

# THE THISTLE

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## Special points of interest:

- Scottish conference
- Scottish CPHVA committee
- Unite-CPHVA / Nursing in Practice event, Glasgow
- Home Hygiene Award

## AND THE WINNER IS.....

Thank you to all of you who took the trouble to enter the name the newsletter competition. After much deliberation the winner is Fran Selkirk.

Fran's explained her suggestion "The Thistle" as the name of the member's newsletter.

"I think the name is appropriate although I don't think the members are at all fluffy, but we do grow in rough circumstances, we are strong but flexible and we have a crowning glory of having a sense of humour that carries us over the troubles and difficulties, finally



A member receives the news of the latest "consultation" and how it will "improve" their practice.

of course we look good. For her efforts Fran has won a delegate ticket for this years Scottish Unite-CPHVA conference to be held in Perth on May 1st.



## HAPPY NEW YEAR

Welcome once again to the Scottish newsletter and if it's not too late a belated Happy New Year and best wishes for 2008.

Many of you will hope that this new year will be

a more positive one for community nurses and nursing in Scotland than the last and hopefully the efforts that we employ on your behalf will have a positive contribution to this end.

Finally thank you for your phone calls, emails, letters and invitations, they are all important and appreciated please continue and encourage colleagues to follow your good example.

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 UNITE-CPHVA AND DOMESTOS HOME HYGIENE
 

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**Give Your Colleagues a Chance to Shine**

Nominate a peer or colleague for the new CPHVA Excellence in Home Hygiene Best Practice Award and help recognise their achievements in improving home hygiene. Unite-CPHVA are working in partnership with Domestos to profile examples

of best practice - so if your colleague has educated clients or peers, or established effective hygiene measures within the community, and they are a healthcare professional practicing within Scotland, they are eligible for entry. Click here to download the award entry form and find out further details on

entry criteria.

Remember, the CPHVA Excellence in Home Hygiene Best Practice Award is a great opportunity for you and your colleagues to highlight the valuable contribution that you make every day in preventing the spread of infection.

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 SCOTTISH COMMITTEE 17/03/08
 

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After a period away the Scottish committee is once more up and running buoyed by the expressions of interest in resurrecting this important focus for the organization membership and activity.

In 2006 the committee met in Glasgow and in 2007 we took to the road. Both of these approaches had lim-

ited success. In 2008 we plan to have our first meeting of the year in the union headquarters at John Smith House, West Regent Street, Glasgow.

For those who are unable to attend on the 17th March between 1000 and 1300 (lunch included) we will offer a tele-conferencing facility.

If you are interested in attending either in person or by tele-conference please inform Gavin.

The committee should ideally reflect the Scottish membership and the nursing disciplines therein as well as those acting on your behalf within the UK CPHVA structure

*Scottish Unite-CPHVA Conference, Best Western Queens Hotel, Perth, Thursday May 1st.*

*See Insert for additional information.*

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 SEE YOU THERE?
 

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**Scottish Unite-CPHVA Committee** meeting with tele-conference facility, Glasgow Unite office John Smith house, **17th March** (additional information to follow if interested contact Gavin)

**March 11 2008**, SECC, Glasgow, Unite-CPHVA sponsored workshop on Public Health issues being held at the Nursing in Practice /Unite-CPHVA Exhibition  
<http://www.nursinginpractice.com/default.asp?event.id=1&event.locationid=3&event.instanceid=6&page=event.programme>

**Unite-CPHVA Scottish Conference, Perth, Thursday May 1st**

Dumfries and Galloway Unite-CPHVA centre meeting **June 25th** (I have been kindly invited)

Unite-CPHVA **UK conference** November 20-22, Harrogate

## MEET YOUR REPRESENTATIVE—KIM SHEPHERD

### Education and Research Committee

I am your Scottish representative of the Education & Research Committee. This committee is one of the 2 committees of the Community Practitioners' and Health Visitors' Association. This committee meets 3 to 4 times a year in Moreland Street, London. I would like to represent you the members as effectively as possible, i.e. communicate any relevant matters discussed in the committee meetings and collate your opinions and feedback to the Committee.

