

SHINe Journal Volume 47 December 2005

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The Committee Says...

Many of you will no doubt know by now that our Chairperson Cath Smith has moved on to what are euphemistically termed 'pastures new'. In Cath's case, the pastures are in Cleveland Ohio, to which she and her partner moved at the end of 2005. This has naturally been a great loss to the Committee and to SHINE in general.

Cath's reign as Chair was characterised by her energetic and enthusiastic approach to addressing the issues which followed on from the consultation exercise of 2003. Much progress has been made in many areas, and Cath has been instrumental in moving the organisation forward over the last two years. We wish her well in the USA, and are assured that she is still in touch with colleagues and friends – she has even been continuing to work on some of the longer-term projects in which SHINE is engaged since she arrived in the States – now there's dedication for you! The Committee and the membership of SHINE will want to join me in thanking her for all the time and effort she has put in to her work with the Committee.

Cath's resignation from the Committee meant that we needed to appoint an interim chair (if you'll pardon the pun). I fell asleep in the Committee meeting at this point and awoke to find I had been voted in as acting unofficial locum convener *pro tem* on the understanding that I would relinquish these responsibilities and hand them over to someone more able at the 2006 Annual General Meeting. This, therefore, leads nicely into a request for all members to consider whether they might like to join in the work of the Committee by volunteering at the AGM. Joining a Committee is often seen as an onerous or demanding prospect, and SHINE recognises that. As a consequence we are working hard to develop measures which ensure the sustainability of the work of SHINE. We are doing this by establishing clearly what the roles and responsibilities of Committee members are so that members know what is expected of Committee members in advance of volunteering.

SHINE can only move forward if people are prepared to offer their time, their experience and their imagination to the governance of the organisation, and we ask that members who are thinking about volunteering approach one or more members of the Committee who will be delighted to tell you of the vibrant meetings, the thrilling lunches and the illuminating conversations that all Committee members have shared over the last year. And if that's not incentive enough, think of the positive effects that service might have on your continuing professional development!

I hope to see many of you at the AGM, and wish you all the best for 2006.

Andy Jackson
Temporary Chairperson

30 years of SHINe, 28 years of in between

Editorial

In 1977 the first issue of Interim was published as a method of communicating to the membership in between the two meetings held each year. The history of the development of ASHSL into SHINe and beyond can be traced through the pages of this Interim publication.

Interim

The first issue was edited by Jane Mallinson of Glasgow Royal Infirmary Library, today 30 years after the launch of SHINe the editor is again the librarian ensconced at the GRI Library. That is a theme that can be found again and again in Interims pages, there are so few ideas we have that have not been thought of before, and right from the first issue there is mention of what would become one of the cornerstones of SHINe: the Union List. A facsimile of the first copy is enclosed in this issue, I am sure it will make fascinating reading to all SHINe members to see where it all started.

Interim itself has been through many hands and looks but never has the name changed. Since the launch of lis-shine, SHINe website and access to email the need for a newsletter to keep members in touch between meetings has diminished, therefore Interim itself lost its original purpose but found a new one – to publish the articles and news of its members, to fully appreciate the level of professionalism and expertise of health librarianship. With a move towards research articles as well as opinion pieces the newsletter has become a journal. Recognising this Interim, as you will have noticed from the front page, has changed its name, ISSN, distribution dates, as well as method of delivery to print and electronic.

Although the previous older issues cannot be published on the internet due to copyright restrictions I am more than happy to share with anyone that is interested the archive of Interim, this will be passed onto the next editor.

To celebrate the history of Interim as well as this new beginning I am delighted to enclose a reproduction of the first issue with an introduction from Selina Gillespie.

Health Management Library and Information Service: Literature Search Survey, 2004-2005

Fran Schofield

Abstract

In 2004/05 the Health Management Library carried out a customer survey on the literature search service. This article provides a brief introduction to the Health Management Library and the reasons for conducting the survey. A summary of the results is provided and a more detailed discussion of the results highlights the main patterns and trends in the use of the literature search and document delivery services provided by the Health Management Library. The article goes on to make recommendations for future development of the Health Management Library and Information Service based on the surveys findings.

