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## Members of the Trust January 2007 to January 2008

### *Honorary President*

Mrs Pamela Barnes

### *Chairman*

Mrs Suzanne Storer

### *Chief Registration Officer*

Mrs Carol Williams

### *Honorary Treasurer*

Mr Parmindar Kalra

### *Administrator/Secretary*

Mrs Ann Goodwin

### *Representing:*

Pre-school Learning Alliance

### *Registration Committee*

#### *Chairman*

Mrs Carol Williams

### *Board Members*

Mrs Wendy Brickett

Ms Tina Clegg

National Association of  
Hospital Play Specialists

Miss Lynn Churchouse

National Association of  
Hospital and Home Teachers

Mrs Judith Dibble

British Psychological Society

Mrs Norma Jun-Tai }

National Association of

Mrs Emma Mander }

Hospital Play Specialists

Mrs Janet Morris

Ms Jo Outteridge

Royal College of Nursing

Mrs Maureen O'Hagan

World Organisation for

MBE.

Early Years Education

Mrs Frances Barbour

HPSET Tutor

### *Legal Adviser*

Potter Rees

### *Independent Examiner of Financial Statements*

Hallidays Limited

Chartered Accountants

Portland Street, Manchester.

## Report from the Honorary President



Pamela Barnes  
Honorary  
President

It is always a pleasure to learn of the latest developments in the education and training process for Hospital Play Specialists. The Trust has worked tirelessly over the past year, building upon a firm foundation, well-established base.

In delivering professional training programmes there are many challenges that need addressing, including those that will ensure the programme is fit for purpose, requiring ongoing vigilance on behalf of the Board. This includes not only course content but registration and re-registration, an absolute "must" in today's professional world. In order to maintain a high quality profession, delivering a high quality service, education, training and professional recognition in the form of registration and re-registration is central to the process. This requires all graduates to understand the rationale behind this issue.

A further factor for the profession is in providing evidence on how their profession functions. Research is a way in which to further support and demonstrate the value of play. Hospital Play Specialists' time and skills are rightly focused on delivering a specialist service and have, to date, not fully accessed their role in research. Now is the time to become involved in research projects as part of clinical governance and evidence based practice. This may seem daunting for those delivering the service, however, it need not be stand-alone research. Combined research with other members of the multidisciplinary team is a very acceptable option. This was highlighted for me when I contributed to the Newcastle conference in October 2007, "Not Just Child's Play". It was an excellent conference demonstrating many aspects of multidisciplinary working methods.

I was excited to read of the developments in Japan regarding the commencement of their Hospital Play Specialist Programme. This is indeed excellent progress.

2008 looks to be a very active year for the Trust. It just remains for me to wish you all a successful 2008.

**Pamela A Barnes**

## Board Activities 2007



**Suzanne Storer**  
Chairman

As I reflect over the work and events of the Hospital Play Staff Education Trust during 2007 I note that time has raced by and another year is at an end.

We started the New Year in our usual way at the Annual General Meeting by saying farewell to Audrey Curtis who after many years as a loyal and hard working Trustee retired to enable her to indulge in her many interests including world travel and gardening.

With their expertise in training and education we were delighted when Janet Morris and Wendy Brickett became Trustees at the Annual General Meeting. In just a short while both became engaged in a sub-committee as well as making a significant contribution to the issues debated at meetings.

The future Programme of Study was at the top of the agenda and although we realised there would not be an easy solution to the issue we underestimated the complexity of the task. As ever, time is running out but I believe that the crucial elements for the future programme has to be accessible, fit for purpose and sustain us as we strive to join the Health Professions Council.

Apart from the usual business of registration of successful students and the re-registration of Hospital Play Staff our work this year has been quite varied.

The implementation of Agenda for Change across NHS Trusts has made a significant contribution to the work load of the administrator both in terms of qualified hospital play specialists and HR departments checking registrant's status as well as the queries regarding the grading criteria and the position of play assistants.

Disappointingly there has been a number of hospital play staff who although practising have allowed their registration to lapse. The issue identified by the diligence of college tutors when placing students for work experience can only strengthen the argument for mandatory regulation.



**Parmindar Kalra**  
Honorary  
Treasurer



**Ann Goodwin**  
**Administrator**

World-wide correspondence from play staff and educationalists has created very interesting dialogue during the year.

The University of Shizuoka Japan has plans to start their own training programme for Hospital Play Specialists in 2008. The Trustees were honoured when Professor Chika Matsudaira suggested an affiliation with HPSET to formally show their commitment to our high standards of practice.

Play staff from America, Australia and New Zealand have been enquiring about registering with HPSET when they come to work in the UK.

To enable this to happen it has been necessary for the Trustees to agree a rigorous policy and procedure which maintains the integrity of registering with HPSET.

