We are very pleased to relaunch the Sandyford Star. Things have been so busy of late that there has not been time to publish an edition for a while, so this contains lots of information of interest to everyone who works for Sandyford, and to all of our colleagues and partners in other agencies.

The last year has seen a lot of developments. We have continued to improve sexual health services in Greater and Glasgow and Clyde and there will soon be Sandyford Hubs across the whole region offering services to women, men and young people that have never been available before in community settings. These services have been devised by a management group that includes ex-Clyde staff, and are run by an integrated staff team under the banner of Sandyford. In the last few months the final Glasgow Hub has been opened, Sandyford Southwest - in Pollok by the new Silverburn Shopping Mall, and in the next 6 months, we are planning to open Sandyford Renfrewshire at the Russell Institute in Paisley.

Partnership working is central to modern sexual health services and at the heart of Respect and Responsibility - Scotland’s first national sexual health strategy that was published in 2005. Sandyford staff work with others to improve sexual health services and one of the most significant partnerships led to the development of Archway Glasgow - Scotland’s first integrated sexual assault referral centre (SARC). See page 4.

We have had some other major service changes in the last year. The Steve Retson Project, our sexual health service for gay men, has now moved its Thursday night outreach session. One session a week still take place at Sandyford, but in April 2007, the outreach session at the LGBT centre in Dixon Street relocated (along with the Centre) to a new building in the Merchant City area. This has been very successful, the facilities are much improved, and the service is very busy.

As this brief overview shows, life has not been static in Sandyford in the last year, and service numbers remain high, with new users finding us all the time. We will continue to provide accessible and quality services to all our users and ensure that we remain at the forefront of promoting the sexual health and wellbeing to all parts of the population.

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Sandyford
NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde
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Sauchiehall Street
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Everyone is welcome at Sandyford Library and Information Services! Situated in the main foyer area of Sandyford (Glasgow’s main centre for sexual, reproductive and emotional health) in Sauchiehall Street, the lending library provides books, DVDs, CDs, leaflets on all aspects of health and wellbeing, including pregnancy and babycare, self esteem, relationships, menopause, eating disorders, violence and abuse, sex and sexual problems, men’s health, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) issues, healthy living and much more. You can use your current Glasgow Community Libraries card to borrow books, or sign up here. Books can be returned to any Glasgow Community Library, and our stock can be sent out to any local library on request. Library holdings can be checked online at www.libcat.glasgow.gov.uk

Recent additions - over the past few months we have been adding lots of exciting new books on a huge range of health and wellbeing subjects to stock. With our brand new signage and library guides as well as the shiny new books, the library is looking terrific, even if we say so ourselves! It’s great to see so many of you using the facilities – we’d like to see even more of you though. Why not pop in and see for yourself? Remember to direct your clients along too, to pick up useful information following their consultations. As if all this wasn’t enough, we have even more brand new equipment to offer! Only last month we received a total refresh of all our public internet PCs in the foyer. With modern flatscreen monitors and a new printer we have a great online facility to offer staff and the public – unique in NHS settings!

Coming soon at the Staff Library at Claremont House - The Staff Library stocks clinical books and journals and is just about to add new signage and shelf guides to make it easier for you to find the information you need. Suggestions for additions to stock are always welcome. Sandyford staff can access the Staff Library directly, other NHS staff should contact the library staff first.

Sandyford Counselling and Support Services (formerly the Centre for Women’s Health) on the second floor of the Sandyford now offers services to men as well as women. Library & Information Services here provide a public internet PC and mobile display racks ensuring clients have access to the information they need. The scope of information displayed has been extended to include resources of benefit to men and couples.

Sandyford Library on the intranet – within the next few weeks watch out for updated library information on Staffnet, including a link to our database of sexual, reproductive and emotional health leaflets in a wide range of languages.

Learn Direct With an ever-increasing choice of online courses available via LearningBytes and Knowledgenet, ranging from short fun ones, to in-depth longer term courses to help with KSFs, online learning has something for everyone. Sandyford staff can call in or contact the library, and staff will be happy to help you find your ideal course.

Sandyford Hubs - Sandyford is extending its services across NHSGGC with a Hub planned for each CHCP area. Library & Information services here include a selection of useful resources for both clinical staff and clients as well as links to local authority library services. There is also free public internet access, and topical health information on display, e.g. World AIDS Day, Breast Awareness Month. More information on the Sandyford Hubs located across the NHSGGC area can be found on the website www.sandyford.org

The library is open:

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Doreen Rhodes / Fiona Walker
Library and Information Services Manager, 0141 211 6717
Sandyfordlib@ggc.scot.nhs.uk
www.sandyford.org
There have been a lot of changes to the young people’s service in the last year or so, as most people are aware! As each hub opens, a young people’s clinic is incorporated into the hub, and these are generally proving to be a success. We have also opened a youth priority satellite clinic in Clarkston, and this has been exceptionally well attended in the four months it’s been running. The next development will be a young people’s service in Drumchapel, in partnership with the West CHCP.