Background

The Health Management Library and Information Service was established in 1965 and holds Scotland's most comprehensive and extensive collection of resources on healthcare management. The Health Management Library and Information Service provides services to a wide variety of health care professionals from all areas within NHS Scotland. As part of this service the library offers a full literature searching service carried out by information professionals using a wide range of health management resources.

As part of its ongoing commitment to customer services, The Health Management Library conducts an annual customer survey on an aspect of the library service. This year the survey focused on the literature search service, this decision was based on a number of factors.

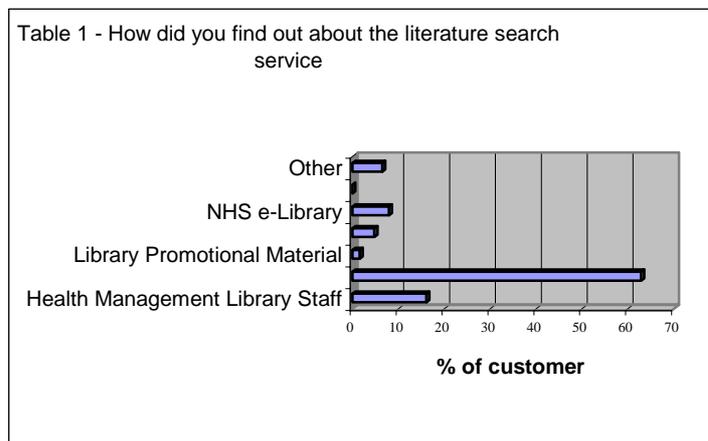
- To measure performance against our customer service standards, and provide more qualitative data to measure customer satisfaction.
- To investigate and establish reasons for the reduction in the number of literature search and photocopying requests.
- To investigate and establish reasons for the change in the types of enquiries received.
- To highlight any impact of the NHS Scotland e-Library on the literature searching and document delivery services.
- To assess the effectiveness of the literature search service and the impact it has on the wider NHS.
- To identify what courses customers are studying so that the Health Management Library can better support these members of staff.

Methodology

A questionnaire survey was carried out over a period of seven months. One questionnaire was distributed to every customer that requested a literature search between October 2004-April 2005. A Total of 132 questionnaires were distributed, and the response rate was 47%, a total of 62 responses.

Survey Results

Table 1 shows, the majority of customers (62.9%) found out about the literature search service through a colleague. 16.1% of customers found out about the literature search service through a member of staff at the Health Management Library.



51.6% of customers said they did get literature searches from another library service, and 48.4% did not. Table 2 shows that the most popular alternative (33.9%) was for customers to conduct their own literature search using resources available on the NHS Scotland e-Library. Other services used included; the Scottish Executive Library, Glasgow Caledonian e-Library, the Health Services Management Centre Library at the University of Birmingham and the Queen Margaret University College e-Library.

Table 3 shows, the majority of customers (64.5%) stated that the primary purpose for their literature search request was to help with a course assignment. A significant number of customers (27.4%) use the literature search service to help with a work related situation, and 22.6% use the literature search service for research purposes. Other reasons for the literature search request included, "updating unit protocols" and "information service for staff."

98.4% of customers felt that the library staff understood their search requirements when they made their initial enquiry. This is further confirmed by the statistics on search relevance. 64.5% found the search results to be "very relevant" and 32.3% thought the search results were "relevant". 98.4% of customers felt that the search results reached them within acceptable timescales.

All the respondents stated that the layout of the literature search results was clear and easy to understand. 98.4% of respondents thought that the range of databases used for the literature search was clear.

The majority of customers (74.2%) said there were no additional databases they would have liked us to search. 12.9% felt there were additional databases that could have been searched. Suggestions for additional databases included, The Cochrane Library, Pubmed, National Association of Theatre Nurses (NATN).

As a result of the literature search 71% of respondents had gone on to request copies of the references from the Health Management Library. The most common reason (25.8%) for not requesting the full document was the ability to download references from the NHS Scotland e-Library (see table 4).

