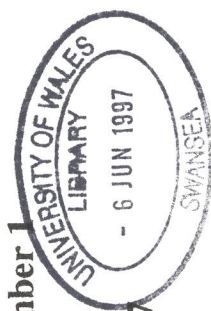


R1-N3M
LIBRARIES for NURSING

Bulletin

Volume 17 Number 1



Spring 1997

The Highlands and Islands:
internet links for nurses

Assessing user needs:
workshop report

Libraries for Nursing:
the survey

LfN

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L/N BULLETIN

Vol.17, No.1, Spring 1997

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EDITORIAL

The results of the LfN survey which was included in the Autumn issue of the *Bulletin* are presented here and the LfN committee will consider your views and also ask for further debate at the Annual General Meeting, which by the time you read this, will have taken place. Any conclusions will be published in the *Bulletin* and your views are eagerly sought so please send a letter to the editors with your opinions. The names of readers who had included their names and addresses with their survey responses were drawn at the April LfN committee meeting. The lucky winner of a £20 book token, drawn from the generously donated RCN waste paper bin, was Sharon Springham of the Postgraduate Centre, Brighton.

This issue also includes an important paper on the use of the Internet by nurses in Northern Scotland. Author Amanda Richardson will be giving a talk about the project at Under one Umbrella in June (see page 12 of this issue for details).

The journals news includes new titles, as usual, yet some publishers have difficulty even in supplying existing titles. There have been delays earlier this year in the distribution of *BMJ* and *Nursing Times*. The journal subscription agent, Swets, has been dealing with a large number of claims from libraries for a number of titles which have not been supplied.

Sadly, we also include an obituary for Barbara Janzer whose sudden death earlier in the year robbed us a cheerful and wise presence; she will be missed.

The Editors

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ACCESS TO INFORMATION FOR NURSING STAFF IN REMOTE AREAS: DOES THE INTERNET HAVE THE ANSWER?

Jane Farmer and Amanda Richardson,

Initiatives such as PREP (Post registration education and practice) and evidence based health care have increased the demand for access to information from trained nursing staff. Nursing staff in remote areas face particular difficulties accessing information as library resources are distant and colleagues geographically dispersed. This project seeks to assess whether electronically networked resources can assist community nursing staff in the remote Western Isles to access information. The project is being carried out by a multi-disciplinary team involving a community nurse working in the Western Isles, information professionals in the Highlands and Islands as well as staff at the School of Nursing and School of Information and Media, the Robert Gordon University. The research is jointly funded by the Scottish Library and Information Council and the National Board for Nursing Midwifery and Health Visiting in Scotland.

This paper highlights the issues arising from the research so far and emphasises the need for action if solutions to the problems presented are to be found.

Work carried out

A questionnaire survey of community nursing staff working in the Western Isles (71 people) was carried out in Summer 1996. This survey asked about the current use of information and library sources, access to these sources, experience in IT and the information needs of community nursing staff. Following on from this a series of Internet workshops were held throughout the Western Isles for community nursing staff. A total of 51 people attended the workshops. This large number reflects the high degree of interest and enthusiasm which the project generated. The workshops provided an overview of the Internet, as well as the opportunity for hands-on "surfing the Net". The workshops also demonstrated how e-mail and on-line discussion groups could improve contact and communication with other nursing professionals both in the UK and world-wide. Nursing staff were encouraged, via discussion and feedback, to evaluate whether they thought that the Internet could help meet their information needs.

The next stage of this project involves exploring the cost, feasibility and benefit of alternative models of information provision. Senior managers within the health service will be interviewed to discuss these models and the feasibility of putting them into practice. A final report will be produced providing conclusions and recommendations.

Summary of findings

Survey of information needs

- Community nursing staff responding to the survey appear to have little awareness of, or access to, important resources like *Medline*, *Cinahl* and the *Cochrane Database*. Eight percent of respondents stated that they have used *Medline* and 6% *Cinahl* in the past six months. The Midwifery Index

(MIDIRS) appears to be used more frequently, 24% of respondents had consulted this source in the last six months.

