

Mutte the Museum Dog and the CHILDREN'S OWN HOSPITALS



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MUTTE THE MUSEUM DOG AND THE CHILDREN'S OWN HOSPITALS



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It is the year 2018. The Children's Castle hospital is about to close, because the New Children's Hospital has been completed. The museum workers have been invited to help with the move, because the Children's Castle has a lot of items related to the history of child care in it. They are packing up the former Chief Physicians' room that once belonged to Archiater Arvo Ylppö when they come across a tiny dog on the floor, made out of metal scraps.



HI! WHO ARE YOU
AND WHAT ARE YOU
DOING HERE?

LASTEN
SAIRAANHOITO

AHVENAINEN
HALLMAN
KALMI
EVÄ

A. YLPPÖ
LASTENHOITO
JA
LASTENTAUDIT

TAIPALE-VALANNE
LASTENPSYKIA

MUSEOTOIMIKUNTA

MUSEOTOIMIKUNTA



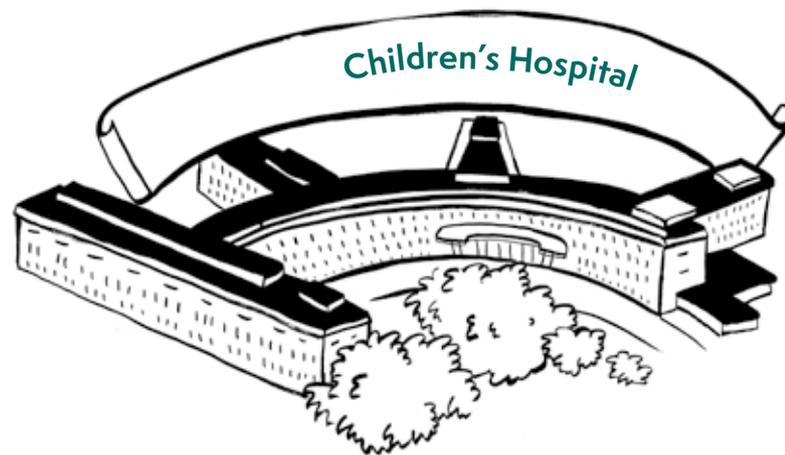
I AM MUTTE THE MUSEUM DOG, AND I CAN
TIME TRAVEL. I AM ABOUT TO GO ON AN
ADVENTURE INTO THE HISTORY OF CHILDREN'S
HOSPITAL CARE! COME WITH ME!



THIS IS WHAT
I REALLY LOOK LIKE!



A BRAND NEW HOSPITAL
FOR CHILDREN! WHERE WERE
ILL CHILDREN TREATED
BEFORE IT WAS BUILT?



The New Children's Hospital opened in Helsinki in 2018. Before that, two hospitals, the Children's Castle and the Children's Hospital, operated side by side in the city for over 70 years. During that time, Finland developed from a poor country into a welfare state.

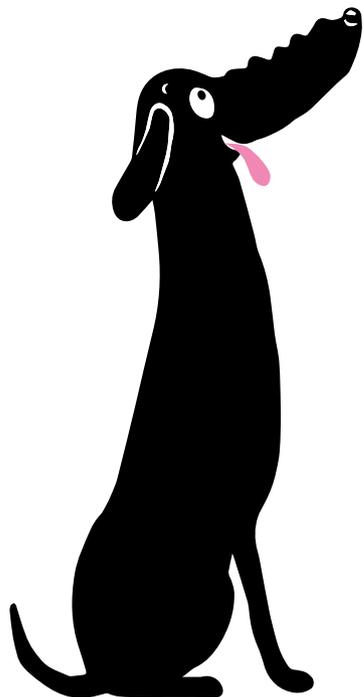
Before the Children's Hospital came to exist, Finland's first children's hospital was founded in Helsinki in 1893. Sick children had previously been treated at home or in general hospitals.



Finland's first children's hospital was located on the Tehtaankatu street in Helsinki.

The Children's Castle was founded in 1917 to help single mothers and orphans. Later, it was turned into a hospital.

WHAT WAS IT LIKE
BEFORE HOSPITALS?



Preventive health care has been developed particularly at the Children's Castle.

A hundred years ago, childhood was the most dangerous stage of life. Many medicines had not yet been invented and nutritious food was not always available, so not everyone got to grow up and become healthy adults.

SOMETHING HAD TO BE
DONE, AND FAST!

WHO ARE YOU?





ARVO YLPPÖ

Arvo Ylppö (1887–1992) was Chief Physician at both the Children's Castle and Children's Hospital. He worked hard to improve the lives of children in Finland.

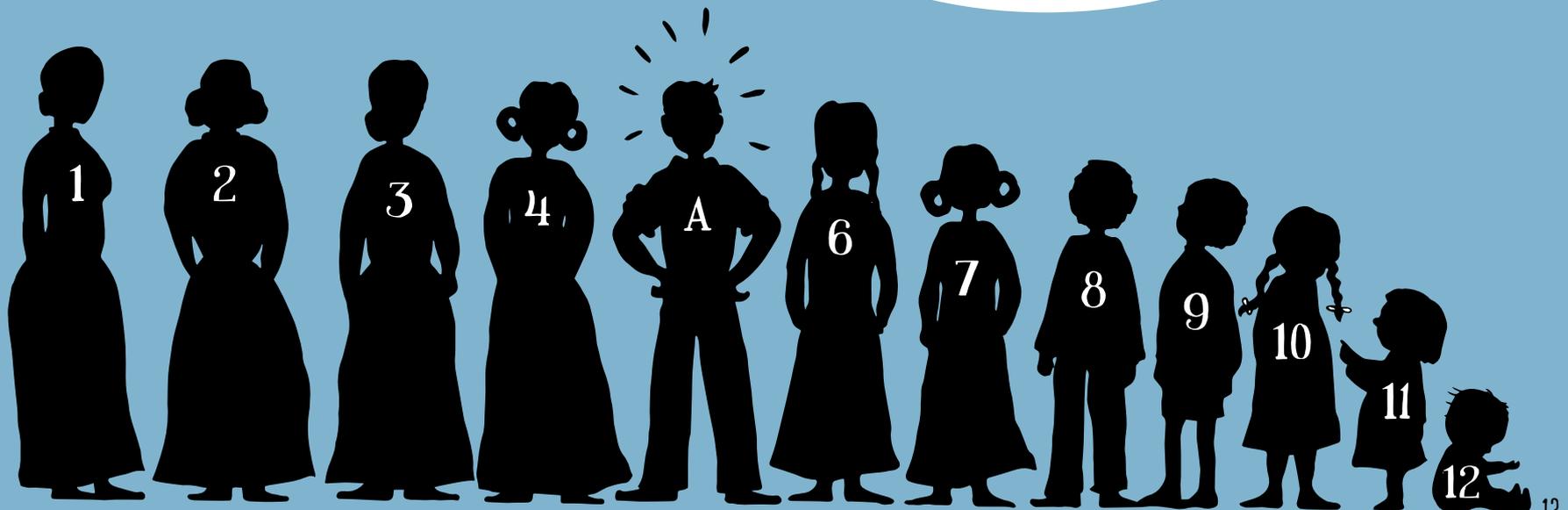
HOW DID YOU BECOME
A DOCTOR?

