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LIBRARIES for NURSING

Bulletin

Volume 15 Number 1

Spring 1995



Features this issue:

Trained Nurses: no money, no entry?
Full report on the Study Day

Notes and News

Book Reviews

lfn

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LfN BULLETIN
Vol.15, No.1, Spring 1995

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SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions run from January-December and cost £10.00. A reduced subscription is available for students at £5.00. Please send enquiries about non-delivery or address changes to the membership secretary.

ADVERTISING

To advertise in the Bulletin please contact the Editor.

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CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions to the Bulletin are always welcome. Please send to the Bulletin Editors:

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EDITORIAL

You will see from the Contents page that our plea for contributions in past issues has not fallen entirely upon deaf ears. A few colleagues were persuaded to assist us in writing up the proceedings of the Winter 94 Study day. We hope this will serve as a reminder to those that attended of the ideas and insights which were abroad that day on the subject of library access for trained nursing staff. Much of this issue is given over to snippets of news and attempts to keep you informed about activities of the Committee. LN exists only as long as its members need it.

We hope that, together, we can support one another in these times of difficult change. If your work environment or your terms of employment have changed for the worse as a result of incorporation in higher education, for example, please let us know. Write, in strict confidence, to the LN Chairman, Tony Shepherd, at the RCN Library.

Members of the Committee have met with Margaret Haines, the NHS Library Adviser, with Veronica Fraser, from the L.A., and with various Health Libraries Group committees, in order to put forward the LN viewpoint. We are also watching developments relating to the proposed LINC Health Panel.

You may also come across new publicity material, either at meetings or through the post. We need to maintain our membership and we need an active membership, so please distribute any membership forms that come your way to friends and colleagues, which leads us back to the need to keep the Bulletin lively and interesting - which we can only do with a range of contributors. So, if this means you ...

The Editors

NOTES AND NEWS

Meeting with the NHS Library Adviser

Members of the LN Committee met with Margaret Hailes, the NHS Library Adviser, at the beginning of May 1995. Part of Maggie's role includes meeting with the many groups which provide information services for groups within the health service. She is charged with advising on a national policy for the effective co-ordination of healthcare information provision and the dissemination of the knowledge base. Among the issues discussed were the provision of library services for trained staff, the transfer of library staff to higher education employers, the nature of contracts with Trusts for information provision and who pays for what services.

Problems at work?

The experience of staff working in libraries serving nurses as they are incorporated into the higher education sector has varied across the country. It has come to the attention of the LN Committee that some staff are being demoted or otherwise disadvantaged or being made redundant. If any of these things is your experience, please contact:

Libraries for Nursing
c/o Tony Shepherd, LN Chairman
Royal College of Nursing
20 Cavendish Square
London W1M 0AB.

All information received will be treated in strictest confidence.

The Library Association is also keen to do what it can to protect members affected by mergers and transfers of nursing library staffs into H.E. Legal advice can be made available to individuals through the LA Professional Practice Department, from Citizens Advice Bureaux and from Trade Union legal officers. Regional librarians may also be able to give general advice or support.

Library Association Professional Adviser (Special Libraries)

Veronica Fraser is the person at the LA who glories in this title. She is the person to contact if you are having difficulties relating to your work. She is also liaison officer for the Health Libraries Group. In order to help Veronica improve her knowledge about the healthcare sector the LN Committee has agreed to invite her along to their meetings as an observer.

Core Nursing Texts

It has been proposed by the Medical Information Working Party that LN might like to put together a core list of nursing books and journals. The purpose would be to provide nurses with a set of books which would support them in their patient care and give librarians a set of 'key texts' which could guide them in their title selection. This might create a list covering a wide range of titles and subject areas. As you may know, medical practitioners already have a list of core titles of this type. Do you think that this would be a worthwhile thing to do? Do you need such a list? Do you think practising nurses would find such a list useful? Please let Paul Moorpath have your views (tel: 0171-601 8653 or write to the address given in the list of Committee Members pp38-39).

LN Health Panel

LINC, the Library and Information Co-operation Council, is proposing the establishment of a Health Panel, to enable the health sector to speak with one voice and to address issues which cut across the interests of the various groups in the field. Among the issues identified as key are the transfer of the provision of diploma level education into higher education institutions and the education and training of health information professionals.

The activities planned for the group include:

- coordinating and representing views of membership on issues related to health libraries and information services
- raising awareness at senior governmental level of health related LIS issues
- promoting UK views with international bodies and organisations in matters relating to health information
- facilitating information sharing and promotion of good practice
- feeding back to members on the dialogue with policy and decision makers
- working with those supplying products and services to the health library and information community
- encouraging information professionals in involvement with policy formation in the NHS and other relevant bodies.

