



# Health Libraries GROUP

N E W S L E T T E R

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**“...it is not a question of *if* health libraries become more digital, but of *how* the NHS handles that inevitable (and on the whole desirable) process”**

## Editorial

In this issue Ben Toth and Veronica Fraser consider the impact of information technology in libraries and the development of the National electronic Library for Health (NeLH). An important aim of the NeLH is to make high quality resources and health information available throughout the NHS and to the public. To continue to keep up to date with this exciting development, join the NeLH mailbase discussion list mentioned in the article and check out the NeLH website:  
<http://www.nelh.nhs.uk/strategy.htm>

At a recent meeting of the Editorial Advisory Board of *Health Libraries Review*, it was agreed that from the March 2000 issue, all meeting reports and international news, usually published in the Journal, would appear in the HLG Newsletter. In this way a greater number of the HLG membership will be able to access this material more easily. The reason I am writing to tell you about this now, is to encourage you to put pen to paper (or hands to the keyboard) and contribute

meeting reports to the Newsletter. It would be good to read a report of every course and conference organised by HLG and its sub-groups, but it would also be useful to hear about other relevant study days and seminars. If you attend a Library Association CPD course which you find particularly helpful, consider writing up a report of this and recommend it to other members. Please send all your reports to Susan Howard whose address appears under Diary of Events (on page 26). Thankyou!

**Margaret E S Forrest**  
**Editor**

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## Group News

### Health Libraries Review

The September issue of *Health Libraries Review* contains a variety of articles concerned with database searching, new technology, primary care, research and patient libraries. Anita Verhoeven and colleagues from the Netherlands have described a model for the evaluation of search queries in medical bibliographic sources. MacDonald, Taylor and Adams ask, "Are you searching the right database?" and compare the merits of four databases for psychiatry journals. The theme of information for primary care is continued from the June issue of HLR with Lacey-Bryant's study on information services for primary care: the organizational culture of general practice and the information needs of partnerships and Primary Care Groups. I know that those of us who took part in Maureen Dwyer's "Delphi survey of research priorities and identified area of collaborative research in the health sector" will be very interested to read the results of this survey in this issue. Jordaan and Jones report on a questionnaire survey concerned with the adoption of Internet technology by UK postgraduate centres. Betsy Anagnostellis' column of innovations on the Internet continues with an evaluation of Embase within the NHS. Also in the September issue, Hallam and Plaice describe findings of the database access project working partnership to extend the knowledge of healthcare. Finally, Paula McGee has contributed a brief communication bringing us up to date with the state of patients' library services in England.

**Margaret Forrest**

## Sub-Group News

### Community Care Network News

CCN now has a new committee and we welcome five new committee members. Many thanks to our outgoing members - Emily Hamer, Jo Hand and Susan Westwood for all their hard work and enthusiasm. The new committee has lots of activities planned for members new and old. As well as keeping people in touch through the twice yearly newsletter, we will aim to organise at least two seminars a year. We have already held, in 1999, a seminar on fundraising *Going for Gold*, a very successful and very oversubscribed one day course on housebound library services (organised jointly with CSG South West in Salisbury) and a session at *Umbrella* on ICT access for disabled people. And there's more! A day on reading promotion *Everyone Needs Books* will be held in Birmingham on 20<sup>th</sup> October and it is hoped to rerun the housebound day *Spice or Cinders*. So we could have five events in 1999!

On the publications and publicity front things are moving a bit slower (we've been concentrating on the seminars!). We hope to pick up speed through the year and publish our directory of public library contacts in access/community care. We also aim to have a publicity drive to link more people into our **Network**, and raise the profile of CCN and access through the library press.

CCN Committee members are: Gaynor Baveystock, Jo McCausland, Anne Brimlow (Chair), Anthea Slark, Pam Buchan (Secretary), Lorraine Toogood (co-opted as Treasurer), Linda Butler, Susan White and Sue Cornish.

Any ideas for events or activities, please contact Anne Brimlow, Chair, on 01245 284981 or Pam Buchan, Secretary, on 01622 605244.

**Anne Brimlow**

## **Libraries for Nursing**

Libraries *for* Nursing held a well attended session at Under One Umbrella. Debbie Locke's presentation on DiLIS, a distance learners information service based at the George Edwards Library University of Surrey, raised some interesting issues and lots of questions and Mike Tait's discussion about the CAL initiatives for Nursing at Swansea was also well received.

The LfN Autumn Study day will be held at the Library Association Headquarters on 26th November. Called "Would you credit it? Accreditation and quality in Libraries", the day will feature speakers from the Linc and the Charter Mark Office as well as librarians who have successfully achieved Linc accreditation and Charter Mark status. The study day will cost £40 + VAT for LfN members and £50 + VAT for non-members. Please contact Pam Duncan on 01245 493131 ([P.H.Duncan@anglia.ac.uk](mailto:P.H.Duncan@anglia.ac.uk)) for further details.

Members of Libraries *for* Nursing should by now have received the first two copies of the LfN Bulletin for 1999. The acting editors are always keen to encourage the submission of articles/opinion pieces from members and non-members alike and are particularly interested in:

- Summer services to nursing students (particularly opening hour solutions!)
- Reviews of electronic sources - especially those who subscribe to the OVID full text nursing collections
- Those who are supporting/involved in research bids within their organisation - how did you get involved in the bid... what role are you taking as a librarian within the bid?
- Any other nursing library issues!

Please contact Rebecca Davies on 01792 295038 ([rebecca.davies@swan.ac.uk](mailto:rebecca.davies@swan.ac.uk)) or Donald Mackay on 0131 5365578 ([donald@mmackay77.freemove.co.uk](mailto:donald@mmackay77.freemove.co.uk)) if you would like to make any contribution to the Bulletin.

**Donald Mackay**

## **People**

**Margaret Halstead** has recently taken up the post of Librarian at the Education Centre Library, West Cumberland Hospital, Whitehaven. Previously she worked in public libraries in Workington and Whitehaven.

**Alison Hicks** is the new Trust Librarian at Gloucestershire Royal Infirmary. She previously worked at SchARR.

**Jennifer MacDougall**, previously in Co. Dublin, has a new address: 362 Lauderdale Tower, Barbican, London EC2Y 8NA. Tel: 0171 588 0833.

**Donald Mackay** from the Health Promotion Library Scotland, moves

south of the Border this summer, to take up the post of Enquiry Services Manager at the Cairns Library, Oxford. Haste ye back, Donald! (Ed.)

**Mike Rowe**, Librarian at the Royal Hospital Haslar, Gosport, has been invited to become the Director of the Library area of the Cyber Hospital UK.