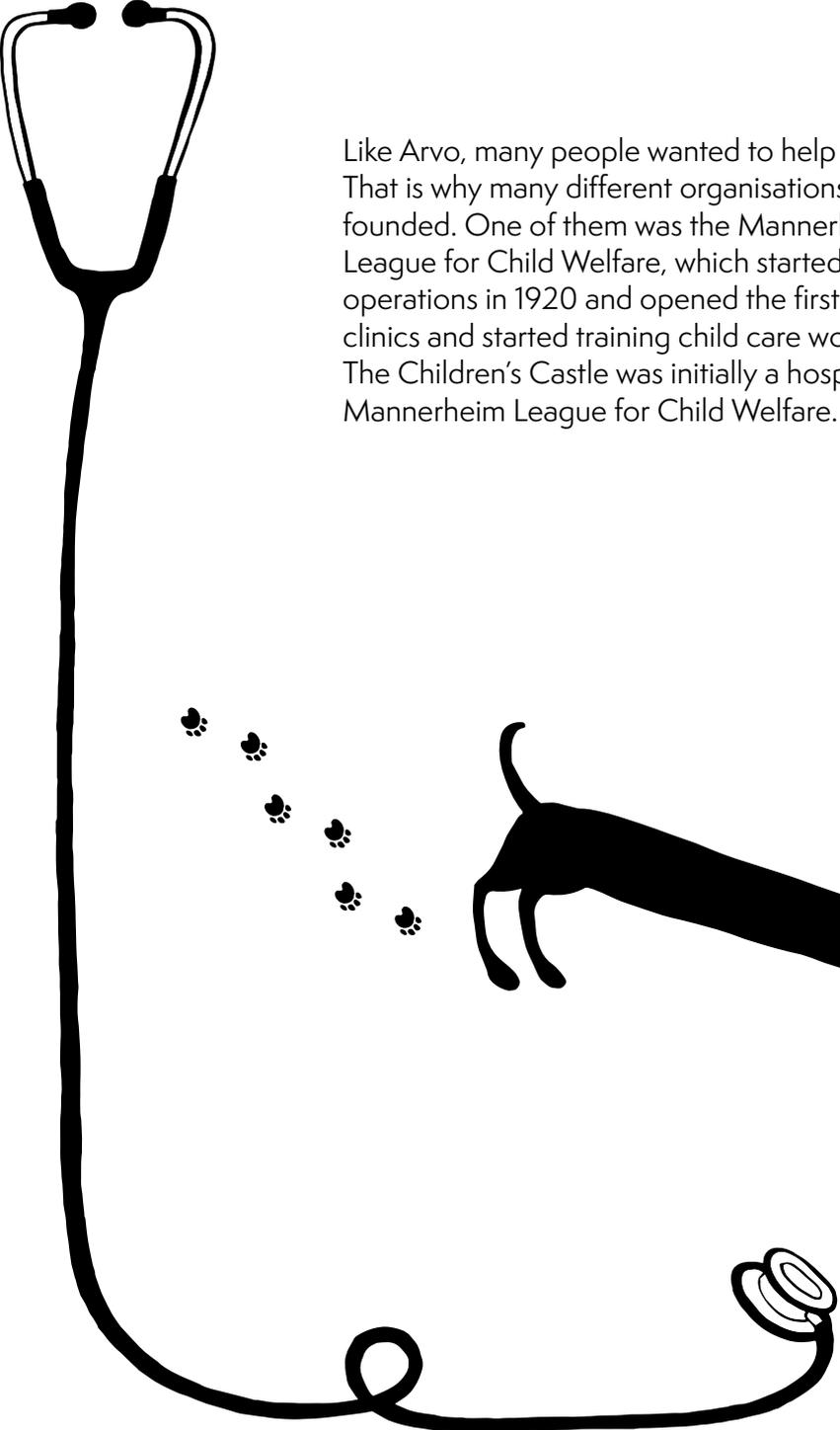




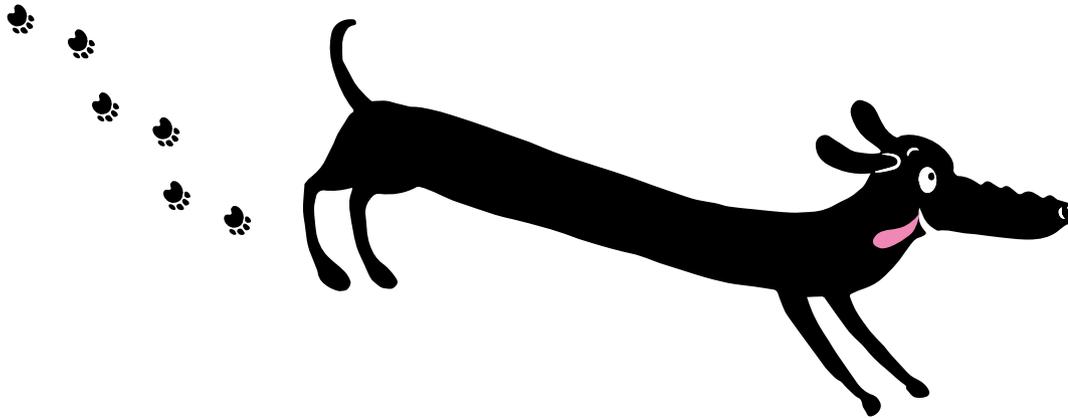
Arvo had 11 siblings. When the children became ill or had an accident, the parents had to ask the municipal physician Kaarlo Palkonen to come and help.

ALREADY WHEN I WAS LITTLE I DECIDED I WAS GOING TO BECOME THE CHILDREN'S OWN DOCTOR. THIS WAY, I COULD HELP MY MOTHER, AND SHE WOULD NOT HAVE TO USE THE TELEPHONE TO ASK MR. PALKONEN TO COME AND HELP SO OFTEN.





Like Arvo, many people wanted to help children. That is why many different organisations were founded. One of them was the Mannerheim League for Child Welfare, which started its operations in 1920 and opened the first child health clinics and started training child care workers. The Children's Castle was initially a hospital of the Mannerheim League for Child Welfare.



Child health clinic in the 1930s. Finland's first child health clinic was established in 1922. Before child health clinics, there was a child welfare organisation called Maitopisara ('droplet of milk'), founded in 1904. In addition to its other activities, it provided health advice.







Outdoor activities in the courtyard of the Children's Hospital on the Tehtaankatu street in the 1920s or 1930s.



ARE YOU SLEEPING OUTSIDE
BECAUSE YOU ARE CAMPING?

Nap time on the balcony of the Children's Hospital in the 1950s.

On the left, a nurse is giving light therapy to a baby at the Children's Hospital on the Tehtaankatu street in the 1930s or 1940s. The eyes of both the child and the nurse had to be protected with glasses.



AND WHAT IS
GOING ON HERE?

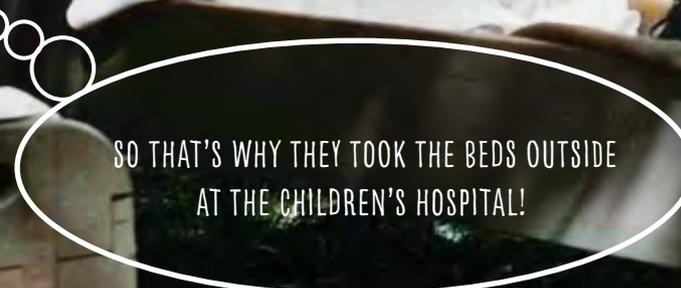


Long ago, people believed that illnesses were caused by spirits. This is reflected in the name of the bone disease rickets. The Finnish name for rickets, 'riisi illness', refers to a spirit known in the folk religion as 'riisi' who causes wasting illnesses. The disease is not, however, caused by any spirit but by a lack of vitamin D. That's why Arvo Ylppö urged people to take their children outside for naps. The children were also given light therapy and cod liver oil.