- Electronic sources of information are rarely used when searching for information. Only 9% of respondents have ever used a database on CD-ROM, most of whom were studying. Only one respondent has used the Internet for information searching.
- Sixty percent of respondents stated that they had experienced a need for information on a specific topic in the last six months. Topics included health promotion, clinical updating, care of the elderly, diabetes, leg ulcers, palliative care, PREP, support groups.
- The most common problems in relation to accessing information were: remoteness from the Western Isles Hospital Library; the lack of local information resources; general lack of awareness of what information is available; difficulty in assessing the relevance of this information - that is - a lack of information and critical information handling skills.
- Respondents had little experience of using information technology. However, ninety percent stated that they wanted to learn more. The use of computers at work and the level of computer training received appeared to be ad hoc and sporadic. The degree to which training had been provided differed significantly between the Islands. Just over half the respondents stated they had access to a computer either at home or at work. Two respondents had access to a computer, CD-ROM and the Internet.
- The majority of respondents (68%) believe that increased and quicker access to information is very important.

Internet workshops: nurses and the 'net

Most of those attending the workshops indicated that they thought access to the Internet would be very beneficial. They found the World Wide Web easy to use after some initial hesitation (mainly due to their lack of familiarity with IT). The information most desired was access to full text articles, particularly on specific conditions. Access to current and recent research was also considered important. Access to the *Cinahl* database was considered to be very desirable - particularly if it included full text documents. Uncertainty as to the relevance of journal articles prior to request from the library was stated as being a particular problem.

Due to the remoteness of their location it can be difficult for community nursing staff to meet with colleagues to discuss research and new developments. It was thought that e-mail and on-line discussion groups had the potential to improve communication with colleagues and allow them to "network" with other nursing professionals in the UK and world wide.

Participants did have some criticism of the information available on the World Wide Web. Much of the nursing information contained on the Internet is orientated towards the nurse-educator, rather than the nurse practitioner. It also largely originates from the US rather than UK. Some of the apparently relevant sites tend to contain links to other links rather than direct to

information. This was highlighted as a potential cause for problems due to nursing staff's limited time to search for information along with their general lack of information seeking skills.

The general problems of a lack of time and appropriate skills to seek information properly were frequently highlighted by participants. There was a general questioning of their role as information seekers.

Discussion

The preliminary results indicate that nursing staff, in general, lack skills in information searching and in using information technology. They also show that nursing staff have little awareness of the information resources available. Results indicate that whilst nursing staff recognise that improved access to information is important they lack the time to search effectively. This raises the question of the extent to which information searching is viewed as an integral part of the role of nursing staff - by the nurses themselves, by their managers and by librarians.

If nurses are to be equipped to deal with the demands of evidence based healthcare, continuing professional education and shared patient decision-making, then they need to be provided with, at least, basic skills in information awareness and in the use of information. These skills will enable them to carry out straightforward information searches and identify reliable relevant material. Moreover such skills and awareness will encourage the use of information in nursing practice.

In addition to this nurses need access to information and information professionals. The emphasis on primary-care-led health services means that key staff are likely to be increasingly distanced from library resources, making access to a central information resource difficult and time consuming. The movement towards university based nursing education is creating further problems as library resources are frequently based away from the clinical environment. In light of these changes it is vital that new models of information provision are investigated to ensure that nurses and other health professionals have adequate access to information.

The Internet is one possibility of improving access to information, though this project has revealed some gaps in the nursing information available on the Internet. There is a need for more UK resources which are orientated towards the nurse practitioner working in the community. With the impending establishment of the NHS Net in Scotland and the increasing amount of nursing information available on the Internet, timely access to clinically based information is all the more important. The feasibility of creating a "one-stop" quality checked information point on the Internet, along the lines of OMNI (Organising Medical Networked Information) or SOSIG (Social Science Information Gateway), specifically for nurse practitioners should be investigated. This would save valuable time in searching for information on specific clinical conditions.