Welcome to **Emma Wellard**, the new Information Officer at NHS P, which is based in Bristol

**Dr Frederick Thorpe, OBE**, died on 8<sup>th</sup> April 1999. Dr Thorpe was a remarkable man who will be remembered throughout the world for his services to the visually impaired.

## Health Information and Community Care News and Notes

### **The NeLH and health libraries: working together for better services**

#### **Introduction**

The National electronic Library for Health (NeLH) has two principal goals:

- to make high quality information resources widely available in the NHS
- to make high quality information on health available to the public

Health library services and networks share these aims, and like NeLH, many are exploring ways of delivering

services on-line. The simplest example might be a library that makes its catalogue available over a hospital Intranet. Another library might have negotiated a site licence for Medline so that library users can carry out database searches from wherever they are working.

This model for the development of on-line or digital library services scales up relatively easily as publishers increasingly use the Internet to make their products available. Each month the balance between paper and digital publication shifts, and it is not difficult to imagine that in a few years a high proportion of librarianship, particularly in the field of science, will be concerned with digital objects, and that some traditionally labour intensive services, such as inter library loans, will be handled in a largely automated way. So it is not a question of *if* health libraries become more digital, but of *how* the NHS handles that inevitable (and on the whole desirable) process.

The NeLH has added a new dimension to the question of how NHS libraries meet the challenges of networked service provision. In this article I would like to outline some ways in which the NeLH, which is a purely digital initiative, can integrate with health libraries to achieve shared goals.

#### **Partnership**

The relationship between NeLH and existing library services can be summarised as follows:

- Libraries will be the NeLH on the ground
- The role of the NeLH will not be to replace local digital library initiatives but to support them.

How can this be achieved? The fundamental point is that there must be a genuine partnership between NeLH and libraries. We welcome comments on this article, either by e-mail to me ([btoth@doh.gov.uk](mailto:btoth@doh.gov.uk)) or to the discussion list [nelh@mailbase.ac.uk](mailto:nelh@mailbase.ac.uk). NeLH has also commissioned the NHS Regional Librarians Group to report on ways in which libraries are developing their services. But there is a continuing need for dialogue between NeLH and librarians, and we are genuinely open to suggestions as to how this can best be achieved.

If it is possible to have a second fundamental point, it is that the budget for NeLH is intended to be an addition to library budgets, which are clearly too small to meet the growing demand for library services. We believe that a judicious use of money to secure elements of a national infrastructure can produce outstanding value for the NHS, for example in national deals on the *Cochrane Library*, and (when it comes along) the electronic version of *Clinical Evidence*.

### **NeLH services to libraries**

Clearly, NeLH services have to integrate with developments in individual libraries, local informatics services, local library networks, and regional plans. This is how we intend to achieve these goals.

Firstly, it has to be recognised that the level of 'digitisation' of local health library and information services varies considerably. Some libraries operate servers on well-resourced Intranets, others do not. Some libraries can give their users access to HEFCE funded resources, others cannot. Some libraries are beginning to offer full text

journal services to remote users, others have yet to begin the slow process of integrating e-journals with their paper stock.

In response to variable needs, we propose the following services:

1. Key digital resources should be procured nationally on behalf of the NHS. For example, the electronic version of *Clinical Evidence*, the *Cochrane Library* and *Best Evidence* will be procured on behalf of the NHS through a single deal. Users will be able to access them through the NeLH web site or through a library web site. Where authentication is required, this will be done through a single authentication server, which will be run as a national service (i.e. won't follow the ATHENS approach, which is to devolve ATHENS administration to individual libraries)
2. Wherever possible, licenses between the NHS and information providers will allow local information services to download copies onto local servers. For example, it should be possible to transfer the *Cochrane Library* to a hospital Intranet. This will create extra work for local library services, but it will have the advantage of integrating NeLH resources with local services.
3. Server space and training will be available for libraries that wish to establish web sites.
4. Specific resources have been included for the continuing professional development of librarians. A fund of approximately £100k will be used to allow librarians to undertake further professional training in areas relevant to the management of digital libraries.

5. A virtual branch library for health informatics will be established. This will allow dialogue between health information specialists and the sharing of experience and best practice.

So how will the NeLH work? Let's take three scenarios.

*Anywhere Trust is a medium size mental health/learning disability NHS Trust, with 300 staff, connected to NHSNet. There is no Intranet. Library services are provided by the local acute trust librarian, who visits once a week.*

*In response to a request from the LIS the trust IT department installs 2 workstations in the library, and configures the browsers to default to the NeLH website. Staff at Anywhere Trust now have access to a range of databases (some linked to full text journals) including a national guidelines database.*

*Some staff use the virtual branch library for mental health, which they use from home as well as work to keep up to date with the literature of mental health and share views with other mental health professionals.*

*DGH is a medium sized acute NHS Trust. It has a multi-professional library on site which also serves 50 local practices in 2 PCGs, and the HA. Acting as lead body in the LIS the Trust IT department has just installed an Intranet using LIS money but isn't sure what to do with it.*

*The librarian secures a post for a knowledge worker, to be based in the library. She and the postholder use NeLH development money to attend Intranet and knowledge management courses.*

*Using the NeLH framework deal resources to support clinical governance are loaded on the Intranet. The librarian uses NetWAX to create a local authoring environment for sharing information between HA, PCGs and Trust. A local database of clinical guidelines is created, with links to the NeLH guidelines database. As full-text journals become available via NeLH the librarian sees decline in her ILL and photocopying work with the HA and primary care, allowing her to spend more time managing the Intranet.*

*UUHT is a large teaching hospital, hosting several university departments. The library is under pressure to provide a range of electronic services equivalent to those on offer in the university, but has no funds to do so. The IT department refuses to install computers connected to JANET.*

*The librarian uses the NeLH framework deal to install Cochrane Library and Clinical Evidence on the Trust Intranet. Over time, as full text journals become available from NeLH the trust library is able to become a hybrid library, offering a variety of services over the hospital Intranet.*

## **Conclusion**

The NeLH is intended to further the enterprise of health libraries and support the professional development of health librarians. Success will depend on a partnership, based on the shared aspirations of improving access to information for NHS staff.

**Ben Toth, Veronica Fraser**  
**NeLH Team**

# Travelling Scholarship

1999

## **How much is the scholarship?**

Up to £500 sterling

## **How often is it awarded?**

It is awarded annually

## **Who can apply?**

It is open to anyone who is a member of the Health Libraries Group

## **What is it given for?**

The scholarship is for travel to a conference, for research or for a study visit. It is given to enhance the knowledge and development of the profession and to further the continuing professional development of the applicant. It is to be used before the end of 2000.

