CILIP

Health Libraries Group

N E W S L E T T E R

Volume 20, Number 4, December 2003, ISSN 02666-853X

Editorial

Regular readers of this Newsletter will be aware of the importance of patients' access to health information. Two articles in this issue focus on new projects which are enabling consumers to be better informed about their health and well being.

Ruth Carlyle, Information Materials Programme Manager with Macmillan Cancer Relief describes how her organisation is working with public libraries to develop 50 local cancer information services (see pages 6-7). The use of toolkits to ensure the availability of quality cancer information to South Asian people affected by cancer is also discussed.

In Wales a new initiative has been established through the partnership working of a number of local agencies in Conwy (see pages 7-8). The Conwy Health and Well Being Information Project aims to co-ordinate local health information via the Internet in a bilingual web based database.

Also in this issue is information about next year's HLG Conference in Belfast (on pages 2-3). The organising committee is keen to hear from members from all parts of the UK who would like to contribute to this conference. Consider this an excellent opportunity to let others know of your contribution to professional research or local service developments.

HLG members email discussion list is officially launched

In response to the recent HLG membership survey, an email list for HLG members has been created. This will be used as a forum for discussing HLG business, including publicising HLG activities, such as study days. Please sign up TODAY by going to http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/hlg-members and follow the onscreen instructions. Further details about the list are available from the list owners, Catherine Beverley (c.a.beverley@sheffield.ac.uk) and Gary Birkenhead (gary.birkenhead@scope.org.uk).

Please note my new contact details at the back of this Newsletter. In August this year I took up a post with Dundee University Library, based at the School of Nursing and Midwifery in Kirkcaldy. On my way to work each morning I take the train across the Firth of Forth, admiring wonderful views. Are there any other librarians out there who see seals, oyster catchers and cormorants on their way to work?

Margaret E S Forrest
Editor

The Health Libraries Group Newsletter is available on disk, in large print and on spoken word tape, on request. For further information, contact Editor, Margaret Forrest on m.e.s.forrest@dundee.ac.uk or tel 01382 345931.

Group News

Health Information and Libraries Journal

The Editorial Board has various key roles to play in the development and delivery of the journal. In order to ensure the journal can be informed by a diverse range of views we are very pleased to welcome some new members from overseas to the Board; Ann Ritchie (Australia), Rowena Cullen (New Zealand), Feili Tu (USA) and Professor Brian Fitzgerald (Ireland). Susan Crawford (USA) formerly an International representative has also become a full member of the Board.

As usual the contents for the December issue may be slightly altered at proof stage but at the time of writing are as follows:

Editorial
Innovation and diffusion in health library and information services. Graham Walton

Original articles
Evaluating digital libraries in the health sector. Part 1 Measuring inputs and outputs R. Cullen

Should systematic reviews include searches for published errata? P. Royle and N. Waugh

Perceptions of the authority of health information. Case study: digital interactive television and the Internet. D. Nicholas, P Huntington, P Williams and B Gunter

Access for all? A survey of health librarians in the North West of England on provision of information to patients. C. King and S Hornby

Working together: supporting projects through Action Learning. A Booth, A Sutton and L. Falzon

Brief Communications
A recruitment and retention study of staff working in National Health Service libraries in the North-west of England. Shan Annis

A pilot study on the use of inter-library loans by clinical staff. D. Chamberlain.

Using research in practice. N. Bexon A. Brice and A Booth

Learning and Teaching. N Whitsed

Penny Bonnett
Assistant Editor

HLG Conference 2004
CALL FOR ABSTRACTS
6 - 8 September 2004

Location: Waterfront Hall, Belfast Conference title: Variety is the Spice of LIFE (Libraries and Information for Evidence)

As the title of the conference suggests, we are encompassing lots of different themes in the call for abstracts for the next HLG Conference. Therefore we hope there will be something of interest for all those thinking of being delegates, and that there is plenty of scope for you to offer contributions.

We are looking for abstracts across 4 broad themes:
- Training and Development for users
- Knowledge Management
- Performance Management and Improvement
- Developing the Library and Information Workforce

Included below are a number of example topics we have attributed to each theme. However this is NOT exhaustive - please feel free to offer others!

We are also asking for abstracts for THREE types of contribution. As usual, we will be pleased to receive abstracts for oral presentations and/or posters. However, we are also asking for abstracts for interactive working sessions. The interactive working sessions are an opportunity to share your experience and skills and to stimulate your colleagues in discussion or activity around one of the themes. Interactive working sessions should be designed to teach new skills or to provoke, challenge and generate

discussion. In your submission you should give a description of the topic you would like to base your session on and an indication of the content of the session.

Therefore, this is the first opportunity to begin to think about putting together an abstract submission. An abstract submission form will be posted onto the conference section of the HLG web site in due course. (hopefully by the end of this month). However, you don't need to wait to submit using the form if you have a burning desire to submit sooner or in another format. What we are looking for is the following:

Name of presenter / presenters
Organisation
Title of presentation
Which of the broad 4 themes you wish to submit against
Type of contribution: (you may wish to consider more than one)
Media you will be needing if not a poster (eg powerpoint, internet demonstration, etc). Note: an early indication would be good at this stage. However, this need not be definitive as we have a dedicated member of the Conference Planning Team who can discuss requirements in more detail, should your abstract be successful.

Abstract: (400 - 500 words maximum) outlining the content of your proposed presentation. Abstracts should be submitted electronically to Steve Rose, Conference Director steve.rose@cairns.ox.ac.uk and Rachel Whittlestone, Programme Director, rachelw@hsrc.org.uk by 31 December 2003.

Detail of themes follows:
1. Training and Development for users. Example topics include:
- Facilitating E-Learning
- Measuring the impact of training
- Innovative approaches to developing information skills
- Designing and delivering training and presentations

2. Knowledge management. Example topics include:
- Information sources

- The relationship between knowledge and information
- Managing/organising information
- Mobilising knowledge for clinical and management decision making
- Clinical decision support systems and care pathways
- Patient records
- Critical appraisal and getting evidence into practice
- Facilitating access to information in primary care, mental health and social care
- Innovations in clinical librarianship
- Facilitating KM: IT infrastructure
- Facilitating KM: developing people and partnerships across disciplines
- Developing partnerships across NHS/Higher Education (Eg: Users First into action)
- Developing partnerships between the member countries of the United Kingdom / Republic of Ireland
- Consumer health information
- Working with patients, carers and the public eg PALS

3. Performance management and improvement. Example topics include:
- Measuring the impact of library services
- Evidence based librarianship - applying the evidence to practice and creating the evidence base
- Getting the most from accreditation
- Engaging users
- Engaging senior managers
- Library services and Commission for Health
- Improvement (CHI) reviews
- Managing change

4. Developing the library and information workforce. Example topics include:
- Developing non-traditional career paths eg clinical librarians, trainers, project managers, confederation librarians
- Approaches to staff development eg mentoring, coaching, vocational qualifications, action learning sets
- Developing leadership and managerial skills in library staff
- Skill sets required by modern library and information professionals

- Identifying skill gaps - personal development planning

Sub-Group News

IFM Healthcare

'Finding Quality Information in Social Care' The next IFMH study day will take place at the King's Fund, London, on Monday 23rd February 2004. Further details will be distributed via the IFMH and associated mailing lists soon, and can also be found on the IFMH web site at http://www.cilip.org.uk/groups/hlg/ifmh/studydays.html

Vacancies
The IFMH Committee will shortly have vacancies for a web author and a joint study day coordinator. If you already have experience in either of these areas, or would like to develop your skills as part of your ongoing CPD, this could be just the opportunity you were looking for! For further details please contact Maria J Grant on 0161 295 7284. Email: M.J.Grant@salford.ac.uk

Maria Grant
University of Salford

Libraries *for* Nursing

The next LfN Study Day will take place on 28 November at the RCN in London. The theme of the event is "Evidence Based Practice" and confirmed speakers include: Anne Corrin from Homerton College, Cambridge, who will speak on "enquiry based learning"; Kate Light, Cochrane Trainer, who will speak about "evidence-based nursing"; Dr Carl Thompson from the Centre for evidence-based-nursing who will speak about "nurses' use of information in decision making"; and Anne Brice from NeLH speaking about "the roles librarians play in supporting Evidence based practice". Further speakers to be confirmed in due course and more information will be available nearer the time.