Conclusion

The issues being raised by this research add to the body of evidence regarding nurses, their information needs and the gaps which exist in meeting

these needs. These issues are relevant to nursing educators, information providers and health care managers.

This research shows that the Internet and locally networked resources do have considerable potential to improve access to information for nurses working in remote and rural areas. Access to the Internet will facilitate communication and provide access to a vast resource of information from the workplace. However access alone is not enough. The ever increasing amount of information available on the Internet means searching for relevant information can be laborious and the information difficult to evaluate.

Therefore, part of improving access to information must be the teaching and learning of information skills. Another main component must be to ensure adequate access to an information service, ideally one orientated to nurses, midwives and health visitors, which can provide timely information and guidance. Models of how this can be provided need to be developed and evaluated.

Whilst primary care led and evidence based health care are being encouraged, adequate access to information resources and information professionals is not. The Health Service must recognise the importance of improved information provision if high quality, effective health care, based on reliable research evidence is to be achieved.

Jane Farmer and Amanda Richardson, work at the School of Information and Media, the Robert Gordon University, Hilton Place, Aberdeen

INTERNET INFO

The British Healthcare Internet Association (BHIA) promotes "The advancement of health care through the application of Internet technologies".

The BHIA aims to :-

- Develop, promote and implement quality standards in the use of Internet technologies.
 - Foster open communications.
 - Develop and promote the use of Internet technologies in education and learning.
 - Encourage and support innovation in Health Information Networks.
 - Make collaboration the basis of the Association.
 - Promote awareness and use of Internet technologies in health care.
 - Influence policy development and innovation in health care IM&T.
 - Become a comprehensive resource and reference site for the support and development of health care professionals.
- The Association's Website is at <http://www.bmia.org> and contains further information about ongoing projects. Yearly membership is £25.00 and members can join online.

OBITUARY: BARBARA JANZER

Barbara died unexpectedly on the 15th February 1997. She came to Europe from Bowling Green, Ohio in 1982. She studied for her degree at the University of Wisconsin and worked in public libraries. She worked as a librarian in the International School in Munich, and later at the American Community School at Cobham.

Barbara began her career in nursing libraries in 1988 at the Nightingale School of Nursing, St Thomas's Hospital and between 1988 and 1992 developed this under-resourced library into one of the best nursing libraries in the South. In 1992 the Nightingale School became part of the Guy's College of Health and Barbara moved to the Guy's site as manager of both the St Thomas's and Guy's nursing libraries. In 1994 the College became part of King's College and Barbara was appointed as Reader Adviser.

Barbara's legacy to libraries and particularly libraries in nursing was inestimable. She was a pivotal member of South East Thames (later South Thames) Library and Information Service and was involved in training, particularly user education. She chaired and was a member of many groups and her knowledge on copyright and her information technology skills were invaluable.

Barbara had an interest in many things, she was undertaking a course in the history of art and she loved cooking and going to the theatre. Her colleagues have been stunned by her untimely death. Barbara has given support and guidance to so many of her friends and colleagues. Barbara was a professional in every sense, she was a very private person who always had time for other people's problems. She will be sadly missed by all her colleagues.

Jan Hurst
Librarian Pembury Hospital

EXETER CONFERENCE - TO BURY OR TO APPRAISE: SEIZING THE OPPORTUNITIES

Anne Rowlands

As a new member of Libraries for Nursing, the Health Libraries Group Conference was an adventure. Not only did Exeter seem a long way away but the title of the conference was also a challenge. As a librarian in the higher education field it was also a good way of getting to know my colleagues in the NHS. The weekend was busy and fulfilling.

Evidence based health care not only covers the traditional but also complementary medicines. Professor Edzard Ernst in his opening address commented on the fact that complementary medicines are used by 25-50% of the population and although it is commonly held that they are natural, safe, and effective there is little evidence to back this up. There is therefore a requirement to carry out further trials and systematic reviews to provide evidence of their effectiveness - in short, complementary medicine is under researched meaning that the evidence is incomplete, considering that a large percentage of the population use this form of medication the question we have to ask is - Why so little evidence?