Table 2 - Alternative literature searching services used

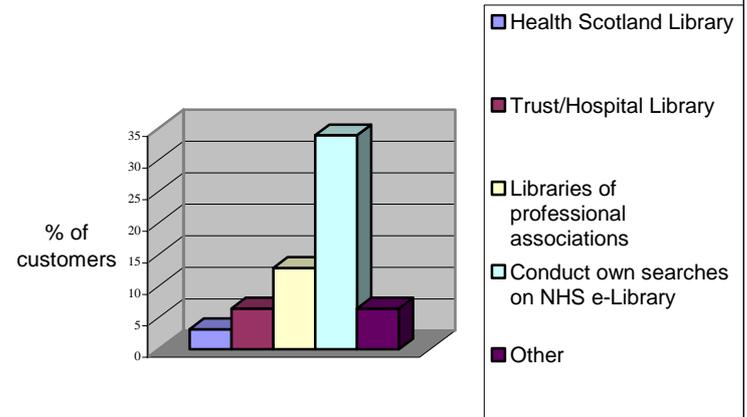


Table 3 - Primary purpose for literature search request

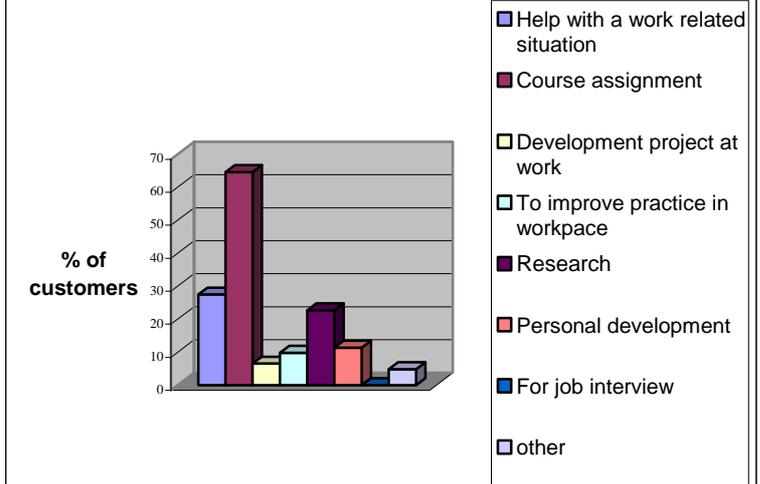
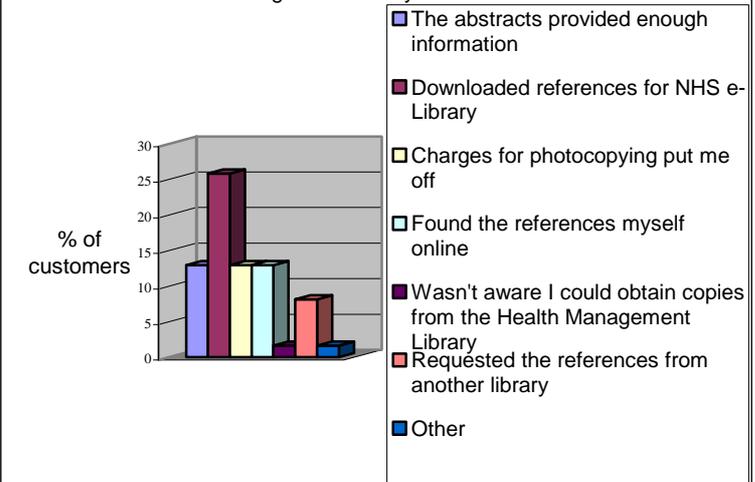


Table 4 - Reasons for not requesting references from the Health Management Library



Discussion

The feedback from the survey was very positive, in the vast majority of cases the literature search results are relevant and delivered within an acceptable time scale. It is encouraging to know that the service standards are being met and are acceptable to customers.

General comments included in the questionnaires were, on the whole, very positive. 48% of the questionnaires included additional comments that were very positive about the literature search service, the staff and the library service as a whole. 27% of the questionnaires referred to the staff as *helpful* and *friendly*. The service was also described as being *prompt* and *efficient*, and, *a great resource*.