The purpose of this short piece is to introduce myself to CPHVA members in Scotland. I am a full time lecturer in University of Paisley with interest in both education and research. I was a health visitor for over 20 years. I had worked as a health visitor in various places in UK [including Brighton, Luton, Sheffield (4 years) and in Stirling (from 1979 until early

2001)].

I hope you can appreciate the difficulties in getting in touch with all the members due to the widespread area I represent. At present I do not have any of your contact details. I therefore would appreciate having your contact details (i.e. email and postal addresses) so that I can communicate with all of you. I would like to hear from any of you and I would raise any issues pertinent to this committee, on your behalf.

I have been a member of Health Visitor Association and now CPHVA since 1973 continuously when I started as a student member. I am a committed member of our Association and would like to be an effective representative for all Scottish members. So please get in touch.

Kim Shepherd

SRN, SCM, HV, Diploma of Nursing, BA Educ Studies, MSc Psychology (Research), RGN & HV Tutor & Teaching Fellow

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Lecturer,  
School of Health, Nursing & Midwifery,  
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*Work emerging from a number of different countries shows very clearly that the circumstances in which a child is brought into the world and in which he or she lives in the first few years of life can have a major impact on future physical and mental health."*

DR HARRY BURNS  
Chief Medical Officer  
November 2007

## REVIEW OF NURSING IN THE COMMUNITY

The process continues with both sides of the argument stating that they wish the same outcome of a community nursing workforce that highlights best practice to the benefit of Scotland's population.

Unite-CPHVA recognize the need to review community nursing in Scotland but maintain that specific disciplines must remain with additional funding for training and employment. This will ensure that the preventative, early intervention approach not only targeting the vulnerable but also continuing with a robust universal service essential to prevent individuals and families reaching a "tipping point" towards vulnerability can continue.

The message from the SNP government continues that the original date in 2009

remains the proper time for evaluation and review.

Whilst the situation in Scotland continues the wider issue of the future of the 3rd part of the NMC register and pre and post registration nurse education must not be ignored and attention should be given to the issues involved.

<http://www.amicus-cphva.org/Default.aspx?page=440>

This is a critical period for public health nursing; there is a danger that the prevention roles of the public health nursing service will be nowhere to be found in the increasingly diverse range of purely clinical nursing services

Institute Of Community Health Nursing,  
Dublin, 2007

[www.ichn.ie](http://www.ichn.ie)

## UNITE-CPHVA SCOTTISH RONC QUESTIONNAIRE FEEDBACK

Feedback is now available on the quantitative data relating to our organizations questionnaire on members perceptions on the Scottish RONC model and related issues.

Our partners within Glasgow University are busy analyzing the

qualitative data and in time all information will be published for further discussion and debate.

If you would like to access the initial quantitative data please e-mail Gavin at the usual address

**Gavin.fergie@unitethunion.com**

and the information will be sent by email attachment.



# NEW NETWORK ESTABLISHED

Elaine Grieves

## SCOTTISH HEALTHY CARE NETWORK

*Promoting the health of children and young people in and leaving care in Scotland*

The health of looked after children and young people in and leaving local authority care has received increased attention at a political and practice level in Scotland in recent years.

At a local practice level there have been many positive developments throughout Scotland including the employment of nurses who work with children living away from home, (Looked After and Accommodated Children and Young people).

The Scottish Healthy Care Network will be active in raising the profile of health as it relates to looked after children and young people and in doing so will provide a strong voice in influencing health policy, planning and practice at a local and national level in Scotland.

The Healthy Care Network in Scotland is involved with:

Developing a broad based and active network membership of individuals and key health and children's agencies.

Disseminating relevant material on good practice, innovation, policy, research and resources.

Creating opportunities for debate and the facilitation of ideas, good practice and information.