Calling all Authors

Do you have an idea for a book on an aspect of health or nursing related librarianship? or something more startlingly original? LA Publishing are always on the look out for ideas from authors. The person to contact is Helen Carley at LAPL, based at LAHQ. Think through your idea, what you want to write about and what sort of market you think your book might have, and contact Helen at an early stage for advice (0171-636 7543).

New Members

If LAN is going to be effective it needs members. If you have received this Bulletin the chances are you are already a member. If you know someone who isn't, then contact a member of the Committee and we will send them an application form. Membership is open to anyone interested in bringing together librarians and nurses. (Only LA members are allowed to vote in elections.) The cost is £10 (£5 for students).

Libraries for Nursing - Yorkshire and Humberside Sub-Group

The group was formed around 1980 as a support network for those providing library services for nurses in the old Yorkshire Region. At the time there was no Regional Librarian and little formal support for these staff. The group now numbers about thirty, and includes those working in Colleges of Health/Nursing, old and new universities and multidisciplinary libraries. The aims of the group are:

- to be a communication and support network for library staff working with nurses, nursing students and professions allied to medicine within the Yorkshire and Humberside area, facilitating the exchange of information, help and advice.
- to liaise with and work alongside the Libraries for Nursing National Group, ensuring representation of regional interests and the communication of regional views on issues affecting nursing libraries, to both the National Group and through them to statutory organisations when required.
- to organise meetings and study days in pursuit of these aims.

The group is an informal one, but does have a Chair and Secretary - there is no budget, so a Treasurer is unnecessary! Meetings are normally held three times a year in different members' libraries, so it is possible to see one's colleagues operate and how their facilities compare with others. The support role of the group is central, especially now, as the Yorkshire colleges prepare for integration into higher education in April 1996. Exchange of experience is also useful - other people's ideas may be different from your own and throw a different light on developments.

The Chair of the group is also a member of the Libraries for Nursing National Committee and this facilitates communication - news from the Committee is a regular item on the group's agenda.

The group continues to flourish and I can see no reason for this to change in April 1996, as our users will still have unique needs in terms of library services, and we as librarians will continue to need the support which the group provides.

Christine Pinder, Learning Resources Manager, Humberside College of Health and Chair of the Libraries for Nursing - Yorkshire and Humberside Sub-Group.

WANTED

Articles, News, Photographs,
Letters, Ideas, Gossip, Features
Opinions, Comment, Study Day details
Cartoons, Courses, Research Reports
Conference Reports, Forthcoming Events

These are some of the things we want. If you have any, send them to the Editors, c/o Paul Moorbat, Senior Librarian, St Bartholomew and Princess Alexandra and Newham College of Nursing and Midwifery, West Smithfield, London, EC1A 7BE.

REWARD

LN AND PUBLICITY

None of the events and services that LN provides would be possible without YOU, our members - and your money... And we DO want to serve even more who are involved in providing library services for nurses, especially during a time of such rapid and confusing change. We continually need, therefore, to maintain and to expand our membership. We have been aware for some time that there are many 'out there' who still do not know about us. So, during the past few months, the LN Committee has spawned a Publicity sub-committee, which has met prior to the main committee meetings, and which has raised publicity issues for the Committee to consider.

The first fruits of our endeavours comes to you with this issue of the Bulletin, in the form of a new joint publicity leaflet and application form. We have also worked on letterheads and the Bulletin cover, and we have produced an attention-grabbing A4 (and A3) colour poster, for noticeboards and displays. It's just a start, we hope! We plan to target potential markets, and to circulate publicity material later in the year, any suggestions (or assistance?) will be very welcome!

But ALL of us, as current members, are often in the best position to spread the good word. Do please copy or give the leaflet to someone who may be interested, or display/circulate it. YOUR suggestions, comments and help on publicity or marketing are warmly welcome. And if you need more leaflets, or would like copies of the poster, do please contact us ...

It's 'market or die', folks.

Robin Snowball
Membership Secretary

UNNDERPIN Project News

University of Northumbria at Newcastle Development of and Research into the Provision of Information to Nurses UNNDERPIN started on January 1st 1995. It is a 6 month joint research project between the Information Services Department (ISD) and the Department of Information and Library Management (DILM) at the University of Northumbria at Newcastle (UNN), and the Bede, Newcastle & Northumbria College of Health (BNN).

UNNDERPIN is focusing on the individual user via a case study of both clinical staff and students at St George's Mental Health Trust, Morpeth. The various strands of the national picture of health information provision (such as its move into higher education, the withdrawal of conventional library services and the increasing use of electronic information) will be viewed from the individual's viewpoint. A picture will be built up of users' information needs, problem areas and possible solutions.

A critical review of the literature has recently been completed and the fieldwork will be based on focus groups, interviews and a user questionnaire.