Summer day in the courtyard of the Children's Hospital on the Tehtaankatu street over a hundred years ago.



SO THAT'S WHY THEY TOOK THE BEDS OUTSIDE
AT THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL!

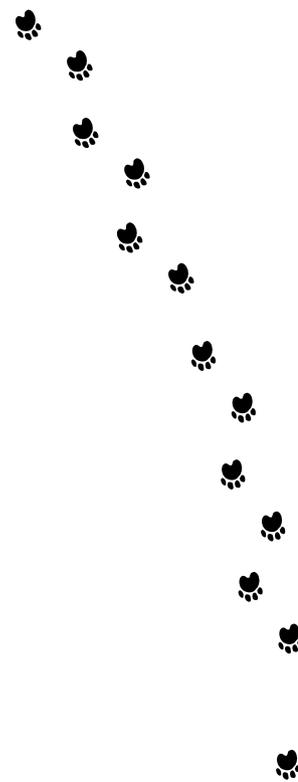




Coffee sold for the Children's Castle.



The Children's Castle first operated in an old wooden house. When a new, bigger hospital was needed, they collected funds by organising a general collection, for example by selling coffee.



A button related to the general collection for the New Children's Hospital.



THE NEW CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL WAS ALSO PARTIALLY FUNDED BY VOLUNTARY WORK.

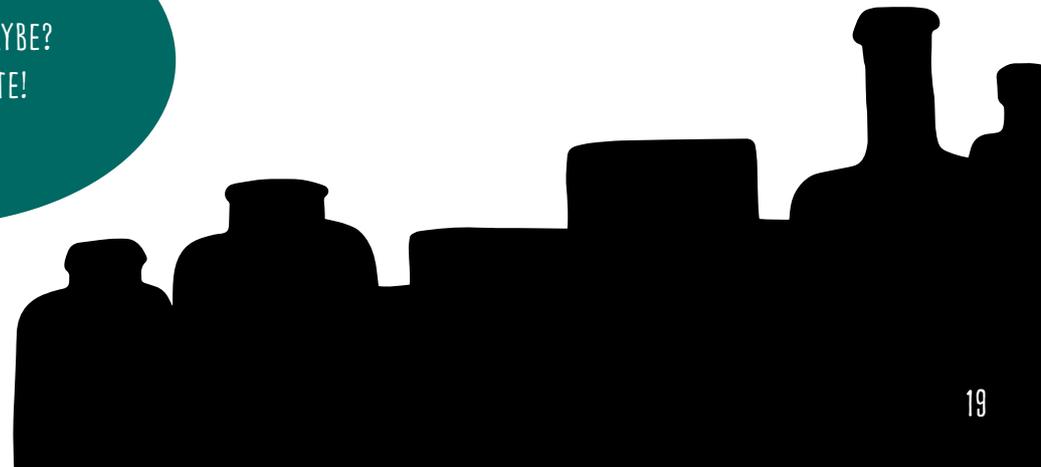
Connections with other countries were important when the development of hospital care for children started in Finland. Paediatricians and nurses often studied abroad, and children's hospitals received grants from many different countries and international organisations.



Finnish people did not always have enough food, which is why many countries provided food aid and vitamins to Finland. They were given to children in places like schools and child health clinics.



COD LIVER OIL, MAYBE?
IT'S MY FAVOURITE!



In the 1950s, the World Health Organization donated to the Children's Hospital an EEG device for measuring the electrical activity of the brain.



THAT LOOKS DELICIOUS!
WHAT ARE WE CELEBRATING?



Coffee and cake after a successful heart surgery. The examination and treatment of heart defects in children began at the Children's Hospital in the 1950s. Unicef donated the necessary equipment, such as an electrocardiograph (ECG) machine as well as instruments and literature, to the Children's Hospital. All of the paediatricians in the photograph – Matti Sulamaa, Niilo Hallman, Bernhard Landtman and Arvo Ylppö – sought education from abroad so that they could give the best possible care to Finnish children.

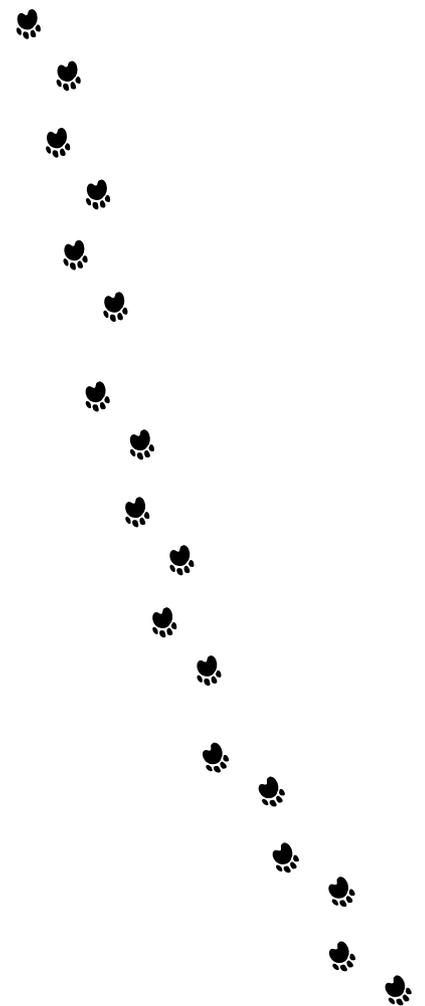


NIILO HALLMAN

I AM NIILO HALLMAN, CHIEF PHYSICIAN AT THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AFTER ARVO YLPPÖ. MY NAME IS MENTIONED IN THIS PLAQUE THAT CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH INTO PAEDIATRIC KIDNEY DISEASES.