## **How do you apply?**

An application form is available from Susan V Howard, HLG Hon. Secretary  
Imperial College School of Medicine, Charing Cross Campus, The Library, The Reynolds  
Building, St Dunstan's Road, London, W6 8RP.

## **When is the closing date?**

31<sup>st</sup> December 1999

## **Who decides and when?**

A panel from the HLG committee will decide who should receive the scholarship. The successful applicant will be invited to give a presentation to the HLG committee and to write a report, which will be considered for publication in

*Health Libraries Review*

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## NeLMH

The first meeting of those interested in a (NeLH) Virtual Branch Library for Mental Health (NeLMH) took place on Monday 7th June at Royal College of Psychiatrists in London. The meeting was convened by Andre Tomlin, Director of Knowledge Services, Centre for Evidence Based Mental Health, Oxford. There will be a Colloquium, to include patients/users, in the Autumn and the target is to have the first prototype of NeLMH available before the end of the year. The NeLH Team will help foster links between NeLH and other VBLs eg Primary Care and Learning Disability. One key element will be identifying and bringing together librarians with an interest in Mental Health. The only requirement is that librarians should have an interest in, and /or a current or developing responsibility for services to staff or users in the field. Libraries or librarians could be in the NHS, voluntary, public or academic sector. If you are interested in becoming part of this network, copy your details directly to Andre Tomlin ([nelmh@cebmh.com](mailto:nelmh@cebmh.com)) The web site, which contains the short term aims of the project, is <http://www.psychiatry.ox.ac.uk/cebmh/nelmh>

## Cochrane Library Update

*Ruth Frankish keeps us up to date with the latest developments in the Cochrane Library...*

Many subscribers to the *Cochrane Library* have shown an interest accessing the system via the web instead of from CD-ROM. For those of you who are still trying to make the decision whether to change, a few points to consider are outlined below.

The information accessed via CD-ROM and the web versions is exactly the same, except that the web does not include the glossary of terms. Searching principles are also the same, obviously with a different interface, but for people new to the *Cochrane Library*, the web interface can be much easier to get to grips with. All of the searches performed are stored in the search history, which is equivalent to the advanced search on the CD-ROM, however on the web there is a limit of twenty search strings within a search history. The Metaview software which allows you to view and manipulate the meta-analysis diagrams comes as part of the CD-ROM discs, but with the web version, it is necessary to download it onto each individual pc, to view the diagrams this way. However each of the meta-analysis diagrams for a review is also embedded within the text as .gif files, so it is possible to view the diagrams, but not to manipulate them in anyway without downloading Metaview.

At present the updating for both versions is quarterly. The web version is no more current than the CD-ROM, except that a new issue might be available on the web a week or so before the CD-ROM arrives in the post.

Update are in the process of developing completely new interfaces for the millennium and therefore there are unlikely to be any radical changes in the existing formats before this. Any existing problems or shortcomings with the current CD-ROM and web versions are unlikely to get attention at this stage.

If you are not familiar with what the *Cochrane Library* looks like on the web, it might be worth you having a

look at the NRR ([www.doh.gov.uk/nrr](http://www.doh.gov.uk/nrr)) as the software is identical.

*Cochrane Library* training is still available to any interested groups. Please feel free to contact me to discuss it.

### **Ruth Frankish**

Cochrane Library Trainer  
NHS Centre for Reviews and  
Dissemination  
University of York  
YORK, YO10 5DD  
01904 434562  
[rcf2@york.ac.uk](mailto:rcf2@york.ac.uk)

## **Internet sources of interest**

### *Islington's Accessible Internet Service*

Islington Library has introduced a new internet service for visually impaired people. Extends to an additional Internet station at the Central Reference Library with enhancement technology providing magnified text and sound. Direct telephone support when using the service is provided by visually impaired ICT specialists from Apart Consultancy. The service forms part of Islington's See it...Hear it accessibility project which also includes the provision of an accessible library catalogue (Envisage), Community Information Source (Cardbox) and a programme of user support, education and training. The cost of the project was £2700 of which £1500 was granted-aid by the Ulverscroft Foundation. It was officially launched by David Blunkett, Secretary of State for Education and Employment on 11th May. Contact: Alan Issler, Principal Librarian, Islington Public Libraries, Central Library, 2 Fieldway Crescent, Islington. N5 1PF. Tel: 0171 619 6910, voicetext 0171 619 6911

### *Arthritis Care*

A registered charity committed to "empowering people to take control of their arthritis, their lives and their organisation". The Website was launched in April and includes sections on: information, publications, gateways (links). The information section has information for people with arthritis, students and medical professionals. Contains FAQ and a useful annotated list of recommended books on general and particular aspects of arthritis. Authoritative site. Contact: Arthritis Care, 18 Stephenson Way, London NW1 2HD. Tel. 0171 916 1500.

Website: [www.arthritiscare.org.uk](http://www.arthritiscare.org.uk)

### *Electronic book service*

The National Library for the Blind is running a dynamic and growing website which it is well worth keeping in touch with - not just for NLB activities but matters on 'LIS for VI' generally. Currently it is investigating the supply of electronic books and texts via its website and CDROM. It has set up a number of pilot projects to assess technology, copyright and other issues including potential demand. Further information on request. Contact: Simon Jennings, Virtual Library Officer, National Library For The Blind, Far Cromwell Road, Bredbury, Stockport, Cheshire. SK6 2SG. Tel: 0161 355 2000 fax: 0161 355 2098 email: [enquiries@nlbuk.org](mailto:enquiries@nlbuk.org)  
Website: [www.nlbuk.org](http://www.nlbuk.org)

### *Access technology web*

A new website providing a fairly basic but useful guide to information on IT resources for visually impaired learners. Includes: an overview of access hardware & software, resources for learners who use Braille or speech. Resources for learners with low vision, educators.