Libraries for Nursing Bulletin
The September 2003 issue of the LfN Bulletin (vol. 23, issue 3) has now been published. Articles include: Online learning to support nurses' professional development, by Stuart Cable and Caroline Lynch; Librarian on location: visiting health libraries in Kuala Lumpur, by Amanda Quick; Evidence based nursing practice: needs, tools, solutions, by Sarah Greenley; Evidence based librarianship folio course, by Jenny Drury; details of future and past training events.

LfN Membership
If you are interested in joining, contact Amanda Quick: email a.quick@worc.ac.uk; tel 01905 855116 for subscription information.

Jenny Drury
University of Nottingham
jenny.drury@nottingham.ac.uk

Health Libraries Group Travelling Scholarship

Awarded annually, the Health Libraries Group **Travelling Scholarship** funds travel to a conference, for research or for a study visit to a maximum amount of **£1000** sterling.

The scholarship is awarded to enhance the knowledge and development of the profession and to further the continuing professional development of the applicant prior to the end of 2004.

Additional information and application forms may be found at: http://www.cilip.org.uk/groups/hlg/travelling.htm

Deadline for applications is 31st December 2003

*****

News and Notes

Improving access to cancer information: Macmillan Cancer Relief partnerships and resources

Ruth Carlyle, Information Materials Programme Manager, Macmillan Cancer Relief

Libraries play an important role in supporting people living with cancer. This is why Macmillan Cancer Relief is keen to develop partnerships with libraries, in all sectors.

The information consultancy service within Macmillan was established in 1999, setting up and supporting local cancer information and support services across the UK. The consultancy service provides support for project management, establishes links with local cancer services, advises on specialist areas (Primary Care; information materials; black and minority ethnic communities; and quality issues) and facilitates financial support, usually for the first three years of a new service. By the end of 2003, Macmillan will have opened 50 local services in partnership with other organisations. Our local services are all developed in response to local need, working with potential service users. Some are based in hospitals, others are in community settings. Most of our partners have been NHS Trusts, but we are also beginning to develop services in collaboration with libraries.

The first service to be based in a library was opened in Ellesmere Port, Cheshire, in 2002. A drop-in service for people with concerns about cancer is open on two afternoons a week, enabling people to talk to a primary care or community nurse without making an appointment. Guidance was provided to the library staff on the selection of stock and the nurses refer users to publications held within the library. As a result, usage of publications on cancer related issues has increased up to nine-fold.

One of our more recent library partnerships is in Haringey, providing information at Wood Green, Tottenham and Crouch End Libraries. Information boards with relevant information have been set up in each of the libraries and a Macmillan primary care cancer nurse provides a drop-in service at Wood Green.

We are keen to consider potential partnerships with libraries in all sectors:
- To increase public access to good quality cancer-related information
- To promote cancer information on the public agenda
- To meet the cancer information, education and training needs of cancer information service managers and staff
- To enable information service providers to deliver cancer information more effectively.

We also produce toolkits and resources to assist managers of health information services.
A directory of information materials for people with cancer is now in its 4th edition and is the only UK guide to appraised information materials for people living with cancer. It is intended to help managers of information services to provide good quality information on cancer. The directory entries include a cover image, summary and contact details for information materials fulfilling the following criteria:
- About living with or treating cancer
- Not more than five years old and dated
- Designed for use across the United Kingdom.

Treatment-related information is appraised using the DISCERN (1) system developed by the British Library and the University of Oxford. To help information managers to assess accessibility, Flesch (2) readability scores are also included.

The *Macmillan Information Materials Guide* has just been produced in a revised edition. It covers all aspects of the selection, management and development of information materials by professional staff for people living with cancer:

- Identifying information needs
- Ensuring accessibility
- Choosing information materials
- Managing information materials
- Providing cancer information
- Developing new resources.

The Guide includes examples of resources developed to assist the management of health information materials, including consumer health information appraisal tools.

Effective communication with South Asian people affected by cancer is the first in a series of Black and Minority Ethnic Communities toolkits. It is intended to increase the confidence of health and information staff providing cancer information to South Asian people. The Toolkit covers:
- Getting to know South Asian communities
- Some cultural pointers
- Language and interpreting
- Developing information materials
- Existing information resources and information.

A second Toolkit in the series is currently being developed, to help professionals working on prostate cancer issues with men from African and African Caribbean communities.

We can provide one copy of each guide to a library without charge; a charge is made for postage and packing if additional copies are ordered.

If you would like to work with Macmillan Cancer Relief to improve access to good quality information for people living with cancer, we would be delighted to hear from you. Modern library services are being encouraged to develop partnerships (3); and we are keen to work with libraries.

For further information about cancer and Macmillan Cancer Relief, call the Macmillan CancerLine on freephone 0808 808 2020 (Monday to Friday 9am to 6pm), text 0808 080 0121, cancerline@macmillan.org.uk or log onto www.macmillan.org.uk

References
(1) *The DISCERN handbook: quality criteria for consumer health information on treatment choices* can be obtained from Radcliffe Medical Press. For further details, contact: Radcliffe Medical Press Ltd, 18 Marcham Road, Abingdon, Oxford OX14 1AA. Tel: 01235 528820. Fax: 01235 528830. Further information can also be found on the DISCERN website at http://www.discern.org.uk.
(2) Flesch R. A new readability yardstick. *Journal of Applied Psychology*, 1948, 32 (3): 221-232.
(3) *Framework for the future: libraries, learning and information in the next decade.* London: Department for Culture, Media and Sport, 2003: 22

*****

Conwy Health and Well Being Information Project

Sheila Evans, Health Information Coordinator, Conwy Health and Well Being Information Project

The *Conwy Health and Well Being Information Project* is a recent initiative formed by a number of agencies from various sectors. The Project has created a part time post of Health Information Co-ordinator, funded by the Conwy Local Health Alliance and jointly managed by a multi-agency steering group chaired by Conwy County Borough Council's Corporate Information Manager. The steering group includes representatives from the Conwy Library, Information and Archives Service, Conwy Voluntary Service Council, Conwy Local Health Alliance, Conwy Local Health Board and Conwy Joint Flexibilities Project (led by Conwy Social Services); it is a good example of successful partnership working at a local level.

The Health Information Coordinator gives information management support to the Conwy Local Health Alliance. However, the main aim of the project is to coordinate local health information via the Internet. A website for the project is being created to bring together (into a single portal) a number

of key web pages/links on vital health and well being issues. It will be bilingual, (English and Welsh) and designed in a clear, user friendly, jargon-free format.

The emphasis of the project however remains firmly local, as this is where information needs are perceived as greatest. It provides the public with easily accessible, up-to-date information on local community-based health services and physical fitness opportunities. This includes information on local health providers, such as GPs, dentists, opticians, self-help groups, alternative health practitioners, and health clubs. It also gives access to information about local sports activities and exercise classes: from yoga to fencing and gardening to jet skiing.

The information is available to the public via a bilingual web based database - the Conwy Community Directory, which is already well recognised across Wales and brings together information that is jointly managed between this project and other information services (including Conwy Library, Information and Archives Service, Conwy Children's Information Exchange and Conwy Voluntary Services Council). It is hoped that this will promote the uptake of these services by local people, thereby helping the Local Health Alliance to achieve its objective of enhancing (healthy) lifestyles of the local community.

Current funding finishes in December 2003 and the next stage for the project will be to evaluate the aims and objectives of the first year and seek further funding in order to continue in its development.