A tentative expression of interest from Germany and Switzerland for hospital play to be provided has been received.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all Trustees for their time, energy, commitment, loyalty and sense of humour which has been an enormous help in dealing with the work this year.

**Suzanne Storer**



**Carol Williams**  
**Chief**  
**Registration**  
**Officer**

## **Report from the Chief Registration Officer**

The past year has been a most interesting one for me in my role as the Chief Registration Officer of the Hospital Play Staff Education Trust as all the colleges currently offering the course were due for revalidation. I visited Stanmore, Southwark, Stevenson, Bolton and North Warwickshire colleges and was very happy to be able to revalidate all five. I hope to be able to visit the two colleges in Ireland during 2008.

I was impressed by the manner in which the college staff had addressed the changes necessary to successfully deliver the current course at level four, particularly in light of the many



**Jo Outteridge**

management and funding restrictions placed upon them. All the tutors are working hard to maintain consistency of academic attainment and achievement whilst ensuring a high level of professional competence in the variety of training placements used. I have been pleased to be invited to attend tutors' meetings during the year and hope the direct link between them and the Trust has proved mutually beneficial.

The process of registration of new practitioners and re-registration of existing practitioners continues. In 2007 sixty five were admitted to the register and one hundred and seven were re-registered. Both figures are lower than we would like, the former of course explained by the drop in the number of colleges being able to offer the training.

Re-registration of existing practitioners remains disappointingly low, about fifty per cent, and I will make this issue a priority in the coming year. The Trust is able to ensure that all Hospital Play Specialists who are involved in the supervision of students are re-registered but we need to persuade all employers of Hospital Play Specialists to be as stringent as it is essential for the profession to maintain a high level of re-registration.

I should like to thank all the Trustees for their help and support, but in particular Ann Goodwin, without whom I would not be able to do my job.

**Carol Williams**



**Wendy Brickett**

## **Report from the New Course Working Group**

With the registration period for the current Advanced Diploma in Specialised Play due to reach its validation expiry date in September 2009, some discussion has already taken place regarding the future content, design and status of the qualification. Learning from the difficulties experienced in implementing the Advanced Diploma we now have the opportunity to develop a new programme of study leading to a professional qualification that fully reflects the changing role of the Play Specialist. A number of exploratory meetings have already taken



**Maureen OHagan**

place with external agencies who have expressed an interest in working with the Trust to develop such a programme. Edexcel, the partner validating body for the current Play Specialist qualification, are interested in expanding this into a full Higher National Certificate. Skills Active, the Sector Skills Council for Play, have expressed an interest in the Specialised Play qualification being included within their portfolio and consequently receiving their endorsement. Leeds Metropolitan University have also shown interest in developing a Foundation Degree in Specialised Play, whilst other universities have indicated that they would like to incorporate the Hospital Play Specialist options for the Advanced Diploma within their current degree programmes thus providing a dual qualification. A further route would be the development of a full degree programme.

The need to make a decision as to the way forward is clearly a priority in order to avoid the possibility of the development of a number of 'hybrid' models of the current qualification, Intrinsic to this is the need for consultation and discussion with all relevant interested parties to ensure that the new qualification is fit for purpose in that:

- It is able to meet the changing needs/direction of Healthcare
- It is a recognised qualification that stands alongside other qualifications that are regulated by the Health Professions Council
- It is accessible across the four nations with the option of including the Republic of Ireland
- It fully reflects the knowledge, skills and attributes that are the necessary requisites of today's Play Specialist.



**Judith Dibble**

It is intended that the consultative process should begin early in the New Year to enable a decision to be made without undue delay as to the most appropriate type and level of qualification for Play Specialism. This is likely to be quite a radical step change in the history of the qualification, but it does provide us with an exciting opportunity to develop a programme that will ensure the continuation of a knowledgeable and well trained professional workforce.

**Wendy Brickett**

# Health Professions Council Working Group Report



Norma Jun-Tai

The working party to progress an application for regulation by the Health Professions Council was re-convened in 2007.

Members of the Group consisting of representatives from both the National Association of Hospital Play Staff and the Hospital Play Staff Education Trust have reviewed the previous information gathered, identified the areas of weakness and tasked individuals to progress specific pieces of work.

Members of the National Association have been canvassed to submit details of published material that supports or refers to the work of the Hospital Play Specialist or the value of play in the hospital setting. Literature which underpins the work of the hospital play specialist is particularly difficult to identify and poses a challenge to us all.

A detailed survey to members will further assist with specific data required to progress the application.

Ongoing work with the National Executive committee will provide a mission statement in support of the occupations scope of practice.

The process to become regulated by the Health Professions Council remains lengthy and complicated and I particularly appreciate the optimism of members of the working party in helping the profession to move forward.