Several customers had or would recommend the literature search service and the Health Management Library to colleagues. This indicates that word of mouth is still a very important and effective marketing tool. Although the Health Management Library has been employing a number of promotional activities and tools over the years, this survey highlights that these measures are perhaps not working as effectively as we would like. Only three customers found out about the literature search service through the library's website www.healthmanagementonline.co.uk, which indicates that more use could be made of the website as a marketing tool for the literature search service.

A significant number of customers use the NHS Scotland e-Library to conduct their own literature searches. This is very encouraging and in keeping with the general trend towards greater information literacy. However, there are still a number of customers who do not carry out their own literature searches. This is a clear indication of the need for traditional literature search services to co-exist alongside portals like the NHS Scotland e-Library. Positive feedback from the questionnaires indicates that customers appreciate the fact that the service saves them time and provides accurate and relevant information. As more and more people conduct their own literature searches, the Health Management Library must continue to support them through planned user education to ensure effective use of resources.

A clear majority of customers use the literature search service to support course assignments. The courses studied covered a wide range of MScs, BScs, short courses and modules over a variety of different subjects. This supports moves to working more closely with the course providers to ensure that resources available at the Health Management Library meet the needs of NHS staff undertaking further studies.

It was felt that the growing number of literature search requests for clinical and nursing subjects, reflected a change in the customer base of the Health Management Library. A high proportion of these literature search requests were for NHS staff undertaking postgraduate, further or higher education. This is in keeping with the Health Management Library's role to support NHS staff in their personal and professional development. However, it is recognised that the Health Management Library needs to maintain its focus and expertise in the area of healthcare management.

The literature search service is also important for supporting NHS employees in their work and in research, and also has an impact on personal development. It is difficult from this information to gauge fully the impact that the literature search service has on work practices. However, customer feedback in the comments section was very positive:

"the service is excellent and has benefits to my personal development and also has impact on patient care as I carry out training to health professionals based on best practice/evidence"

"Very highly recommended as CPD tool"

The fact that a large number of customers went on to request copies of references from their literature search results further supports the feedback given on relevancy and accuracy. As expected one of the main reasons people did not request items from the Health Management Library was the availability of these items to download on the NHS Scotland e-Library. Photocopying charges, although not a major issue, were a factor and perhaps more so when customers can obtain articles online for free.

The main consensus of opinion was that the range of databases used was clear. However, in several cases this view is not consistent with responses throughout the questionnaire. People seemed unclear about what resources had been used for the search when asked to suggest additional resources. This inconsistency indicates perhaps more work could be done to clearly state how the search was carried out and what databases were used.

Conclusions

The results from the literature search survey have been analysed and discussed within the library team. As a result a number of developments will be made to the literature search service.

Comments regarding the accompanying letter and the apparent confusion over databases searched will be taken on board and steps will be taken to improve the layout and content of the accompanying letter.

Customer comments and responses indicated that photocopying charges were a factor in their decision to obtain articles from the Health Management Library or not. In light of this the Health Management Library intends to review photocopying charges.

The survey results support moves already made by the Health Management Library to work more closely with higher education. The library intends to develop stronger links with universities offering postgraduate courses in health management and related subjects. It is hoped that this will provide the opportunity to promote the library services to new user groups and develop the library stock to better support these individuals.

The survey highlighted some areas for improvement in marketing activities. The production of a library guide, which will include information on the literature search service, is planned for this year. The results showed a low level of referrals for literature searches from other libraries. An exercise in marketing the Health Management Library database to healthcare librarians is a business objective for this year.

The results of the survey also highlighted the need to continue to develop the role of the Health Management Library in information literacy training for NHS staff. Plans are detailed in the business plan for 2005/2006 to further develop this service by targeting specific groups of staff in accessing management resources effectively. It is hoped that this will also raise awareness of the specific subject coverage and services provided by the Health Management Library amongst NHS staff.

