



# Mental Health Nurse Academics (UK)

*Promoting and advancing UK Mental Health Nursing education, research, policy and practice*

**Notes of Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2013 at Teesside University, Darlington Campus**

**Chair: Michael Coffey**

**Present:** Michael Coffey (Swansea), Joy Duxbury (UCLAN), Alan Simpson (City), Linda Cooper (Cardiff), Ben Hannigan (Cardiff), Julia Terry (Swansea), Liz Hughes (York), Tracey Cassidy (Plymouth), Paul Linsley (Lincoln), Andy Mercer (Bournemouth), John Baker and Steve Prymachuk (Manchester), Gwenne Macintosh (Edinburgh Napier), Patricia Ryan-Allen (Greenwich), Jacquie White (Hull), Len Bowers (IoP), Enkanah Soobadoo and Thomas Currid (London South Bank), Andrew Ramtohul (Northumbria), Olive McKeown (UEL), Ian Hulatt (RCN), Peter Morrall (Leeds), Marie O'Neill and Kevin Moore (Ulster), Gordon Mitchell (Teesside), Dave Coyle (Bangor), Russell Ashmore (Sheffield Hallam), Mairi Byrne (Edgehill), Steve Hemingway (Huddersfield), Doug Macinnes (Canterbury),

**Apologies:** Matt Bowen (Chester), Billy Mathers (Paisley), Rachel Hadland (UWE), Gwen Bonner (UWL), Nicola Evans (Cardiff), Tommy Dickinson (Manchester), Alison Kilduff (Derby), Anita Savage-Grainge (York), Denise Aspinall (Bangor), Keith Ford & Sandra Moran (Northumbria), Jim Turner (Sheffield Hallam), Andrew Clifton (Huddersfield), Nicky Lambert and Daniela Collins (Middlesex), Steve Lyon, Kath Padgett & John Playle (Huddersfield), Jen French (CNO office Welsh Government), Mary Chambers (Kingston), Laetitia Zeeman (Brighton), Naomi Sharples (Chester), Lynda Smithies (Keele), Bob Tummey (Coventry), Bob Rankin (Dundee), Lisa Woods (Liverpool John Moores), Greg Rooney (Herts),

## **Welcome from the Chair and Introductions**

Michael Coffey opened the meeting as the new Chair and thanked Gordon Mitchell for his organisation and hosting of the meeting and evening meal.

## **Welcome Teesside University**

Dean Prof Paul Keane OBE welcomed members to the University.

## **Minutes**

### **Presentation 1: Safewards presented by Professor Len Bowers**

Len presented his model that has culminated from years of research. He talked about six originating domains that give rise to flashpoints that can lead to containment and conflict. He described 10 set interventions.

Len then led a discussion on educational implications. He encouraged people to disseminate the work and introduce Safewards.

### **Presentation 2: Positive Behavioural Support Interventions Department of Health commissioned report on physical interventions Ian Hulatt, RCN Mental Health Nurse Advisor and Professor Joy Duxbury**

Joy and Ian discussed new DH guidance in this area. The group felt that PBS has some value but that it is untested in mental health and therefore some caution is required. Additionally, there are matters that need to be considered such as the involvement of psychologists, the length of stay of patients, the investment of time needed and training implications. There remain questions about accreditation of training for physical interventions and the supporting evidence base. There may be better models and approaches and maybe we should explore the range in the document rather than make PBS the sole lead. We

discussed what this group could do to support these developments and we proposed formulating a statement which Joy would lead in relation to mental health nursing practice, education and research related to physical interventions.

### **Presentation 3: Research Priority Setting, Professor Len Bowers**

The group discussed the scope of future research for the profession of mental health nursing. The idea is to develop research priorities to influence what research gets funded and funders will be interested to hear about this. The priority setting exercise included discussions on the following:

- The role of the mental health nurse – What works and what doesn't. What we are good at and what we aren't so good at.
- The role of theory as well as empirical research – how does this influence funders and how research might still be theory driven
- What do mental health nurses contribute that aids recovery
- Transitions
- Care co-ordination
- Does it have to be unique to mental health nursing? Maybe not
- Underpinning values
- Public Health

As there seemed to be problems with consensus e.g. defining what counts as mental health nursing research as opposed to mental health research of relevance to nursing it was felt that we need first to feedback top ten priorities for research to Len before Christmas. He will then collate to discuss at a future meeting. It might also help if we report what research we are currently doing too. Check out the blog for a first stab at this by City University <http://mhnauk.com/>

## **Business**

### **Item 1: Revisiting Cardiff Proposals Michael Coffey**

1 We agreed at our Cardiff meeting that we would attempt to theme presentations at meetings where possible rather than having local presentations with the intention of producing outputs from the group in the form of statements on research and education for mental health nursing. Some ideas suggested for future meetings included;

