

Chairwoman's notes

In media terms, this is traditionally the 'silly season'. With Parliament in recess, there seems to be a belief that there is no 'real' news worth reporting and so there is a corresponding concentration on the trivial and amusing among the press and television.

Not so for the NIS! Although the committee will not be meeting until September, the group is certainly not in recession - merely taking a breather and pausing to reflect on the activities of the last few months. Already our thoughts are turning towards our next study day at the LA on 10th December. (Book now - more details later!)

Our survey of P2000 libraries has caused a few ripples in the nursing press just recently, coinciding with reports from P2000 students themselves about inadequate library/information facilities (well, no one can say we didn't tell them). Looking ahead, the committee will be considering its role in relation to the subsequent P2000 tranches and also deciding whether to follow up the original survey participants as they near their Branch programme part of the training.

Our response through the LA to the PREPP report is reprinted in this issue and we now await the outcome from the consultation exercise undertaken by the UKCC to see if library/information services feature at all. Our report was compiled to a very tight deadline, so we hope we have not omitted any important issues or points.

Also in this issue is a report of the

study day we held at the RCN in June on **New Paths to Learning** which may interest those of you who were unable to attend on the day. We hope to include a write-up of the **Job Regrading Workshop** organised by the NIS at the July **Under One Umbrella** conference at Leeds in the next newsletter.

On a personal note, the last few weeks have seen my District Medical Librarian and me busily involved in drawing up a report on the cost implications of P2000 from the library standpoint. You won't be surprised to know that evidence from both the NIS publication **Resourcing Project 2000** and the **COFHE Guidelines for College and Polytechnic Libraries** has featured heavily in the report. This exercise has made me wonder how other nursing librarian colleagues have tackled the job of preparing such reports, what evidence has been used, how has the report been set out, and more importantly, what has been the reaction to such reports? We don't appear to have heard much in the newsletter about how individual librarians are preparing their financial bids for P2000 money - unless it is indeed the case as reported in the Summer newsletter that very few librarians have actually submitted such financial reports? Please let us know of progress (favourable or unfavourable) so the committee can monitor the situation and so be in a better position to advise and help other group members. Over to You!

Christine Hardaker
Chair