

agenda in order to avoid totally inappropriate measures of performance and management/political/ accounting interventions.

(d) **Audit** (again): Handled properly by us medical audit is the greatest opportunity to put library services centre stage, because audit requires access to up to date and accurate clinical knowledge more than any other process. However we can lose this opportunity if we don't make our helping role absolutely clear.

(e) **Accreditation**: There is at present no real "hospitals inspectorate" in the UK, but opting out, the growth of the private sector, and other trends make it seem inevitable. Moves have begun to ensure some degree of professional (ie medical and nursing) control of the process. Librarians must co-operate with this to ensure libraries are "on the agenda". Attempts to input old-fashioned standards will fail and do nothing but harm, but some form of statement about the quality and performance levels required will be very valuable. There are both great risks and great opportunities in these changes. Librarians stand to gain a great deal if they adopt a high profile and move quickly to become key information providers. They stand to lose equally if they run away from the problems.

People

Congratulations to **Claire Mitchell** on the birth of her baby daughter Bethan on 13 May. Claire, who served on the NIS Committee is now living in Cheshire.

Elizabeth Hoey has been appointed Librarian at Romford College of Nursing and Midwifery.

John Loy has been appointed Assistant Information Officer at MIDIRS.

Forthcoming events of interest

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|-----------------|---|
| 7-9 July | Norwich. Under New Management: The Challenge of the 1990s. MHWLG Annual Conference. University of East Anglia, Norwich. Contact: Janice Henney, 11 Seckford St, Woodbridge, Suffolk. Tel: 03943-2839 (eves). Bookings: Chris Thompson, James Paget Library, James Paget Hospital, Lowestoft Road, Gorleston, NR31 6LA. Tel: 0493-600611. |
| 29 Sept | York. Taking the initiative. MHWLG Conference for working in the Welfare Sector. University of York. |
| 31 Oct | London. Time management study day. Following the success of the first NIS study day on time management, a second day has been organised in conjunction with the Industrial Society and will be held at the Library Association, London. Cost £40.00. Contact Judith Fairweather for further details. |

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