

Informing the Health Links Network

e-bulletin No 19 - May 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, Sharon Horder, sharon@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.

FUNDING AND COMPETITIONS

Essay competition: Young voices in research for health, 'Innovating for the health of all' - The Global Forum for Health Research and The Lancet are sponsoring their fourth joint essay competition with the theme 'Innovating for the health of all', held in conjunction with Forum 2009, the annual meeting of the Global Forum that takes place in Havana, Cuba, from 16 to 20 November. Within the broad range of the theme, essays are invited from young professionals working in or interested in the wide spectrum of research for health and health equity.

To read details, click on the link below:

http://www.globalforumhealth.org/Site/005_Get%20involved/009_Essay%20Competition/005_Essay%20competition.php

Scottish Government Funding for International Development - Guidance for all Scottish Government funded projects is available on <http://www.scotland.gov.uk>. You can also find more information about policy, programmes and funding guidance through the links below.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Government/International-Relations/internationaldevelopment/internationaldevelopment>
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Government/International-Relations/internationaldevelopment/idffundingguidance>

NEWS

THET's National Conference for Health Links 2009, Cardiff University, Wales – the full conference report is now available and can be viewed from our website <http://www.thet.org.uk/index.php?page/index/reportsandnews.html>

THET Film: Work of Links and THET – THET launched its newly released film about the work of THET and Links at its National Conference for Health Links 2009, in Cardiff. Now available for all to see! To view click on 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.

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

Health in Crisis - Action for Global Health's third report warns that European governments are preparing to use the economic crisis as an excuse to abandon their commitments to health in developing countries. The report argues that the global economic crisis means that they must show the same determination for urgent action on health as they have in protecting their banking systems. For more information click on this link: [Health in Crisis](#)

Nigeria - Partnership for Health - On Saturday the 22nd of November, over 200 professionals with a commitment to improving the health of Nigerians met at the Gustave Tuck lecture theatre of University College London (UCL). The one-day conference with the key theme "Restoring Health to the National Agenda" drew participants from across the UK, the USA, Germany and Nigeria to meet, debate and chart a way forward in confronting the many challenges that face the Nigerian health system. The event was organised by the Nigerian Public Health Network, MANSAG (the umbrella organization for Nigerian doctors working in the UK), the Institute for Global Health at UCL, THET and Africa Recruit. Three key roles were identified for the partnership on health in Nigeria that emerged from the conference; advocacy for health, accountability and governance in the health sector and knowledge collation and sharing. Details on the conference can be found at <http://www.nigeriahealth2008.org/>

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>

News from Phi - The Kenya Health Information Partnership (Ken-HIP) supported by Phi has been active and successful in recent years and they have just been awarded a further grant from the BMA Humanitarian fund for their next jointly agreed training project. The UK partners work closely with Ken-AHILA, which is the Kenyan Chapter of the Association of Health Information and Libraries in Africa, to share expertise and knowledge and to plan and deliver projects, which bring Kenyan and UK partners together in professional dialogue for development. The UK partners have just produced an attractive leaflet to promote the partnership, which will be shared at several professional meetings throughout the year taking place in Hawaii, Dublin, Milan, Brisbane and in East Africa. See a copy of the leaflet at <http://www.thet.org.uk/index.php?page/index/Otherorganisations.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.

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>

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.

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

Get Fit for Healthcare! The ASICS British 10k London Run – We have 2 places left – register now!!

Join Team THET and 35,000 other runners on **Sunday 12th July** for a 10k run through the heart of the capital for the 9th Annual British 10k London Run. 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 www.thet.org.uk

GOOD PRACTICE

Links Manual Revised Edition status update!– The 2nd Edition of the Links Manual, full of practical advice and guidance for both UK and overseas Links partners is due for delivery in the coming weeks! Further information about how to obtain your copy will be given on our website – watch this space!

Shipping Goods to Malawi: A Guide to Best Practice - This resource is the outcome of a far-reaching survey of the memberships of the Scotland Malawi Partnership. Their thanks go to the 26 individuals and organisations who fed in their knowledge and experience of shipping goods into this guide. The publication is available to view free of charge at: <http://tinyurl.com/smpshipping>

Consequences of severe obstetric complications - This article in The Lancet investigates how severe obstetric complications affect a range of health and other outcomes in the year after the end of pregnancy in hospitals in Burkina Faso. The authors compare the health experiences of women whose pregnancies ended in severe obstetric complications with those of women with uncomplicated childbirth.

<http://www.eldis.org/go/topics/resource-guides/health&id=42845&type=Document>

For more articles like this sign up to receive The Health Reporter. It's produced by the IDS Health and Development Information team in collaboration with the DFID Health Resource Centre (HRC) and Eldis. To subscribe, send a blank email to lyris@lyris.ids.ac.uk with the subject "subscribe eldis-healthsystems".

THET publications - All THET publications can be downloaded from our website
<http://www.thet.org.uk/index.php?/page/index/downloadablepublications.html>

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>

New BMA guidance on working in developing in countries – Please find a link where you can download copies of the BMA guidance that was discussed the Forum meeting held on 25 March 2009 can now be downloaded from the following link http://www.bma.org.uk/careers/working_abroad/broadeningyourhorizons.jsp
Copies are also available by contacting Olivia Roberts directly Tel: 0207 383 6063 Email: oroberts@bma.org.uk

CHANGES AT THET

We would like to welcome **Carla Jouavel** who has joined THET as a Fundraising Intern, helping to research donors and prepare Trust applications. **Thea Lacey**, our full time Fundraiser is leaving THET at the end of May, to begin a two year voluntary post with VSO in Uganda.

WORKING OVERSEAS / VACANCIES

The World Health Organization (WHO) Scientific Resource Group (SRG) - Call for interest: to be a member of a new WHO SRG on Health Equity Analysis and Research. WHO is establishing a SRG to support WHO on its programme of work on equity and health. This includes contribution to the development of WHO and other collaborative products or the peer-review of these products. The SRG work aligns with a key strategic objective of WHO to address a broad range of determinants of health (social, economic, political, environmental, etc.) and a core value to increase social justice including health equity within and across countries. Members will advise WHO on strategic directions, work plan content, objectives and priorities, as well as contribute to products and services in particular those relating to measurement, monitoring, evaluation, analysis and research. The closing date to nominate yourself or someone else is 15th May, 2009. For more details, please go to <http://www.who.int/eth/en/>

Fundraiser – THET is currently seeking a fundraiser to manage and implement a multi-dimensional strategy for increasing the charity’s unrestricted funds. The successful candidate will be an innovative, resourceful individual who can bring their own energy and vision to a developing set of activities. For full details on this position go to <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.