A legacy of Everest
Khunde Hospital and primary health care in Nepal

Speaker: Dr Susan Heydon
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Join us in the Treehouse, Berrick Saul Building, Monday 3 June 2013, 17.00 - 18.30
All welcome, no need to register

The Centre for Global Health Histories presents an evening lecture by Susan Heydon. For the people living in the remote high valleys near the world’s highest mountain, the first ascent of Mt Everest in 1953 has had a defining and continuing influence on health services in an area which today is one of Nepal’s main tourist destinations. Tourism and foreign aid are deeply entwined in primary health care in Nepal. In 1966 New Zealander Sir Edmund Hillary, “hero” of Everest, built a small hospital in the village of Khunde which quickly became the main provider of ‘modern’ healthcare and medicines for the local population. Set against a background of economic and social change, Khunde Hospital provides a case-study to examine the introduction and spread of ‘modern medicine’ in a plural medical environment, changing patterns of disease and use of health services and medicines, and to explore wider issues such as why health programmes may not be as successful as planned.