Publishing a Network newsletter and disseminating regular information bulletins.

Promoting, conducting and disseminating research in the field of health in residential childcare and through care & aftercare.

Actively promoting links and partnership working between different professional groups across all key settings such

as health, education, social work and the voluntary sector.

We would welcome contact from anyone who has an interest in improving health outcomes for looked after children.

Steven McCluskey, National Development Officer

[enquiries@shcn.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@shcn.org.uk)

[www.shcn.org.uk](http://www.shcn.org.uk)

*Scottish Committee  
17th March Glasgow  
contact [gavin.fergie@](mailto:gavin.fergie@unitetheunion.com)*

*unitetheunion.com*

*for details*



## SEMINAR

10.am till 3.pm on the 23rd April 2008 at the Glasgow City Chambers

*Keynote Address*

**Dr Harry Burns**

Chief Medical Officer

*Principal Speakers*

**Dr David Stone**  
**Alan Doyle**  
**Nicola Butters**  
**Andrew Lee**

University of Glasgow  
Strathclyde Fire and Rescue  
RoSPA  
ISD

Home Safety Scotland is a group of Community and Home Safety Practitioners whose principal aim is to promote Home Safety.

This Seminar is aimed at like minded professionals and asks the question

**"ARE WE DOING ENOUGH?"**

I would like to reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places for the above seminar.  
Cost £25 per person inclusive of lunch

Name: .....  
Address: ..... Post Code: .....  
email Address: .....  
Name of Organisation: .....

Return to: Bill Petherick, 54-56 Western Road, Kilmarnock, KA3 1LB  
Tel.: 01563 553596 or email: [bill.petherick@east-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:bill.petherick@east-ayrshire.gov.uk)

[www.homesafetyscotland.org.uk](http://www.homesafetyscotland.org.uk)

## ANNIE HAIR'S FEEDBACK

On behalf of Unite-CPHVA I attended the Scottish Hall 4 Implementation group. The role has been recently steering and monitoring the implementation of Hall 4 across Scotland. It is a well attended group with all Health Boards and professional organisations represented.

The last meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> January was an event where we took stock of the position across Scotland. Several presentations were made. These included work on the new WHO growth charts, GIRFEC and health plan indicators which highlighted a wide variation across Scotland.

Reflective work on the implementation on Hall 4 was also discussed and NES have appointed Caroline Inwood to complete a review of it's implementation in Scotland. She is keen to meet practitioners in Focus Groups. I offered our

services to facilitate this and I will lead a group in the West. A colleague in Inverclyde has also shown similar interest. If you wish to know more please contact me  
[annie.hair@nhs.net](mailto:annie.hair@nhs.net)

If other CPHVA centres are interested in organising groups they are encouraged to contact  
[caroline.inwood@nhs.net](mailto:caroline.inwood@nhs.net)

I represent the Scottish CPHVA at the Senior paediatric and Education Nursing Network. I have been asked to compile comments to the review of Nursing in the Community Scotland current consultation on draft job descriptions on behalf of this membership. This group value the Health Visiting role and have concerns on the dilution of services and nursing for children in the community within Scotland.

Finally I attend the UK CPHVA health visiting forum. This meets 4 times a year in London and is part of our professional structures.

I am a lonely but loud voice of what is happening to practice and health policy in Scotland. This group has done some excellent professional work this year to the benefit of the wider membership.

Finally can I add my voice to the request to ask more of the membership to become involved in the work of Unite-CPHVA.

I have found it a rewarding and empowering experience and I would urge you to consider taking part in the wider agenda's that impinge on our ability to practice.

Scotland CPHVA needs you!  
Annie Hair

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needs you!  
Annie Hair

Remember share  
your name, email, job  
title and place of  
work and be added to  
the members e-mail  
list.

No spam just good  
quality beef

Send to  
[gavin.fergie@  
unitetheunion.com](mailto:gavin.fergie@unitetheunion.com)

## ARE YOU A MEMBER?

Are You a member?