Project Leaders: Prof. Joan Day (Head of Dept. DILM)
Graham Walton (Faculty Librarian ISD)
Barry Chalk (Vice-Principal BNN)
Senior Research Assistant: Dr Linda Barwell

If you would like further information please contact: Dr Linda Barwell, DILM, Lipman Building, University of Northumbria at Newcastle, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 8ST, tel: 0191 227 3222; fax: 0191 227 4572.

Library Services and the hearing impaired

(Project based at Liverpool John Moores University)

Vincent Roper and Elaine Ansell have been awarded funding by the British Library Research and Development

Department to investigate the needs of hearing impaired library and information service users. They will also look at recent initiatives with a view to establishing standards.

The work will initially concentrate in the North West of England, but will initially concentrate in the North West of England, but will also investigate other areas and services who have approached this area.

The research will look at deaf people of all ages and in all walks of life, and at the giving and receiving of information for such users. New technology in the form of text

telephones (Minicoms), computer bulletin boards and videophones are being introduced and used in both public and university libraries. Staff are also being trained in deaf awareness. Accordingly, the research will examine how such instruction and technology is introduced, and how acceptable and useful these improved services are to deaf people.

This research, to be undertaken between May 1995 and April 1996, aims to:

- * establish the varying needs of the hearing impaired in terms of library and information services - their needs in education, recreation and community information - liaising with individuals and local and national organisations.
- * survey existing services in the North-West in both public and academic environments.
- * establish standards of "good practice" in terms of communication and information about and for the hearing impaired.

Mrs Yvette Jeal, Research Assistant, Information Management, Liverpool Business School, Liverpool John Moores University, 98 Mount Pleasant, Liverpool L3 5UZ. Tel: 0151 231 3453; E-mail: y.jeal@livjm.ac.uk; Fax: 0151 707 0423.

OMNI: ORGANIZING MEDICAL NETWORKED INFORMATION

The National Institute for Medical Research announced in March 1995 the launch of the OMNI project. This is a project to build a gateway for the higher education and research community to facilitate access to selected high quality information about clinical, research and management aspects of health and biomedicine. This information is accessible through the Internet. (OMNI = Organizing Medical Networked Information.)

The Internet is potentially a major source of medical information. It is highly pervasive and organisations have used it to publish a wide range of information resources. This torrent of new information is, however, unorganized. Furthermore, the quality of Internet information sources varies greatly. OMNI will create a catalogue of networked information resources through a process of discovery, filtering, describing, classifying and indexing. Users of the OMNI Gateway will be able to browse through or search for entries and dynamically connect to resources of interest. The project will promote awareness of networked information resources and will provide training in their use.

Project Co-ordinator Frank Norman comments: "There is much information of value on the Internet but unfortunately this is swamped by information sources which are ephemeral or of dubious quality. OMNI aims to be a quality service, facilitating access to useful information sources, particularly those generated in the UK. Before connecting to a resource, users will have access to a description of its scope and content. Coupled with a proper structuring of resources by subject, users of OMNI should find the Internet a more productive avenue to medical information.

OMNI is funded by the Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC) through its Information Services Sub Committee (ISSC). The OMNI Consortium brings together seven organisations experienced in the provision and use of networked biomedical information. It will aim to achieve wide recognition and support through workshops, presentations and annual seminars to obtain feedback. It will collaborate with related initiatives in the UK, Europe and the United States. OMNI will be led by a Project Officer, to be based at the National Institute for Medical Research. The gateway service will be hosted on a machine at Nottingham University.

The use of libraries by nursing researchers

Some of you will have helped in this research by filling in questionnaires at a study day or making contact by post or email. You may be interested to know that the report of the project is now available.

A single page summary is also available from Maurice Wakeham (see address on Committee pages, pp38-39), in return for a stamped self-addressed envelope.

The use of libraries by nursing researchers, by Elaine Blair and Maurice Wakeham is published as British Library R & D Report number 6207, and may be purchased as a photocopy or microfiche from the British Thesis Service, British Library Document Supply Centre, Boston Spa, Welthorby, West Yorkshire LS23 7BQ.

LIBRARIES FOR NURSES: WINTER STUDY DAY 1994
held at the Library Association, 5 December 1994

TRAINED NURSES: NO MONEY - NO ENTRY?

PREPP and other reasons why trained nurses need libraries

The first speaker of the day was Carol Townsend, Education Officer for Adult Nursing, based at the ENB's Bristol Office, who was standing in for the planned speaker, Meryl Thomas, the ENB's Director of Midwifery Education and Practice.