On Saturday morning the first paper was given by Angela Coulter from the *King's Fund*. Her paper was based on the fact that patients want to know more about their condition, the risks, the benefits and the treatment. The patient is also wanting to take a fuller role in the decision about their treatment. This leads on to the question of the quality and availability of the information for the patient. The increase in patient involvement is more prevalent in the younger generation and it is thought that the information given to the patient does not increase anxiety. In the paper the speaker pointed out that it is not feasible to provide the patient with all relevant information. One way of providing the material is with interactive videos but providing any type of information could become time-consuming and expensive. Maybe the time will come when patients demand too much for their own good.

A double act followed, two exceptionally good speakers, Doctors Sweeney and Taylor, who presented a paper called "Barriers to implementing EBM in primary care". The speakers highlighted the necessity for GPs to access the information so as to be able to practice EBM. One problem that they encounter is the time between a home visit and returning to the surgery. It was suggested to us as librarians that we could support GPs and inform them of where you could find the evidence. The speakers mentioned some publications where you could find the evidence. Examples of these were *Evidence Based Medicine*, *Bandolier*, *Annals of Internal Medicine* and of course, *Cochrane Library*. The speakers went on to address the problems of access and the resistance to change.

Seminar papers moved to workshops. The ever increasing need to identify as many possibly relevant studies in a given research topic is in some cases becoming part of a health librarian's job. This particular workshop examined

the role of the information professional in providing a comprehensive search which will include grey and unpublished literature. It also covered devising strategies to enable the professional to identify and locate this material. The workshop also covered how to present search strategies clearly to the researcher so that the review will provide the researcher with the maximum available literature. This leads on to providing the final report of the systematic review.

The afternoon was divided into 3 groups specialising in various areas of health librarianship. The papers that related to my particular interests were those relating to provision of services for nurses. The first short paper was given by Sally Hernando in promoting evidence based practice to nurses. The introduction of PREP has encouraged nursing to become a more research based profession. The question Sally posed was whether nurses are taking it seriously and also how much support librarians are willing to give to make nursing more evidence based. Whilst studying for her MBA, Sally undertook a community profile to determine the proportion of qualified staff accessing library services in South Buckinghamshire. The results were surprising. Problems were caused by the integration of Bucks College of Nursing and Midwifery with a higher education establishment which has imposed further restrictions on access to qualified staff not undertaking a university course. How to overcome this problem is now in the hands of the local Trusts.

The second of the three short papers was entitled "The role of information in achieving clinical effectiveness". Gabby Fennessey discussed the testing of the practitioner as to whether they are achieving clinical effectiveness - this is done through clinical audit. The problem arises with nurses and professions allied to medicine gaining access to the evidence. Again the move to integration into Higher Education has posed problems with access for this particular client group unless they are enrolled on a course delivered by the University.

This led on to the final short paper, by Margaret Ashcroft, about physiotherapists and the impact library and information services. Many physiotherapists have important decision making jobs and need access to the evidence. This though, is made difficult as access to services is limited. A survey was done and the results highlight the problem again of the integration into higher education.

On Sunday morning the first paper was given by J. Muir Gray, Director of Research & Development in Oxford and Anglia. I waited in anticipation as I had heard so much about him. The paper was delivered with energy and enthusiasm. In this speech the changes that are taking place in the information world were discussed and it was emphasised that these changes have come at a time when evidence based health care is increasing. Muir Gray defined evidence based health care as "decision making based on a careful appraisal of the best evidence available". He went on to clarify this by adding that decisions are not made purely on the evidence but also on the needs and values of the population served and the resources available. The paper went on to describe the stages in the development of EBHC - the production of evidence

- ensuring the evidence is available
- implementing evidence, either with individual patients or with population.

If EBHC is to be used to its maximum then all three stages need to be fulfilled. It is the librarian's job to ensure that the evidence is available.

After this inspiring paper there followed some short talks on National Initiatives in evidence based health care. These included a talk by Carol Lefebvre about the UK Cochrane Centre and Julie Glanville about the NHS Centre for Reviews and Dissemination. The latter plays an important role in EBHC as it allows for easy access to the results of research and effective summaries to allow EBHC to be successful.