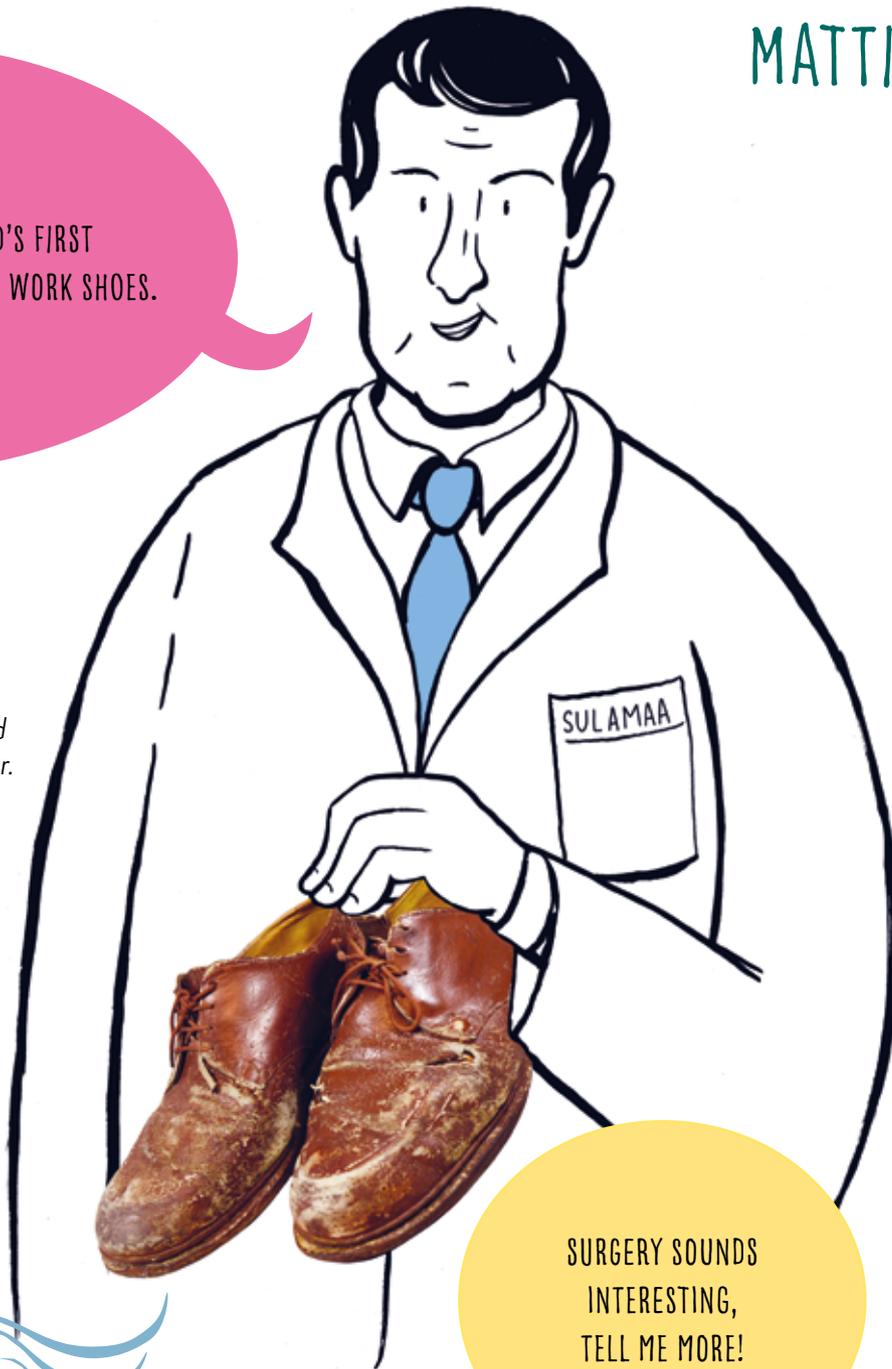
Niilo (1916–2011) was an internationally known scientist and active in various associations. His research made it possible to treat children's diarrhoea and kidney diseases better.



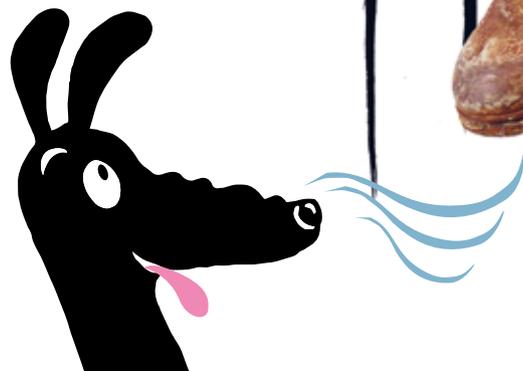
MATTI SULAMAA

I AM MATTI SULAMAA, FINLAND'S FIRST
PAEDIATRIC SURGEON. THESE ARE MY WORK SHOES.

Matti (1910–1988)
believed that shoes
should never be washed
to prevent wear and tear.

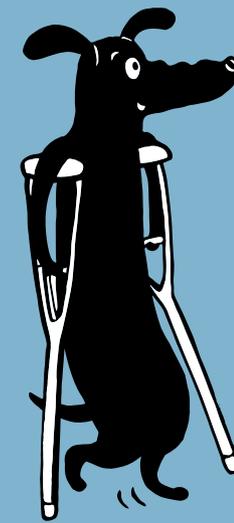


SURGERY SOUNDS
INTERESTING,
TELL ME MORE!





The Children's Hospital was where paediatric surgery was first started in Finland in 1946. Fractures and appendicitis are common causes for children's surgeries. The New Children's Hospital is the only place in Finland where the most difficult operations, such as organ transplantation and open heart surgery, are performed.

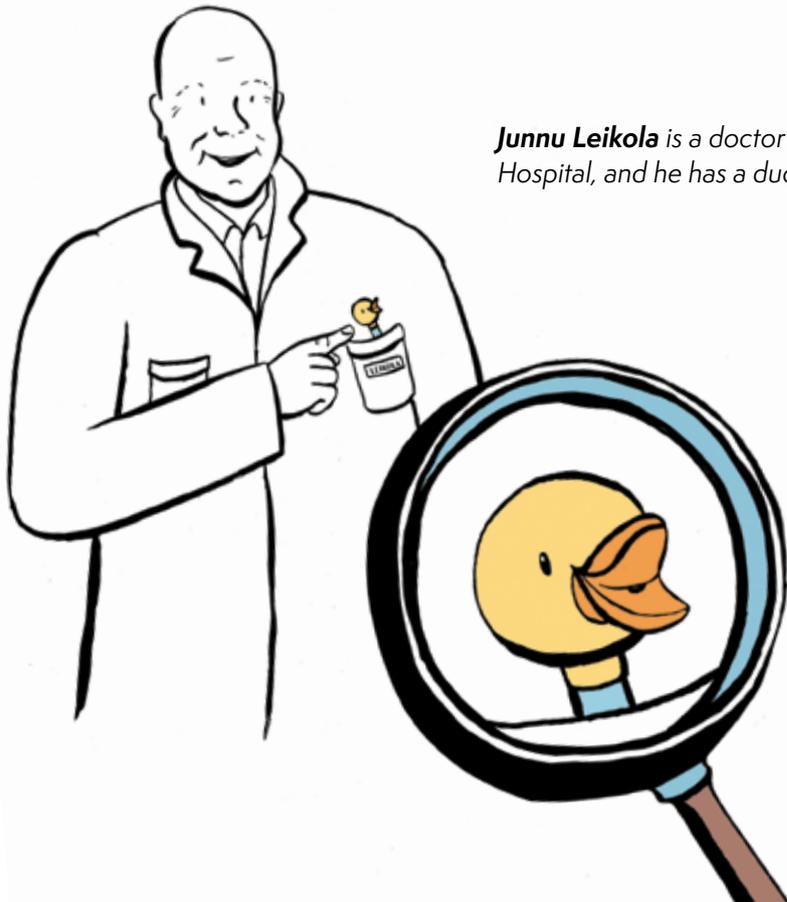


Crutches were used already in ancient Egypt. They still look almost exactly the same as back then. Forearm crutches were developed in the mid-1900s.

THE TREATMENT OF HEART DEFECTS IN CHILDREN BEGAN IN THE 1950S. AT THE SAME TIME, HOSPITAL CARE STARTED TO FOCUS MORE ON THE NEEDS OF CHILDREN AND THEIR PARENTS. IT WAS NOTED THAT THE TREATMENT RESULTS WERE BETTER IF THE PATIENT WAS FEELING SAFE.