Carol started by putting the current work and position of the ENB into context, giving some relevant background. She reminded us that:

- the statutory bodies were undergoing a period of transition and change,
- that they worked closely with HEQC and the UKCC,
- the five statutory bodies would have their quinquennial review in 1995,
- the late 1980s saw the introduction of the "Dip.H.E. Nursing" (Try not to call it Project 2000 anymore),
- there have been a number of college integrations and mergers into the H.E. sector. Currently about 40% of colleges have merged into the University sector, although some regions are further ahead than others, responsibility for pre-registration training remains shared with the health service, as 50% of training takes place in the practice area,
- the number of pre-registration students in training has dropped in recent years, but has now plateaued. Mental health numbers have dropped, learning disabilities has disappeared from some areas, but Child branch numbers have increased alongside the move into community based care.

Carol then announced two decisions recently made by the Board. Firstly, the lifting of the embargo on 3 year degree programmes. This followed research by U.E.A. that concluded that the results of any such programme were affected by the quality of the programme, not the programme length. It is possible that Dip.H.E. may be replaced in many areas by three year degree programmes if 4 year programmes are dropped. Secondly, programmes for students following the learning disabilities branch could now be developed that would give dual qualification (RN and Dip.S.W.).

The need for well prepared contemporary practitioners as mentors for students led to the development of the "Framework for Continuing Education & Higher Award". The framework encompassed the APL, APEL, CATS and modularisation of courses.

The Higher Award allows for the accumulation of practice led study into an honours degree, with specific pathways, i.e. midwifery, adult, etc. It is research based with specialist pathways, and many options available. Some modules may have a very short shelf life as they have been developed to meet service needs, but this may lead to a problem of resource provision for such modules (books?).

PREP was developed by the UKCC. It requires all registered practitioners to show evidence of continuing education (portfolio). UKCC may sample portfolios. The UKCC also defined "Specialist practice" and "Specialist Community Practice" (which were included in 10 key characteristics of the higher award). Two of these characteristics, use of research, and professional responsibility in a changing environment, are affected by need for resources (libraries). Practitioners need

information skills, they need access to libraries. Problems have always occurred when libraries were funded for doctors or student nurses. Research on accessibility of resources by nurses has found that nurses prefer to use their own books, however old, or ask colleagues for help, the library being the last place to go. Dip.H.E. students should have a different attitude to libraries. But the problem of access still exists, especially for non-trust staff (i.e. practice nurses, agency staff, etc.) who don't have access to any libraries.

The ENB believes that educational audit should include learning resources. Course validation should assess and advise on learning resources. The shift to student led teaching leads to a need for better libraries. Purchasers of education should receive a report on standards of provision.

Carol produced an OHP transparency summarising library provision.

STRENGTHS

flexible
local delivery
libraries in H.E.
libraries in Trusts

OPPORTUNITIES

introduction of Open Learning
equal opportunities
developing library culture

WEAKNESSES

territorial issues
finance
history of ownership
multidisciplinary
regional influence (consortia)

CHALLENGES

geographical isolation
(practice nurses)
service level agreements
relationship with medical
libraries
access (hours)
library culture
cost/budgets
teaching and learning styles

Points raised as a result of questions included:

Librarians should be involved in accreditation process.
Librarians should be seen as equals professionally with lecturers.

Librarians should speak to ENB education officers.

The Portsmouth Experience

This was a joint presentation by Malcolm Kail and Roisin Gwyer from the University of Portsmouth. Nurse education in Portsmouth went into HE early, and they wanted to share their experiences with us.

Malcolm was responsible for drawing up the original contract(s) for the transfer of nurse education into higher education, covering all aspects of the transfer. Inevitably mistakes were made, as this was a completely unknown field, but Portsmouth are now into the second generation contracts and have learned from their own experience. Malcolm said the contracts drawn up should have 3 main aims:

1. To integrate "assets" into HE
2. To secure agreements with health service providers for placements, accommodation etc. not provided by the HE institutions

3. To specify the educational and training provision and income through negotiation with the RHA. Included in negotiations should be the level of library service provided by the college to NHS staff; and the level of service provided by hospital libraries to college students. It might even be a good idea to negotiate minimum funds to support library services.

On reflection, he said, the contracts drawn up seemed to be working, but perhaps negotiations should include representatives from the groups who are having to work within the contracts. Contracts should also be flexible to allow change as more information and experience comes along.

Roisin talked of the effects of the HE merger and contracts on library services. Points to consider/be wary of:

1. Who has right of access to library? Perhaps need to specify particular categories of users.
2. The contracts might require to specify a particular level of service for particular groups of people.
3. The problems of funding services to much more varied user groups.

There are losses and gains to be made with any merger. On the minus side, more people may be chasing the same resources; there will be pressures on staff time to meet the increased demand from a larger clientele; budgets may have to stretch to cover increased demand for stock and services from the extra users. On the plus side, mergers give an opportunity to win a lot of good will, and chance to gain finances from an extended client base.