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Glasgow's Health Hub

Fiona Walker, GHH Editorial Group (Chair)

Introduction

www.glasgowhealthhub.org.uk

Glasgow's Health Hub is a superb new public focused health and social care website developed by NHS Greater Glasgow in partnership with Glasgow City Council. It was launched on the 29th September, 2005 by Tom Divers, Chief Executive of NHS Greater Glasgow and Councillor John Lynch, Convenor of Culture & Leisure Services at Shettleston Library in the east end of the city and is already proving a great success.

Comments from users so far have been very positive and encouraging and will be valuable as an ongoing tool to enhance and improve the site.

"It is fantastic to have all the information I need right at hand instead of having to spend so much time trawling the net for it" *Care worker, Glasgow.*

Background

Phase one of the project originated way back in 2001 when the Sandyford Initiative Library & Information Services embarked on a pioneering partnership with Glasgow City Libraries. The Sandyford Initiative is Glasgow's citywide sexual, reproductive and emotional health service which brings together in one unit Genitourinary Medicine, Family Planning and the Centre for Women's Health along with a range of other specialist services. Widening access to health information has always been integral in the Sandyford agenda and a unique partnership utilising monies available from the city Councils Modernising Government Funding (Access Glasgow) was formed to widen access to health information and resources by extending access to the specialised health and wellbeing resources of the Sandyford Library via the network of 33 community libraries.

The Sandyford Initiative (launched in Sep 2000) was already unique in having a public lending library within an NHS setting and this new collaborative project enabled health information services to be extended using interlibrary lending to reach some of the most excluded communities in the City.

A pilot public health website was developed within this funding (Access Glasgow Health). This was based on the dataset of records held within the Glasgow Health Information Gateway (GHI) www.ghi.org.uk. This in itself is a unique Glasgow focused gateway to quality health information aimed at health professionals and initially developed collaboratively within the Glasgow Health Information Group network.

Glasgow's Health Hub is effectively phase two of this website project.

Development

The NHS Greater Glasgow Library Strategy aims to widen access to information and resources for all NHS staff across Glasgow and to establish new ways of working together to improve library and information services. This includes finding ways of extending access to quality health information and resources to members of the public and a cross sectoral Editorial Group was formed as a subgroup within the NHSGG Library Strategy Partnership Group. Members of the Editorial Group include representatives from within the NHS, the City Council libraries, the council Electronic Resources Team, Social Work Dept and the Higher Education sector.

The Editorial Groups task was a sizeable one - to produce a user friendly, Glasgow focused, quality health and wellbeing website aimed at the general public. A one-stop electronic shop for information on health and related issues affecting the citizens of Glasgow!

Factors taken into consideration in the development of this new site included:

- Home Page Topics to reflect the social model of health
- Glasgow resources to be prioritised
- User friendly language
- Public oriented sites within health and social care
- Links to health related events in Glasgow
- Links to local groups and organisations
- Contact details for local groups and organisations without a web presence
- Advanced search facilities

Methodology

The first stage was to tag records within the GHI professional database for inclusion in the public focused GHH site. This ensured the number of hits produced from a simple search by a member of the public was both directly relevant and relatively concise. An Advanced Search facility was included at the end of every Results page enabling the public to search more deeply when required and advising users that they would now be searching across a site aimed at health professionals – in effect the full range of records within the GHI.

The central area of the Home Page lists **Topics** selected to reflect issues affecting people's health and wellbeing in the widest sense. It is not a list of medical conditions. Within each of the Topics listed, the number of sites listed has been kept deliberately low in order to highlight key sites at first glance. Topics were researched and reviewed by experts within our own network and checked against our selection criteria for inclusion within the site. Topics include Alcohol Misuse, Care & Support, Healthy Living, Learning Disabilities, Parenting & Pregnancy, Mental Health, Violence & Abuse, Lesbian / Gay / Bisexual / Transgendered.

"**Find...**" gives instant access to GPs, Hospitals, Community Information and Voluntary Organisations. There is also a link to Resources Without Websites here. This link provides valuable contact details for local organisations and support groups that would otherwise prove difficult to locate. Contact details listed here are provided by the Sandyford Library Services specialist database.

