

ARNS Secretariat

Volume 1,
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ARNS Newsletter



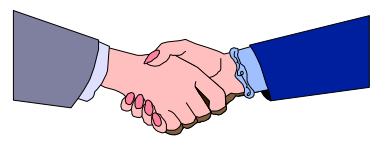
Editors' Notes

We are delighted with the positive response to the first newsletter. It hardly seems any time at all and here we are scribing the second issue.

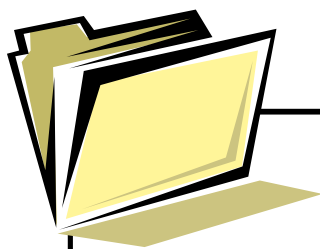
There is so much happening in respiratory care which is exciting and hopeful, and which also means this is a very packed newsletter.

Please - keep your news, views and ideas coming.

- Inside this issue:**
- ?? Dates for the diary
 - ?? Notice board
 - ?? ARNS conference
 - ?? News items
 - ?? Updates on
 - ?? nurse prescribing
 - ?? peer review scheme
- and much more



Annual conference. Details inside



Congratulations - to Karen Clancy on her appointment as Respiratory Nurse Consultant at Rochdale. ARNS wish her much success and joy in her new post. Karen tells us about her first few weeks in post elsewhere in the newsletter.

BTS Professional Standards Committee

Since the peer review scheme was described in the last newsletter 15 nurses have offered to take part. We do need many more. This scheme is important in raising standards and the profile of respiratory care.

If you feel able to take part please complete the database form and return to ARNS secretariat. If you would like more information or a chat with Linda contact can be made via ARNS e-mail address (located on the Notice Board).

Questionnaire

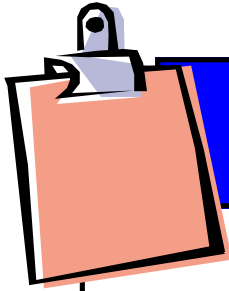
ARNS is keen to move with the times and we would like to seek your views about ARNS membership. Please take time to complete the enclosed questionnaire and return it in the envelope provided.

Thank You

Nurse Prescribing

Linda sent out a questionnaire on this vital topic to ARNS members and 1000 practice nurses - catch up with the results at her poster presentation at the ARNS conference.

Linda would like to thank everyone who completed the questionnaire.



Notice Board

Rings - The North West's Respiratory nurses group will be holding a study day in October - details to be announced later.

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ARNS Conference November 16th and 17th

The conference will be held at the Hilton Puckrup Hotel in Tewkesbury, a venue which is sure to meet everyone's needs and includes leisure and beauty facilities. The cost is £105 for "early bird" bookings and £130 thereafter.

The programme is now complete. Friday promises to be a mix of clinical, research and professional development issues. Saturday covers a topical issue "Nurse prescribing", travel awards, humour in nursing and poster presentations. Those of us who were brave enough (or co-erced!) into presenting posters last year found it not nearly as scary as supposed! After all we are all amongst friends. So - let's have more this year. (You can present a poster you have previously presented elsewhere if you wish).

Entertainment on Friday evening after dinner will be line dancing. Don't forget your check shirt and cowboy boots!

- ?? Limited accommodation at discounted rates is available for the nights before and after the conference
- ?? Details of venue and booking form enclosed.





ARNS Committee

Would you like to serve on the ARNS committee? Nominations are required and forms are enclosed. There will be two places to fill.

RCN Respiratory Nurses Forum

Committee member Liz Walker is representing us on the forum.

Respiratory Supplement

We are keen to encourage members to write articles. If you would like to do this, contact Claire via the ARNS e-mail address.

Travel Fellowship Awards

ARNS members are reminded that there are seven awards of £200 each available towards the cost of attending the BTS winter meeting in December.

Application forms were sent out a couple of weeks ago. Feedback from award winners to the newsletter and website will be appreciated.

Smoking Cessation

Jenny Till reported back to the last committee meeting that the Smoking Cessation Poster had been accepted by the ATS. Later this year a repeat of this previous survey will be carried out. Please take time out to complete and return this.