This was a very useful session, outlining some of the pitfalls one might experience in the new links between HE and the health services. It is a new and complex

environment, and no-one will get it right. At least after this session, we will be aware and more enlightened and flexible; and, as Roisin encouraged us to do, will keep statistics, masses of them, to back up any arguments or discussions we may have.

One Model of a Service to Trained Nurses in Northumbria

This session was presented by Hugh Headley, Subject Librarian, University of Northumbria

In the 1970s trained nurses in Northumbria had access to the Polytechnic library for reference purposes only. The library had an extensive stock of nursing and health related texts, and also received all HMSO publications and European Community documentation. There was also provision for trained nurses in the hospital libraries, but the services offered were inadequate. Unfortunately, trained nurses fell between the categories of Medical Staff and Student Nurses, and it became apparent they had difficulties in obtaining the information and materials they required.

An agreement was made with the Polytechnic, whereby trained nurses were eligible for membership of the library, with an initial charge of £8.00 per annum. Each hospital site established a Liaison Officer, who acted as an intermediary between the Polytechnic and the trained staff.

Services offered for the nursing staff included a full information service, an advisory service to the Nursing libraries, photocopying facilities, a current awareness service, user education which included information

retrieval sessions and library orientation, literature searches, and a book and document delivery service.

This arrangement, and the library services available for the trained nurses, were evaluated two years later. It was found that problems existed.

Eligibility for membership was a problem as initially anyone was able to join, but as demand for services grew, restrictions on membership had to be made.

Administration of the book and document delivery service was inefficient and delays were inevitable. Librarians had taken over the role of the Liaison Officers at the hospital sites, and liaison with NRHA Management had become less flexible. The current awareness service, which was free initially, became very labour intensive and had to be subscribed to. This service is now discontinued as the demand for its use was too high.

In 1992 usage of the Polytechnic library was monitored, and it was found that 40% of users were either from NRHA or were student nurses. Re-negotiations regarding trained nurses and their access to information were undertaken, but as yet have been unsuccessful. The future of provision for trained nursing staff remains uncertain.

RCN Library Services

Tony Shepherd, RCN Librarian, spoke about library services from the Royal College of Nursing. The Library had completed work on a new Thesaurus which it hoped to publish in 1995. The RCN classification scheme is being improved. Professional library staff are to be located in RCN Offices in Edinburgh and Belfast. Part of the RCN database is to be made available on CD ROM. It was hoped that by making this available more widely some of the

strain would be taken from the London headquarters. Nearly 600 people a day now visit the RCN Library.

A survey of library use by RCN members revealed that 42% used the London library because it was their nearest, 32% could not find the information elsewhere and 12% said they were now denied access to local libraries that they had used before. A full report of the RCN/LN Library Survey would be published in 1995.

Part of the afternoon session involved breaking up into groups where the following matters were discussed

- policies on charging trained nursing staff for library use
- effectiveness of such policies
- whether policies are likely to change
- the need for national or local guidelines.

The responses of group members proved so many and varied as to be impossible to summarise, at least in the space available here.

Evaluation

Over 70 people attended the day; 42% returned evaluation sheets. Most opinions on the day were favourable. Least successful was the discussion session which was too short and failed to provide many answers.

- Suggestions for Future Topics as listed by respondents:
- how to change nurses' attitudes towards library use, following Tony Shepherd's comments on the RCN survey
 - effects of higher education amalgamations
 - meet the ENB! There seemed to be a lot that people would like to say to them!
 - research and nursing libraries
 - user education - how much help should we give? (2 people)

- accreditation (Roisin Gwyer says that the S&W Region has a group looking at this)
- how can we influence academic nursing staff as to roles/services we can offer, beyond the obvious?
- forum with DOH personnel or NHS Executive to discuss what we want from each other - there is a lack of understanding of what libraries can offer
- detailed advice on costing from someone from the commercial world
- relationship between and roles of higher education nursing libraries and NHS based ones.

Please let us know what you are interested in.

This summary of the Study Day based on contributions from:
 Delcrae Griffin (Nursing Library, Ipswich Hospital)
 Louise Proctor, Christine Pinder (Humber College of Health)
 Simon Beard (Anglia Polytechnic University).

Cambridge Medical Books

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BOOK REVIEWS

The Practice Nurse (2nd Edition)
Pauline Jeffree
London: Chapman and Hall 1995
ISBN: 0-412-56640-0

In "The Practice Nurse" Pauline Jeffree builds upon the success of her previous work of the same title, extensively revising the text to cover such aspects as the latest Health and Safety at Work regulations, and the relevance of the various health care "reforms", not least the new GP Contract of 1990, to clinical practice.