Trish Keogh, the young people’s alcohol worker, has been tirelessly working to establish a research project offering alcohol screening & brief interventions to young people with problem drinking – this will commence in November & December with the support of the Place nurses. Trish also takes direct referrals of young people in Glasgow who have concern about their own or a loved one’s alcohol or drug use, and referral forms are available in the staff bases.

Be Books has won major awards in the advertising industry including Yellow Pencil at D&AD (First time in Scotland for 11 years), Gold at the Roses and 3 awards at this years Scottish Advertising Awards including “Client of the Year” for the partnership.

Independent evaluation has been concluded and the results are very positive.

Quotes from young people who saw the resources:
“Wait until you are ready”
“You shouldn’t listen to what everyone else is saying”
Get a boyfriend you can trust don’t listen to people who are just trying to make themself look big”
“Wait till you and partner are ready”
“Don’t do it if you don’t want to”
“Have sex when you are ready”
“Don’t rush into having sex if your not ready and don’t be worried about what people will think”
“Don’t feel pressured to have sex”
“Regret having sex too early - wait till your older”
“Don’t get pressured into doing things because other people are doing it”

The Steve Retson Project on a Thursday evening has moved with The Glasgow Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgendered Centre to new premises in Bell Street. The clinic is open form 5.30 p.m. until 8.30 p.m. This is a lovely new centre in the centre of town. We have a purpose built suite of rooms in the basement of the centre.

Sandyford Central Clinic is open on a Tuesday and Wednesday evening from 5.30 p.m. until 8.30 p.m.
From July 2005 to June 2006 there were 260 rapes recorded by Strathclyde Police. There are major consequences of rape and sexual assault, which are a cost to both the individual and society. These consequences include injuries, short and long term mental health problems, relationship/family breakdown and employment problems. In turn, these constitute major public health, social and economic issues.

Currently the low level of reporting and subsequent convictions ensures that perpetrators remain undetected and at risk of committing further crime.

In 2002, the Glasgow Violence Against Women Partnership (GVAWP) agreed to set up a process to review the current response to rape and sexual assault in Glasgow and to bring forward recommendations. A working group was established of representatives from (the former) NHS GG, Rape Crisis, Strathclyde Police, Procurator Fiscal, Sandyford Initiative, NHS GGC Child Protection, Reproductive Health Service and Glasgow City Council.

On the basis of reviewing current weaknesses and gaps in services in Glasgow, the Working Group recommended that a Rape and Sexual Assault Referral Centre should be established.

Archway Glasgow operates within the context of the UN definition of male violence that has been adopted by the Glasgow Violence Against Women Partnership. It is informed by a social model of health and operates a co-ordinated approach that is based on respect for the dignity and integrity of the survivor as an individual and is responsive to the whole person and to their specific needs throughout the process of disclosure, reporting, investigation, prosecution and recovery following a rape or assault.

Partner agencies work together to ensure that all staff involved in each stage of the service delivery process recognise the social context within which rape and sexual assault occurs, and the need for their practice to be informed by an awareness and sensitivity to the social and cultural factors which shape the lives of those using the service. This entails staff providing a service that is tailored to gender, sexuality, ethnicity and ability of service users at every stage. At a practical level this means ensuring a sufficiency of female forensic medical examiners to guarantee access to a female examiner unless the survivor chooses otherwise, ensuring effective arrangements are in place for female language interpreters, including British Sign Language interpreters to be available when needed and ensuring staff are proactive in recognising and addressing additional barriers survivors may have in accessing all aspects of the service.

**BENEFITS OF SERVICE DEVELOPMENT**

Bringing together forensic, health and support services within the Archway will provide an integrated service of enhanced quality. In doing so, the service will meet the following aims:

- Increase rate of disclosure of rape and sexual assault
- Increase rate of reporting to police
- Reduce levels of attrition
- Reduce short and long term effects on survivors of rape and sexual assault

The Glasgow Archway has been established as a three year pilot initially and will be evaluated as to its potential to act as a model for the rest of Scotland. The funding partners are The Scottish Executive, Strathclyde Police, NHS GGC, Glasgow City Council.