- Somebody summarising policies
- Suggestions for themed topics
- Public Health
- Physical Health
- Personality Disorder
- Student Health

### **2 Timely Responses**

The crumpled list group has been formed. The aim is to have a group of MHNAUK members willing and able to respond promptly to requests for statements or views on developments of relevance to mental health nursing education, research or practice. Details can be found on the blog at <http://mhnauk.com/>. We will await consultations or requests

### **3 Blog <http://mhnauk.com/>**

Nobody is using this just now. There is a link on the webpage should people wish to use it. We agreed to give it more time and to review this accordingly. If you are a MHNAUK member and have something to say about mental health nurse practice, education and/or research then get in touch with Michael and he can help you post it on the group blog. The group has also created its own Twitter account (thanks to Ben Hannigan), follow @MHNAUK on Twitter.

### **4 Other involvement**

We discussed the involvement of colleagues from the Republic of Ireland. The terms of reference don't allow their formal membership but it was felt we shouldn't exclude people from visiting. We agreed that the Chair would offer opportunities for colleagues to attend meetings as visitors when approached and that this development would be communicated to the existing colleague on our list from the Republic.

### **Item 2: Excellence in recruiting mental health nurse students**

Following on from Andy Mercer and Karen Wright's excellent work we had a discussion about how we should promote a consistent approach to recruitment.

Should we be doing more about this across UK? What is the group's role?

Andy mentioned the work the group had done and whether we could make recommendations from this. He will bring it back to the group. A PDF version of the Pan London approach will be sent to MC to go on website by Enkanah.

### **Item 3: NPNR**

**M Coffey**

Michael and Alan gave an overview of this year's very successful conference. MHNAUK via Alan Simpson as chair of conference steering committee and Michael as chair of the Scientific Committee have continued to support and ensure the success of this conference. Russell is also a longstanding steering and scientific committee member. There was positive feedback about Warwick as a venue on the whole. Niggles can be sorted. Ownership was discussed at the last meeting between the steering committee and the RCN. There are 2 options discussed in relation to the future of the conference:

- 1 We commission RCN to run it on our behalf
- 2 RCN formally adopt it

The first option entails sharing the financial risk of the conference and this is not something MHNAUK as a non-subscription organisation can do. The second option was agreed to be the most feasible and would involve the RCN formally adopting the conference and agreeing a service level agreement with MHNAUK to support it. Questions were raised at the meeting about longer term future of the conference and the rights over the use of the NPNR title should RCN choose to terminate their involvement. Michael agreed to feedback to the RCN contacts on this and seek answers to these queries. It was agreed pending satisfactory responses to these queries that Alan and Michael on behalf of MHNAUK enter into formal agreement with the RCN in regard to the NPNR conference.

Provisional dates for NPNR next year are 18th and 19th September 2014 at Warwick University.

### **Item 4: Dementia Care Statement**

Grahame Smith will circulate a draft document for comments from the group. We hope to then have a formal statement agreed at the Spring meeting.

### **Item 5: Doctoral Student Network**

**Julia Terry**

There was a meeting of a doctoral student strand staged as a fringe event at the NPNR conference. Julia will take the lead in engaging with doctoral students on behalf of the group and will email the group for names within our own institutions. Julia will use the Blog to communicate more widely with mental health nursing doctoral students and determine when this group might meet again.

### **Item 6: History**

**M Coffey**

Peter Nolan has been in touch with the group to raise the question about a mental health nursing historical archive. Does this group want to develop a historical archive? This would be likely to virtual/digital. MC will liaise with Manchester University and RCN to pursue this, and

the possibility of an allied historical interest group. Funding could then be sought. Ian Hullat mentioned that the RCN was pursuing something similar. If you are a MHNAUK member with an interest in history of the profession then please get in touch to get involved.

**Item 7: Journal  
Ben Hannigan**

A proposal has been written for a new journal on mental health nursing education and research. This was pitched to Sage who were very keen on the idea but minded to seek alliance with a subscription based organisation where members took the journal as part of their subscription. The plan would be for this journal to be affiliated with this group and draw its editorial board from within MHNAUK. Ben will pursue other publishers.

**Next meeting Feb 18th 2014 Lincoln University with a focus on physical health interventions presented by Jacque White and Patricia Ryan-Allen**

**Future dates and hosts for meetings**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Host</b>	<b>Link person</b>
18 <sup>th</sup> February 2014	Lincoln	Paul Linsley
12 <sup>th</sup> June 2014	South Bank London	Enkanah Soobadoo and Thomas Currid
Autumn 2014	Manchester	Steven Pryjmachuk and John Baker
Spring 2015	York	Liz Hughes
Summer 2015	IoP	Len Bowers
Autumn 2015	UCLan, Preston	Joy Duxbury and co
Spring 2016	University of West of Scotland, Paisley	Billy Mathers and Austyn Snowden