Then why are you reading this? "The Thistle" is the newsletter for members of Unite-CPHVA in Scotland.

We are a friendly bunch though and would warmly welcome you across to the warm side of the fire rather than being stuck out in the professional organisation wilderness were it's cold and it feels like nobody cares.

When did your organisation last send you such an informative newsletter?

Do they have a dedicated professional team who are still active registrants on the third part of the NMC register?

Did you know that we are the least expensive membership organisation for community nurses and cost less monthly than the organisation you are with at the moment?

Did you also know that you receive the "Community Practitioner" the voice of community nursing practice in the UK as part of your monthly membership fee?

Once you add in £3 million liability insurance, the benefits of being part of Unite the largest union in the UK, you've got to ask yourself "why am I still with my present lot?"

[gavin.fergie@unitetheunion.com](mailto:gavin.fergie@unitetheunion.com)

Details have been sent out to members with the "The Thistle" of the Scottish Unite-CPHVA conference.

This event will be held in Perth on Thursday 1st May. An interesting and varied programme has been arranged covering issues of a professional and industrial nature.

This year a novel pricing strategy has been unveiled that could result in delegates

paying nothing for their conference ticket.

A member on hearing this news was quoted as saying .."free conference and all I have to do is recruit 3 new members, where are the membership forms?..."

The ticket price will include lunch and refreshment and potential delegates are advised to book early to ensure that the conference is a success.

Confirmed speakers will cover topics which will include the Scottish CHN model, pensions and human resource issues, domestic violence, the new cervical cancer vaccine programme.

See you in Perth but book early!!

Do you have a Membership Problem?

Several of you have contacted me recently regarding queries of a membership nature including the non receipt of union mail if this is a problem please contact.

CPHVA Membership Enquiries  
Amicus  
Hayes Court  
West Common  
Hayes  
Bromley  
Kent  
BR2 7UA

Or Ring the membership hot line on:  
0845 850 4242

Or Email:  
[membership\\_department@unite\\_the\\_union.com](mailto:membership_department@unite_the_union.com)

## CONTACT DETAILS

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07980 237 024

[gavin.fergie@uniteunion.com](mailto:gavin.fergie@uniteunion.com)

## THE CPHVA HAS IT LOST IT'S LOCAL ACCENT?

The CPHVA is one of the professional organizations within the health sector of Unite the Union. Unite is the largest trade union in the UK and the 3rd largest within the NHS. Despite this presence at the Scottish and United Kingdom negotiations and discussions when it comes down to adding the local perspective the CPHVA is sadly lacking, relying on others within the Unite health sector to act as our advocates. Although our colleagues perform a sterling job the vast majority are not community nursing practitioners. Personally I could never articulate a physiotherapist or a biochemists professional arguments in a way that a member of these professions could. So why do we allow this to happen within the CPHVA?

In many parts of Scotland we have no organized CPHVA activity or representative relying instead on colleagues from Unite health sector this need not be the case. In the areas of Scotland where we have an active centre or where close connections with colleagues in Unite exist facilitated by articulate CPHVA representatives the members voice is collated and focused. These modes of practice do ensure your voice is heard and results have been achieved.

NHS Borders, Shetland, Fife, Dumfries and Galloway and latterly Lanarkshire are all making an impression on forming the future within their areas of employment and practice and although some of these actions may appear small they serve as a focal point for the CPHVA members opinion.

The support nationally is there to promote membership activity and to support and encourage those who wish to undertake additional responsibilities on behalf of their colleagues in Unite-CPHVA.

As members of Unite-CPHVA we strive to practice as advocates for the vulnerable on our caseloads is it not time that we became advocates for our own profession's future in this time when all community nursing practitioners are very vulnerable?



Unite-CPHVA  
Scottish pages  
<http://www.amicus-cphva.org/Default.aspx?page=62>

*Professional Solutions For  
Professional Problems*