It came as a great surprise that in the USA there is an education establishment that trains medical students using totally the problem-based, self directed, small group learning. The McMaster University uses the tutorial group as the central focus of the students' learning process. The problem-based learning allows the student to develop their information seeking skills. With the students' basic skills revolving around "critical thinking" they also need to develop skills to be life long learners and a strong force behind evidence based practice. The challenge to librarians is the self directed and small group learning.

An excellent and fluid talk given by Maggie Haines rounded the whole weekend off. In her address she talked about the role of the librarian and evidence based health care and how in her appointment she has tried to raise the profile of the health librarian so as to successfully implement and encourage all health professionals to practice EBM.

The conference was a great success and has given me a lot to think about - the changing role of the librarian and how to cope with the demands of EBM with minimal spending.

Anne Rowlands is Health Studies Librarian at the University of Luton. Anne's attendance at the Conference was sponsored by Libraries for Nursing.

MORE INTERNET INFO

- British Computer Society - Nursing Specialist Group (NSG)
see: <http://www.man.ac.uk/bcsnsg/>
- International Medical Informatics Association
<http://amia2.amia.org>. Has a nursing section.
- Rod Ward & Pete Dean are interested in collaborative development of internet resources for nurses. Contact them for more information:
Rod.Ward@Sheffield.ac.uk
Lecturer, School of Nursing & Midwifery, University of Sheffield.
aladin@petedean.demon.co.uk

Libraries for
NURSING
Promoting Informed Nursing Care

Libraries for Nursing

at

Under one umbrella

Saturday 28 June

9.30 am

Amanda Richardson

Potential of the Internet in improving access to information for nurses in remote areas

10.15 am

Sue Capel

LINC health panel research project "Services for the nursing professional: methods of funding and delivery".

Details of Under one umbrella from
LA Conferences, LAHQ, 0171 636 7543

WORKSHOP ON ASSESSING USER NEEDS **Libraries for Nursing Winter Study Day, Thursday 28 November 1996**

Christine Urquhart

At the study day the participants divided into groups to discuss some of the communication problems which made assessment of user needs difficult for information providers serving nurses.

The groups came up with different ideas, problems and solutions which illustrated the difficulty of being prescriptive. The EVINCE audit work indicated that often local solutions will have to be sought to local problems (which may be national problems with a local interpretation). Some of the topics that emerged in the group discussions were:

New educational consortia (and new regional arrangements with local NHS Executive offices). To what extent will these consortia take information service support for education into account when making educational contracts?

Relationships between NHS funded libraries and HE libraries, with SIFT funding arrangements, the PGME apparatus and contracting arrangements or service level agreements - or just mutual understanding - for nursing and allied health HE education providers? Perhaps it's not just the service users that need a passport to learning resources! Networking is very important but the practical obstacles are often great.

Are nurses different? To what extent are nursing students (basic and post-basic) a special group, as far as the HE provider is concerned? There are other students on placements of various sort, who might demand information services provided locally. What might be the role of the public libraries?

What type of courses are being offered to nurses - and what type of courses are they doing? Are all the courses nurses are doing 100% professionally based (or are some escapist)? There are now many open and distance learning courses which place demands on information service providers, who often seem to be the last to be consulted on meeting course reading list requirements.

What can "multidisciplinary" libraries do? Many health libraries serve a multidisciplinary clientele even if their resources are biased more to one professional group than another. The purposes of use are very varied and the levels of use, and the depth of material required equally varied. This makes two aspects of service important:

- a) communication, particularly when the user (probably unknown to the service provider) may be using the library as one of 'first resort'. Understanding the nurses' patterns of information need and use will be vital.
- b) user education. Self-reliant users are to be encouraged, and librarians should be encouraged to develop teaching skills for small groups (the City & Guilds 730 course is recommended). Often the academic staff need targeting in more ways than one!