Website:  
[www.jlodge.demon.co.uk/web/home.htm](http://www.jlodge.demon.co.uk/web/home.htm)

#### *Disabilities Information Resources (DINF)*

DINF is a new online resource primarily for supplying news and information for researchers, businesses seeking compliance information, legislative bodies, people with disabilities and people working in the disability field. The information provided on the DINF site is collected from key conferences on disability-related subjects, organizations that focus on the subject, and Internet based resources. The DINF site is monitored by a review board consisting of international experts from around the world. DINF information will take the form of text, image, audio, multimedia and combined formats. It will be accessible via standard web browsers and nonvisual browsers. Website: [www.dinf.org](http://www.dinf.org)

#### *Mobile Medical Suite - Voice recognition for medics*

Voice recognition software and built-in microphone and speaker designed for use by the medical profession. Has filing, editing and formatting capabilities and includes a medical vocabulary. Enables creation of patient records, medical reports, notes, correspondence and other documents with downloading capability to a PC. Website: [www.dragonsys.com](http://www.dragonsys.com)

#### *Council of Europe*

The Council of Europe (COE) has set up a new website relating to disability and social integration. Here you will find COE statements on a wide range of issues relating to disability - social inclusion, new technologies, accessibility. A useful source if you want to cite COE policy statements on disability and health protection issues. Site also includes a directory of

relevant links to 170 websites (and growing) including national and international intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations. Links for each member state. Not comprehensive by any means but growing. Website: [www.coe.fr/soc-sp](http://www.coe.fr/soc-sp)

#### *Stakes Information Service*

This service disseminates national and international information on welfare and health. Also promotes the development of information services and the production and transfer of electronic information and publications. Produces in collaboration with other organisations annually the Finnish CD-ROM, TurvaCD (Safety-CD): a domestic database of bibliographic, textual and statistical information on various aspects of health, welfare and work environment. Clients include researchers and students, public sector personnel within the field of welfare and health, other libraries and information services throughout Finland. Services are also provided for international clients. Contact: Stakes Information service P.O. Box 220 FIN-00531 Helsinki Finland. Website: [www.stakes.fi](http://www.stakes.fi)

#### *Health and Disability legislation*

A useful source, for current legislation, (if you are not already aware of it) is Her Majesty's Stationary Office Website. This has been providing full text renderings of all new Public General Acts from 1996 onwards. The site also includes local acts from 1997. All new Acts of Parliament should be available on the Internet within 10 working days of their publication in printed form. The site also includes summaries of a wide range of earlier Public General Acts. A good search engine is provided to search the text of all Acts, Measures and Statutory Instruments on the site. Site address

is: <[www.hmso.gov.uk/acts.htm](http://www.hmso.gov.uk/acts.htm)>  
Source address is: Stationery Office  
Publications Centre, P O Box 276,  
London. SW8 5DT. Tel: 0171 873  
9090 fax: 0171 873 8200. Website:  
[www.hmso.gov.uk](http://www.hmso.gov.uk)

#### *EtCetera*

This is the electronic newsletter of the National Disability Arts Forum informing on matters relating to arts and disability. It is a very useful website which sifts current sources of information on matters relevant to arts and disability and includes hypertext links. It seems to be published monthly. For a free on-line subscription via e-mail check the website. Contact: Silvie Fisch, National Disability Arts Forum, Mea House, Ellison Place, Newcastle Upon Tyne. NE1 8XS. tel: 0191 261 1628 fax: 0191 222 0573 email: [silvie@ndaf.org](mailto:silvie@ndaf.org) Website: <http://ndaf.org/pages/newsletters.html>

#### *psci.com*

This is a joint enterprise of the Wellcome Trust Information Service (WISDOM) and OMNI, providing a Web-based gateway to information and events relating to public understanding of science and science communication. Compiled by Wisdom information workers it provides access to: a searchable database of Internet sites, calendar of events, bibliographies and an email forum for discussion on any matter relating to the public understanding of science. Topics are wide ranging and include: biology, consumer health, genetics, library and information services, medicine. However my favourite site is Arise - the Association for research into the study of enjoyment. "Established in order to create a better understanding of the benefits of pleasure". ([www.arise.org/](http://www.arise.org/)) PSCI has free access

without registration (not sure about Arise).

Website: <http://omni.ac.uk/psci-com/>  
Or for further information:  
<http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/en/1/homli/binfactpsi.html>

#### **Peter Craddock**

#### *Influenza Sequence Database.*

The US Department of Energy's National Laboratory has launched this database that could aid in the identification of new influenza strains. The web site also offers links to related resources, including WHO Influenza Surveillance and the European Scientific Group on Influenza. This can be found at <http://www.flu.lanl.gov>

#### *The Pilots Database.*

This is a free bibliographic resource for integrating information on traumatic stress. It is useful for searching literature about post-traumatic stress disorder among veterans and in general, and for searching about the evaluation, the description and the treatment of all mental disorders. Moreover it indexes bibliographic information from the literature about professional ethics, scientific methodology and health services, in relation to traumatized population. The database is searchable through a Thesaurus, available, with an exhaustive user guide, at the URL: <http://www.dartmouth.edu/dms/ptsd>

#### *Rndex*

Rndex contains abstracts and bibliographic citations from over 150 nursing, case management, and managed care journals. The database includes over 60,000 records (coverage from 1992 to present). For further information see the Rndex web site at <http://www.rndex.com>

## **LINC Health Panel Accreditation Toolkit**

The LINC Health Panel has now produced the companion volume to the best-selling Accreditation Checklist: *Accreditation of library and information services in the health sector: implementation guide and toolkit for libraries in NHS Trusts*. LINC Health Panel, 1998. ISBN 0-9534931-0-5

The 121 page Toolkit contains valuable background information to help Trust Librarians to prepare for accreditation: business planning, staff appraisal, copyright, quality assurance, core lists - all these subjects and more are presented in an easy-to-use format. There are comprehensive bibliographies that refer you to further reading in key areas. The Toolkit maps directly onto the sections of the Accreditation Checklist, so you can turn straight to the relevant information.

The Toolkit costs £20.90p including 90p UK postage and packing. Orders of 10 copies or over are post free i.e. £20.00 per copy. Overseas enquirers please email Christine Fowler first, to determine the correct postage rates. Please send your Cheque *made payable to LINC Health Panel* with Order to: Christine Fowler, South & West Health Care Libraries Unit, Mail Point 16, South Academic Block, Southampton General Hospital, Southampton, Hants SO16 6YD

### **Peripatetic Library Service Project**

*Liz Downing, Rebecca Higgins and Tony Smith write with more information about the Peripatetic*

*Library Service Project in which they have recently been involved...*

The final report has now been published of the Peripatetic Library Service Project: assessing the value of a peripatetic library service for primary care in the Highlands. (ISBN 0 9535144 0 4).

In this study a pilot project was set up to provide and evaluate a peripatetic library service for staff at nine selected GP practices in the Highlands. The project operated from January to June 1998, and the final report was published in January 1999. Highland Health Board funded the project.

A qualified librarian was employed for the project and was based at the Highland Health Sciences Library in Inverness. The librarian's work included the provision of advice and practical help to manage and retrieve information, and introductory training in the use of CD-ROMs and the Internet.

