

Informing the Health Links Network

e-bulletin No 20 - June 2009

Dear Friend

Welcome to THET's e-bulletin which includes news and information relevant to Health Links and THET activities. The e-bulletin will be circulated every month.

If you have any materials or news which you would like to publicise, please send the information to the editor of this e-bulletin, Amy Cudmore, amy@thet.org. Conference and workshop reviews are also welcome. Note that we are unable to distribute attachments so please ensure that your item can be pasted into an e-mail message.

Feel free to forward this e-bulletin to anyone who might be interested.

NEWS

JUST PUBLISHED! Links Manual Revised Edition – The long awaited 2nd Edition of the Links Manual, full of practical advice and guidance for both UK and overseas Links partners is now available to buy or download. Hard copies of the Manual are available to buy online for £17.00 plus p&p. Purchase your copy today through our online distributors CPIBookdelivery.com. To order your copy click on the following link:

<http://www.cpibookdelivery.com/our-books/tropical-health-and-education-trust/>

We have also made individual sections and chapters of the Manual available to download in PDF format.

<http://www.thet.org.uk/index.php?/page/index/downloadablepublications.html>

DFID and the Budget 2009 - The good news is that the UK government will be sticking to the aid commitments it has with DFID. For more details click on the following link:

<http://www.dfid.gov.uk/Media-Room/News-Stories/2009/Budget-2009---keeping-our-promises-to-the-worlds-poorest-people/>

eRanger Motorcycle Ambulances for Ethiopia - The Southern Ethiopia Gwent Health Link has donated three motorbike ambulances, one for each of the health centres they work with, and is thus pioneering the use of motorbike ambulances in rural health facilities in Ethiopia. These will greatly enhance the ability to transfer critically ill patients from the health centres to the hospitals. More information can be found through the following links:

<http://www.ethiopiagwentlink.org/v2/> and <http://www.eranger.com>

If you would like to see the eRanger Ambulance and Oasis Water purifying unit in action, eRanger are demonstrating both at a showcase for humanitarian health workers on Wednesday 10th June 2009 at Gibraltar Barracks, Minley Manor, Surrey. There is no cost to attend the event. If you are interested in attending please contact Pete Sonderskov at pete.sonderskov@rocksolidsolutions-uk.com.

Back to basics: Primary Health Care Renewal at the 62nd World Health Assembly - Primary health care is back on the international agenda as the Resolution on Primary Health Care (PHC) including Health System Strengthening was adopted at the 62nd World Health Assembly that closed last Friday, 22 May. This is a great opportunity for the international community to mobilise itself in support of the universal access to primary health care, addressing the

hitherto failed objectives agreed upon during the Alma-Ata Conference 31 years ago. To read more click on the link below:

[http://www.actionforglobalhealth.eu/news/back to basics primary health care renewal at the 62nd world health assembly](http://www.actionforglobalhealth.eu/news/back_to_basics_primary_health_care_renewal_at_the_62nd_world_health_assembly)

Wales – Africa Gold Star Communities Network - The Gold Star project develops excellence in community linking between Wales and Africa to build peace, prosperity and understanding, through mutual development. For more information visit the Africa Gold Star Communities website:

<http://www.goldstarcommunities.org.uk/>.

DFID White Paper Consultation – DFID is publishing a new White Paper on International Development in June 2009, and has launched a public consultation process running from 5th March and 27th May 2009. The White Paper will focus on four key themes - global economic growth, climate change, fragile and conflict affected countries and international institutional reform. THET will be contributing to the consultation process as a member of BOND network, and would like to encourage Links to get involved in the process too. More information on how you can do so, along with the consultation document and the consultation questions, is available through the BOND website.

<http://www.bond.org.uk/pages/white-paper-consultation.html>

Revision of the DH International Framework - THET and VSO are working together with consultants Tribal Newchurch to support the revision of the DH's official Framework of guidance to the UK health sector on getting involved in international development. This is a strategic opportunity to make sure the guidance is as encouraging as possible to Links. This was a major topic for discussion at THET's National Links Conference in Cardiff on 2nd April. If you would like to have a copy of the highlights of that discussion and contribute your own views on what the Framework needs to contain, please contact Sharon Horder at sharon@thet.org.

THET Film: Work of Links and THET – The filmed can be viewed at the following link:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yobMc_dasVE&feature=related. A copy of the film can be obtained from the THET office - a small donation is requested to contribute to the cost of printing & postage costs.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Alexander Baillie in concert with Max Baillie - Come and join us on Monday 6th July, 2009 for a very special evening of music at St Marys-at-Hill, Eastcheap, London EC4 for an evening of classical and improvised music. Alexander Baillie is internationally recognised as one of the finest cellists of his generation and this is a rare opportunity to hear Alexander Baillie play in concert with his son, the accomplished violinist Max Baillie. Tickets cost £30 (£15 NUS).

For more information visit our website:

<http://www.thet.org.uk/index.php?/page/index/fundraising.html>

Nurses for Links: a joint RCN/THET Conference – The conference will take place on Friday 17th July at the RCN and will be about the particular role and challenges of the nursing profession as part of the Links movement. Hear more about how nurses can learn how to measure the effectiveness of Link activities, network & share experiences with members of other Links, receive helpful hints about how to boost the effectiveness of your Link and prepare your Link for challenges and opportunities ahead. For more information on how to book visit our website:

<http://www.thet.org.uk/index.php?/page/index/Conferences.html>

Health in Malawi: Holistic Health and Increased Coordination – The Scotland Malawi Partnership will be holding this Conference on Health in Malawi on 9 June 2009, 10 am to 4 pm, at the Edinburgh City Chambers. For more information or to register to attend, please contact Maeghan at maeghan@scotland-malawipartnership.org.