**STAFF**

- Lead Clinician
- 2 Consultant Doctors
- Project Manager
- Lead Nurse
- Deputy Lead Nurse
- Admin assistant
- Support Worker (part time)
- 3 Counsellors
- A bank of specialist forensic examiners and on call doctors (approx 16) and on call nurses (approx 24)
IT update

New Nash IT product

Several Sandyford staff are very involved in procurement of the new national web-based sexual health clinical information system. This is launching in Lanarkshire in the Autumn, followed by rollout to Ayrshire after Christmas and Glasgow after March 2008. This will be the last major IT change ever (I hope!) but will obviously require significant retraining, organisation and work. A major challenge for us is to replicate all the information and flexibility we have with a locally developed system. What we hope though is that you will all much prefer the new modern interface and not miss all the funny quirks in CP2!

Website News

The Sandyford website is currently being rebuilt and we hope to launch in January. It will merge the Sandyford websites and the site from Argyll & Clyde with a look that is consistent with the Sandyford branding and will have new features such as rss feed and sms texting facilities.

Hub Rollout

It has been a busy time over the last few months with some new hubs starting up. The most recent additions are Sandyford East Renfrew (Barrhead) and Boglestone Clinic; this is a satellite of Inverclyde Hub. Both these locations have now gone paperlite with more locations to follow soon.

The current focus is Sandyford South West, this Hub opened on the 26th September 2007.

Clydebank Clinic is also in the process of becoming paperlite, with all the IT equipment now installed and staff training taking place. We are now in the process of setting up the clinics on ClinicPro2 and they went live at the end of September.

Sandyford Learning and Education update

Learning and education are essential requirements for Sandyford staff to keep up to date with skills and current evidence and practice, as well as to link into national and local health priorities and planning. Health staff in a range of disciplines also undertake training placements at Sandyford. Equity of access to learning and education opportunities and resources is a high priority for Sandyford.

As well as providing a range of formal learning for staff, we support flexible learning, including attending conferences and seminars, e-learning and ‘shadowing’ opportunities. There are a number of challenges for Sandyford to address and overcome in ensuring equity of access to learning and education for all staff groups, and to fit in with working patterns and geographical locations.

Sandyford has recently developed its first Learning and Education Plan that aims to develop new thinking about staff training. A short-life multi-disciplinary Sandyford Learning and Education Working Group will be established in Autumn 2007 to oversee and monitor this plan and to ensure inclusion of all staff needs – linked to Sandyford’s Senior Management Team. A benchmarking exercise will be undertaken by the end of March 2008 by the Sandyford Learning and Education Working Group to identify access to / resources for learning and education activities highlighted in this Learning and Education Plan along with an Action Plan that will then be implemented.

If anyone would like a copy of the plan, please contact: gail.cairns@ggc.scot.nhs.uk
DIPLOMA OF FACULTY OF FAMILY PLANNING
(DFFP Course)
(Modules 1 – 6 of DFFP) (Includes STIF qualification) Campanile Hotel, Glasgow
4th & 5th March and 13th & 14th March 2008
3rd & 4th June and 12th & 13th June 2008
2nd & 3rd Sept and 11th & 12th September 2008
4 day course open to medical postgraduate professionals - May be completed in a modular way throughout the year - COST: £100 per day (including lunch)

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTION FOUNDATION COURSE
(STIF Course)
(Modules 5 & 6 of DFFP) Campanile Hotel, Glasgow
6th & 7th February 2008
4th & 5th March 2008
3rd & 4th June 2008
2nd & 3rd September 2008
- Multidisciplinary course open to medical, nursing and other health professionals – COST: £100 per day (including lunch)

2008 SEXUAL HEALTH SYMPOSIUM & LOCK LECTURE
One day symposium on HIV & Sexual Health. The Lock Lecture will be delivered on Tuesday 26th February 2008
Royal College of Physicians & Surgeons, Glasgow
For further information contact helen.brown@rcpsglasg.ac.uk
Tel 0141 227 3236
Booking on line available

UPDATE IN SEXUAL HEALTH FOR NURSES
Information day for nursing staff working within general practice
FP, GU Medicine and other interested specialties Campanile Hotel, Glasgow
March 2008 – date to be confirmed

PSYCHOSEXUAL BASIC MEDICINE SEMINARS
(In conjunction with Institute of Psychosexual Medicine. London)
Requires commitment to one afternoon per month January – March / April – June / Sept – Dec 2008
Held within Sandyford Initiative, Glasgow

EDUCATION DAY FOR COUNSELLORS
Education on the physical side of client’s problems
Campanile Hotel, Glasgow
April 2008 – date to be arranged