For more information please contact:
Sheila Evans, Health Information Coordinator, Conwy Health and Well Being Information Project, c/o CVSC, 8 Riviere's Avenue, Colwyn Bay, LL29 7DP
Tel: 01492 523848 Fax: 01492 535397
Email sheilaevans@cvsc.org.uk
www.conwy.gov.uk/health or
www.conwy.gov.uk/Iechyd
Conwy Community Directory:
www.conwycommunitydirectory.org.uk

*****

Natural Language@ Ovid – "understands topics expressed in ordinary English"

Louise Foster, Junior Health Information Scientist, NHS Quality Improvement Scotland

What is this feature?
Ovid's equivalent of *Ask Jeeves*. Type in your question and Medline (or any of the rest of the Ovid family) will return 500 of the 'best' records, having looked at the concepts and synonyms contained, returning those most relevant first, star-rated from 5* to 1*. As serious information professionals, conducting serious systematic searches, we would be very unlikely to use this! But out of interest, I thought I would ask it a couple of questions to try and test (catch) it out. I asked two questions to try and determine a) how accurate the references retrieved were, and b) how it compared to a 'proper' search.

I asked:
1. What is the diagnostic accuracy of ultrasound screening in the diagnosis of Down's syndrome?
2. In sickle cell disease, is long-term use of prophylactic penicillin necessary to prevent infections?

It replied:
As promised, for question 1 it returned 500 records. No idea how, MeSH got no mention whatsoever. Perturbed but intrigued, I looked at the first 15. Only one record had been considered 'super-accurate' with 5*. At NHS QIS, we are currently conducting a Health Technology Assessment on ultrasound scanning, and question 1 is familiar territory but the 5* record was not. I checked with our Health Services Researcher, to see what she thought of this 5* record, and she believed that the ultrasound concept had been ignored. This 5* record was concerned with the diagnostic accuracy of diagnosing Down's syndrome, but not interested in the role ultrasound may have in this! However, to be fair, some of the other records retrieved (3*) were relevant and familiar to me, it was not completely retrieval-roulette.

Question 2 was an example I had used in a Medline training session and done 'properly' returned 54 records. Natural language returned 500 (well, it's consistent). I looked at the first 15 returned for both, and they only had 1 record in common. Natural language had rated it 3*, a bit mean I thought, it seemed very relevant to me. The others in the NL set were all rated as 3* or 2*. Unsurprisingly, the 'proper' search returned more relevant records. Poor NL struggled to find anything more relevant than a 3* record and returned a high number of irrelevant records. It's just no substitute for skilled searching!

I also asked (for no other reason than to amuse myself)
- Is Medline rubbish? – records about rubbish tips.
- What is the point of Medline? – most accurate search of them all – relevant 5* records about how useful clinical searches are!

*****

Cochrane Library – Frequently Asked Questions.

Kate Light provides helpful hints on using the new Cochrane Library interface…

Two of the most useful recent improvements to the Cochrane Library interface on the web are the ability to save search strategies and to download bibliographic details of records from all of the databases (except "About the Cochrane Collaboration").

These two activities are also currently my most frequently asked questions, so this column will explain how to save both search strategies and search results. Each FAQ is available to download free of charge from the web:
http://www.york.ac.uk/inst/crd/clugfaqs.htm

In this format each FAQ is designed to fit on one side of A4 paper. You are welcome to reproduce them with an acknowledgement of the source.

FAQ 1

Saving search results from The Cochrane Library – Internet interface.

The URL for this FAQ is:
http://www.york.ac.uk/inst/crd/clugfaqs.htm#ques19

You can save the bibliographic details (i.e. title, author, publication details etc.) of records.

Step 1: Do your search. Complete your search and return to the main screen so that your search results are displayed.
Step 2: Select the records you wish to keep.
Step 3: Save the records. Click on the "Save selected" link. A box will appear, in which all the databases are listed. Each database that contains records you have selected, will have a "Download" link. Click on the Download link to save or view records as a text file. You will need to save or view records from each database separately.

FAQ 2

Saving search results from The Cochrane Library – CD-ROM interface.

A full version of this FAQ (including steps 1 and 2) is available at:
http://www.york.ac.uk/inst/crd/clugfaqs.htm#ques17

Complete steps 1 and 2 as for FAQ 1.

Step 3: Save the records. Click on the "Save selected" link. A box will appear, in which all the databases are listed. Each database that contains records you have selected will have an "Export" link. Click on the link to save the records as a text file. You will need to save records from each database separately.

FAQ 3

Saving and re-running search strategies on The Cochrane Library – Internet interface.

The URL for this FAQ is :
http://www.york.ac.uk/inst/crd/clugfaqs.htm#ques16

To save searches you need an individual account. If you use a password, you probably already have an individual account.

Step 1: Set up an individual account. Go to the Update Software log-on page: http://www.update-software.com/clibng/cliblogon.htm On the right hand side, underneath the "Log on anonymously" button, is the sentence "Or register a username and password". Click on the word, "register" and a pop up form will appear. Fill this in (and remember to make a note of your chosen username and password.)

Step 2: Log on with an individual account. To log on from the NeLH, follow the Cochrane Library link as usual, to http://www.nelh.nhs.uk/cochrane.asp Underneath the large grey button that says, "Enter the Cochrane Library", are instructions for people who may need passwords. Click on the link that says "Username/password users login here", and log-on from the resulting screen. When you log-on using an individual username and password you will be able to save and re-run searches as detailed below.

Step 3: Saving a search strategy to the Update Software server. From the History screen, click on the grey "Save" button. Decide on a search strategy name and type it in the box. Click OK.

Step 4: Rerunning a saved search strategy from the Update Software server. N.B. - this will delete any previous searches from your current session. Click on the grey "Load" button. Click on the name of the required search. The search will automatically load and run.

FAQ 4

Saving and re-running search strategies on The Cochrane Library – CD-ROM interface.

The URL for this FAQ is: http://www.york.ac.uk/inst/crd/clugfaqs.htm#ques18

Step 1: Saving a search strategy to your computer. From the history screen, click on the grey "Save" button. A "save" box will appear. Select a folder on your computer, where you would like to save your search strategies. Decide on a search strategy name and type it in the file name box. Click "Save".

Step 2: Rerunning a saved search strategy from your computer. N.B. - this will delete any searches in your current session. Click on the grey "Load" button. An "open" box will appear. Select the required search. Click on "open".

If you have any questions about these instructions or about other aspects of the Cochrane Library, please contact me at the email address below.

Kate Light
Cochrane Library Trainer
kl9@york.ac.uk

*****

NeLH News

Alison Turner brings us news of recent developments in the National electronic Library for Health...

Digital Libraries Network (DLnet)
If you have an interest in promotion and/or training, take a look at the DLnet online resource at http://www.nelh.nhs.uk/dlnet. DLnet is a network for health librarians and trainers launched over the summer. It is designed to bring together people interested in training and promotion, to share experiences and ideas in a virtual community. It provides a support network, of materials, templates and tools, as well as an online know-how resource. DLnet is open to people working in universities, Royal Colleges, professional bodies, charities, independent organisations as well as the NHS.

DLnet provides you with:
* a virtual support community using web, teleconferencing and occasional meetings; * a toolkit of downloadable training and publicity materials; * a professional folder for carrying your promotional & training

tools; * giveaways and materials to use for marketing and training; * discussions to share ideas and best practice; * contact with other Representatives; * professional development opportunities; * fun competitions and other incentives; * UpdatePLUS Newsletter containing insider knowledge around site changes and top tips; * Lapel Badge

There's no commitment and no charge - DLnet provides us with an easy route to communicate the latest news and developments and provides you with materials and knowledge to help you promote electronic resources and train users. Sign up online at www.nelh.nhs.uk/dlnet.

