

Mr George Royle, Director of Nurse Education, Basildon and Thurrock Health Authority spoke about the use of computers in Schools of Nursing, both the background to their introduction and their present use.

The afternoon session finished with a time for questions and further discussion.

Moira Stenhouse

The report of the North East Thames Regional Librarian for 1983 can be obtained from John Hewlett, Regional Librarian, West Essex Medical Centre, St. Margaret's Hospital, Epping, Essex CM16 6TN on receipt of a self-addressed envelope.

Publications/Articles

Council for the Education and Training of Health Visitors

Completed and on-going research related to health visitor education, training and practice (including local and small-scale enquiries). The Council, 1982.

I have found this publication very useful for the health visiting students at the Polytechnic and thought it would be worth drawing it to readers' attention. Although it provides an index to research rather than abstracts, it is a valuable complement to Nursing Research Abstracts because of its specific coverage of health visiting topics and ease of use, with references to several years of research on a topic visible at a glance.

The register was produced in March 1982 and an appendix was issued in May 1983. It is arranged in twenty-three sections such as sudden death in infancy, non-accidental injury, elderly, clerical help. The research listed includes work done for theses, for employing health authorities or academic departments and published as journal articles or monographs.

Within each section the entries are arranged chronologically and show the author, title and date finished (of completed research) or date started (of on-going research). Other information is given such as type of thesis, university awarding the degree, name of employing health authority and publisher of monographs.

The register and appendix are available free to interested librarians (one per library!) by writing to:

Miss M Thwaites,
Professional Adviser (Health Visiting)
English National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and
Health Visiting,
Victory House,
170 Tottenham Court Road,
London W1.

Perhaps nursing librarians could inform their colleagues in postgraduate centres who may also serve health visitors.

Rosemary Clarke

Royal College of Nursing Library.

Steinberg Collection of Nursing Research. Catalogue Rcn, 1983, £1.00.

The catalogue lists theses by nurses or about nursing submitted for higher education United Kingdom which can be read at the Rcn Library.

Royal College of Nursing Library.

Nursing Bibliography 1981 Rcn, 1983. £10.00 to subscribers of the monthly parts, £12.00 to others.

Entries from the twelve monthly issues for 1981 cumulated into one volume. Subject arrangement also follows the same pattern.

Nursing Abstracts Vol. 5, No. 5, September/October 1983.

This is an American publication which at first sight seems to be of little interest to British nurses. Most of the journals reviewed are American, no British journals being included and only 53 journals are reviewed. On further examination, however, it seems more useful than would at first appear. Anyone doing nursing research will need to look at some American literature and given the sheer quantity, it will not always be easy to select what to read. International Nursing Index and Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature are indexes only, but Nursing Abstracts gives more information on the contents of articles which will aid selection. This may also be useful when the articles themselves are difficult to obtain. It is issued bi-monthly and this issue has 294 abstracts. The price, though, at £305 per annum is prohibitive. It seems very high when compared with the quarterly British DHSS Nursing Research Abstracts at £5.60 per annum.

The address of the publishers is Nursing Abstracts, Company Inc., P.O. Box 295, Forst Hill, N.Y. 11375.

Linda Parr

Articles

GODDARD, Catriona. Library Services to Nurses in Army Medical Services. State Librarian 31 (3) November, 1983. 34-36.

The author is Assistant Librarian at Queen Elizabeth Military Hospital, Woolwich which has the largest Army nurse training school in the UK. The hospital library is an 'integrated' one for doctors, nurses and other health staff. It has also been designated Central Nursing Library for Army Medical Services providing library services to nurses where there is no professional librarian. Description of services: user education, current awareness and on-line literature searches. Worth reading.

SAGERS, Valerie and SEEGER, Marjorie. Medical Clinical Librarian: A special Resource Person. Nursing Management. September 1983. 9.

A programme, 'Clinical Awareness for Nursing' was implemented at McKay-Dee Hospital Centre, Ogden, Utah. It aimed to help nurses working in the hospital to keep up-to-date on patient care when they were unable to come to the library. Based on the clinical medical librarian concept.

STOIA, Joseph P. Nursing Instruction: Can Data Base Searching Enhance the Practice? A Guide to the Novice User. Journal of Nursing Education 22 (2) February 1983. 74-79.

Based on Kettering Medical Center, Kettering, Ohio, USA. 'Nursing instructors..... have bibliographic data base sources from which to obtain sources to help them with developing or improving library instruction. Studies show these are not being adequately utilized. ERIC and MEDLINE are two such data bases that could be utilized.'

WILSON, Deanna. Come to the sid. Nursing Times Community Outlook 11 May 1983. 125-126.

This is a report on 'the community's lack of information on aids for disabled people and new ideas to fill the gap'. Various groups were surveyed. Occupational therapists and social workers were most satisfied and health visitors and district

nurses fared the worst. Suggestions for improvements. No mention of libraries.

'The Health and Social Service Journal for December 15, 1983, has produced a 12 page audio-visual guide in which about 100 tape-slide, video, etc., programmes are listed, followed by a short review of each'.

(Medical Library Bulletin of the Thames Regions. 6th February 1984, 6.)

Health and Social Service Journal 94 (4883) 9 February 1984.

Comment: Missing Libraries. 151. PATON, Alex. Scant Sources of Learning. 173.

NHS library services with particular reference to health care managers.

In the History of Nursing Group at the Royal College of Nursing Bulletin 2 Autumn 1983, Celia Jackson has written about 'The Archive Collection at the Royal College of Nursing' 10-13 and Frances Walsh, Librarian of the RCN describes 'The Historical Collection at the Library of Nursing, RCN. 14-18.

In 'From Inspiration to Publication' Irene Heywood Jones talks to two editors: Rosemary Long of Bailliere Tindall and Cathy Peck of Harper and Row, who have responsibility for the planning and developing of textbooks for the profession, serving both the needs of nursing education and the commercial interests of their publishers.

Nursing Mirror 158 (7) 15 February 1984. 43-46.

History of Nursing Group

The History of Nursing Group of the Royal College of Nursing was formed in 1983. Among its objectives are to promote and develop the study of the history of nursing; provide a forum for discussion for those interested in the history of nursing; and ensure that historical material is preserved and its location recorded.

Meetings are held and a bulletin is issued. Membership is open to members of the Rcn and to other persons interested in the history of nursing.

The subscription for the year 1 October 1983- 30 September 1984 is £6.00 for Rcn members and £8.00 for non-members.

Details from the Director of Education, Royal College of Nursing, 20 Cavendish Square, London W1M 0AB.

Linda Parr

STUDY DAY SUGGESTION:

The following letter was received from Moria Street, Assistant Librarian (Nursing) at St. George's Library, St. George's Hospital Medical School, London. If you have any suggestions to make regarding study day topics, or views on having discussion groups at study days, please contact the Chairman or Secretary:

May I congratulate you and the other committee members on an excellent study day. A lot of hard work had obviously gone on behind the scenes to produce such a successful day. I particularly valued the contribution from Vera Darling of the English National Board as she covered some of the new developments in the nursing profession. I think that the inclusion of similar key people would be most useful for future meetings.

As for the next study day, I would welcome either nursing research or computer applications

in schools of nursing as topics, as both are very relevant. What I do think is important is that the topic should continue to attract nurses as well as librarians as this gives the different points of view in discussions. Might I also suggest that you consider the idea of splitting into discussion groups during part of the afternoon. This would encourage more involvement by all the delegates as people are more inclined to talk in a small group rather than a large one. I realise that this would create problems of accommodation, but it should prove beneficial to the meeting.