Quick Links gives access to NHS Greater Glasgow, the City Council, Glasgow's Learning, the Scottish Executive and various other Gateways.

The latest health news can be found by selecting the **News** link, and **Current Topics** are highlighted on the right hand side of the Home Page to promote current health events.

User testing was carried out within the community libraries and changes made to the site as necessary. The user testing questionnaire was developed based on the approach used in testing the new Glasgow City Council website and was undertaken on a one to one basis by Lifelong Learning supervisors in the community libraries with individuals attending the library Internet Workshops.

Various features were incorporated to ensure the site was fully accessible to all users including those using text readers.

Conclusion

The final result www.glasgowshhealthhub.org.uk is something the Editorial Group can be proud of. Like all good sites it will undergo a continual process of improvement and development. Comments and nominations for new site additions are particularly welcome and can easily be submitted using the online form.

Thanks are due to John Hutchinson (Web Editor) and Audrey Sutherland / Jean Kavanagh (Electronic Resources Team) for their technical expertise and web development skills enabling the site to look and function as well as it does and to all the other members of the Editorial Team who with much enthusiasm have spent a great deal of time and effort working on the site content. So, thanks to - Cathie Pratt (Social Work), Alison Faichney (Glasgow University), Linda Gillan (Community Librarian).

Please feel free to contact myself or John Hutchinson who will be happy to supply any further information.

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Web Resources - Social Care

Cathie Pratt

Social care is a very broad topic so this review will focus on web resources relevant to social care as delivered through social work services, as this is the area in which I work. Part of my responsibility within Glasgow City Council Social Work Services is to manage a staff library, and I am also involved in the wider area of staff information and communication. Social work aims to provide care and protection to children and their families, ensure care and support to vulnerable adults (including those with disabilities, mental health problems or addictions), provide care and support for elderly people to support them in the community, support carers and provide criminal justice services to offenders, their families and through victim support. A wide range of staff, including professionally qualified social workers, community workers, occupational therapists, social care assistants, staff working in day and residential units and home helps, are involved in delivering services. Most of these staff are based in local authority departments, but increasingly services are delivered in partnership with health, education, voluntary sector and private providers.

Policy, Legislation and Standards

Scottish Executive - Community Care Services

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Health/Care>

The Executive aims to work in partnership with service users and carers, local authorities, the NHS, the Care Commission, and the voluntary and independent sectors to promote better quality and more inclusive community care and other care services across Scotland.

Scottish Executive - Children and Family Services

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/People/Young-People>

The Education Department develops and administers policies for children's rights, support for families, child protection, regulation of childcare centres and pre-school education, and looked after children. A Youth Crime strategy has been drawn up to tackle the problem of persistent offenders.

Scottish Executive - Criminal Justice

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Justice/criminal/16910/14763>

The Scottish Executive funds Scotland's local authorities to provide criminal justice social work (CJSW). CJSW delivers a range of services for offenders aged over 16 years of age and supports the framework of community sentences available to the courts.

Social Work Services Inspectorate

<http://www.swia.gov.uk>

SWIA works with partners in the public, private and independent sectors to promote excellence in social work services. The focus of all inspections and reviews is the positive impact of social work services on people's lives.

Scottish Commission for the Regulation of Care

<http://www.carecommission.com>

The Care Commission inspects and regulates care services by taking account of the National Care Standards.

21st Century Social Work Review

<http://www.21csocialwork.org.uk>

The Review Group has been asked to advise the Scottish Executive on the future shape and delivery of social work services in Scotland.

Local Services Information

Information about local social care services can usually be found on the web site of a particular local authority. A good example of comprehensive information on social care services (in Glasgow) can be found at:

Glasgow City Council Care & Support

http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/en/Residents/Care_Support/

Use left hand links under Care & Support to view full information.