DLnet members will be taking part in Awareness Week 2003, from 24-30 November - more details at http://www.nelh.nhs.uk/dlnet/default.asp?tab=4. For the first time, NeLH will be delivering online training for health professionals across the country.

Alison Turner
Library Partnership Co-ordinator
National electronic Library for Health

*****

Internet Sites of Interest – Learning Disabilities

The following web sites are but a small sample of the vast number available on learning disabilities. If you know of any other useful sites which have not been listed then please do let me know.

Graeme Barber
Head of Academic Services
St Loye's School of Health Studies
G.Barber@ex.ac.uk

http://www.aamr.org/
AAMR promotes progressive policies, sound research, effective practices, and universal human rights for people with intellectual disabilities.

http://www.bild.org.uk/
the British Institute of Learning Disabilities, a not for profit organisation with charitable status, which exists to improve the quality of life of all people with a learning disability. BILD provides information, publications and training and consultancy services for organisations and individuals.

http://www.downs-syndrome.org.uk/
The only organisation in this country focusing solely on all aspects of living successfully with Down's syndrome.

http://www.dsmig.org.uk/
This site provides essential information for healthcare professionals on 'best practice' medical care for people with Down's syndrome in the UK and Ireland. It has been produced by the UK Down's Syndrome Medical Interest Group (DSMIG), a network of doctors.

http://www.esapld.co.uk/
The English Sports Association is a national charity and the recognised governing body of sport for people with learning disabilities.

http://www.learningdisabilities.org.uk/
The biggest, most comprehensive website on learning disabilities in the UK. The site is run by the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities, the leading UK charity researching learning disability issues.

http://www.mencap.org.uk/
Mencap is the UK's leading learning disability charity working with people with a learning disability and their families and carers.

http://www.rnld.co.uk/
It is the intention of this site to be a comprehensive listing of the current active websites that focus upon the issues relevant to people with learning difficulties and those who support them.

http://www.doh.gov.uk/learningdisabilities/index.htm
The UK Government is committed to offering better life chances to people with learning disabilities.

http://www.nas.org.uk/
includes information about autism and Asperger syndrome and about the support and services available in the UK.

http://www.learningdisabilitiesuk.org.uk/

LDUK aims to be the most informative and up to date Learning Disability related site in the UK.

http://www.minervation.com/ld/
National electronic Library for Learning Disabilities (NeLLD). The aim of this site is to provide access to best current knowledge in relation to the development and delivery of services for people with a learning disability.

A number of web sites listed in the last newsletter under mental health also cover learning disability topics e.g Mental Health Foundation.

*****

Online Information 2003

Online Information is the yearly event where the world of information content and information management converge, and this year offers a wealth of useful information for health librarians. The show provides an annual opportunity to meet over 250 suppliers showcasing thousands of the best content resources and information management solutions. Key players exhibiting at the show include BIOSIS, Dialog, Gale, Fiz-Karlsruhe, Ovid, Springer-Verlag, Thomson Scientific, and over 40 companies exhibiting for the first time. Online Information is now in its 27th year and takes place from 2 – 4 December 2003 at London's Olympia Grand Hall.

Running parallel with the exhibition is the Online Information conference, which brings together over 80 international speakers from a diverse range of library and information backgrounds. Tommy Yeung, Associate Librarian at Lingnan University, Hong Kong will discuss the critical role the university library played in crisis management and

supporting the needs of staff and students during the SARS epidemic in Hong Kong. A case study presented by Sara Wood from the World Health Organisation will look at SARS and the WHO, focusing on the importance of disseminating health information quickly and efficiently.

Special discount for CILIP members attending the conference!
CILIP has negotiated a specially discounted rate for members who wish to attend the Online Information conference. Book before 30 October to benefit from the 'Association Super Early Bird' rate, **saving 25%** on the full delegate price. Book from 31 October to get the 'Association Rate' saving you 15%. Full details at
www.online-information.co.uk.

In addition, attend any of over 100 free educational seminars and masterclasses located on the show floor. Hear from Mary Petersen from the Royal Adelaide Hospital, Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science, as she provides the latest developments in information provision in healthcare, as well as the Royal Society of Medicine providing an update on medical information resources. Case studies will demonstrate how organisations have implemented information management and content solutions to deliver business benefits. Hear from Nick Royle, Cochrane Collaboration, who will discuss information provision for evidence-based medicine, Steve Ashwell from the South Eastern Public Health Observatory will explore records management in public health, and Scott Gibbens, Trent Workforce Development Corporation, will present on developing the NHS core collection. For more information on the show floor education programme, please visit www.online-information.co.uk.

For more information or to pre-register free for the exhibition please visit www.online-information.co.uk or call the visitor hotline on +44 (0)7000 763 896.

London Health Libraries Launch

The launch of London Health Libraries took place on June 30th at the Friends House, Euston. 85 delegates attended from a wide range of health libraries, with NHS and Higher Education staff joined by colleagues from organisations such as Royal Colleges and the Royal Society of Medicine. During the afternoon, the Workforce Development Confederation (WDC) structure was outlined and the members of the London Health Libraries Strategy and Development Group (LHLSDG) presented their business plan for the coming year. Presentations were also made by Graham Fisher, Director of the London Libraries Development Agency and Marie Martens of Biomed Central. An update on developments with the National Core Contract for electronic databases and journals was provided by Andy Richardson.

Changes in NHS policy have seen a move to greater control of service provision at a local level. As part of these new ways of working, regional library service functions were devolved to the WDCs in April 2003. Each WDC within London has appointed a librarian to lead on strategic direction. A focus on pan-London developments, in areas agreed by the WDC Chief Executives in July 2002, has been retained.

Key issues for this year will be:
*embedding the LHLSDG leadership role for pan-London library activity
*putting into place some key components of a Quality & Standards Framework
*further developing the e-resources activity across London
*co-ordinating a Training and Development Programme for library and information staff across London

The WDCs have retained the electronic Knowledge Access Team (eKAT) to provide co-ordinated electronic services on a pan-London basis. The WDC librarians and the eKAT Team Leader meet regularly under the umbrella of the London Health Libraries Strategy and Development Group (LHLSDG). All six members are part of the National Library and Knowledge Development Network (LKDN), which is the

successor body to the Regional Librarians' Group.

The members of the London Health Libraries Strategy and Development Group (LHLSDG) are: Ruth Fosker – South East London; Richard Osborn – North West London; Ray Phillips – South West London; Cheryl Twomey – eKAT Team Leader; Anne Weist – North East London; Jane Williamson – North Central London. For further details see
http://www.londonlinks.ac.uk/rliu/events.htm

Getting a good deal for the NHS

The NHS Libraries and Knowledge Development Network and the NHS Purchasing and Supply Agency have negotiated two deals this year which are benefiting all NHS Trusts in England. A framework agreement for the supply of books enables the NHS to achieve discounts of up to 20% on all new and current titles. In addition, a framework agreement for the supply of printed journals, electronic journals and electronic books also enables Trusts to make all of their journal purchases through one source, producing efficiency and cost savings.

For further details contact Laura Gillen, Clare Shemilt, LKDN Purchasing Group) (tel 0121 245 2600, email Claire.shemilt@wmsconfed.nhs.uk), Laura Gillan, NHS Purchasing and Supply Agency (tel 01244 586707, email laura.gillan@pasa.nhs.uk) or Ruth Fosker, LKDN Communications Officer (tel 020 7593 0113, email ruth.fosker@selwdc.nhs.uk).

*****

Meeting Reports

Your reflections count: meetings reports for the HLG Newsletter and Web Site

Next time you attend a study day or conference, please consider sharing the key themes and messages with Newsletter readers by submitting a short report. The chances are that what inspires you will inspire others too. Short is good: simply capture your thoughts and ideas on the back of your delegate pack on the train journey home, apply the guidelines below, and submit! I look forward to hearing from you.