Given the geographic remoteness of much of the Highlands of Scotland, the provision of a peripatetic library service was particularly appropriate.

One of the main findings from the evaluation was that the service improved access to information; better organisation of practice libraries and other resources, and an increased awareness of information sources, made access quicker and easier. The majority of staff surveyed agreed that a permanent service would be beneficial; they wanted advice on libraries and resources, IT training, and other services.

Key issues identified in the course of the project included the following:

- ‘Informatics’ (how information is stored and retrieved) is not yet widely recognised as an important part of patient care and professional development.
- Services enabling access to information are essential to support evidence-based health care, continued professional development, and informed patient choice, and also to address problems of geographic remoteness.
- Training is needed to develop information skills, including the effective use of IT.
- There is a lack of technical support for IT.
- The information needs of community staff could be addressed more effectively.
- Training practices have particular needs, e.g. managing practice libraries and continuing IT training for registrars.
- General problems exist with regard to securing funding and access for library and information services for primary care.

It was recommended that a permanent Peripatetic Library Service should be set up, but it remains to be seen whether or not this will be forthcoming.

Copies of the report are available from Liz Downing, 25 Station Crescent, Fortrose, IV10 8TW. (Price: £5, p&p included).

### **Health Evidence Bulletins Wales:**

The Health Evidence Bulletins Wales provide concise statements which summarise the best current evidence in a subject area, with full bibliographic details of the source documents and

direct links where possible. The evidence, found through methodical literature searching across a broad range of sources, is critically appraised using internationally accepted methods. Each completed bulletin then undergoes two separate review processes by teams of experts who are directly involved in patient care.

Current titles include:

Cancers
Cardiovascular diseases
Healthy environments
Injury prevention
Maternal and early child health
Mental health
Oral health
Physical disability and discomfort
Respiratory diseases

Other titles (Healthy living; Learning disabilities; Pain, discomfort & palliative care) are due out later this year and regular updates of each published Bulletin are planned. The Project is a multidisciplinary joint-initiative between the Departments of Public Health, the Duthie Library at the University of Wales College of Medicine and other health professionals in primary and secondary care. The Bulletins and the Project Methodology are available via the Internet (<http://hebw.uwcm.ac.uk>, with a mirror site on <http://www.uwcm.ac.uk/uwcm/lb/pep>) and the Cymruweb (Wales only: <http://cymruweb.wales.nhs.uk/hebw>). A brief evaluation form is available on the web-sites.

### **HEA Databases of Health Related Resources**

The Health Education Authority produces a range of directories of health related resources. Current titles available concern the following

groups: Health related resources for people with learning disabilities; Black and minority ethnic groups (2<sup>nd</sup> edition available in September 1999); Older people; and Younger people aged 11-19 (published in February 1999). The information is also available free to everyone in electronic form using Healthpromis, the national database for England: <http://healthpromis.hea.org.uk> Other databases are currently being published and will be available later this year: Men's health; and Sexual health-related resources for blind and partially sighted children (produced in partnership with RNIB and Sex Education Forum). For further information, contact Heidi Livingstone, Project Manager, Health Education Authority. Tel: 0171 413 1831; fax: 0171 413 8942; email: [heidi.livingstone@hea.org.uk](mailto:heidi.livingstone@hea.org.uk)

### **The CompMed Bulletin**

Launched last year, the *CompMed Bulletin* collects in one publication the best research on complementary medicine for specific medical conditions. Randomised, controlled trials (RCTs) and systematic reviews from the database of the Research Council for Complementary Medicine (RCCM) and other research sources are reviewed by a conventional medical specialist and a conventionally trained GP with knowledge of complementary medicine and skill in research methodology. Positive and negative results are given equal attention. The *CompMed Bulletin* bridges the divide between the demand for complementary medicine and the doctor's need to know. Topics already discussed and in the pipeline include: migraine; sleep disorders; osteoarthritis; coughs, colds and flu; eczema; stress; IBS; hay fever; PMS; cancer. For further information, contact: The CompMed Bulletin,

Church Farm Cottage, Weethley Hamlet, Evesham Road, Alcester, Warwickshire B49 5NA. Tel: 01789 400295; fax: 01789 400423; email: [e.lines@virgin.net](mailto:e.lines@virgin.net)

### **Books for Primary Health Care**

*Books for primary health care: a core guide to collection development*, published by Tomlinsons includes a list of dental books recommended for purchase by postgraduate libraries. This essential resource has been compiled by Anna Donough, John Lancaster, Steve Pritchard, Mary Davies and Julia Stevens. It is available direct from Tomlinsons at a cost of £3.95. In September this year Tomlinsons will be publishing a similar guide to books for mental health. Contact Tomlinsons for further information: Tel: 01732 824000; fax: 01732 823829; [tomlinsons@easynet.co.uk](mailto:tomlinsons@easynet.co.uk)

### **Video Catalogues for Health**

#### *DMP Video Productions.*

Produce training videos for health and social work education on loss, bereavement and terminal care. DMP Video Productions, 50 Porlock Drive, Sully, Vale of Glamorgan CF64 5QB Tel/Fax 01222 530375

#### *Linkward Productions.*

The Medical Video Catalogue lists videos and audio cassettes aimed at improving doctor patient communication. Linkward Productions Ltd, 30 Fitzroy Road, Fleet. GU13 8JW Tel 01252 811114 Fax 01252 812009 [www.linkward.co.uk](http://www.linkward.co.uk)

#### *Mental Health Media*

Videos are available on topics such as information on the Mental Health Act for those that have been sectioned, mental health issues for employers,

arson as a sign of mental distress and models of good practice for community based mental health services and many more. Mental Health Media, 356 Holloway Road, London. N7 6PA Tel 0171 700 8171 Fax 0171 686 0959

*Welsh Centre for Postgraduate Pharmaceutical Education.*

Videos available on a wide range of medical conditions and their treatments. Subjects include asthma, hay fever, wound healing and non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs. Welsh Centre for Postgraduate Pharmaceutical Education, The Welsh School of Pharmacy, 8 North Road, Cardiff. CF1 3DY Tel 01222 874784 Fax 01222 874540  
[www.cf.ac.uk/uwcc/phrmy/WCPPE](http://www.cf.ac.uk/uwcc/phrmy/WCPPE)

### **Topics in International Health CD ROM**

A series of educational CD ROMs, aimed at medical students, healthcare professionals and teachers have been developed by the Wellcome Trust. The programmes deal with the prevention, control, diagnosis and management in tropical medicine. New titles include Leprosy, Tuberculosis, Diarrhoeal diseases and Schistosomiasis. Forthcoming titles include HIV and AIDS, Nutrition and Leishmaniasis. Available on CD ROM at £95.00 (+VAT incl. p&p) each. CABI Publishing, Wallingford, Oxon. OX10 8DE Tel 01491 832111 Fax 01491 829292  
[www.cabi.org](http://www.cabi.org)

### **New Resources for Ovid's U.K. Users**

Ovid Technologies, Ltd. has recently announced the addition of the SPORTDiscus and ClinPSYC

*Library Association Health Libraries Group Newsletter*, 16(3) September 1999  
<http://www.la-hq.org.uk/hlg>

bibliographic databases, as well as the new full text Ovid Nursing Collection II: Lippincott Premier Nursing Journals to the U.K. CHEST/Ovid Biomedical Service.

