

Be Inspired!

A conference organised by the
Social Worker's Educational Trust

Wednesday 25th April 2007
City Conference Centre, 89 Coleman Street, London EC2R 6BJ

“ The International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) recognises that social work originates variously from humanitarian, religious and democratic ideals and philosophies; and that it has universal application to meet human needs arising from personal-societal interactions, and to develop human potential.

Professional social workers are dedicated to service for the welfare and self-fulfilment of human beings; to the development and disciplined use of scientific knowledge regarding human behaviour and society; to the development of resources to meet individual, group, national and international needs and aspirations; to the enhancement and

improvement of the quality of life of people; and to the achievement of social justice.

The social work profession promotes social change, problem solving in human relationships and the empowerment and liberation of people to enhance well-being. Utilising theories of human behaviour and social systems, social work intervenes at the points where people interact with their environments. Principles of human rights and social justice are fundamental to social work ”

IFSW Definition of Social Work 2007

Sponsored by



Programme

9.15 am	REGISTRATION & COFFEE
9.45 am	Chair's welcome & opening remarks BRENDA TOWARD Chairperson, Social Worker's Educational Trust
10.00 am	Where does inspiration come from? SHIRLEY AYRES Social Thinker, Social Worker, Chartered Marketer and Communications Specialist
10.30 am	Transforming society: a new partnership between people who use services and social workers SIMON DUFFY National Director, In-Control
11.00 am	Developing the evidence base for social work: the importance of practitioner research MARTIN WEBBER Programme Leader, MSc in Mental Health Social Work with Children & Adults, Institute of Psychiatry/Kings College and member of the Advanced Practice Social Work Network (APSWN)
11.15 am	BREAK
11.30 am	Showcasing Practitioner Research and Publications <ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ DAVE PITCHER <i>Meet the Family</i>, a study of the relationships between adopted children and their new grandparents.▶ KARIN SLACK <i>Support Needs of Children</i> whose parents have a mental illness.▶ SALLY MENDHAM <i>Dementia Carers</i> – What else besides information?▶ SHIRLEY WILLIAMS <i>Leadership and Management</i> – What really works?▶ PAM SMART <i>Voyage of the Outsider</i> – surviving child abuse▶ CATHERINE POULTER <i>Working across professional boundaries</i> – providing the best outcomes for older people
12.45	Plenary Session
1.00 pm	LUNCH
2.00pm	What values are important to a social entrepreneur? JASON PEGLER Chief Executive Officer, Chipmunka Publishing
2.40 pm	What inspires you in social work? OWEN DAVIES Head of Policy Development, GSCC
3.00 pm	BREAK
3.20 pm	A society without values has no value Question Time and Panel Discussion DAVID BRINDLE Society Guardian (chair) DAVID JONES President, International Federation of Social Workers JENNIFER ORGILL Social Worker and Chair of BASW IMELDA REDMOND Chief Executive, Carers UK
4.30 pm	Chair's closing remarks
4.45 pm	CLOSE

Speakers

BRENDA TOWARD (CONFERENCE CHAIR)

Having qualified as a social worker in 1968, Brenda worked as a child care officer and team manager, then as a part-time fostering social worker, lecturer and tutor, and job-share team manager whilst bringing up her two children.

As her children moved towards independence, Brenda moved into more senior management in Social Services as an area manager in inner city Bradford and then as Head of Northern England regional office for the Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work (CCETSW). Returning to Social Services, this time in Wakefield, as Head of Service Provision in 1996, she subsequently became Head of Children's Services on reorganisation.

Since 2001, Brenda has worked as an independent consultant in health and social care management, combining this with being a Non- Executive Director of Bradford District Care Trust and more recently, acting Chair.

Brenda has been a trustee of the Social Workers Educational Trust for 10 years and she became the Chair in 2004.

SHIRLEY AYRES

Shirley Ayres began her social work career with a national children's charity establishing innovative community based projects for troubled and troublesome young people. She was awarded an international scholarship in the 1980s and completed a post-graduate diploma in criminology at the Law School Sydney University, Australia.

In the 1990s Shirley held the position of Chief Officer at GLPQ, a charity and company limited by guarantee responsible for the post qualifying education and training of social workers in London. GLPQ became a nationally recognised and independent voice for the issues confronting social work practitioners.

In 2005 Shirley established a new Communications Consultancy. Her work draws upon her qualifications and experience in social work, marketing, ethics, criminology, leadership and management. She works with a growing number of associates who provide complementary skills, knowledge and expertise. This enables the consultancy to provide unique perspectives on the development of innovative responses to the challenges facing an increasingly complex and disconnected society.

