

### TONY SHEPHERD LEAVES LfN

Tony Shepherd left his post as Head of Library and Information Services at the Royal College of Nursing in August 1997, in order to take up a new position as Librarian of a Learning Resource Centre in a College of Further Education at the beginning of September 1997. As this post is outside the health care libraries field, Tony has resigned from the Libraries for Nursing Committee.

The Libraries for Nursing Committee on behalf of the membership would like to thank Tony very much for all his hard work over the years as Chair of this group. Tony has been a well known figure in the nursing and health libraries field, and has represented the information needs of nurses on many different occasions. Tony played an important role in ensuring that Library provision was fully considered when Project 2000 was introduced. He was co-author of the report *Library and information services to support Project 2000* in 1992 and author of *Resourcing Project 2000 nursing courses: the role of library and information services* written in 1990.

We would like to give Tony our best wishes for the future.

Jackie Lord  
RCN Library and Information Services  
September 1997

### A NOTE FROM THE (FORMER) CHAIRMAN

I am very sorry to be standing down as Chairman of LfN because I have taken a post in another sector of education. I have had such an interesting and worthwhile experience within the group during the last few years and I will not forget the large number of interesting people that I have been able to meet as a result of LfN activities. The task of a chairperson is greatly dependent upon the commitment of the group and committee members. LfN has always been fortunate in having a high level of enthusiasm among its members and this is clearly seen within the committee of the group. The positive approach taken by the committee to the tasks which it faces has made the job of chairing the group easy and (usually) straightforward.

I am now responsible for learning resources in a City Technology College and can confirm that the challenges faced by this education sector are the same as those confronting the health care area. Inadequate financial resources, plus the need for political awareness and quality strategic planning for library and information services are examples of the challenges which are prevalent in both sectors. LfN has a developing role in ensuring that the library and information needs of nurses are kept firmly on a number of agendas.

Looking back to my early days within the health care sector (about nine years ago) library and information support for nursing was very 'patchy' with some

well resourced sites. There were too many small libraries which had limited provision and which seemed to depend upon the interest and attitude of individual Directors of Nursing Education. Today I believe the situation is quite different, with a genuine recognition of the role of library and information services in supporting professional work and education of nurses, midwives and health visitors. L/N can take some credit for having contributed to this changing attitude.

I would like to thank all members of L/N, especially the Committee, for all the hard work and support they have given me over the years. Very best wishes to you all for the future in your professional activities.

**Tony Shepherd.**

#### BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

*being based on the scrawlings of the Secretary after the last Libraries for Nursing Committee meeting.*

The last L/N Committee meeting took place on 5th September 1997.

Mark Field, LA advisor on special libraries in the health and commercial sectors was welcomed to the meeting and spoke about his work and that of his colleague, Lindsay Rees-Jones.

Pam Bailey was thanked for her work over 5 years as Secretary. Jim Moore has taken on the role. Maurice Wakeham agreed to act as Chairman until the next AGM in the light of Tony Shepherd's departure.

L/N has a Regional group of many years standing based in Yorkshire - not many people know that. An article describing their activities was requested for the *Bulletin*. Perhaps other regions would like to follow their example in setting up a group?

The July edition of *Bulletin* [That's this one. Ed.] has been delayed because promised items have failed to appear. The next issue will be a double one [That's this one too. Ed.]

National Library Week activities were discussed. *Health Service Journal*, *Nursing Standard* and *Nursing Times* are expected to feature the Week.

L/N's programme at *Under One Umbrella* had been well received with over 60 people attending.

A *Core List of Nursing Books and Journals* is being worked on by Jim Moore. Jim was congratulated on his efforts so far.

*Jim Moore Secretary, L/N*