**SPORTDiscus**, produced by the Sport Information Resource Centre, has been available on the Biomedical Service since the end of January. It is an international resource for the study of the sports and fitness literature, with bibliographic records, many with abstracts, of serial and monographic literature in the areas of sport, recreation, exercise physiology, sports medicine, coaching, physical fitness, the psychology, history and sociology of sport, training, and conditioning.

**ClinPSYC**, produced by the American Psychological Association, is a clinical subset of the PsycINFO database and contains references from journal literature in clinical and medical psychology. ClinPSYC provides access to information on the behavioural causes, effects, and treatments of all forms of physical and mental illness.

**The Ovid Nursing Collection II: Lippincott Premier Nursing Journals** collection doubles the CHEST/Ovid Biomedical Service's full text offerings in the field of nursing, with 14 top journal titles from one publisher, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins. It contains the current issue of each journal, plus an archive back to 1996, and links to and from the MEDLINE and CINAHL bibliographic databases (also available via the CHEST/Ovid Biomedical Service). For a listing of the journals, visit <http://www.ovid.com/newslet/presrel/1999/nursingii.htm>

For more information, call Ovid at 0181 748 3777 in the UK or contact your nearest Ovid office or distributor.

Additional information is also available by contacting Heather Franklin at CHEST (Telephone: 01225 826870, E-mail: Heather.Franklin@chest.ac.uk)

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## **Our Better Vision**

A nation-wide report has recently been launched by the Royal National Institute for the Blind (RNIB) which highlights a severe lack of information about what help and support is available for people with serious sight problems. The report was launched as part of a campaign to help people with serious sight problems make the most of their vision. *Our better vision: what people need from low vision services in the UK* draws on the findings of a telephone survey and 12 focus groups with people with low vision throughout England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. The research was carried out in collaboration with Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh.

*Our better vision* found that where low vision services do exist they do not always meet people's needs. Another recent report, *Fragmented vision*, published by the RNIB and Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS Trust confirms that current low vision services are fragmented and patchy. Around 1.5 million people in the UK have a serious sight problem that cannot be helped by wearing the correct spectacles or contact lenses. This is called low vision. Most low vision services are provided by hospitals which provide advice, information and practical support on making the best use of remaining sight. Examples of problems cited in the report include access to services, the negative and positive aspects of being assessed, difficulties using equipment such as

magnifiers and a lack of understanding among professionals with whom people came into contact.

The RNIB is recommending: the needs of people with low vision are given greater priority from the Government; more information is made available about low vision services for professionals like GPs and ophthalmologists; and that people providing services should work closer together. Copies of *Our better vision: what people need from low vision services in the UK* are available from RNIB Customer Services, Tel: 0345 02 31 53 and cost £7.50.

## **VIPs Exploring the Net**

The RNIB has been working with several local societies for blind people to set up resource centres providing people with severe sight problems with an opportunity to explore the internet. Eventually it is hoped that RNIB products, such as talking clocks and white canes, can be ordered via the web. The eight resource centres set up so far are at:

**Cam Sight, Cambridge**  
**Haringey Phoenix Group, London**  
**Nottinghamshire Royal Society for the Blind**  
**Leeds Shire View Centre**  
**Leicestershire, Rutland and Wycliffe Society for the Blind**  
**Partick Centre for Sensory Impaired People, Glasgow**  
**RNIB Great Portland Street, London**  
**Surrey Voluntary Association for the Blind**  
**UK Organisations for Blind and Partially Sighted People** lists the main organisations in the UK which offer a service to blind and partially sighted people. Contact RNIB Customer Services on:  
**Tel: 0345 456 457**

## **Confederation of Tape Information Services (COTIS)**

COTIS is a self help group for individuals and organisations involved with putting information onto tape for people who are unable to read print. Contact COTIS at: 67 High Street, Tarporley, Cheshire, CW6 0DP. Tel: 01829 733351  
[www.rnib.org.uk/cotis/cotiswel.htm](http://www.rnib.org.uk/cotis/cotiswel.htm)

### **Sound Aids for Deaf People**

Swindon Borough Council has produced a leaflet describing the public sound aids available for hearing impaired people in the Council's buildings and facilities. Available from: Peter Monk, tel: 01793 466333; fax: 01793 466459; textphone: 01793 436659

### **Multimedia centre for people with sensory impairments**

Ordnance Road Library, Enfield is now home to a IT/Multimedia centre for people with sensory impairments, thanks to a grant from the Sir Jules Thorn Charitable Trust. For more information contact: Muriel Hill, tel: 0181 379 3747

### **Autism99**

Autism99, the first ever worldwide conference on a disability on the Internet, is now open for registration and it's free. A joint project between the National Autistic Society, The Shirley Foundation and RMR Design, the Internet conference will include practical and academic sessions designed to appeal to everyone with an interest in autism, from parents, carers and individuals with autism, through to health professionals and

educationalists. The conference will go live and papers will be revealed on 2<sup>nd</sup> November (to 19<sup>th</sup> November), but people who register now will benefit from:

- Presentations which explain what autism is and isn't
- Easy to understand information about therapies and interventions available
- Global "locator maps" which help registrants find their own national autism body
- Access to the abstracts as soon as they are submitted
- A monthly email newsletter covering the latest developments on the site

It is thought that more than 100,000 people will benefit by taking part. A key-note speaker will be Temple Grandin, a well-known figure in the field of autism (who has autism herself). The conference will also feature some of the world's leading practitioners and experts. Autism99 can be visited at: [www.autism99.org](http://www.autism99.org)

### **Debate of the Age**

Age Concern England has produced a kit containing subject material that can be used to facilitate debates around the theme of 'age' and the millennium. *Debate of the age* is available from: Age Concern England, Walkden House, 10 Melton Street, London NW1 2EJ

#### **Contributors:**

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## Current literature

by John Hewlett, with information from Margaret Forrest, Catherine Graham, Philip Shields.

