Interview with board member, Hazel Taylor OBE JP SRN

Hazel Taylor was the Executive Director of Nursing and Quality at the Glan Hafren NHS Trust until her retirement in 1998. Her clinical background included Accident and Emergency Services and ITU, where she was a Nursing Officer for 17 years. She was also a former Chair of the Nurse Executive Wales Group and Chair of the Gwent Nursing and Midwifery Committee for several years.

As well as sitting on the board of the WCfH, Hazel is also Governor for the University of Wales Newport, Chair of the Gwent Courts Board and the Gwent NHS Retirement Fellowship. A Justice of the Peace since 1984, Hazel has always been interested in notions of justice and ‘fair play’. A belief in the equity of health provision was one of the main reasons she joined the board of the Wales Centre for Health in April 2005.

“I’m an innovative thinker; public health and epidemiology have always been of great interest to me. I wanted to make a difference and the Wales Centre for Health is a great flagship.”

Hazel continues: “The Wales Centre for Health is a respected and trusted organisation that is accessible to the public and health organisations alike. We are a co-ordinated voice for health improvement in Wales and following the results of the Functionalities Review, we will continue our contribution to better the health of the people of Wales.”

Hazel was awarded the OBE by Her Majesty the Queen in the 1998 Birthday Honours list for services to nursing in Wales. Since qualifying as a pre nurse, Hazel has been working in the nursing profession for 52 years!

IHI to visit WCfH

Donald Berwick MD MPP FRCP, President and CEO of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) based in Boston, will be visiting Wales on 15 January 2007. He will be giving a seminal lecture on delivering quality in health care, preceded by a speech from Dr Tony Jewell, CMO for Wales.

The IHI is a not-for-profit organisation with an aim to improve health care throughout the world. Founded in 1991, the IHI aims to improve patient care for all, with no needless deaths, no needless pain or suffering, no helplessness in those served or serving, no unwanted waiting and no waste.

For more information or to reserve a place at this free event, please contact Felicity Barclay on 029 2087 0206 or barclayf@cardiff.ac.uk

HEALTHY ME / IECHYD I MI

WCfH is launching a new competition on 8 January in which you could win a spa break for two to a luxury hotel in Wales. All you have to do is tell us your top tips for keeping healthy, fit and well.

Log on to www.wch.wales.nhs.uk from 8 January for more details.
WCfH Funds Research into the Nant-y-Gwyddon Landfill Site

Emily Harrop has recently started a three year studentship jointly funded by the WCfH and the Economic & Social Research Council (ESRC). Emily is working under the supervision of Professor Gareth Williams and Dr Eva Elliott at the Cardiff Institute for Society Health and Ethics (CISHE), Cardiff University.

The project, entitled ‘Contested knowledge in the assessment of public health risks: A case study of the Nant-y-Gwyddon landfill site in the Rhondda Valley, South Wales’ will investigate the history of activity around the Landfill Site, and will focus in particular on exploring the relationships between statutory agencies, local communities and professional experts in the evaluation of perceived threats to public health. The research therefore provides an important opportunity to further our understanding of the processes involved in the assessment, communication and contestation of public health risks, and to provide guidelines to inform discussion, policy and strategy in the future.

PANW at Physical Activity Forum

The Northwest Health and Physical Activity Forum Annual Conference was held in Blackburn on 28 November. The conference, entitled ‘The Evolution of Physical Activity’, explored how we have created a modern society and environment that encourages us to lead very sedentary lifestyles without much thought.

The conference aimed to shift delegates thinking from the traditional negative perceptions of a sedentary society, towards thinking more creatively and positively about how to create a society geared to getting thinner. It is important to ensure that we continue to seek to reduce inequalities across the board and to protect the needs of the vulnerable and the excluded.

It was a very worthwhile insight into the activities and methods being used across the border in England, and also from a European perspective. The marketplace enabled the collection of information and contacts from projects across the whole spectrum of physical activity.

For further information, contact AnnMarie.Brackpool@wch.wales.nhs.uk

WCFH FABTUT Scheme

The Awarding Panel of the WCfH Public Health Training Fellowships, Bursaries and Top up Training Scheme (FABTUT) 2006-07 recommended the awards of eleven bursaries. A further five individuals have been offered places on the Top up Training Scheme for those aspiring to be registered on the UK Voluntary Register as Defined Specialists in Public Health.

The UK Voluntary Register of Public Health Specialists is no longer accepting applications to the Generalist Register via the retrospective portfolio route. This method of admission ended in May 2006. The UKVRPHS is now open to applicants for “defined specialist” registration. This method of entry to the UKVRPHS Register will, in the first instance, be open until May 2009.

A Defined Specialist Workshop was held on the 13 September 2006 at the Angel Hotel, Cardiff. A follow up event is being planned to further advise individuals who are considering taking the retrospective portfolio route to “defined specialist” registration.

If you require further information on the scheme please contact Claire.barley@wch.wales.nhs.uk

For more information on ‘Booze Up: The Lowdown’ call 02920 227744 or visit www.wch.wales.nhs.uk
WCfH to Launch Public Health Alumni Scheme

On 2 March 2007 the WCfH will be launching its new Public Health Alumni Scheme. The Scheme will capitalise on the knowledge and experience of individuals who have completed the WCfH Top Up Training Scheme and who are now recognised Specialists in Public Health (admitted to the UK Voluntary Register for Public Health Specialists).