Christine Urquhart, DILS, University of Wales Aberystwyth

SURVEY ON THE FUTURE OF LIBRARIES FOR NURSING AND THE BULLETIN

Paul Moorbatch

The L/N committee and the editors of the *Bulletin* wish to reflect the needs of subscribers. Thus a questionnaire on the future of L/N as a sub-group and the continued publication of the L/N *Bulletin* was included in the Autumn 1996 issue (volume 16 number 3).

Twenty-six replies were received. The results are presented below.

- 1) Question 1 asked if respondents are members of L/N.

Membership	Number	%
yes	22	85
no	4	5
- 2) Question 2 asked respondents for the type of library worked in.

Library type	Number	%
University	10	38
Multidisciplinary	9	35
Postgraduate medical	2	8
Hospital	2	8
Other	3	11
Others include 1 professional association, 1 education charity, 1 national board.		
- 3) Question 3 asked if L/N should continue to exist as a separate sub-group of the Health Libraries Group of the Library Association.

Continue separate	Number	%
yes	18	69
no	7	27
undecided	1	4
- 4) Question 4 asked if the interests of nursing libraries should be channelled through HLG mainly.

Mainly thro' HLG	Number	%
yes	17	65
no	8	31
undecided	1	4
- 5) Question 5 asked if L/N should have its own links with national organizations or act entirely through HLG.

Own links	Number	%
a) Own links	15	58
b) Act through HLG	11	42

Questions 3, 4 and 5 can be grouped together for they jointly address the issue of whether L/N should exist as a separate sub-group of Health Libraries Group or channel its activities entirely through HLG. Respondents taking the hardest line of winding up L/N responded to question 3 on whether L/N should

continue - no, to question 4 on channelling interests through HLG - yes, and selected response b to question 5 on having links only via HLG. On the other hand, those most strongly in favour of the continuance of L/N with a separate identity answered question 3 - yes, question 4 - no, and selected 5a.

	Number	%
Strongly in favour of separate existence for L/N	8	31
Strongly against separate existence for L/N	8	31
Mixed response	10	38

Of those strongly against L/N maintaining a separate existence 7 (88%) are members and 1 is a non-member.

Comments in favour of L/N continuing as a separate sub-group are included below. "As a new provider of nursing information and library services, I find L/N invaluable and I would be sad to see its demise." Another respondent in a university library favours L/N continuing but also notes a lack of interest in L/N which is considered a pity because nursing could become just another subject within the vast context of the university. Another respondent notes "L/N allows many geographically isolated professionals to explore common solutions." Another suggests looking at the objectives of L/N.

Comments in favour of L/N ceasing its separate existence from HLG include "HLG has a stronger voice than a sub-group". Another respondent considered "L/N can only continue if NHS based nursing libraries want it to ... Colleges have become part of universities. We have to recognise this and move on. There is an active group for university health libraries and the old colleges should focus their attention there".

- 6) Question 6 asked whether the *Bulletin* should continue publication or be integrated into the *HLG Newsletter*.

	Number	%
Continue quarterly	13	50
Integrate into HLG Newsletter	13	50
Cease	0	0
Undecided	0	0

Comments favouring the continued publication of the *Bulletin* include "the *Bulletin* is an interesting and informative read. It shouldn't be incorporated into the *HLG Newsletter* as it is currently at a readable size and is nursing subject orientated. It should continue as a separate publication as it has much improved on early editions". Another commented, "The *Bulletin* is a source of useful information that I could probably find nowhere else". Another respondent thinks there should be a problem page in the *Bulletin* and readers invited to provide answers and this would encourage new writers. This is interesting but would require responses from readers. Essentially this is how the old NIS Newsletter, the forerunner of the *Bulletin*, began.

Comments favouring incorporation into *HLG Newsletter* suggest there would be a greater number of professionals who would read it and that this would improve professional image.

- 7) Question 7 asked if study days should continue separately or be run jointly with HLG

	Number	%
Study days continue	18	69
jointly with HLG	8	31
Cease	0	0

Of those responding that study days should continue to be run by LfN, 6 respondents suggested that sometimes there should be joint study days with HLG and this was 33% of those in favour of continuance.