Shirley is a respected commentator on issues of communication and diversity in the care sector and on the particular challenges involved in securing the meaningful co-operation of diverse stakeholders including service

users and carers. She is currently involved in a number of ventures which are exploring the potential of the internet to enable communities of interest to connect and network more effectively.

DAVID BRINDLE

David Brindle is public services editor of The Guardian. He has been with the paper since 1988 and has specialised in social policy writing and editing. He was previously labour correspondent of the Financial Times and began his career with the Coventry Evening Telegraph. He has won awards for his coverage of social services, mental health, disability and nursing issues and has recently been chosen to receive the Social Care Association's 2007 merit award. He is a trustee of 2Care, a charity providing mental health rehabilitation services and care for people with dementia, and is vice-chair of Mental Health Media, a charity working to improve media representation of mental health.

OWEN DAVIES

After a first degree in history, Owen Davies qualified as a social worker at Sussex University in 1972. He worked in social services departments until 1978 when he joined the union NALGO as a regional officer. He served the union (which became a part of UNISON) in various roles at regional and national level for over 25 years. For a number of years he represented a range of technical and professional staff in the NHS and was one of the team of five union officers who led the ambulance dispute in 1989. From 1999 to 2006 he led for the union on social care issues and served on various bodies including Skills for Care and the group which produced the "Safer Place" report about preventing violent attacks on care workers. In February 2006 he joined the General Social Care Council (GSCC) as Head of Policy Development.

He is an enthusiastic amateur choral singer and has sung with a number of choirs in oratorios and operas

SIMON DUFFY

Simon is Director of In Control: a national programme to transform social care into a system of self-directed support. Simon is the author of Keys to Citizenship and has worked in the UK and abroad to demonstrate how disabled people can control their own support.

In the early 1990s Simon developed a system of individual funding and brokerage in London. In 1994 Simon was a Harkness Fellow, researching inclusive education in the USA. In 1996 Simon set up Inclusion Glasgow (offering individualised support to people leaving institutions) and

Speakers (continued)

several other organisations, including Altrum (a federation of person-centred organisations).

Simon has a PhD in philosophy and is interested in improving theories of ethics and social justice to reflect the experiences of disabled people; he is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. He lives in Sheffield with his wife Nicola and their son Jacob.

DAVID N JONES

David N Jones is a Registered Social Worker and President of the International Federation of Social Workers. He is a part-time Children's Services Inspector with the new Ofsted in England whilst also developing independent practice. He advised the Department of Health (2006) and Department for Education and Skills (2003-6) and served in the Joint Review team (2000-2003).

David was formerly Director of Operations at the Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work and General Secretary of the British Association of Social Workers. He has published and spoken extensively on social work practice and social service management in the UK and overseas.

JENNIFER ORGILL

Jennifer is Chair of the British Association of Social Workers (BASW) and was instrumental in the establishment of the London Anti Racist Social Work Support Group with the support of BASW.

After qualifying as a social worker in 1993, Jennifer worked for Birmingham Social Services adult services team, rapidly becoming an expert in adult protection investigations. It was at this time that Jennifer's interest in practice learning started.

In 2000 Jennifer passed her Accredited Practice Teacher's Award and after seven years of working as a social worker, Jennifer was appointed as a practice teacher/placement co-ordinator for Birmingham's training department. Jennifer was awarded her CTP (Certificate in Training Practice) in 2001 and is a member of the Chartered Institute for Professional development.

Jennifer moved to London in 2002 and is a director of her own company, Social Works Limited. She has worked as a tutor, practice teacher and trainer with South Bank, Goldsmiths and Brunel Universities. Jennifer has worked as a trainer with a number of other organisations, including Methodist homes association and Nottingham Hostels Liaison Group. To ensure her practice remains up-to-date, Jennifer works periodically as a locum social worker and has worked as a team manager

in a number of London boroughs. Jennifer has also been employed as an independent complaints officer by social service departments in London.

Jennifer is a member of the Social Care Institute for Excellence's quality assurance advisory group and is the London representative for the National Organisation for Practice Teaching.

JASON PEGLER

At only 30 years of age Jason Pegler was the New Statesman's Young Social Entrepreneur of The Year 2005. Jason Pegler is one of the most inspirational mental health empowerment speakers in the world. He is probably unique in his openness about using his own mental illness as a positive force, in order to lead a generation of people to be empowered. They can do this by confronting their mental illness and therefore taking the first steps to recovery.