East Africa workshops on Public Access to Health Information - During August 2009 Partnerships in Health Information (Phi) and the International Federation of Library Associations' Committee on Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE) is planning to hold 'train the trainer' workshops in improving public access to health information in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. Through working with local partners in these countries, librarians and other relevant information workers will be invited to take part in these highly participative workshops covering the following topics: HIV/AIDS information; infectious diseases and immunisation (to include TB, malaria etc); nutrition for good health; drink and drugs as health problems and; accidents and prevention (particularly road accidents).

Papers of the type that will be used in the training can be seen at:

http://ifla.queenslibrary.org/faife/news/learning_materials_workshops.htm

For further details of the workshops or to book a place please contact cath@phi-info.org.uk, who will be pleased to put you in touch with the local country contact.

Infectious Diseases Symposium – The Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh is holding this symposium on Friday 12 June at the Queen Mother Conference Centre. The event has been designed to provide information and stimulate discussion about a diverse range of areas that are of current interest in infectious diseases.

For more information on this event go to the following link:

<http://www.rcpe.ac.uk/education/events/infect-dis-jun-09.php>

Spirit Possession and Mental Health Conference - This one day event will take place on 29th June, 2009 and will consider the critical themes and debates on spirit possession from an anthropological, social, psychological, medical and religious perspective using a range of illustrative case study, clinical practice, research and short film presentations. For more information contact Ahmed Qureshi on 07931 199 421 Email: bookings.bme@googlemail.com
www.bme-mentalhealth.org.uk

MRCGP (INT) Development Days – The Royal College of General Practitioners will be holding their annual conference on the 29th June-1st July 2009 at the MRCGP Clinical Skills Assessment Centre, Croyden. Themed 'Learning from each other' the conference will give delegates the chance to hear the latest developments in international assessment of general practice, family medicine and the worldwide opportunity to attain the MRCGP international accreditation. For more information and to book your place contact Tom Owen at towen@rcgp.org.uk

"Healthy Communities", Wales for Africa Health Links Conference 2009 – The conference will take place on July 1st 2009 at the All Nations Centre, Cardiff at 10am-4.30pm. Find out how Links can focus on primary care and public health, benefit NHS staff and their partners, share knowledge and good practice and fundraise. Registration is FREE. For a programme and to book your place please contact Sigrid Ornetzeder on 02920 227744 or email Sigrid.Ornetzeder@wch.wales.nhs.uk
<http://www.wales.nhs.uk/event.cfm?eventid=2885>

ESF-LiU Conference on 'The changing use and misuse of Catha Edulis (khat) in a changing world' – The conference will take place on 5th - 9th October 2009 at Scandic Linköping Väst, Linköping, Sweden. The conference will bring together selected young and established researchers from different academic fields in order to present and discuss the current state of knowledge on the swiftly changing issues related to khat in the Horn of Africa Europe and elsewhere. The aim is to foster the interdisciplinary exchange and discussion among economists, social and political scientists, natural scientists, social and medical scientists, healthcare and social care professionals, health service providers, as well as

policy makers, international organisations and community groups. Programmes and applications are available online at www.esf.org/conferences/09274. For further information visit www.esf.org/conferences/09274 or contact Ms. Jean Kelly, Conference officer at jkelly@esf.org

GOOD PRACTICE

Midwifery Education Modules – WHO have rereleased their education materials for teachers of midwifery which have now been updated in line with recent evidence and the WHO clinical guidelines. There are 6 modules available which aim to help skilled practitioners think critically and make effective decisions on the basis of solid knowledge and understanding of these complications. To download your copy, view the following link:

http://www.who.int/making_pregnancy_safer/documents/9241546662/en/

Travel Advice for Links – If you have an overseas trip coming up, we would encourage you to look at the advice on the website of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office before you leave to ensure you are prepared for any eventuality. In particular, “LOCATE” is an FCO travel service which allows you to register your details with the FCO when you travel - <https://www.locate.fco.gov.uk/locateportal/>. The following travel advice website is also recommended by the FCO and has lots of useful resources including special travel advice website for health professionals and a travel advice line:

<http://www.nathnac.org/pro/index.htm>

Oral Health training Manual - The Sunnymede Trust website has a free electronic download of the Oral Health Training Manual available. The site isn't fully complete; however the download can be accessed as well as a hard copy available at cost price:

www.teethrelief.org.uk

THET publications - All THET publications can be downloaded from our website:

<http://www.thet.org.uk/index.php?/page/index/downloadablepublications.html>

CHANGES AT THET

At the end of May THET said goodbye to **Thea Lacey**, our full time Fundraiser. This month, we would like to welcome to the THET team **Dilys Dandolas** who will be our new Fundraiser and **Erin Miwa** who will work on Marketing and Communications.

WORKING OVERSEAS / VACANCIES

THET Trustees - THET is looking for new Trustees to join its Board later this year. In addition to general duties, it requires some Trustees with a special interest in one or more of the following areas: The world of international development, diplomacy and international agencies; Links and international health and/ or health systems of developing countries; NHS Senior Management or the medical professions; the Diaspora in the UK of health professionals from sub-Saharan Africa or other less developed countries; fundraising, media/ public relations and marketing; education, training and research. For more information, visit <http://www.thet.org.uk/index.php?/page/index/workwithus.html>

Health Links in Kenya - We have received several enquiries about the work of Health Links in Kenya, and would like to find out more about what type of work is going on and whereabouts it is taking place. If you are involved in Health Links work in Kenya, or are an individual who regularly volunteers at a public health institution in Kenya, and would like to tell us more about what you are doing, please contact Karen Peachey at Karen@thet.org.