Guidelines for Meetings Reports

Heading:
Include:
- The name, date and venue of the meeting/study day/conference
- Your name, job title and organisation

Length:
Aim for 600 words, 1000 words is the absolute limit.

Format:
Please create your report in Word or in rich text. Avoid elaborate formatting, but do use bullet points and quotes if you wish.

Content:
The purpose of the report is to provide those unable to attend an event an outline of its key themes and messages. Readers will want to know whether they missed anything that was new, different, or thought-provoking. Your personal reflections on an event are likely to be more interesting to the reader than a sequential account of each session.

You may like to use some or all of the following headings to structure your report:

- What was the purpose of the event?
- What were the key themes and issues?
- What was the highlight?
- What did I learn that was new? What were the take-home messages?
- What will I do/do differently as a result?
- Are there any follow-up resources I can point others to? (Here you might include links to presentation slides and/or references to key documents).

Abbreviations and acronyms:
Please spell out abbreviations on the first occasion of use.

Submitting your report:
Please send your report via e-mail (as an attachment or as the text of the e-mail) to me Helen.Bingham@porthosp.nhs.uk, at least two working days ahead of the copy date published in the HLG newsletter.

*****

New Methods of Delivering Information to Patients and Clinicians held 9 June 2003 at the British Library, London

Jil Fairclough, Branch Librarian, Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust

This one-day conference was organised by the Royal Society of Medicine in association with CILIP Health Libraries Group. Its aim was "to provide clinicians and medical librarians with an overview of current developments in the delivery of medical information" and it offered an enticing, packed programme. This report picks out just a few of the presentations.

Putting librarians at the top of the "information food chain"

A case study entitled "Getting out there with information: three outreach projects in Barnet PCT" was presented by Christine Halpin, Community Health Information Officer, and Elizabeth Rigby, Clinical Librarian. This offered illuminating insight into work being carried out "in the field", using laptops, mobile phones and the backup of the main library. Christine illustrated the benefits of placing a human negotiator between information and recipient, in the form of a clinical librarian attached to a healthcare team. She had found that, in the

"normal" order of events, when an information need arises, the first choice of action is "do nothing", and the next favourite is "ask a colleague": doing a literature search is the least favoured option, at the bottom of the chain. With a clinical librarian on the team, asking the librarian is equivalent to asking a colleague. This effectively puts accessing high quality, evidence-based information via a librarian close to the top of the chain.

A library in my pocket

For me, the presentation which most obviously fitted the title of the conference was that by Dr Chris Paton, entitled "The use of hand-held computers for delivering information". Dr Paton graduated in 2000, is a surgical SHO in Cambridge, and a champion of hand-held computers (Portable Digital Assistants or PDAs). He enthused about their many advantages (and a few disadvantages) for busy doctors. Beaming data from one device to another, for example at handover time, saves time and effort, whilst the organisational functions of PDAs can help doctors better manage their time.

Dr Paton described his own PDA as "a library in his pocket". However, his repeated use of the phrase "all you do is subscribe to..." for me posed the question: "but who pays?". I am not convinced that doctors will want to pay from their own pockets to have these "libraries in their pockets"!

That said, it was refreshing to hear someone so enthusiastic and ready to take on and use "new methods". Dr Paton cited three useful websites for information on getting PDAs into doctors' hands:
http://newmediamedicine.com
http://www.medschoolguide.co.uk
http://www.doctorsgadgets.com

Digital TV and personal web space - what next for patients?

Afternoon speakers presented national projects. Bob Gann from NHS Direct enthused about NHS Direct Digital TV, which will be launched in April 2004. Figures show that the uptake of digital TV is about to overtake the uptake of the Internet in homes, and that the social groups of those taking digital TV are different from those with the Internet. Digital TV is, therefore, "a force to be reckoned with" for delivering information to patients.

Gerald Murray from NHS Direct described the Healthspace Project, commissioned last year by Government ministers. Members of the public will be able to store personal health information (health status, appointments, medication, care wishes, and so on) in a personal electronic record held in a secure environment on the Internet. They will also be able to access daily health news updates. The project is expected to deliver in December 2003.

Overall

Considering the title of the conference, it was disappointing that a high proportion of speakers spent so much time on background and what had happened in the past, not leaving enough time to cover "new methods". However, the case studies were thought-provoking and provided ideas to take away and put into practice. The conference was well organised, and the Conference Centre at the British Library proved an excellent venue.

*****

Clinical Librarian Study Day held on 24 September 2003 at Leicester General Hospital

Linda Lawson, Clinical Support Librarian, Winchester & Eastleigh Healthcare NHS Trust

Another success for the Clinical Librarian Service at University Hospitals Leicester! This study day was a fascinating and thought-provoking look at different ways of providing evidence at the point of clinical need, and gave us the opportunity to think critically about the skills involved.

A model of succinct digest writing

How many of us look at the NeLH front page and dismiss "Hitting the Headlines" as not the most important thing to look at? Alison Booth and Nerys Woolacott from the NHS Centre for Reviews and Dissemination quickly revealed the error of our ways. "Hitting the Headlines" (http://www.nelh.nhs.uk/hth/archive.asp) is not just a topical news feature, but a model of succinct digest writing.

Alison explained how media sources are used to select stories for further investigation and assessment. Life is easier if the article names the source of the research, but if necessary appraisers make international phone calls and send e-mails around the globe to find the in-depth information they need to make a professional assessment.

Nerys demonstrated how a member of the review team carefully appraises each headline article. This served as a wonderful refresher in critical skills, and we were reminded to think flexibly - a hierarchy of evidence and checklists are valuable, but not definitive.

A standard format is used for both the investigative process and the final written evaluation. With a 48-hour deadline to meet, the whole process must be achieved at speed. This attention to detail has meant that in two years only six minor alterations have been made to reviews.

Critical appraisal and digest writing are skills that many of us will need if clinical librarianship develops to its full potential. And we will have to be ready to repeatedly refresh our skills, if we are going to use them to best effect.

A refreshing dose of realism

Jon Brassey, Director of the ATTRACT information service for general practitioners in South Wales, also talked about digests, in a presentation entitled "Practicalities and pragmatism" . He posed the question: if a digest is not as detailed as those of NeLH, is it any less valid? For Jon, two considerations focus the mind: budget considerations and the 6-hour deadline set by

GPs for getting answers to questions. He listens to what his clients really want, he decides how to provide it for them, he priorities his use of time - and he accepts the inherent limitations of this approach. He has chosen to work in the GP environment rather than the librarian environment. His views may have challenged us professionally, but they served to remind us that in the real world what clinicians want from us is the best possible short cut to quality information.

One topic of interest to us all

At group discussion time, we had a variety of topics to choose from – but every group chose the same one: "How to influence the movers and shakers". The majority of us are still finding it difficult to be heard, to persuade and to find champions. Clinical librarians need to work together as a single group to raise our profile, and promote professional networking to share problems and find solutions.

Watch this space

Alison Turner of NeLH provided details of two further opportunities for clinical librarians, the NeLH Clinical Librarian Prize, and the second UK Clinical Librarian Conference, which will take place in London next year.

A big thank you to the staff at Leicester for hosting a day that sent us back to the workplace full of enthusiasm and hope for the future.

Presentations from the day can be viewed at http://www.le.ac.uk/li/lgh/library/studyday03.htm

*****

Book Reviews

Journal of Electronic Resources in Medical Libraries 2004 Vol 1, no. 1. M. Sandra Wood (Editor). New York: Haworth Information Press. ISSN 1542-4065. Subscription: Individual $75.00. Institutions/Libraries $240.00.

The editor of "JERML", states it as being "a peer-reviewed journal devoted to the access, evaluation, and management of electronic resources in the medical library environment". Ms Wood also explains that JERML will cover technical, public, and access services issues of electronic resources, focussing on materials relevant to academic health sciences libraries, hospital libraries and other-health related libraries.