The text is split into two sections: "Clinical Care and General Practice", and "Lifestyle and Health". The former considers the fundamental bases of nursing care, such as ethics and the UKCC Code of Conduct, the Data Protection Act, Health and Safety at Work Act, infection control procedures, the Children Act, etc. As the section heading implies, here Jeffree gives an overview of the more "hands on" aspects of nursing in general practice, where some form of direct physical treatment is required such as wound management, immunisation, and the ordering and interpretation of laboratory tests. The only criticism here is that the section jumps around a little between theory and practice, and it would perhaps have been wiser to include a third section to the book, preceding the others, dealing particularly with the ethical issues and underpinning legislation. Nevertheless, this section gives a good grounding to the work of any practice nurse.

Section two of the book, "Lifestyle and Health", concentrates particularly on the health promotion side of the practice nurse role, covering the work required by the GP Contract of 1990, and the health promotion "banding

system". Jeffree looks specifically at the management of diabetes and asthma, coronary heart disease, travel health, the well woman, and well man. It is refreshing to see though, that she does not simply cover what the practice nurse needs to know to survive in the system. For example, the description of the ageing process and the general care of the elderly, including abuse and Alzheimer's disease, goes beyond the simplistic "check and tick" approach to over 75 assessment as required by the DoH and is a welcome change from the "how to do practice nursing" approach we so often use.

In "The Practice Nurse", Pauline Jeffree has given a thorough account of the role. Reading the contents page alone gives one an understanding of the complexity of this still growing field of community nursing, and this book would be useful on the shelf of any practice nurse. The nurse who is new to general practice would benefit in particular, in that Jeffree has managed to include all the essential aspects of this work, however she recognises that more in depth reading is necessary to do the job properly and gives good references for background reading and addresses for further advice and information.

"The Practice Nurse" is not the only book practice nurses will require - those with experience should know a good deal of its content anyway - what it does provide though is a most comprehensive reference point and aide memoir which should be welcomed by all.

Mark Jones
Community Health Adviser
Royal College of Nursing
November 1994

The Psychology of Nursing Care

Neil Niven with Jill Robinson
London: British Psychological Society & Macmillan Press.
1994

This is a much needed book which provides further insights into another dimension of nursing care. The psychological dimension is one which is often misunderstood. For that reason it may be overlooked and its impacts underestimated. As such, the adoption and integration of its enormous potential effectively into the provision of nursing care may not have been fully realised.

The authors have made an excellent attempt at articulating the subject in an easy style. It is manifested by the way in which the various theories and principles of psychology have been integrated into the existing nursing framework. The emphasis on the inter-personal perspectives of nursing care is to be commended. It places recognition on the fact that one of the fundamental tenets of nursing practice is that of an interactive occupation. Such human aspects are indeed the primary aspects of nursing care.

Essentially, a broad-brush approach has been adopted to deal with applied nursing issues where psychology has an important function. The relevance of psychology and its applications to nursing practice have been indicated in very simple and succinct terms. Several realistic and practical ideas have been included. They illustrate the importance of psychology as an applied science which serves to preserve the primary role of nursing. More importantly, psychology as a discipline, has been demonstrated as being vital for enriching the process of providing nursing care.

The refreshing and easily understood style may well serve to whet the appetite of readers into exploring theories in greater detail from various sources. In that respect the authors have provided a great help by the suggestions for further reading with brief reasons for their inclusion at the end of each chapter.

Each chapter also contains exercises and questions which are thought-provoking. They may be useful to students by helping them to consolidate their thoughts and understanding of the subject in appropriate contexts. Teachers of the subject may well find many of them to be very appropriate for integration into their teaching sessions. Indeed, they may contribute to stimulating the learning process and enhancing understanding.

The book provides an excellent basis for students of nursing to obtain a broad and well-founded introduction to the applications of psychology in nursing care. It could be usefully recommended for inclusion as one of the texts in the essential reading list for students on diploma and degree level courses. The book also complements the others in the BPS series for Psychology Applied to Nursing.

Andrew Foong
Lecturer in Psychology
Royal College of Nursing

BULLETIN - BACK ISSUES

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Robin Snowball,
Cairns Library, Radcliffe Infirmary,
Oxford OX2 6HE.

Other issues may be available - contact Robin for details on 01865-224478; email: robin.snowball@cairns-library.ox.ac.uk.

Spring 93: 13(1): Targeting Library and Information Services; Book Reviews
Summer 93: 13(2): ENB Audit Guidelines; COFHE Guidelines; NURLIS; RCN Archives; Training Needs Analysis; Trends in Nursing Education; Reviews and more
Autumn 93: 13(3): NURLIS II; Impact of PREP; Journal Citations; Scottish Conference
Winter 93: 13(4): Multidisciplinary Libraries - reports from a study day
Spring 94: 14(1): Nursing Research; a trade union view; impact of Project 2000; Northern Region survey
Summer 94: 14(2): Move to HE; Tendering and Contracting Study Day; Managing the Knowledge Base of Healthcare
Autumn/Winter 94: 14(3/4): Bumper Issue; Nursing on the Net; Evidence Based Healthcare; Librarians in Scotland.