Bernhard Landtman, the first heart doctor at the Children's Hospital, had a dog in his pocket that helped him get the attention of his small patients in a gentle way.



Junnu Leikola is a doctor at the New Children's Hospital, and he has a duck peeking out of his pocket.

MAY I HEAR A STORY ABOUT FEELING SAFE?



Johanna Kenttälä has a cleft lip and cleft palate. When Johanna was 15 years old and about to have surgery, she was very scared at the hospital the night before. A nurse comforted her. That's why Johanna decided that she also wants to be a nurse who is there to hold children's hands when they are scared. When she grew up, she made that wish come true.



MORE STORIES!
I WANT TO HEAR ABOUT
THE TREATMENT OF CLEFT LIP
AND CLEFT PALATE!



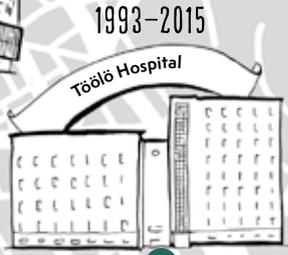
Tuomas Ragvaldinpoika (1724–1804) had a cleft lip and cleft palate, which made it difficult for him to eat and talk. That made him sad. Tuomas' cleft lip and cleft palate were only operated on when he was 38. After the surgery, he started a family and had a long life. Today, cleft lip and cleft palate are operated on as early as possible, but treatment lasts until adulthood.

WE KNOW THE STORY OF TUOMAS, BECAUSE HE WAS AN IMPORTANT WRITER. HE ALSO WROTE THE WORLD'S FIRST DESCRIPTIONS OF THE PROBLEMS CAUSED BY CLEFT LIP AND CLEFT PALATE AND THEIR TREATMENT FROM THE PATIENT'S POINT OF VIEW.

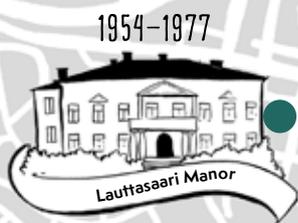
Waan on vielä näkymätöin
wirhi toinen,
Ylhäll suuni laesa,
Joca puhen secoittapi,
wieroittapi
Muiden seas eroitta.

Sijs ei äänen selkiästi,
kerkiästi
Muitten corvis cuulu nijn;
Ei myös huulen ulos sano,
oikein ano
Waick on
selkiä meiningi.





The development of the treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate started in Finland already in the 1930s as part of plastic surgery. Children's cleft lip and cleft palate surgeries have been done at a children's hospital only since 2016.



CLEFT LIP AND CLEFT PALATE SURGERIES HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN ALL THESE PLACES!



Buildings change, but care has been provided by:
1948-1984 Plastics hospital of the Finnish Red Cross
1984- Helsinki University Central Hospital



IS THIS REALLY A HOSPITAL?
IT LOOKS MORE LIKE A MANSION.



THIS IS A GREAT PLACE
FOR A HOSPITAL!

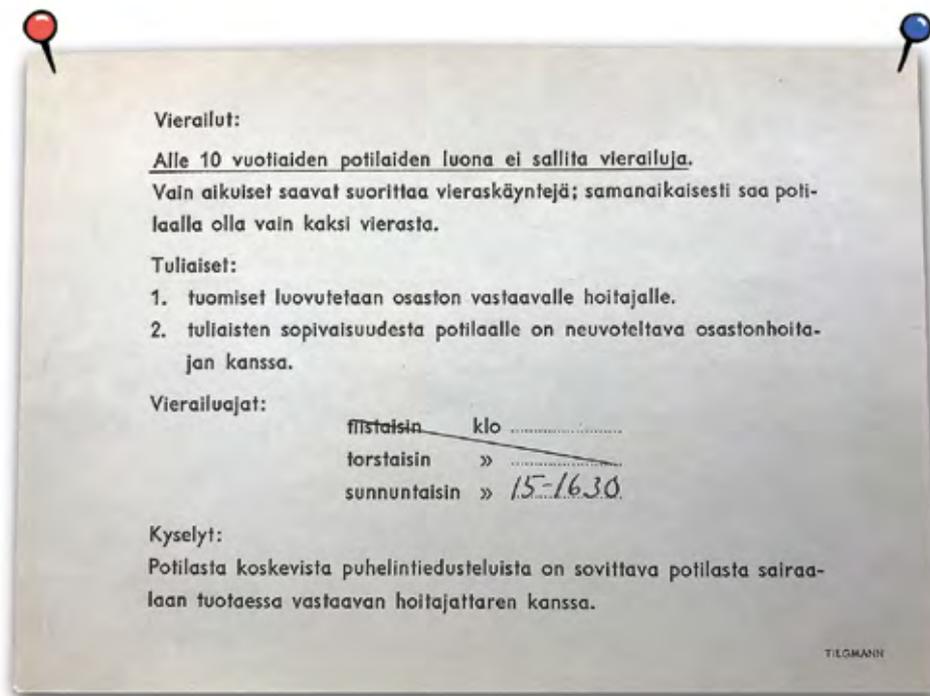
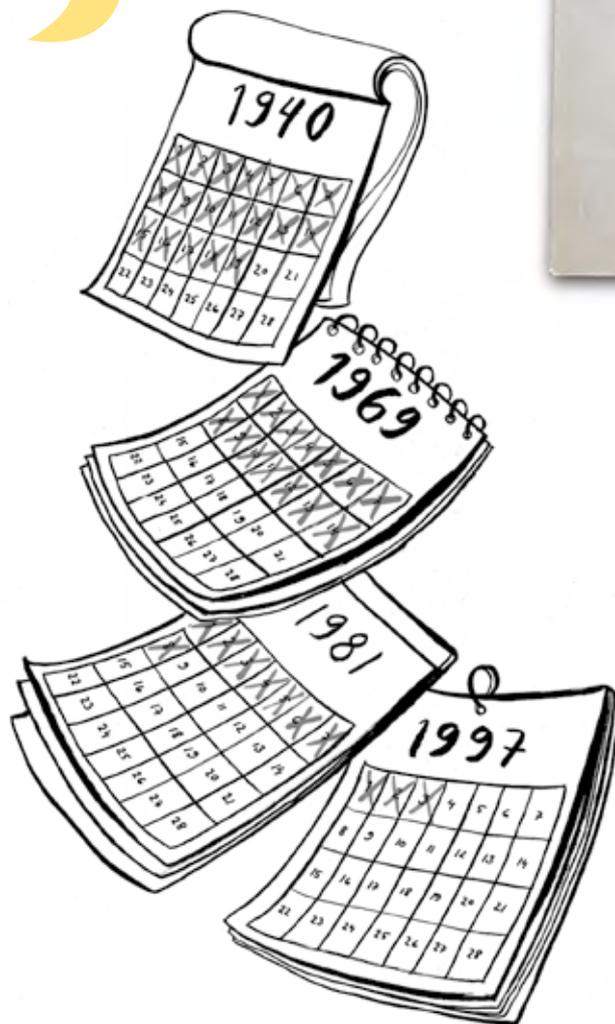
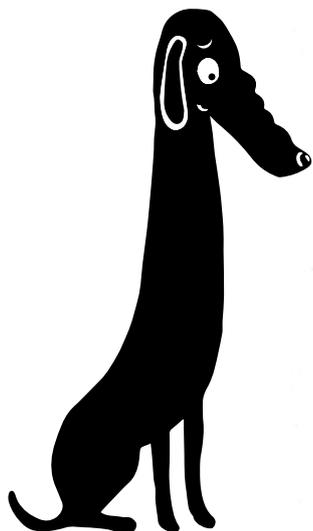


THE HOSPITAL HAD PREVIOUSLY
BEEN IN A SMALL APARTMENT
WHERE THE OPERATING ROOM
WAS IN THE BEDROOM!