Norma Jun-Tai

## Tutors Representative's Report



Frances Barbour

The Tutors continue to meet three times a year. This affords us the opportunity to share good practice, and to keep abreast of developments which directly affect our teaching of the Hospital Play Specialist's course. As the number of colleges offering the course has reduced over the last three years, the number of Tutors and programmes leaders attending meetings is at an all-



Lynn Churchouse

time low. It is for this reason that we are particularly appreciative of the support offered by individuals from the Hospital Play Staff Education Trust and the National Association of Hospital Play Staff, who find time in their busy schedule to attend. This collaborative working practice allows us to discuss both the present programme and, importantly, possible requirements for future Hospital Play Specialist training.

The existing course has another two years to run in its present format. The Tutors are aware of both the stronger and weaker aspects of the course, from their own and the student's perspective. We now need to look at the positive aspects of all our past training, building on these to produce a course of study that will give consideration to the needs of our profession, as well as addressing paediatric health care and how it will be delivered in the future.

**Frances Barbour**

## **Report from the National Association of Hospital Play Staff**

The National Association of Hospital Play Staff maintains its strong link with the Hospital Play Staff Education Trust by having three members of the National Executive Committee fully participating in the work of the organisation.

During 2007 we have been involved in discussions regarding the current programme of study, for which the validation period is due to end in 2009, and the initial investigations for a programme of study which will be fit for purpose.

With the Governments expectations for the future health care provision it is crucial that the profession is appropriately trained in order for Hospital Play Specialists to meet the demands of their role. We are grateful for the efforts of the Trustees who continue to strive for the most suitable educational package for the profession and look forward to progressing the work in 2008.



Tina Clegg



**Emma Mander**

NAHPS is delighted to welcome Sue Ware as the new editor of the Journal; Sue has taken over from Sandra Dumitrescu who after many years on the NEC and specifically as editor has retired from the committee. The Future Events team did an excellent job last year, particularly successful were the afternoon workshops and Hugh Jolly Lecture in November. They are now working hard to finalise this years' conference and workshops which promise to be informative and highly relevant to the profession. The publications committee has been hard at work on updating the series of Play Focus booklets. These popular resources have a new look and continue to provide useful information to anyone providing play for sick children.

Last year I was invited to speak at the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary conference of the Japanese Medical Nursery Nurse Academic Committee held at the University of Shizuoka. There were over 400 delegates and the conference generated a great deal of interest regarding the role of Hospital Play Specialists. The university has now received funding from the Ministry of Education to train the first cohort of student HPS in Japan commencing in February. I have been invited back to teach the first week of the programme, followed by Frances Barbour HPS tutor at Stevenson College. Frances and I are delighted to be part of this historic event although grateful to the ground work already established by our former chair of NAHPS and president of HPSET Mrs. Pamela Barnes.

**Norma Jun-Tai**



**Janet Morris**

## **The Bottom Line!**

"Who knows the thoughts of a child?"

**Nora Perry (1831-1896)**

"Children require guidance and sympathy far more than instruction"

**Anne Sullivan (1866-1936)**

"Education is what survives when what has been learned has been forgotten"

**B.F. Skinner (1904 - 1990)**

**HOSPITAL PLAY STAFF EDUCATION TRUST  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2007**

	<b>Total Funds 2007</b>	<b>Total Funds 2006</b>
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		
Incoming resources from generating funds:		
Investment income	1,947	1,461
Incoming resources from activities charitable	10,615	2,868
Other incoming resources	<u>347</u>	<u>651</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	<b><u>12,909</u></b>	<b><u>14,980</u></b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		
Charitable activities	(1,958)	(3,059)
Governance Costs	<u>(3,620)</u>	<u>(5,792)</u>
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<b><u>(5,578)</u></b>	<b><u>(8,851)</u></b>
<b>NET INCOMING RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>7,331</b>	<b>6,129</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>		
Total funds brought forward	<u>43,586</u>	<u>37,457</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<b><u>50,917</u></b>	<b><u>43,586</u></b>

The statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.  
All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

**BALANCE SHEET AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2007**

	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		
Investments	32,000	32,000
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash at bank	20,122	12,174
<b>CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	<u>(1,205)</u>	<u>(588)</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>18,917</b>	<b>11,586</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b><u>50,917</u></b>	<b><u>43,586</u></b>
<b>FUNDS</b>		
Unrestricted income funds	<u>50,917</u>	<u>43,586</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b><u>50,917</u></b>	<b><u>43,586</u></b>

These financial statements were approved by members of the committee on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2007 and signed on their behalf by:

**MR P.S. KALRA**  
Treasurer

**MRS S. STORER**  
Chairman

A full copy of the financial accounts may be obtained on request from the office