JOURNALS NEWS

Community nurse was launched by Macmillan magazines to replace *Community Outlook* starting from February of this year. It is due monthly and is promised to contain news, research notes, clinical features and patient information pages. There is a supplement called 'Nurse prescriber' which considers the clinical and ethical issues associated with prescribing and drug usage. The March issue has news and a variety of articles on smoking cessation and patient teaching and a short article on spiritual needs of terminally ill patients. The articles are short and well written. It is to be hoped that there will be articles reflecting research. There is a 16 page supplement on drugs and dressings. Although clearly written they need to reflect more research based practice.

The institutional rate is £37 per year which is reasonable. This publication ought to be in most nursing libraries.

Health information service which was a current awareness index of nursing articles under broad headings ceased publication at the end of 1994. The publishers (University of Northumbria) say that this was because of increasing student numbers and more demands on staff time.

Bournemouth University publish **Nursing and midwifery index** which is more comprehensive and for a supplementary fee, permission is granted for photocopying by customers to produce a current information service.

EDINA/ERCA journal which is the journal of the European Dialysis and Transplant Nurse Association has changed publisher. Previously even the subscription agents such as Swets were unable to obtain this publication. It was necessary to send to Switzerland direct but the good news is that it is now possible to order this publication via subscription agents from this year.

The October/December issue of 1994 contains research based papers on pain, stress in hemodialysis patients, and arteriovenous fistulae. The publication is really first rate and yet union lists show it is not held widely. It is to be hoped that now it is obtainable it will become better known and also be indexed.

Journal of psychiatric and mental health nursing was launched in July 1994 by Blackwell Scientific Publications at £47.50 institutional rate. It is a very much needed publication and it is to be wished every success.

Nature medicine was launched in January. It is monthly and contains papers in the famous *Nature* tradition of high quality research. The papers reflect a biochemical approach and there is a lack of items on clinical practice and nothing on the holistic approach. This publication would have limited value in nursing libraries.

Overall a number of journals have changes to covers. The Churchill publications have lost their distinctive cover to become wishy washy blue but have become A4 in size. The **Journal of medical ethics** and **Journal of neuroscience nursing** have also made their covers brighter.

The British journal of sexual medicine is supported by grants from Wellcome and Janssen-Cilag and is available free from Hayward Medical Communications Ltd., Essex House, Cromwell Park, Chipping Norton, Oxon OX7 5SR.

Nursing Online is a new journal devoted to nursing published exclusively online. Among its features:-

News of online resources relevant to nursing and the allied professions.

A fully peer reviewed section on nursing and health informatics. The main thrust of the journal will be academic papers concerning information technology and its relation to nursing.

Comment and letters.

Pre-prints of articles. It may include research ideas, proposals, or work in progress.

The perceived advantage of the online journal is that new articles will be immediately available (some after peer review) and there is no need to wait until a new volume comes out, nor is there any limit on the size of the issue. This journal will be experimental and constantly under review.

Submission of articles or papers: all submissions should be emailed to the editor at address cudma@csv.warwick.ac.uk. The first issue should be ready by September 1995.

Accessing the journal: the journal will be in HTML on a WWW server, accessed by the URL <http://www.csv.warwick.ac.uk:8000/ejournal/>

More info from: INET: anthondm@sun1.bham.ac.uk PHONE: +44 121 414 3158 FAX: +44 121 414 4036
WWW: <http://www.csv.warwick.ac.uk/~cudma/>
Denis Anthony, Dept. Nursing, Sch of Medicine, Univ of Birmingham, B15 2TT, UK

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1995 looks like being a year of great activity for Libraries for Nursing. You will be notified individually about study days and other activities. This feature therefore tells you some of the things you have to look forward to, or have already missed.

Friday, 9 June 1995

Free Spring Seminar Day & AGM for 1994 at the RCN Programme

10.00 Registration & Coffee

10.30 "Access to Libraries for trained nursing staff": report on recent LIN/RCN research by Paul Moorbath, St Bartholomew College of Nursing Library

11.45 "Information Storage: from paper to electronic publishing": seminar paper on current developments in electronic publishing by Dave Robson (General Manager of Electronic Publishing, Dawson UK)

12.30 LIN AGM for 1993/4

12.45 Lunch: available free to LIN members

Demonstration of two new CD ROM databases:

- RCN NURSE ROM (produced by the RCN Library Service)

- RNDEX (produced by Silver Platter Co.) and

Book Display: a large display of current books will be provided throughout the day

2.15 Informal discussion groups on the morning topics

Demonstrations on the CD ROMs continued and reviewing the book stall collection

3.30 Tea and close of the day's formal programme.

Saturday, 24 June 1995: 14.30

As part of the Under One Umbrella Three conference at UMIST, Manchester, LN is running a session on "Research in the Changing Environment of Health Care". Speakers are Sandra Jowett (Senior Research Officer with the National Foundation for Educational Research in England and Wales) and Professor June Clark of the Centre for Advanced Studies in Nursing. If you want more information, contact Christine Pinder (Tel: 01482-675676).