The Lauttasaari Manor was a plastics hospital of the Finnish Red Cross in 1954–1977. The candlestick rabbits adorned the mantelpiece.



IN THE OLD DAYS, YOU HAD TO SPEND A LONG TIME
IN THE HOSPITAL WITHOUT YOUR PARENTS.



Instructions for visitors during a time when children had to stay in the hospital for long periods of time without their parents.

Average period of stay in the hospital for cleft lip and cleft palate surgery.

Fortunately, the hospital had a lot of fun activities, such as playing, outdoor activities and trips to places like the Linnanmäki amusement park.



LINNAMÄKI - HELSINKI

1.8.65 Suomen Punainen Risti

Vapaa pääsy seuraaviin laitteisiin: 12 henk

~~Fuoristorata~~

~~Naurutalo~~

~~Saarnio~~

~~Pilvenpyöriä~~

~~Kummituojuna~~

~~Lastenkarusselli~~

~~Vekottala~~

~~Kotjokarusselli~~

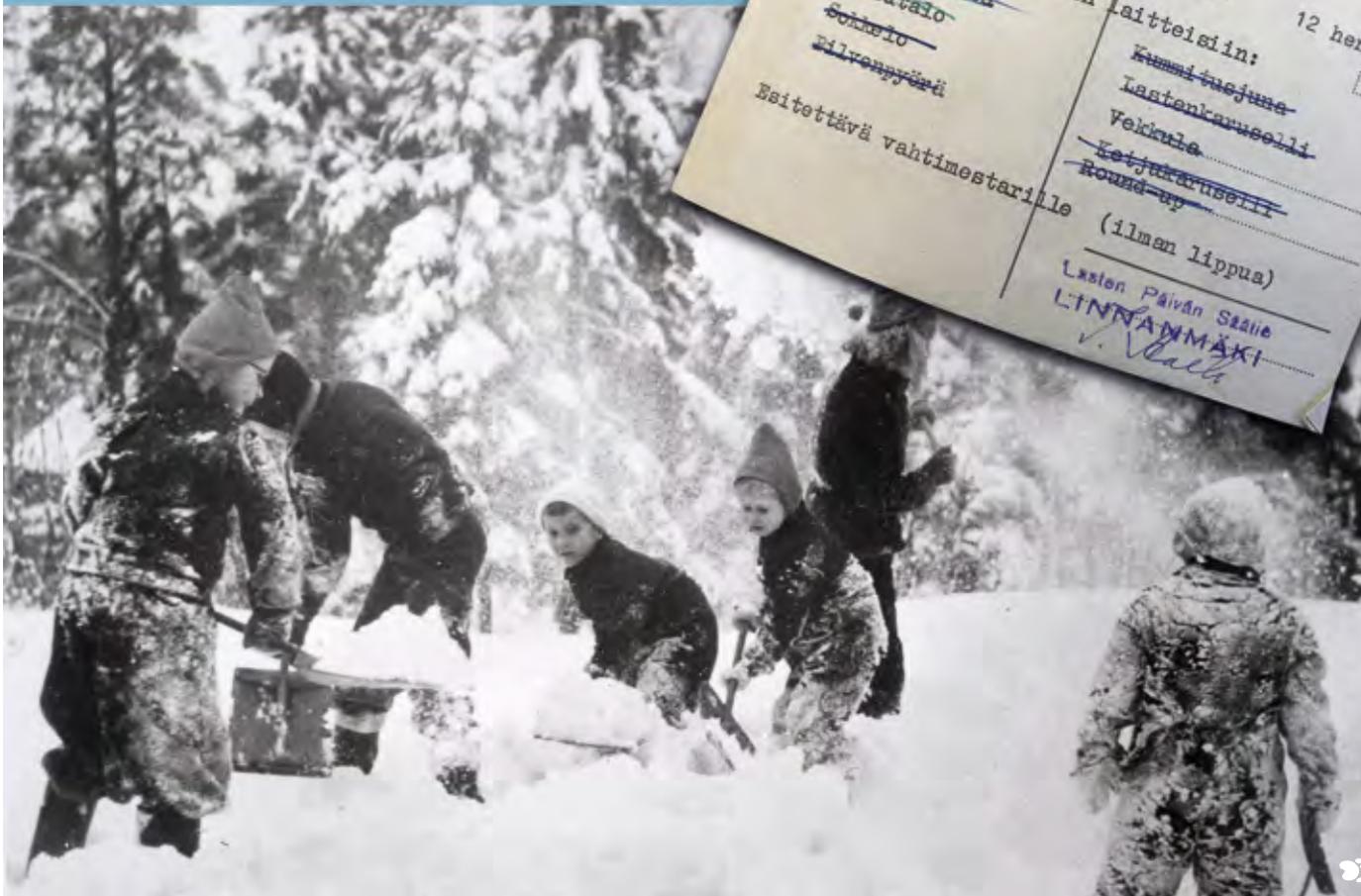
~~Round-up~~

Esitettävä vahtimestarille (ilman lippua)

Lasten Päivän Säätiö

LINNAMÄKI

V. Ståhl





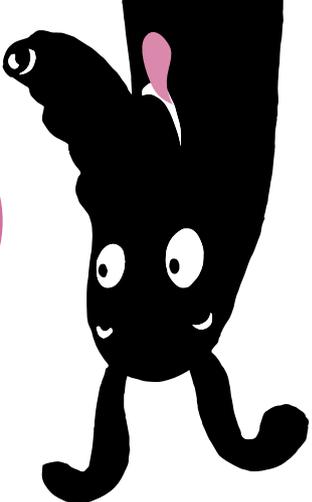
The children's hospitals were beautifully decorated for holidays.





MANY CHILDREN HAD NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THE MUSIC BOX IN THEIR LIVES, SO IT MIGHT HAVE HELPED THEM FORGET THEIR HOME-SICKNESS FOR A MOMENT.

During Christmas, this special music box that plays music and has the dolls move when the crank is turned was put on display at the Children's Hospital.



DID YOU HAVE TO STAY AT
THE HOSPITAL AS A CHILD?