This first issue has an introduction from the editor and then introduces readers to the range of topics with five articles, from resources via a proxy server to a general overview of the evolution of electronic journals, focussing on library management issues. Four of the five articles come from American university librarians.

The UK perspective is represented with an article by Alison Turner describing the setting up of the National Electronic Library for Health (NeLH) and considers some of the issues involved in the developing, delivering and managing the service since its launch in November 2000. This will be of interest to American librarians who are maybe not familiar with NeLH, but which is well documented in the UK.

 Four standing columns follow:
- eJournals Forum - this issue includes an article which examines electronic licence agreements and offers some useful, practical tips for success.
- Information Rx - This column will provide reviews of clinical, electronic products. This issue reviews InfoRetriever, " a medical information system that brings evidence-based medicine to the bedside".
- PDAs @ The Library - Includes an article exploring the role of the medical librarian. However, the article by Jie Li from the University of South Alabama in the main body of the journal probably provides a more practical and useful

annotated list of free PDA software for Palm OS and Pocket PC.
- Book Reviews - Four book reviews in this issue, all books came from one publisher in this issue.

This journal, on the evidence of this issue, is aimed primarily at American medical university librarians and it will be that particular sector who will find it the most useful. It does provide practical, up-to-date information on developments and issues related to electronic resources and is especially welcome as it devotes itself to the field of medical librarianship. This journal will complement others being published by Haworth Information Press - Journal of Electronic Resources in Law Libraries and one for School Libraries.

References
(1) Wood, M "Editorial" *Journal of Electronic Resources in Medical Libraries* 2004 1(1) p1-2.
(2) Fitzpatrick,R "InfoRetriever Basics: a resource for evidence-based clinical information" *Journal of Electronic Resources in Medical Libraries* 2004 1(1) p103-111.

Jil Fairclough
Branch Librarian
Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust

*****

Bio terrorism and political violence: web resources. M Sandra Wood (Editor). Hawthorn Press, New York. 2003, ISBN 0-7890-1964-7

Following the events of 9/11 and its aftermath, the international system entered a new era, marked by a deep rooted fear of organised terrorism and its access to weapons of mass destruction (WMD). Wood observes that in the wake of 9/11, the Internet became a key source of information, for public bodies and civilians alike. However, the explosion of sites claiming to provide information on bio terrorism and political violence brought with it an inherent issue of quality, and the need for some form of quality filtering. In the preface to the

work, Wood identifies this issue and attempts to provide an "*overview of Web sites covering all aspects of terrorism, from the events of September 11 through disaster planning*". A tall order indeed. Best described as a compilation of related articles, the book is divided into nine chapters, each providing information on key web resources including: Bio Terrorism Sites for the Healthcare Community, Anthrax, Biological Agents as Terrorist Weapons, Political violence and Islam, September 11, the Emotional Impact of terrorism, Nuclear Terrorism, Disaster Preparedness and a useful 'Hot Bibliographies' section, providing information on web-based news sites.

Chapters are well structured and referenced, with an obvious attempt made to counter criticism of the transient nature of the Internet, by selecting 'safe' URLs such as Government and Agency sites. Of particular interest are Hinegardner and Mayo's chapter 'Selected Bio terrorism Websites for the Healthcare Community and Consumer', and Gallagher and Tomlinson Ascher's 'Surviving the Attack: Web Resources on the Emotional Impact of Terrorism'. The former presents the reader with a broad variety of links, including: consumer resources, electronic books, Government sites, organisations as well as a small paper-based bibliography. The consumer resource links are particularly useful, providing access to a wealth of bio terrorism resources maintained by the National Library of Medicine. The latter chapter provides a useful introduction to the psychological effects of terrorism. Gallagher and Tomlinson Ascher have produced a listing of sites that are both practical and insightful, covering such areas as: coping strategies on grieving and bereavement, talking to children about terrorism and the effects of the media.

Despite an almost overwhelming weighting toward US sources and biases, this book goes some way to achieving its stated aim. To adequately cover such an immense subject matter in under two hundred pages is a near impossible task, but Wood has created a useful starting point for those wishing to pursue the subject further. The target audience seems vaguely defined, spanning any reader with an interest in health information to students of international relations and practising healthcare professionals. However, putting aside these observations, this book would be a valuable addition to any healthcare or public library shelf. As Wood illustrates in her preface, the need to provide some form of help to the user in navigating the vast multitude of sites relating to bio terrorism and WMD is urgently required; and this book goes some way to achieving that end.

Andy Prue
Web Development Librarian
Health Libraries Network
http://stlis.thenhs.com/hln

*****

Epidemiology for health promotion and disease prevention professionals. Richard E. Miller. EdD, Binghamton, Haworth Press 2002. ISBN: 0-7890-1599-4. $44.95

Anticipating his book will be used by health promotion and disease prevention professionals, Richard E. Miller aims to teach principles of epidemiology from a wellness perspective. Each chapter in the book covers an aspect of epidemiology, with a summary, review questions, web site resources, and end of chapter activities. Examples of focus areas from Healthy People 2010, a United States initiative, are used to relate epidemiology to health promotion activities.

The book focuses heavily on vocabulary used in epidemiology, introducing terms in a paragraph style. Each new word appears in bold-face type, incorporated into a sentence as part of a topic area. This makes for interesting reading, as the terms are learned in context.

The review questions at the end of each chapter do not always support a contextual learning style. Rather than offering an array of multiple choice questions with options that may trigger the reader's memory of previously read material, the reader faces an

overwhelming and uninspiring list of questions requiring essay-style or yes/no answers. One of the questions invariably asks whether the reader knows the definitions of all the bold-face terms in the chapter. Readers might be more inspired if a list of the terms were presented at the end of each chapter.

Other chapter activities test the reader on statistics from Healthy People 2010. The reader is expected to have read Healthy People 2010 prior to taking these quizzes. This is not made clear to the reader at the beginning of the book and presents a rather unappealing prospect to health promotion and disease prevention professionals working outside the United States. Additionally, the web site resources primarily represent agencies serving the United States. Whilst many of these agencies offer information useful to other countries, the minimal international perspective serves to limit the potential audience for the book.

Heavily slanted towards organizations and initiatives in the United States, this book may frustrate health promotion and disease prevention professionals in the United Kingdom. Because the epidemiology component is entry level, the book is most relevant to students. It would be too elementary for researchers with an interest in comparing public health initiatives in the United States with those in the United Kingdom. Medical librarians in the United Kingdom might want to look for books more relevant to epidemiology, public health and wellness on a local, national, or international level.

Pam White
Library Services Manager
West Dorset General Hospitals NHS Trust

Botanical medicines: the desk reference for major herbal supplements, 2nd edition. Dennis J. McKenna, Kenneth Jones, Kerry Hughes. Haworth Herbal Press, New York, 2002. ISBN 0789012669. $79.95 (pb). ISBN 0789012650. $169.95 (hb).

In recent years there has been a huge upsurge in interest in herbal medicines amongst the general public and medical professionals. A study conducted in England in 1998 discovered that nearly 20% of those questioned had bought an over-the-counter herbal medicine in the past year[1]. However, although often considered 'alternative' treatments many are, of course, used in 'conventional' medicines and increasingly studies are being undertaken to look at synergies between drugs and herbal preparations. But despite this growth in interest there is a lack of evidence-based clinical information on herbal preparations and this partly explains why the British National Formulary only lists a small number of herb-drug interactions. All this means that the publication of this second edition of *Natural Dietary Supplements: A Desktop Reference* is timely, as it brings together much of what is known about the safety and efficacy of the preparations included.

It looks in detail at 34 of the most common herbal medicines used in North America and Europe including Echinacea, Evening Primrose Oil, Ginseng, Green Tea, St. John's Wort and Valerian. Each substance is given its own well-structured chapter following standardised headings, which include botanical data (classification, nomenclature, detailed description, history and traditional uses), chemistry, therapeutic applications organised by preclinical and clinical studies, dosage and safety. The safety profiles include contraindications, drug interactions, side effects, toxicology, and notes relating to pregnancy and lactation. The references for each chapter are from respected sources and cover research predominantly from the 1960s to 2002.