British Lung Foundation Breathe Easy Conference



This year's conference at the Radisson Hotel by the airport in Manchester celebrated the 10th birthday of Breathe-Easy, and was well attended by the club members and health professionals. The evening dinner was interrupted by a fire alarm necessitating a speedy evacuation outside. However the weather was fine and it gave an opportunity for a bit of plane spotting and noting some of the celebrities staying at the Radisson! Fortunately there was no damage done.

The conference provided a varied programme of speakers outlining research sponsored by BLF, and updating the audience on the newest treatments. Workshops covered a variety of topics, and of particular interest, how to campaign to raise the profile of respiratory disease.

The BLF celebrated it's 10th birthday with a countrywide balloon release during the week 28th May to 2nd June.

If you are not currently involved in a Breathe-Easy club, it is a great way of supporting both research into respiratory disease and the many who suffer from it's effects.

For further details contact Esther Threlfall at BLF,
Telephone: 020 7831 5831



Christina Dean -
Specialist.

Respiratory Nurse



Nurse Consultant - Respiratory Medicine

I was interviewed for my Nurse Consultant post in February 2001, following Rochdale Healthcare NHS Trust's successful proposal to develop this role and enhance respiratory service provision.

The interview for the post was quite daunting; the interview panel consisted of the Chief Nurse Executive, Trust Executive, Dean of Salford University, Directorate Manager Medicine, Consultant Respiratory Physician, Deputy Human Resource Manager and a representative from the Regional Office.

As part of the selection process I was asked to give a presentation on my professional portfolio. I chose to briefly share my professional background and then focus more on the skills that I had attained in order to advance my practice. I demonstrated, within my presentation, that I had the necessary characteristics to take this role forward, expert knowledge, leadership qualities and knowledge of research and audit.

The formal interview lasted for one hour. An informal lunch (which I was unable to eat) followed and lasted another hour, so in all the interview was almost half a day.

I am pleased to say that I was offered the post and following careful deliberation I accepted.

These new roles are seen as innovative and challenging both for the postholder and their employing Trust. There are no guidelines in which to follow or existing roles to use as a template for service development.

The aim of my role is to improve outcomes for patients with asthma, COPD and interstitial lung disease. I hope to achieve this by ensuring high quality evidence based practice is delivered, regardless of treatment areas.



This will promote the concept of a quality seamless respiratory service crossing organisational and geographical boundaries.

I am two months into my new post, but as yet I do not feel like a Nurse Consultant. I am going through a period of adjustment, setting new boundaries, liaising with colleagues and networking with other Nurse Consultants and identifying my own learning needs.

I am highly committed to the development and success of this role and other Nurse Consultant roles. I believe that these new Nurse Consultant roles can influence both nursing practice and patient care, which will ultimately make a difference to nursing.

Karen Clancy - Respiratory Nurse Consultant.

“Adolescent Asthma”

Growing up with asthma can be a trying time.

Four or five respiratory nurses are needed to volunteer to be part of a working group of paediatric and adult asthma nurses to look at the important issue of “change” between the paediatric and adult service provision in secondary care.

If you are interested please e-mail your details to ARNS secretariat.

Watch this space!

Congratulations

To Becky Ross-Plummer on the birth of her daughter Lois last April. By all accounts mother and baby are doing well.



Vice Chair of ARNS

Due to work commitments Quentin Sayer has resigned as Vice Chair of ARNS.

A new vice chairperson will be elected to this post at the next ARNS committee meeting.

Quentin has been a key member of the committee since the very beginning. He has worked extremely hard to develop the profile of ARNS and the role of the nurse in the respiratory field. We would like to thank him for all the hard work.

Quentin agreed to continue with the maintenance of the website.

So please send in any items for inclusion to the website to the ARNS secretariat.

Dates for your diary

BLF Woodland Challenge.	12th - 16th September
European Respiratory Society Berlin	21st - 26th September
Sign/BTS Asthma Guidelines Meeting Edinburgh	3rd October
ARNS Annual Conference, Tewkesbury	16th & 17th November
BTS Winter Meeting, London	5th - 7th December