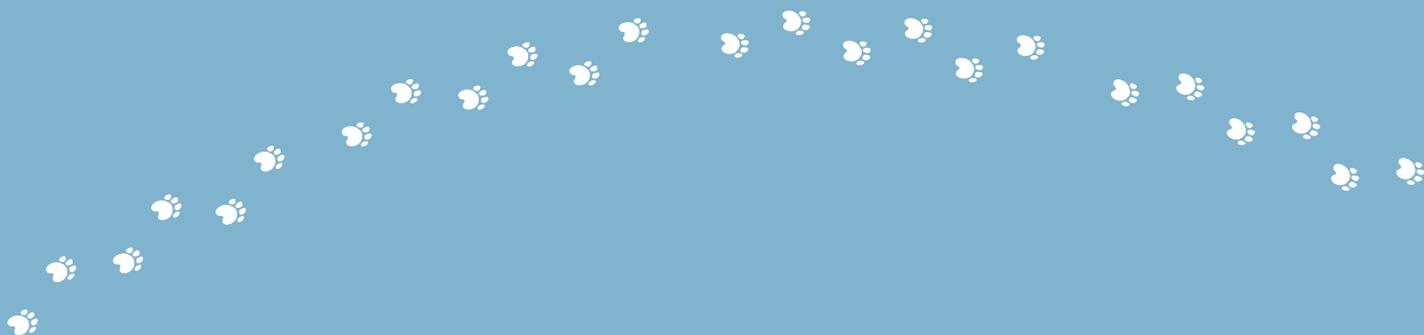
Elina Liukkonen had to go to the Children's Castle at the age of one week in 1949. Her mother had an infectious lung disease called tuberculosis. The baby had to be isolated from the mother until the vaccine started to take effect. Elina had to stay in the hospital longer than expected, because she started vomiting and losing weight. She was diagnosed with pyloric stenosis. Luckily, the operation at the Children's Hospital helped. When Elina grew up, she worked in Children's Castle, because she became a doctor who specialised in paediatric neurology.



I WAS OPERATED
ON BY UNCLE
SUNNY MAN!

Elina at the age of 1 in 1950.

THAT'S WHAT
ELINA CALLED THE
SURGEON MATTI
SULAMAA AS A
CHILD, BECAUSE HIS
NAME WAS HARD TO
REMEMBER.

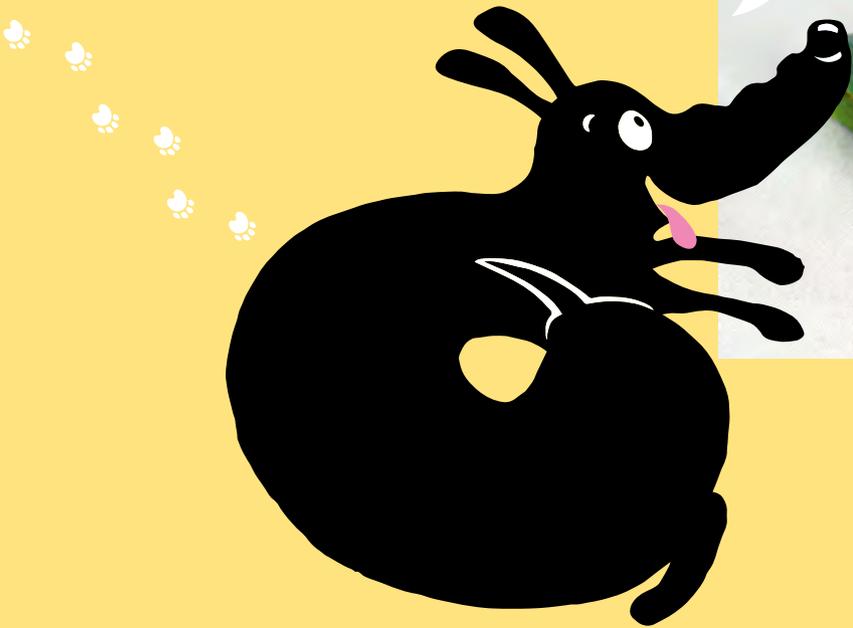


Since children used to have to spend such long periods of time in the hospital, hospital school was introduced. At first, the only subject was handicrafts. The New Children's Hospital also has a hospital school.



I HAVE HAD A LONG TIME TRIP.
COULD I SLEEP IN YOUR DOGHOUSE
TONIGHT?

OF COURSE!



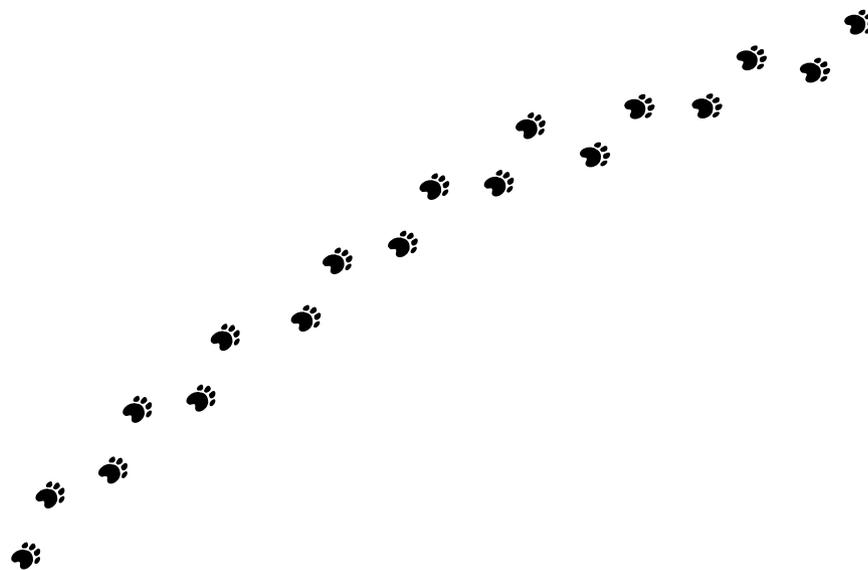
This toy was first invented and built by a child who was being treated at the hospital. The idea was so good that child carers started building more of them.

THANKS FOR LETTING ME STAY THE NIGHT.
I AM OFF TO ANOTHER TIME-TRAVELLING
MUSEUM ADVENTURE!



THANKS FOR VISITING,
HAVE A GOOD JOURNEY!





TIMELINE

1724 Tuomas Ragvaldinpoika is born in Tyrvää. He has a unilateral cleft lip and cleft palate.

1760 Tuomas writes a broadside ballad, a lyric poem, where he talks about his condition.

1763 Tuomas' cleft lip and cleft palate are repaired by surgery. He writes another broadside ballad that talks about the surgery. These broadside ballads written by Tuomas are the first descriptions of cleft lip and cleft palate and their treatment that have been written by the patient in the whole world.

1917 Nurse Sophie Mannerheim (1863–1928) establishes the Äidinhoitoa lapselle ('Mother's care for children') foundation to help single mothers. In the following year, she buys a house for the foundation. The house is called the Children's Castle.

1920 The Mannerheim League for Child Welfare is established. The League assumes responsibility for all child welfare work that, according to the law, does not belong to municipalities or the state.

1921 The Children's Castle is turned into a hospital.

1700

1800

1900

1920

1887 Arvo Ylppö is born.

1893 The first children's hospital in Finland is established in Helsinki.

1899 The Children's Hospital gets its own building on the Tehtaankatu street in Helsinki.

1920 Arvo Ylppö starts as Chief Physician at the Children's Castle.

1922 The first child health clinic is established at the Children's Castle.

1928 Sophie Mannerheim dies. The Children's Castle goes from the Äidinhoitoa lapselle foundation to the Mannerheim League for Child Welfare.

1941 Tuberculosis vaccinations are started.

1945 Finland's first antibiotic medication.

1946 The Children's Hospital is completed in Meilahti, Helsinki. The activities of the Children's Hospital on the Tehtaankatu street are moved there.