Of the other scientific guides to herbal medicines amongst the most notable are the *European Scientific Cooperative on Phytotherapy monographs*, the second edition of *Herbal drugs and phytopharmaceuticals* edited by Norman Granger Bissett and Max Wichtl (an English translation of the German 4th edition is eagerly awaited), and *Herbal medicines: a guide for healthcare professionals* by Joanne Barnes, Linda A. Anderson and John David

Phillipson. However, as the remit of these reference works is different (they contain between 80 and 181 monographs each) *Botanical medicines* can look in very great depth at its subjects. Because of this depth, and the scientific terminology used, I do feel that it is definitely more suitable for healthcare professionals and students than "consumers".

Inevitably, in the fast moving world of pharmaceuticals, new scientific research and changes to legislation mean that information changes rapidly, for example since this book was published Kava Kava has been banned from all medicines in the UK. This is not a criticism of the book, just a fact of scientific publishing. Perhaps, to complement such texts, we need to constantly remind our users of the most current resources and, particularly for practitioners, direct them to UK relevant sources. Of note here is the *Herbal Safety News* section of the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency's web site at http://www.mca.gov.uk/ourwork/licensingmeds/herbalmeds/herbalsafety.htm and its bulletin *Current Problems in Pharmacovigilance* (http://medicines.mhra.gov.uk/ourwork/monitorsafequalmed/currentproblems/currentproblems.htm).

[1]Barnes, J., Anderson, L.A., Phillipson, J.D. *Herbal medicines: a guide for health-care professionals*, 2nd ed. London: Pharmaceutical Press, 2002.

Michelle Wake
Deputy Librarian
The School of Pharmacy, University of London

Current literature

by John Hewlett, with information from Andrew Booth, Margaret Forrest, Rosalind McNally, Bruce Madge.

Additional material is always welcome, *particularly on community care aspects*:

please send the full reference, web address or a hard copy to John Hewlett, West Lodge, Lodge Road, Holton St Peter, Suffolk IP19 8NE, or by email to jf.hewlett@virgin.net.

The aim of this column is to cover the recent printed literature in medical, health and welfare librarianship and information science; but readers are cautioned that this list is not a systematic survey of new literature. 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.

Web addresses may be to the table of contents rather than to the specific article.

WORTH READING:

Journal of Electronic Resources in Medical Libraries vol.1, no.1 is to be published by Haworth Press (10 Alice Street, Binghamton, New York 13904-1580, USA) in 2004. M. Sandra Wood is the Editor, and Andrew Booth is on the Editorial Board. An "uncorrected pre-publication" version of 1(1) is available, and the contents are included below. More information can be found at www.haworthpress.com/store/product.asp?sku=J383 See also review by Jil Fairclough on page?? of this Newsletter.

AUTOMATION

Li,J. Free quality PDA software for physicians. *Journal of Electronic Resources in Medical Libraries* 2004; 1(1): 69-88.

Lovett,D.G. PDAs: exploring the role of the medical librarian. *Journal of Electronic Resources in Medical Libraries* 2004; 1(1): 113-118.

Electronic resources reviews from *Journal of the Medical Library Association* 2003 July; 91(3): Munson,K.I., Hill,T.W. QuickDOC for Windows 2.1.1, pp.377-378. Whitlock,M., Edwards,A. Clio 3.5, pp.378-379. Norton,M.J., Stover,M.A. OCLC ILLiad, pp.379-380. Morgen,E.B., Hersey,D.

Prospero 2.0, pp. 381-382. All these are from http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/tocrender.fcgi?journal=93

BIBLIOGRAPHIC TOOLS AND PROCESSES

Bachmann,L.M. and others. Identifying diagnostic accuracy studies in EMBASE. *Journal of the Medical Library Association* 2003 July; 91(3): 341-346. http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/tocrender.fcgi?journal=93

CONSUMER HEALTH AND PATIENT INFORMATION

Skinner,H., Biscope,S., Poland,B. Quality of internet access: barrier behind Internet use statistics. *Social Science & Medicine* 2003; 57: 875-880.

> Evaluation of young Canadians' (consumers') use of the internet, considering privacy, gate-keeping, timeliness and functionality, which warns against using Internet penetration statistics alone as a measure of success.

CO-OPERATION AND CO-ORDINATION

Johnston,B.A. Utilization of the BackMed email discussion list in a specialized health sciences learning center: a cost-benefit analysis. *Journal of the Medical Library Association* 2003 July; 91(3): 366-368. http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/tocrender.fcgi?journal=93

EDUCATION, TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Wessel,C.B., Wozar,J.A., Epstein,B.A. The role of the academic medical center library in training public librarians. *Journal of the Medical Library Association* 2003 July; 91(3): 352-360. http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/tocrender.fcgi?journal=93

HEALTH SCIENCES DOCUMENTATION

Delwiche,F.A. Mapping the literature of clinical laboratory science. *Journal of the Medical Library Association* 2003 July; 91(3): 303-310. http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/tocrender.fcgi?journal=93

Unal,B. Critchley,J.A., Capewell,S. Missing, mediocre, or merely obsolete? An evaluation of UK data sources for coronary heart disease. *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health* 2003; 57: 530-535.

HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARIANSHIP

Creating the digital medical library. New York, NY: Primary Research Group, 2003. $99.50. ISN #-157440-061-4.

> "profiles the electronic collection development and electronic library development of a sample of leading [US] medical libraries …" further information from www.primaryresearch.com

INFORMATION POLICIES

Thompson,L.L. Analyzing electronic license agreements: strategies for success. *Journal of Electronic Resources in Medical Libraries* 2004; 1(1): 91-102.

INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND SERVICES

Ebell,M.H., White,L. What is the best way to gather clinical questions from physicians? *Journal of the Medical Library Association* 2003 July; 91(3): 364-366. http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/tocrender.fcgi?journal=93

Huth,E.J. Scope-adjusted impact factor. *Journal of the Medical Library Association* 2003 July; 91(3): 285. http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/tocrender.fcgi?journal=93

Bienkowski,A. More concerns about impact factors. *Journal of the Medical Library Association* 2003 July; 91(3): 285. http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/tocrender.fcgi?journal=93

Fizpatrick,R.B. InfoRetriever basics: a resource for evidence-based clinical information. *Journal of Electronic Resources in Medical Libraries* 2004; 1(1): 103-111.

> More information on InfoRetriever can be found at http://www.poems.com

INFORMATION SYSTEMS: INTERNET AND NHSNET

Turner,A. Developing and managing a virtual knowledge service for health professionals in England. *Journal of Electronic Resources in Medical Libraries* 2004; 1(1): 51-68.

Gentry,M., Marone,R.K. The virtual medical library: resources at the point of need via a proxy server. *Journal of Electronic Resources in Medical Libraries* 2004; 1(1): 3-20.

Ademiluyi,G., Rees,C.E., Sheard,C.E. Evaluating the reliability and validity of three tools to assess the quality of health information on the Internet. *Patient Education and Counselling* 2003; 50: 151-155.

Murray,E. and others. The impact of health information on the Internet on health care and the physician-patient relationship: national US survey among 1,050 US physicians. *Journal of Medical Internet Research* 2003 August 29; 5(3): e17. http://www.jmir.org/2003/3/e17/

Estabrook,C.A. and others. The Internet and access to evidence: how are nurses positioned? *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 2003; 42(1): 73-81.

Nettleton,S., Burrows,R. E-scaped medicine? Information, reflexivity and health. *Critical Social Policy* 2003 May; 23(2): 165-185.