Monday, 27 November 1995

Winter study day: One of the great problems we all have today is knowing what is going on, how things are developing and how they affect us. This study day is intended to give members the chance to listen to, talk to and question the people that help to create the changing organisational and professional environment within which we all work. We hope to look at developments within the health service, the ENB and higher education. So far Meryl Thomas (Director of Midwifery Education and Practice at the ENB), Veronica Fraser (from the LA) and Margaret Haines (NHS Library Adviser) have accepted our invitations. More details of what should prove to be a very interesting session to be held at the LA will be sent to you later in the year.

LIBRARIES FOR NURSING ANNUAL REPORT 1994

Committee

Tony Shepherd	(Chairman)
Pam Bailey	(Secretary)
Sally Hernando	(Treasurer)
Robin Snowball	(Membership & Publicity)
Anne Lawrence	(Study Day Organiser)
Christine Pinder	(Study Day Organiser)
Paul Moorbath	(Bulletin)
Maurice Wakeham	(Bulletin)
Janice White	(Co-opted)

There were some changes to the Committee in 1994. Having completed her term of office, Jean Yeoh retired as secretary. Graham Haldane and Eleri Strittmatter also retired and were replaced by Chris Pinder and Maurice Wakeham.

LN Bulletin

There has been continued problems with the publication of the Bulletin, but it is hoped that 1995 will see the schedule back on time. A new cover has been adopted for the Bulletin.

Publicity

- A new logo has been agreed upon for headed notepaper etc.
- A new publicity leaflet incorporating a membership application form is being prepared.
- Study Days
- Two study days were held in 1994:
 1. Nurse education and Higher Education: tendering and contracting between institutions. (This was held jointly with SCONUL Health Sciences Group)
 2. Trained Nurses: no money, no entry?

L/N Bulletin

L/N held a reception at MHWLG Conference in Manchester.

Other Activities

L/N committee members have been represented on other groups and projects. These include:

Representation on the RLG/ENG national group meetings

Representation on MHWLG Committee.

A representative of UNISON attended a L/N Committee meeting to confirm UNISON's support for the ENB NURLS and the COFHE guidelines.

Pam Bailey

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, MEDICAL, HEALTH AND WELFARE GROUP

LIBRARIES FOR NURSING

Income and expenditure for the year ended 31 December 1994

	1993	1994
INCOME		
Mailing list sub.	1169 50	1649 00
Previous Autumn study day	275 00	260 00
Spring study day	2150 00	692 00
Autumn study day	2018 00	1645 00
Bulletin advertising	85 10	148 50
VAT	16 90	31 50
VAT recovery	40 49	0 00
Interest	9 90	20 72
Miscellaneous	602 98	17 00
TOTAL	6367 87	4463 72
EXPENDITURE		
Bulletin	170 00	384 47
Previous Autumn study day	930 00	100 00
Spring study day	1351 80	742 50
Autumn study day	238 75	22 50
MHWLG conferencing	200 61	51 54
Committee expenses	833 28	901 67
VAT	5 01	121 19
Consultancy on survey of nursing libraries		300 00
Miscellaneous	107 60	46 23
TOTAL	3837 05	2670 10
SURPLUS FOR YEAR	2530 82	1793 62
	6367 87	4463 72

BALANCE SHEET

	1993	1994
Brought forward	2762 04	5292 86
Surplus	2530 82	1793 62
	5292 86	7086 48
Current account	1123 12	444 70
Deposit account	4169 74	6641 78
	5292 86	7086 48
Hon treasurer		<i>Sally Hezando</i>
Hon auditor		<i>Gillian Fuller</i>

21.2.95

LIBRARIES FOR NURSING COMMITTEE 1995

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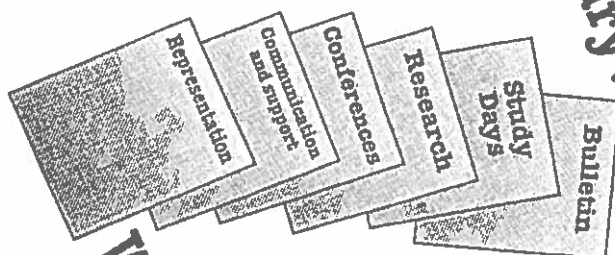
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Nursing your Library?



**WE can
help
you!**

LIBRARIES for NURSING
Promoting & Informing Nursing Care

L/N