1953 First heart surgery at the Children's Hospital.

1957 Polio vaccine. 1975 Measles vaccine.

1930

1940

1950

1960

1970

1980

1990

2000

1925 Arvo Ylppö becomes Chief Physician also at the Children's Hospital on the Tehtaankatu street.

In 1935, the first drugs that work against bacterial infections, called sulpha drugs, become available.

1935 Child health clinics start being called Neuvola in Finnish.

1948 The new Children's Castle building is completed in Meilahti.

In 1948, the Cleft Palate and Craniofacial Center gets its start when the comprehensive treatment of cleft lip and cleft palate is started at the plastics hospital of the Finnish Red Cross.

1957 Arvo Ylppö's term as Chief Physician at the Children's Hospital comes to an end after 32 years.

1963 Arvo Ylppö's term as Chief Physician at the Children's Castle comes to an end after 43 years.

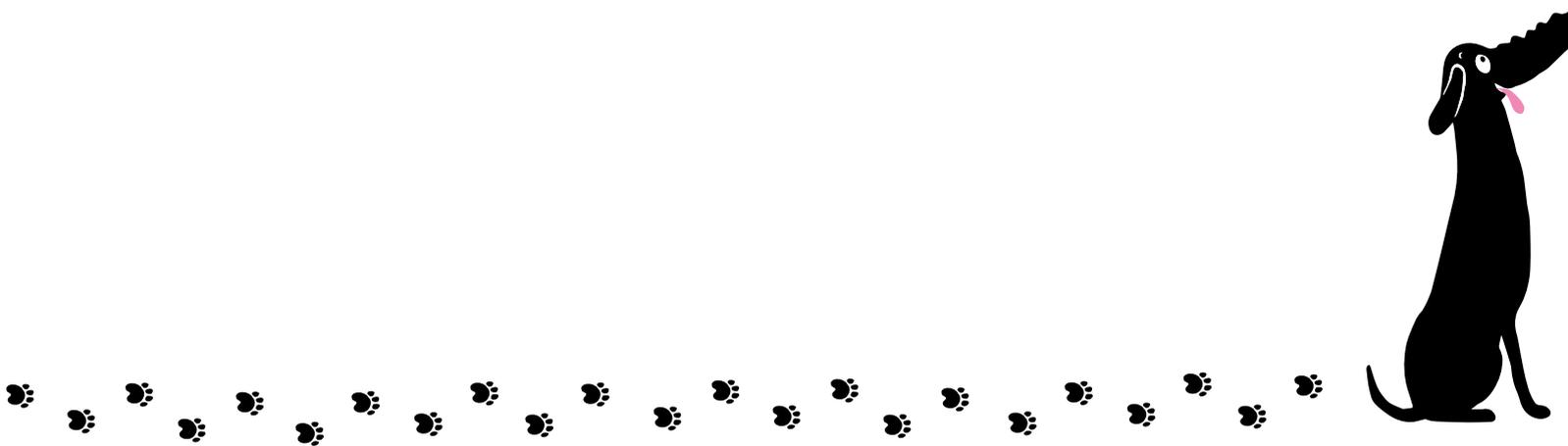
1988 Arvo Ylppö turns 100.

1992 Arvo Ylppö dies.



PHOTOGRAPHS

- Photograph of the object that is the real Mutte.** Anders Manns, HUS Museum Committee.
- Children's Hospital on the Tehtaankatu street.** Collection of the Children's Hospital, HUS Museum Committee.
- Children's Castle.** CC BY 4.0. Arvo Kajantie, Helsinki City Museum.
- Arvo Ylppö yelling.** Collection of the Children's Hospital, HUS Museum Committee.
- Arvo Ylppö, pike and boy.** Collection of the Children's Hospital, HUS Museum Committee. Colourisation of the photograph: Tommi Rossi 2020.
- Child health clinic activities in the 1930s.** Collection of the Children's Hospital, HUS Museum Committee. Colourisation of the photograph: Tommi Rossi 2020.
- Nap time on the balcony of the Children's Hospital.** Collection of the Children's Hospital, HUS Museum Committee.
- Outdoor activities in the courtyard of the Children's Hospital on the Tehtaankatu street.** Collection of the Children's Hospital, HUS Museum Committee. Colourisation of the photograph: Harri Tahvanainen 2019.
- Light therapy.** Collection of the Children's Hospital, HUS Museum Committee.
- Summer day in the yard of the Children's Hospital on the Tehtaankatu street.** Collection of the Children's Hospital, HUS Museum Committee. Colourisation of the photograph: Harri Tahvanainen 2019.
- Packet of coffee.** Anders Manns, HUS Museum Committee.
- Button.** Anders Manns, HUS Museum Committee.
- EEG machine.** Collection of the Children's Hospital, HUS Museum Committee.
- Food aid.** Collection of the Children's Hospital, HUS Museum Committee.
- Cake and coffee.** Collection of the Children's Hospital, HUS Museum Committee.
- Plaque.** Anders Manns, HUS Museum Committee.
- Shoes.** Anders Manns, HUS Museum Committee.
- Girl in the swing.** CC BY 4.0. Pertti Oskala, Helsinki City Museum.
- Pocket dog.** Anders Manns, HUS Museum Committee.
- Johanna as an adult.** Helena Hämäläinen, HUS Museum Committee.
- Lauttasaari Manor.** CC BY 4.0. Helsinki City Museum.
- The rabbits at Lauttasaari.** Jukka Alstela, collection of the Cleft Palate and Craniofacial Center HUSUKE, HUS Museum Committee.
- Instructions for visitors.** Collection of the Cleft Palate and Craniofacial Center HUSUKE, HUS Museum Committee.
- Ticket to Linnanmäki.** Collection of the Cleft Palate and Craniofacial Center HUSUKE, HUS Museum Committee.
- Swimming pool.** Collection of the Children's Hospital, HUS Museum Committee.
- Croquet.** Collection of the Children's Hospital, HUS Museum Committee.
- Playing in the snow.** Collection of the Children's Hospital, HUS Museum Committee.
- Holiday decorations.** Collection of the Children's Hospital, HUS Museum Committee. Colourisation of the photograph: Harri Tahvanainen 2019.
- Music box.** Anders Manns, HUS Museum Committee.
- Elina at the age of 1.** Picture: Elina Liukkonen's home album.
- Music class.** Collection of the Children's Hospital, HUS Museum Committee.
- Handicraft class.** Collection of the Children's Hospital, HUS Museum Committee.
- Dog and doghouse.** Anders Manns, HUS Museum Committee.



Mutte the Museum Dog goes time-travelling through the history of children's hospital care in Finland. He starts his adventure on the floor of the Children's Castle, dashes through the hospital school with his fast little legs and ends up in a doghouse. Along the way, he finds out how a certain Arvo Ylppö became a doctor, why they used to take children's beds outside and what a dog in a pocket was doing at a heart ward.

The book is based on the Children's Own Hospitals exhibition produced by the HUS Museum Committee, which opened in March 2021 in the waiting room of the Surgery and Anaesthesia Unit, on the floor called Forest, at the New Children's Hospital. The New Children's Hospital opened in 2018. It is Finland's largest hospital for specialised medical care for children and treats children from all over the country.

Cover photo: Child health clinic in the 1930s. Picture: Collection of the Children's Hospital, HUS Museum Committee. Colourisation of the photograph: Tommi Rossi 2020. Original photo also available in CC BY 4.0 Pietinen Collection, Historical Picture Collections, Finnish Heritage Agency.