Bittern,D., Clintworth,W.A. Linking across the digital landscape: issues confronting Ovid Technologies and other vendors. *Journal of Electronic Resources in Medical Libraries* 2004; 1(1): 21-30

LIBRARIANSHIP

Plutchak,T.S. Whose business is it? *Journal of the Medical Library Association* 2003

July; 91(3): 277-279. http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/tocrender.fcgi?journal=93

Madge,B New status for health professionals. *Library + Information Update* 2003 September; 2(9): 45.

> On the UK Council for Health Informatics Professions (UKCHIP)

Carbo,T. Challenges for libraries creating one world: information ethics and policy issues for medical librarians. *Journal of the Medical Library Association* 2003 July; 91(3): 281-284. http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/tocrender.fcgi?journal=93

Shedlock,J. Patricia L. Thibodeau, Medical Library Association, President, 2003–2004. *Journal of the Medical Library Association* 2003 July; 91(3): 287-290. http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/tocrender.fcgi?journal=93

LIBRARY AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING

Harris,L., Peterson,M. Sharing the burden: a model for consortium purchasing for health libraries. *Journal of the Medical Library Association* 2003 July; 91(3): 361-364. http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/tocrender.fcgi?journal=93

Nelson,P.P. Current issues in the design of academic health sciences libraries: findings from three recent facility projects. *Journal of the Medical Library Association* 2003 July; 91(3): 347-351. http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/tocrender.fcgi?journal=93

Preuss,G.A. High performance work systems and organizational outcomes: the mediating role of information quality. *Industrial and Labor Relations Review* 203 July: 56(4): 590-605.

> "Using data on registered nurses and nursing assistants in 50 acute-care hospital units, the author explores the relationships among high-performance work systems, information quality and performance quality … Providing employees with extensive relevant information …

improves the effective quality of information … and thereby improves decision-making."

Gabbay,J. and others. A case study of knowledge management in multi-agency consumer-informed 'communities of practice': implications for evidence-based policy development in health and social services. *Health: an Interdisciplinary Journal for the Social Study of Health, Illness and Medicine* 203; 7(3): 283-310.

LIBRARY STOCK

Hurd,J.M., Weller,A.C. Evolving electronic journals: accomplishments and challenges. *Journal of Electronic Resources in Medical Libraries* 2004; 1(1): 31-49.

Shearer,B.S., Nagy,S.P. Developing an academic medical library core journal collection in the (almost) post-print era: the Florida State University College of Medicine Medical Library experience. *Journal of the Medical Library Association* 2003 July; 91(3): 292-302.
http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/tocrender.fcgi?journal=93

Stankus,T.,ed. *Journals of the Century*. New York, NY: Haworth Information Press, 2002. 506pp. Hard cover ISBN: 0-7890-1133-6, $49.95. Pbk ISBN: 0-7890-1134-4, $29.95. Reviewed by B.E.Jacoby in *Journal of the Medical Library Association* 2003 July; 91(3): 372.
http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/tocrender.fcgi?journal=93

PUBLISHING AND PRINTING

Torre,D.M. and others. Family physicians' interests in special features of electronic publication. *Journal of the Medical Library Association* 2003 July; 91(3): 337-340.
http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/tocrender.fcgi?journal=93

USERS

Dawes,M., Sampson,U. Knowledge management in clinical practice: a systematic review of information seeking behavior in physicians. *International Journal of Medical Informatics* 2003; 71(1): 9-15.

Owen,D.J., Fang,M.-L.E. Information-seeking behavior in complementary and alternative medicine (CAM): an online survey of faculty at a health sciences campus. *Journal of the Medical Library Association* 2003 July; 91(3): 311-321.
http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/tocrender.fcgi?journal=93

Lee,P., Guise,N.B.,Sathe, N.A. Benchmarking information needs and use in the Tennessee public health community. *Journal of the Medical Library Association* 2003 July; 91(3): 322-336.
http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/tocrender.fcgi?journal=93

*****

Diary of Events

There is **a fuller and more detailed diary of events on the HLG website** (www.cilip.org.uk/groups/hlg/nonhlg.html). It also has links to other listings, including for general LIS issues.

Please send items for inclusion in this list (and the webpage), to Fiona McLean, email fmclean@cancerbacup.org. Details were correct at time of writing, but please check with event organisers.

27 November 2003
CASP systematic review training the trainers day. Oxford. £262. Contact: Talla Michelle, email michelle.talla@PHRU.NHS.UK

28 November 2003
Libraries for Nursing study day about evidence-based nursing and enquiry-based learning. Contact: Kathy Cook, email kcook@health-homerton.ac.uk

1 December 2003
Health and Medical Information on the Internet**.** Aslib, London. £260- £325 + VAT Details: www.aslib.co.uk/training/1/08.html

4 December 2003
Evidence based health care on the web; finding the information that matters (CILIP).

London. £140+ VAT upwards. Details:
www.cilip.org.uk/training

10 December 2003
Producing Quality Information Workshop
(CHIQ), London. £158- £231. Contact:
Glenda Trevorrow, email
gtrevorrow@chiq.org

4 & 5 February 2004
Better Information, Better Communication In
Healthcare (CHIQ annual conference)
Church House, Westminster, London , £141-
£569.88. Contact: Tom Hain, email;
thain@chiq.org

6- 8 September 2004
Variety is the spice of LIFE (Libraries and
Information for Evidence)(Health Libraries

Group conference), Belfast. Contact: Steve
Rose, email steve.rose@cairns.ox.ac.uk

21-26 September 2004
9th European Conference of Medical and
Health Libraries, Santander, Spain

16-20 October 2005
9th ICML, Sao Paulo, Brazil

*****

Contributors:
Graeme Barber, Helen Bingham, Penny
Bonnett, Ruth Carlyle, Jenny Drury, Sheila
Evans, Jil Fairclough, Ruth Fosker, Louise
Foster, Lesley Glassington, Maria Grant,
John Hewlett, Linda Lawson, Kate Light,
Fiona McLean, Andy Prue, Steve Rose,
Alison Turner, Michelle Wake, Pam White,
Rachel Whittlestone and Tracie Williams.

Newsletter Editorial Notes

CILIP Health Libraries Group Newsletter is a supplement to *Health Information and Libraries Journal* which is the official journal of the Charter Institute of Library and Information Professionals Health Libraries Group (HLG). Published quarterly by Blackwell Science, reduced rates are available to students, members of HLG, the European Association for Health and Information Libraries (EAHIL), the Medical Library Association (MLA) and the Australian Library Association (ALIA). Members requiring the journal should order direct from Blackwell Science, PO Box 88 Oxford OX2 0NE, quoting their CILIP membership number.

Contributions to the *Newsletter* should be sent to:

Co-ordinating Editor

Margaret Forrest
Campus Librarian
University of Dundee
School of Nursing and Midwifery
Fife Campus Library
Forth Avenue
Kirkcaldy KY2 5YS
Tel: 01382 345931
Fax: 01382 345931
E-mail: m.e.s.forrest@dundee.ac.uk

Health and Community Care News

Jane Rowlands,
BMA Library,
British Medical Association,
Tavistock Square,
London WC1H 9JP
Tel: 0171 383 6737; Fax: 0171 388 2544
E-mail: Jane.Rowlands@bma.org.uk

Advertising

Louise McCrae
Blackwell Science Ltd.
Osney Mead,
Oxford OX2 0EL
Tel: 01865 206155; Fax: 01865 206189
Email: Louise.McCrae
@blacksci.co.uk

John Hewlett Current Literature
Fiona McLean Diary of Events
(Cancer Bacup)
Helen Bingham Meeting Reports
(NHS Portsmouth & SE Hampshire)
Graeme Barber Internet Sources of Interest
(St Loye's School of Health Studies, Exeter)
Ann Davis, Editorial Assistant, *Health Information and Libraries Journal*
(Blackwell Science Ltd.)

2004 Copy Dates
Please send your contributions to the *Newsletter* by the following dates:
5 January (March issue); 22 March (June issue)