Comments included, "I always enjoy the LfN meetings but especially enjoy the contact with other delegates who have the same interests and concerns. Two respondents suggest better attendance if study days were not always in London. But the transport network does radiate from London. One respondent suggested teleconferencing. Interesting but expensive.

- 8) Question 8 asked if respondents had attended a LfN study day during the previous two years.

	Number	%
Attended study day - yes	18	69
no	8	31

Of the 18 respondents who had attended a study day during the previous two years, 15 or 83% are LfN members and 3 or 17% are not members.

- 9) Question 9 asked respondents about how much of the *Bulletin* they read.

	Number	%
Little read	0	0
Half read	4	15
All read	22	85

Conclusion Overall opinion about whether LfN should continue or act entirely through HLG is equally divided as is the opinion about the future of the *Bulletin*.

Paul Moorbatch is Assistant Reader Services Librarian, City University, St Bartholomew School of Nursing, London E1 2EA

JOURNALS NEWS

The *international journal of palliative nursing* has increased its frequency from 4 to 6 issues a year for 1997.

Libraries which have secured a copy of the January 1997 *Community nurse* have something of a collector's item for it was never published and the first issue for 1997 was the February issue.

Mental handicap research has been renamed the *Journal of applied research in intellectual disabilities*.

Churchill Livingstone have recently launched the *Journal of orthopaedic nursing* for 1997. It costs £120 per year for libraries and £30 a year for individuals and there are 4 issues a year. It aims to include research papers, discussion about education, editorial, and book and conference reviews and it hopes to meet the continuing education needs of orthopaedic nurses.

Also just out from Churchill Livingstone (tel: 0800 801 405) is the first issue of the *Journal of Learning Disabilities*. This costs £30 for individuals and £120 for institutions. Quarterly.

Qualitative inquiry was launched by Sage. It claims to be the first multidisciplinary journal to provide a forum for qualitative research in human sciences and for advances in qualitative methods.

Health education has just been published in CD-ROM format by MCB University Press. It has a cumulative structure with full text for the last three volumes back to 1994 and abstracts back to 1989. A subscription includes a site licence for multi-point access. The journal aims to analyse the success or failure of health promotion campaigns and includes case histories for discussion.

The *Journal of Child Health Care*, published for the Association of British Paediatric Nurses by Greycoat Publishing (tel: 0171 637 1828), has just published its first issue. It costs £90 per year for libraries and £30 for individuals. Association members receive it free. Quarterly.

The *British Nursing Index* was launched at the Royal College of Nursing by the RCN President, Betty Kershaw, on Wednesday the 16th of April and a review will appear in the summer issue of the *Bulletin*.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION HEALTH LIBRARIES GROUP LIBRARIES FOR NURSING

Income and expenditure for year ended 31st December 1996

INCOME	1995	1996
Mailing List	1700.00	1602.50
Prev Autumn Study Day	295.00	415.00
Spring Study Day	0	850.00
Autumn Study Day	1050.00	663.78
Bulletin Advertising	0	0
L/N/RCN Survey	0	450.00
VAT	173.01	320.31
VAT Recovery	65.45	0
Interest	14.22	9.28
Miscellaneous	9.80	50.00
TOTAL	3307.48	4360.87

EXPENDITURE	1995	1996
Bulletin	1380.32	555.52
Prev Autumn Study Day	1163.30	0
Spring Study Day	524.00	590.06
Autumn Study Day	706.05	81.56
Committee Expenses	942.50	1550.02
VAT	188.26	101.71
L/N/RCN Survey	930.00	0
Miscellaneous	267.45	726.50
TOTAL	6101.88	3605.37
SURPLUS FOR YEAR	2794.40	755.50
	3307.48	4360.87

BALANCE SHEET	1995	1996
Brought forward	7086.48	4292.08
	2794.40	755.50
	4292.08	5047.58

Current Account	300.00	300.00
Deposit Account	3992.08	4747.58
	4292.08	5047.58

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