Information to Improve Service Delivery

Until recently front line staff in social care have not systematically used evidence based research, and other information resources, to inform service delivery but this is changing, partly due to the increased focus on CPD and registration requirements. Key resources can be identified relating to individual client groups, but most of the following resources have a wider social care focus:

Social Care Institute of Excellence (SCIE)

<http://www.scie.org.uk/>

SCIE promotes good practice in social care by reviewing knowledge to find out what works best. This knowledge is for social care workers, employers, educators, researchers, service users and carers.

Social Care Online

<http://www.scie-socialcareonline.org>

Social Care Online replaces eLSC and Caredata to give access to the UK's most complete range of information and research on all aspects of social care.

CareData

<http://www.elsc.org.uk/caredata/caredata.htm>

CareData supports management and practice through extensive abstracting of relevant social work and social care literature. It is now being replaced by Social Care Online (see above).

Social Science Information Gateway - Social Work

<http://www.sosig.ac.uk/roads/subject-listing/World-cat/socwork.html>

The service aims to provide a trusted source of selected, high quality Internet information for researchers and practitioners in the social sciences. It is part of the UK Resource Discovery Network.

Research in Practice

<http://www.rip.org.uk/>

This research implementation project, based at the Dartington Hall Trust, aims to promote positive outcomes for children and families through the use of research evidence.

SCARE Briefings

<http://www.elsc.org.uk/briefings/index.htm>

A Social Care Access to Research Evidence (SCARE) briefing is a summary of information on a particular topic to update practice at the health and social care interface, produced by the Trent Focus Group and the Trent Institute for Health Services Research on behalf of SCIE.

Be Evidence Based

<http://www.be-evidence-based.com/>

The Be Evidence Based web site is designed to provide easy access to key findings from critically appraised research in the field of social care. It is owned and managed by the Centre for Evidence-Based Social Services (CEBSS) in partnership with SCIE.

NHS Scotland ELibrary - social care

<http://www.elib.scot.nhs.uk/portal/elib/pages/index.aspx>

Social care is listed in the topic directory on the home page.

Professional Bodies and Training

Association of Directors of Social Work (ADSW)

<http://www.adsw.org.uk/>

ADSW is a constituted group of senior social workers working in Scottish local government who have come together to promote social welfare and social inclusion and the interests those who use social care services.

British Association of Social Workers (BASW)

<http://www.basw.co.uk/>

BASW is the largest association representing social work and social workers in the UK helping, supporting, advising and campaigning on their behalf.

Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC)

<http://www.sssc.uk.com/>

The Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) has responsibility for establishing registers of key groups of social services staff; publishing codes of practice for social service workers and employers; regulating the training and education of the workforce and promoting education and training.

Scottish Executive Education & Training - social care and social work

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Education/social-care-social-work>

The National Workforce Group (NWG) has been established to provide cohesion and strategic direction for the development of the social services workforce of the future. This site gives information on a number of initiatives to improve recruitment and training.

Scottish Institute for Excellence in Social Work Education (SIESWE)

<http://www.sieswe.org/>

The Institute aims to contribute directly to change in social work higher education in response to recent Government policy.

Other Useful Resources

Community Care

<http://www.communitycare.co.uk/>

The site of *Community Care* journal offers access to news, jobs, article search and many other features.

British Journal of Social Work

<http://bjsw.oupjournals.org/>

This is the leading academic social work journal in the UK covering every aspect of social work.

Researchweb

<http://www.researchweb.org.uk/>

This site has been established with funding from the Scottish Executive, and is being developed as a tool for the informed social work professional.

Joseph Rowntree Foundation

<http://www.jrf.org.uk>

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation is one of the largest social policy research and development charities in the UK. This site provides access to summaries of research and other publications.

Research Works

<http://www.york.ac.uk/inst/spru/pubs/researchwks.htm>

A series of briefing papers summarising the findings of research undertaken by the Social Policy Research Unit (SPRU) at York.