The Alumni Scheme will help other trainees progress through similar training routes in the future and will provide an opportunity for individuals to make a personal investment in the quality of support and training available in Wales through the WCfH.

The knowledge, experience and competencies gained by the recipients of the Top up Training Scheme reflect the importance of their future roles and those of the WCfH in the public health community.

For further information contact Claire.Barley@wch.wales.nhs.uk

CAPIC Calls for Contributions to New Database

CAPIC (the Collaboration for Accident Prevention and Injury Control) has developed a new online searchable database of all injury prevention programmes and projects across different sectors in Wales. The database is designed to highlight accident and injury prevention work such as home, road or community safety initiatives, and inform practitioners, the public and policy makers about the extent of these initiatives.

Practitioners are requested to use the online form that is available on the site to register their projects. It’s a very simple process and takes no more than 5-10 minutes. Access the form at www.capic.org.uk/projects.html

For further information please contact Rhys.Gibbon@wch.wales.nhs.uk

Health & Wellbeing Section

Spreading Success and Sharing Solutions in Wales:

The Food Access Network is designed to bring together initiatives from the UK and Republic of Ireland in a series of events to share information and good practice. The first event was held in Birmingham in July and the second event ‘Spreading Success, Sharing Solutions Part 2’, was held on 7 November at the Millennium Centre in Cardiff.

Following presentations in the morning, there was a series of interactive workshops in which Mark
Jones, from the Rural Regeneration Unit talked about the development of Welsh food co-ops and Maureen Howell gathered views about the implementation of the Food and Fitness Strategy in Wales. Lindsey Kearton from the Welsh Consumer Council gave a workshop on older people and food poverty, while the Sunshine Café (Manchester) and the Buttershaw Christian Family Centre (Bradford), both winners of the Dame Sheila McKechnie Award, shared their experiences with others.

If you were unable to attend the event but would like to receive notes on the day together with presentations please email Lisa Wilson at lisa@sustainweb.org or call 020 7837 1228.

Public Health Workforce Training Project

An all-Wales public health practitioner higher education meeting is being hosted by the WCfH on 11 January in the New House Country Hotel, Cardiff. It is envisaged that there will be representation from all thirteen higher education institutions (HEIs) in Wales.

The WCfH, supported by the Welsh Assembly Government, has commenced a project to engage all the HEIs in Wales to identify current and potential modules within higher education which contribute to the National Occupational Standards for the Practice of Public Health (NOSPPH). Part of the project will review the possibility of preparing a joint bid for funding to develop this work further.

The key objective of the event is to make recommendations for an area of joint working across the HEIs in Wales to identify existing HE provision in public health and embedding NOSPPH in higher education.

For further information on the event, please contact Kathryn.jellings@wch.wales.nhs.uk and for more specific information on the project, please contact Zoe.whale@wch.wales.nhs.uk

Health, Work and Wellbeing: The Occupational Health Contribution

15 February 2007, Richard Ley Development Centre, Swansea.

This conference will provide delegates with the latest developments in occupational health from both local and national perspectives. It offers the opportunity to share best practice through presentations, workshops and networking. Keynote speakers include: Dr Brian Gibbons AM, Minister for Health and Social Services; Dame Carol Black, National Director for Health, Work & Wellbeing; Professor Mansel Aylward CB, Chair of WCfH; and Professor David Coggon OBE, Southampton University.

Places are free and allocated on a first come first served basis. Register early to avoid disappointment at wchevents@cardiff.ac.uk or call 029 2087 0136.

Green Spaces: A Pathway to Health

15 March 2007, Venue TBC

Following the success of the ‘Countryside as a Pathway to Health’ Conference in June 2004, this new joint conference between WCfH and Countryside Council for Wales (CCW) will explore what actions have, and need to be taken, to make sure green spaces are more accessible.

Poster presentations are invited from interested organisations and projects, and exhibition space is available. Experience open space technology - you influence the agenda! Take advantage of the extended lunch break to experience Nordic Walking, Tai Chi and Walking your Way to Health. (Suitable clothing required)

For registration details please contact Louise Morris on 029 2087 0316 or wchevents@cardiff.ac.uk
Closing the Gap: Health Inequalities in Wales
27 February 2007, Millennium Stadium, Cardiff

The WCfH is participating in the three year European project as part of its membership to EuroHealthNet. The project involves national public health and health promotion organisations from 22 European countries, and aims to collect information from participating EU countries regarding how they are addressing health inequalities and transfer the existing knowledge base to national health institutes and ministries across Europe.

This conference aims to raise awareness of tackling health inequalities in Wales by exploring different European approaches, discussing the draft Welsh strategy for action and influencing the public health strategy.

Key note speakers include Dr Tony Jewell (Chief Medical Officer for Wales), Professor Gareth Williams, (Cardiff University) and Professor Mansel Aylward CB (WCfH Chair).

For registration details please visit [www.wch.wales.nhs.uk](http://www.wch.wales.nhs.uk) or contact Louise Morris on 029 2087 0316 or [wchevents@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:wchevents@cardiff.ac.uk)

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WISHING YOU SEASON’S GREETINGS FROM THE WCfH!

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Do you have a public health related event that you would like to publicise in this newsletter? If so, contact Joanne Menzies on 029 2022 7744 or [Jo.Menzies@wch.wales.nhs.uk](mailto:Jo.Menzies@wch.wales.nhs.uk)

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