Additional material is always welcome: please send the full reference to John Hewlett, 8 Railway Street, Langley Park, Co.Durham DH7 9YS. My e-mail address will change shortly and will be advertised through discussion lists.

The aim of this column is to cover the recent printed literature in medical, health and welfare librarianship and information science. Material of general interest such as computing, multimedia and library planning is not usually covered unless there is a specific MHW library/information aspect: such material can be traced in general current awareness bulletins or current awareness columns in specialist journals.

### **BIBLIOGRAPHIC TOOLS AND PROCESSES**

Kelly, J.A. Scientific meeting abstracts: significance, access and trends. *Bulletin of the Medical Library Association* 1998 January; 86(1): 68-76.

### **CO-OPERATION AND CO-ORDINATION**

Scott, L.J. Forging a new model for cooperation: the Health Science Information Consortium of Toronto. *Bibliotheca medica canadiana* 1999 Spring; 20 (3): 122-123.

Links between the University of Toronto Library and libraries in local teaching hospitals.

### **COMMUNITY CARE DOCUMENTATION**

Department of Health. *A practical guide for disabled people: where to find information, services and equipment. HSC 1999/025*. London: Department of Health, 1999 February 12.

Obtainable from Room 228, Department of Health, Wellington House, 133-135 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8UG.

### **CONSUMER HEALTH AND PATIENT INFORMATION**

Coulter, A., Entwistle, V., Gilbert, D. Sharing decisions with patients: is the information good enough? *BMJ* 1999 January 30; 318: 318-322.

Entwistle, V., Watt, I.S., Davis, H., and others. Developing information materials to present the findings of technology assessments to consumers. *International Journal of Technological Assessment in Health Care* 1998; 14: 47-70.

MacDougall, J. *Well read: developing consumer health information in Ireland*. Dublin: 1998. £10.00. ISBN: 0946037345.

Reviewed in *Library Association Record* 1999 May; 101 (5): 301.

Giustini, D. The Web and electronic information (EI) in Canadian consumer health libraries: perceptions of twenty public, hospital and special libraries.

*Bibliotheca medica canadiana* 1999 Spring; 20 (3): 128-131.

## **HEALTH SCIENCES DOCUMENTATION**

Gross, V. A women's resource center in a rural setting. *Medical Reference Services Quarterly* 1999 Spring; 18 (1): 25-35.

Nash, M.R., Faraino, R.L. Internet resources in legal medicine and forensic science. *Medical Reference Services Quarterly* 1999 Spring; 18 (1): 59-68.

Smith, R.A.(ed.) *Encyclopedia of AIDS: a social, political, cultural and scientific record of the HIV epidemic*. Fitzroy Dearborn: 1998. £75.00. ISBN: 15795 8 007 6.

Reviewed in *Library Association Record* 1999 May; 101 (5): 301.

van Weel, C., Knottnerus, J.A. Evidence-based interventions and comprehensive treatment. *Lancet* 1999 March 13; 353: 916-918.

Examines the issue of the evidence base for complex, composite intervention procedures in general practice.

## **HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARIANSHIP**

Downing, L., Higgins, R., Smith, T. *Peripatetic library service project: assessing the value of a peripatetic library service for primary care in the Highlands. Final report*. Inverness: Peripatetic Library Service Project, 1999. Copies are available for £5.00 from the Peripatetic Library Service Project, Kinmylies Medical Practice, Assynt Road, Inverness, IV3 6PB, UK.

Swaffield, L. Competition wasn't healthy: library services have won a central role in today's evidence-based NHS .... *Library Association Record* 1999 May; 101 (5): 290-291.

## **HEALTH SERVICES INFORMATION**

Department of Health. *NHS Trust management costs. HSC 1999/040*. London: Department of Health, 1999 February 19.

Obtainable from Department of Health, PO Box 410, Wetherby, LS23 7LN. Annex A, page 14 para.21 states that librarians should be excluded from NHS Trust's management costs.

## **INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND SERVICES**

McKibbin, K.A., Walker-Dilks, C. The need for evidence. *Bibliotheca medica canadiana* 1999 Spring; 20 (3): 124-125.

Gilbert, C.M. Adapting clinical librarianship. *Medical Reference Services Quarterly* 1999 Spring; 18 (1): 69-72.

Winkworth, I. Hylife: the hybrid library of the future. *Electronic Library* 1999 January; 17(1): 17-19.

Oppenheim, C., Smithson, D. What is the hybrid library? *Journal of Information Science* 1999; 25 (2): 97-112.

Hajioff, S. Computerized decision support systems: an overview. *Health Informatics Journal* 1998 4 (1): 23-28.

Jeans, M.E. Developing a nursing knowledge management system.

*Bibliotheca medica canadiana* 1999 Spring; 20 (3): 114-115.

McGuire, M., Hillan, E. Obstacles to using a database in midwifery. *Nursing Times* 1999 January 20; 95(3): 54-55.

Obstacles included lack of time and of appropriate skills, but not negative attitudes.

Royle, J.A., Church, A.F., Montemuro, M. and others. The Hamilton-Wentworth Long Term Care Resource Centre project. *Bibliotheca medica canadiana* 1999 Spring; 20 (3): 103-107.

Scott-Douglas, D. The Canadian Medical Association's OSLER Service. *Bibliotheca medica canadiana* 1999 Spring; 20 (3): 112-113.

Hall, A. Canadian Coordinating Office for Health Technology Assessment. *Bibliotheca medica canadiana* 1999 Spring; 20 (3): 116-118.

Cumbers, B., Donald, A. Data day. *Health Service Journal* 1999 April 15; 109 (5650): 30-31

Department of Health. *NHS Direct - final stage of national roll-out. HSC 1999/028*. London: Department of Health, 1999.

Obtainable from Room 228, Department of Health, Wellington House, 133-135 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8UG.

Hunter, J., Lockyer, M. Electronic Pink Book: an integrated clinical information system. *Guidelines in Practice* 1999 April; 2: 33-36.

N.B. unnumbered issues within a volume are paginated separately.

## **INFORMATION SYSTEMS: CD-ROM AND DISKETTE**

Leadbeater, S., McGowan, M., Pinder, J. for Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust. *The Clinical Knowledge Database: project report, March 1997 - March 1999*. Leeds: LTHT, 1999.

## **INFORMATION SYSTEMS: INTERNET AND NHSNET**

Roscoe, T.J., Wells, M. NHSnet - learning from academia. *BMJ* 1999 February 6; 318: 377-379.