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SPHEN-O-GRAM 3: IFMH Study Day “Quality Research Based Information and the New Public Health Agenda”

Lynn Easton

SPHEN involvement

Get involved in a library committee and travel the world they promised, well with the Scottish Public Health Evidence Network (SPHEN) I have made it to York (that is the one in Yorkshire and not the slightly more glamorous but less quaint New York City). I was there representing SPHEN at IFMH's (Information for the Management of Healthcare) study day “Quality research based information and the new public health agenda” on 22 November 2004. My role was to do a short presentation on the work of SPHEN. Later in the day I got to set out a stall with information on the work of SPHEN and SHINE. Plenty of informative posters were displayed and on the table back issues of Interim were displayed for browsing. Also available for attendees to take away were SHINE bookmarks and elibrary pens.

The benefit of presenting meant that I got to hear an entertaining mix of speakers, the worst thing was that the study day kept over-running. As I was due to speak near the end this meant that many had already left for long journeys home by the time I had the opportunity to present. And even fewer had time afterwards to thoroughly digest SPHEN's stall. Mysteriously all the elibrary pens, bar one, had migrated to new homes between setting up at lunchtime and packing up at 4pm. It warms my heart to think of the black market in elibrary pens that is happening across the world, due to attendees from Scotland, England, Wales and Tanzania.

Professor David Kelly

Highlights of the study day included the keynote speech from Professor David Kelly of the University of Durham. He detailed (English) public health policy developments (including the recently released English white paper on public health) and it was fascinating to see such divergence between English and Scottish public health matters. The underlying concepts may be the same eg tobacco control, obesity, SARS and sexually transmitted infections but the published public health policy timetable diverges when working towards different election deadlines.

He stated that the 3 Ps of public health are “protection, promotion and performance” and mentioned plans for the future included strengthening and investing in the public health research capacity – surely good news for public health librarians!

Professor Mike Kelly

Next came Professor Mike Kelly, currently at the Health Development Agency who gave a charismatic talk on evidence starting with Archie Cochrane and explaining how the presentation of evidence has been improving over the years. For example in the past papers wouldn't include the “how it was done” or process data. He also made a plea that researchers need to take responsibility for their evidence and to go beyond publication and use their research to actually change practice.

Public Health Electronic Library

The redeveloped public health electronic library (www.phel.gov.uk) is a database of 1500 records including web resources and events. For bibliographic information we were alerted to Health Promis (<http://healthpromis.hda-online.org.uk/>) containing over 60 000 references. The future involves the creation of a national public health language. This might mean the next SPHEN-O-GRAM requires a dictionary, or it might mean that increased interoperability between various public health projects becomes reality.

Public Health in the Media

The King's Fund has investigated patterns of health reporting in the media involving analysis of news content, unsurprisingly there was bias. A graph was shown that detailed how many deaths each subject

required to get a news story- it seemed you needed 4444 deaths caused by smoking to merit a news story compared to just 1.5 deaths for vCJD.

ESRC Centre for Evidence Based Public Health

Mark Petticrew talked about the work of this centre based in Glasgow, Liverpool and Lancaster (<http://www.evidencenetwork.org/>). He noted that public health evidence is frequently unpublished, widely dispersed, hard to find and not in published databases making searches expensive and time consuming. He stated that systematic reviews should not be the end product and needs to be turned into something meaningful eg a systematic review that starts life in the BMJ appeals mainly to academics, but then ought to be rewritten into a report for wider consumption, into national or international briefing papers and also into localised reports with information that appeals to the practitioners on the ground.

IFMH

More information about Information for the Management of Healthcare can be found on their website <http://www.ifmh.org.uk/>.

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News from the SHINE CPD Working Group

Forthcoming Events

The SHINE CPD Group has some exciting events planned for 2006.

25th May 2006 – SHINE Annual General Meeting

As well as the usual AGM business the theme for the day is “Patients Are Not Scary” – A look at providing Patient Information Services.

Summer 2006

Accreditation, Chartership, Re-Accreditation and Mentorship – A joint event in partnership with CILIPS

Visit to the Scottish Parliament

December 2006

Introduction to Management – essential management skills such as business planning, staff management and financial management.

Keep an eye on LIS-SHINE for further details of all events.

If you wish to put forward any ideas for future training or become part of the SHINE CPD Working Group please do not hesitate to contact us.

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Next Issue

The next issue will be available in May after the 2006 AGM.