FOUNDATION SEXUAL PROBLEMS
2 day course open to any relevant professional who swishes to expand their basic knowledge in sexual problems and sexuality.
Campanile Hotel, Glasgow
September 2008 – date to be confirmed
Cost - £250 for 2 days

LETTER OF COMPETENCE IN MEDICAL EDUCATION (LoC Med)
Applications are invited from accredited Diplomates of the Faculty of Family Planning who are actively involved in FP & RHC working equivalent to 100 sessions in past year
Campanile Hotel, Glasgow
21st & 22nd May 2008 (2 day course)
Cost - £250

ANNUAL SEXUAL & REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH-CARE REGISTERED TRAINERS’ MEETING
Tuesday 21st October, 2008
(Half day afternoon meeting for Registered Trainers working in the West of Scotland)
Campanile Hotel, Glasgow

UPDATE IN CONTRACEPTION & SEXUAL HEALTH
For Community Staff wising to update in Sexual & Reproductive Health Care
Campanile Hotel, Glasgow
25th November 2008
(cost - £100 for medical / £50 for nursing staff)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING ANY OF THE ABOVE COURSES - PLEASE CONTACT
EILEEN ELDER, TRAINING CO-ORDINATOR
SANDYFORD, GLASGOW TRAINING 2008
The following training is open to the West of Scotland GP Rotation Scheme, all GP’s, Practice Nurses, Family Planning and GU Medical and Nursing Staff and anyone who has an interest in sexual and reproductive health within primary and secondary care.
Sandyford Counselling and Support Services (SCASS)

I am a relatively new counsellor at Sandyford, having been here since February this year. My post is 18 hours and is to provide a counselling service for the Sandyford East (Parkhead), Inverclyde and South West Hubs. Each hub has welcomed the introduction of a listening ear service and full counselling service. At Inverclyde and East, I offer a full day session and have just started, on a temporary basis, at South West (Pollok).

Personally, I think counselling is an important part of the hub teams. It takes time to build up the service, but I have found that clients like to come and see someone closer to home in an environment where they feel relaxed in. All the Hub staff have made me feel very welcome and provide excellent counselling accommodation. The Lead Nurses have taken the time and effort to make the counselling rooms both comfortable and professional.

The client lists are growing at each of the hubs. I have 3 other counselling colleagues who offer services at South East (Govanhill), North (Springburn) and East Renfrewshire (Barrhead); our Listening Ear worker also offers a half day session at South East. Our remit is to offer short term counselling to both men, women and young people. Obviously we have the contact of the main service at Sandyford Central where we can refer clients onto, eg couple counselling, Steve Retson, Thrive, Eating Disorders, etc.

Working within a multi-disciplinary team, I think, is very exciting. It is useful to see at first hand what our medical colleagues do and how counselling can help complement their work by being there to offer emotional support to the patients. I have found that being on shift at a ‘drop-in’ has allowed hub staff to refer directly to me, on the same day, someone in emotional crises. I have been able to offer support and do an assessment there and then and put them on the list for regular sessions. Also, it gives the medical staff a chance to see what counsellors do and communicate with us directly.

I feel the counselling service can only go from strength to strength at the Hubs. The teams are very professionally run and counselling is fitting in well. To offer services in the client’s own community is being welcomed and appreciated. Hopefully we can expand the counselling provision at the Hubs and begin to offer more individual slots and some group work. In such a short period of time, counselling has made a difference to the menu of services offered at the Hubs and, hopefully, this can only have benefited the clients.

For more information on counselling at the Hubs, please contact SCASS on 0141 211 6700 or any of the Hubs directly.

Alison McKenzie, Counsellor

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Sexual Health Action Plan for Working with African Communities

In the UK and indeed NHS Greater Glasgow nad Clyde, men who have sex with men and individuals from sub-Saharan Africa are disproportionately affected by HIV. Work is ongoing with men who have sex with men to ensure their needs are being met and a similar process has recently started to ensure the sexual health service needs of Africans living within NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde are being met.

Following on from community consultation and a multiagency/partner action planning event, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde has been developing a strategic plan which seeks to address the needs and issues identified through both consultation and action planning event and research from around the UK and wider.

A multiagency steering group including individuals from Sandyford is currently actioning this plan which seeks to tackle a range of issues including lack of awareness of sexual health services. The plan will be worked on throughout 2008 - 2009 and it is anticipated that much more involvement and engagement with Africans living in NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde will take place during this period in relation to sexual well being.

We Welcome your Feedback on this newsletter

Please send you comments to:
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Email: jan.irving@ggc.scot.nhs.uk