Compares NHSnet and JANET, and suggests reconsideration of funding and security issues.

Katx, E., Bonin, K.-R. CISTI proposes a National Online Scientific Knowledge Network. *Bibliotheca medica canadiana* 1999 Spring; 20 (3): 99-102.

Behm, L.M., Combs, A., Rattenborg, K.N. and others. Librarians' use of HealthWeb for reference and instruction. *Medical Reference Services Quarterly* 1999 Spring; 18 (1): 1-10.

"HealthWeb is a selective Internet resource that links users to annotated, evaluated Internet resources in the health sciences...."

## **INFORMATION SYSTEMS: ON-LINE SERVICES**

Fitzpatrick, R.B. MEDLINE via MD Consult. *Medical Reference Services Quarterly* 1999 Spring; 18 (1): 49-57.

## **INFORMATION SYSTEMS: TERTIARY SERVICES**

Charny, M. How to find out about existing guidelines. *Guidelines in Practice* 1999 May; 2: 58-61.

The fourth article in the series.

## **LIBRARY AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING**

Duggar, D.C. Security and crime in health sciences libraries in the southern United States. *Medical Reference Services Quarterly* 1999 Spring; 18 (1): 37-48.

Glitz, B., Flack, V., Lovas, I.M., Newell, P. Hospital library service and the changes in national standards. *Bulletin of the Medical Library Association* 1998 January; 86(1): 77-87.

## **LIBRARY STOCK**

Tsay, M.-Y. The relationship between journal use in a medical library and citation use. *Bulletin of the Medical Library Association* 1998 January; 86(1): 31-39.

## **PUBLISHING AND PRINTING**

Myers, R., Harris, M. *Medicine, mortality and the book trade*. London: Oak Knoll Press, 1998. £25.00. ISBN: 1 884718 81 7.

"... on the connections, beneficial or otherwise, between medicine and the book business ..." Reviewed in *Library Association Record* 1999 May; 101 (5): 298.

## **USERS**

Green, B., Jones, M., Hughes, D., Williams, A. Applying the Delphi technique in a study of GPs' information requirements. *Health & Social Care in the Community* 1999; 7 (3): 198-205.

Bayley, L., Bhatnagar, N. OHeLP: Ontario Health Link for Practitioners. *Bibliotheca medica canadiana* 1999 Spring; 20 (3): 119-121.

Kaufman, C., Conway, S., Gallagher, K.E. Health Information Resources: tradition and innovation in a medical school curriculum. *Medical Reference Services Quarterly* 1999 Spring; 18 (1): 11-23.

Thornley, R., Read, S. Swift Efficient Application of Research in Community Health (SEARCH): an Alberta-made health research training program. *Bibliotheca medica canadiana* 1999 Spring; 20 (3): 108-109.

Bird, D., Roberts, P.M. The role of library and information services in the modular curriculum. *Nurse Education Today* 1998; 18: 583-591.

Saranto, K. Outcomes of education in information technology at nursing polytechnics. *Health Informatics Journal* 1998; 4(2): 84-91.

Bellaver, C., Daly, J.M., Buckwalter, K.C. Information resources and knowledge needs of rural nurses regarding Alzheimer's disease. *Journal of Continuing Education in Nursing* 1999 May/June; 30 (3): 114.

## Diary of Events

Items for inclusion should be sent to: Mrs S. V. Howard, Librarian & Information Services Manager, Imperial College School of Medicine, Charing Cross Campus, The Reynolds Building, St Dunstan's Road, London, W6 8RP. Tel: 0181-846 7154; fax: 0181-846 7565; e-mail: [s.howard@ic.ac.uk](mailto:s.howard@ic.ac.uk)

6 OCTOBER 1999

HLG Study day on clinical governance: implications and opportunities, to be followed by HLG AGM. Venue - Birkbeck College, London. £66 (£57.17 + VAT) for HLG members, £81 (£68.94 +VAT) non-members. For information/Booking form contact:

Andrea Lane, BMA Library, British Medical Association, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London, WC1H 9JP. Fax 0171-388-2544; email: [alane@bma.org.uk](mailto:alane@bma.org.uk)

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Health and Medical Information on the Internet. Aslib course. £240 members/£290 non-members. Details: Aslib, Staple Hall, Stone House Court, London, EC3A 7PB. Tel: 0171-903 0000. Fax: 0171-903 0011. E-mail: [pgd@aslib.co.uk](mailto:pgd@aslib.co.uk)

1 NOVEMBER

UMSLG Open Forum on genetic information. Details and central London venue to be announced later.

1999 Bishop and LeFanu Memorial Lecture. Dr Dominik Wiyastyk of the Wellcome Trust on early Indian medicine. Details and central London venue to be announced later.

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Producing effective promotion literature. Library Association CPD events. £115 + VAT (members). Library Association, 7 Ridgmount Street, London, WC1E 2AE. Tel: 0171-636 7543, ext.: 288/9 or email: [events@la-hq.or.uk](mailto:events@la-hq.or.uk)

23-24

Service Planning. Library Association CPD workshop. £290 + VAT (members). Library Association, 7 Ridgmount Street, London, WC1E 2AE. Tel: 0171-636 7543, ext.: 288/9 or email: [events@la-hq.or.uk](mailto:events@la-hq.or.uk)

7-9 DECEMBER

Online Information 99. Olympia, London. Contact: Learned Information Europe Ltd. Woodside, Hinksey Hill, Oxford, OX1 5BE. Tel: 01865 388000. Fax: 01865 736354

APRIL 2000

Medical libraries and publishing in the third millennium. HLG CPD Joint study day with Royal Society of Medicine. St William's College, York.

2-5 JULY 2000

8th International Congress on Medical Librarianship. Queen Elizabeth Conference Centre, London. Information: <http://www.icml.org>

## Newsletter Editorial Notes

*Library Association Health Libraries Group Newsletter* is a supplement to *Health Libraries Review* which is the official journal of the LA HLG. Published quarterly by Blackwell Science, it is available to Group members at the special price of £35.00 (1999). Members requiring the journal should order direct from Blackwell Science, PO Box 88 Oxford OX2 0NE quoting their LA membership number.

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John Hewlett Current Literature  
(Northern and Yorkshire Regional Library Advisory Service)  
Susan Howard Diary of Events  
(Imperial College School of Medicine Library)  
Joy Lyall Production (Charing Cross & Westminster Medical School)

### ***1999/2000 Copy Dates***

**Please send your contributions to the *Newsletter*  
by the following dates:**

**27 September (December issue) 10 January (March issue); 20 March (June issue);**