing with wisdom, strength, and determination. Her commitment, boundless energy, and enduring vision have uplifted generations of nurses and strengthened our profession in countless ways.

Today, we celebrate not only a remarkable career, but an extraordinary person. With heartfelt gratitude and deepest admiration, we say: “Thank you, Jacqui!”.

You are an inspiration to us all. Your leadership, your passion, and your belief in nursing have brought us together and continue to guide us forward.

With all of our warmest congratulations and appreciation,

**The ENDA Board**

On the following page, you will find a short biography about Jacqui with more information about her career and current work.



*Jacqui working as a nurse in Malawi at the beginning of her career.*



*(Above) A snapshot of the numerous nursing positions Jacqui has held during her career.*



*Jacqui receiving her master's degree.*



# Professor Jacqueline Filkins

## A Short Biography

Jacqueline Filkins is a Nurse Leader with more than 60 years of experience across clinical practice, education, executive management, and international health policy. Her career spans Europe, Africa, and the UK, reflecting a lifelong commitment to advancing the Nursing profession and practice. Fluent in English, German, and French, Jacqueline brings a particularly global perspective and cultural understanding and a long-standing commitment to advancing the nursing profession.

She was a recipient of a prestigious WHO Medical Fellowship (EU) which over the years led to multiple and diverse Honorary Appointments recognising her contributions to nursing leadership and workforce development. As the Founder of the European Nurse Directors Association (ENDA) in 1992, she plays a pivotal role in establishing and maintaining a collaborative platform for

senior nurse leaders across Europe, shaping strategic dialogue on professional standards, leadership, and cross border cooperation.

Jacqueline has served in senior clinical, executive, and non executive roles, influencing organisational strategy, professional regulation, and the development of nursing education. Together with her husband, her international work included service with an English Anglican charity in Malawi and Madagascar, contributing to health service development and capacity building.

Now working as an Independent Nurse Advisor within the EU, she responds to invites to provide expert guidance on leadership, education, and policy development. The focus is on supporting organisations to strengthen leadership capability and interprofessional systems.

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