

EDITORIAL

This is a double bumper issue for Autumn/Winter. We are sorry for the delay in publication but hope this is made up for by the excellent quality of the articles published.

There is a lucid guide to the mysteries of email and an article on the future role of librarians becoming involved as part of the patient care team and there is a survey of librarians' perceptions of change in Scotland and book news as well.

If you have done research please send us a report.

BOOK REVIEW "NURLIS II"

English National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting. *Provision of library and information services to Nursing professionals. NURLIS Phase II*. London: ENB

This report, commissioned by the ENB, was written by Margaret Ashcroft of Capital Planning. It has sections looking at philosophy, accommodation, library resourcing, staffing, learning resource services eg opening hours, inter-library co-operation, information technology and quality assurance.

This report draws upon already published material such as COfHE Guidelines SCOnUL performance indicators. Emphasis is given to performance indicators such as speed of loan supply success or failure at the library catalogue. The report does suggest that there is a role for the ENB in ensuring quality via validation and suggests the appointment of a library resources adviser. The report considers IT and suggests links with networks. The need for inter-library lending networks is noted. However as the various colleges have been forced to see themselves as rivals, it does seem this is unlikely to develop. The participation of the ENB is encouraged and it is suggested that the ENB Regulations should specify opening hours. The emphasis on quality assurance in this report is to be applauded but it will be necessary for the Colleges of Nursing or the Universities to provide the staffing and LA guidelines should be followed but as each college or trust is self-governing there is no certainty that they will.

The report does give the sense of an overall need for a systematic approach to library planning with the need for each College to have a strategic plan for library development and there should be service level agreements with clients but the question is when dealing with the trusts who have been used to a free service – will they pay?

Overall this is a valuable report and is essential reading for all nursing librarians.

Your comments on the impact of NURLIS II would be welcomed.

Paul Moorbatch