In 2002 Jason Pegler is the CEO of Chipmunk publishing "The Mental Health Publisher" which was launched as a social enterprise. He is the author of three books: the autobiography *A Can of Madness* which has sold over 250,000 copies worldwide, *Curing Madness* and *The Ultimate Guide To Well Being*. In 2004 he set up The Chipmunka Foundation to become the world's most effective mental health charity. Jason is also a rap artist and internationally recognised social entrepreneur.

Chipmunk publishing has published over 300 books and is recognised as the number one Mental Health Publisher in the world. Jason can be contacted through www.chipmunkpublishing.com, www.chipmunkafoundation.org and at jasonpegler@yahoo.com

IMELDA REDMOND

Imelda joined Carers UK in January 1998 as Director of Development. In May 2000 Imelda was appointed to the position of Deputy Chief Executive with a remit to lead the organisation's activities on policy and campaigning, advice and information, training and development of new projects.

Imelda was appointed Chief Executive of Carers UK in September 2003. She has been appointed to the National Leadership Council of the Department of Health and the National Stakeholders Forum at the Department of Health.

Immediately prior to her joining Carers UK, Imelda was a Director of a charity providing a range of services to families with disabled children. She is the Vice Chair of Contact a Family, a national charity for families with disabled children.

MARTIN WEBBER

Stimulated by studying the history of communism at school, he read history at the University of York and majored in radical political movements and modern social history. He graduated in 1994 and came to London intent on a career in social work. Initially he worked as a support worker in a residential home for adults with a learning disability, rising to deputy manager before leaving to undertake his social work training at Royal Holloway, University of London. He completed his MSc in Social Work and Diploma in Social Work in 1999.

Following up his interest in the particular needs of people with mental health problems, he worked as a social worker in a community mental health team in the Royal Borough of Kingston-upon-Thames for three years. This included performing statutory functions as an Approved Social Worker

and undertaking a piece of practitioner research on social exclusion and the use of the emergency civil section of the Mental Health Act 1983.

In 2002 he obtained a Department of Health Social Science Fellowship at the Institute of Psychiatry, Kings College London. Supervised by Professor Peter Huxley, he completed an MSc in Mental Health Services Research and undertook PhD research on the role of social capital on recovery from depression, which he is currently writing up. Since September 2006 he has been Programme Leader of the MSc in Mental Health Social Work, a course for experienced social workers who wish to acquire research training and become advanced practitioners. He is also currently working on further grant applications to develop his research interests in social inclusion, social capital and mental health social work.

Practitioner Research and Publications

Previous winners of SWET research awards are among six practitioners and researchers who will run workshops and share their findings about the knowledge and wisdom they have gained which has influenced their practice in social work and social care.

1) **Workshop Title: “Meet the Family”, a study of the relationships between adopted children and their new grandparents.**

Presenter: Dave Pitcher

Kinship care provided by grandparents was the inspiration for this study which explores how relationships form, and how family members manage the sense of difference that adoption brings. The findings should be of great value to social workers as they plan and support placements, to adoptive families and should be transferable to related fields, such as step families, foster families and others.

David will present his research findings, discuss his methodology provide an account of the issues involved in undertaking research as a full time practitioner.

David Pitcher is a senior practitioner in a child care team with Plymouth City Council, where he has worked for 15 years, and is a qualified and practising Family Mediator. He also set up the support group for grandparent carers ‘Parents Again’ and is the Social Work Advisor to the Grandparents’ Association. David has won two national awards: the British Association of Social Workers’ award [Advanced 2002] and the John Haynes Memorial Prize [2003], for a contribution to family mediation. David is currently working towards a PhD with the Tavistock Clinic in London.

2) **Workshop Title: Support needs of children whose parents have a mental illness**

Presenter: Karin Slack

The impact of parental mental health problems on children is well known. Research has shown, however, that their very existence may fail to be recorded by adult psychiatric services, let alone their needs considered or addressed. Karin Slack shares findings from her recent research which explores the attitudes and practices of mental health professionals in Kingston upon Thames and found that social workers were significantly less likely than other professionals to indicate their practice did not support the needs of children affected by their parent’s mental ill-health.

Karin will discuss the impact of parental mental illness on children plus offer useful guidance on how to promote the resilience of young people, followed by a discussion.

Karin Slack is currently a senior practitioner/Approved Social Worker with the Royal Borough of Kingston and the New Malden Community Mental Health Teams. She qualified as a social worker in 1996 and holds an MSc in Mental Health Social Work with Children and Adults. Karin is skilled and experienced in working with a variety of therapeutic interventions including supportive counselling, Cognitive Behavioural Therapy, Brief Solution Focussed Therapy, and is currently training in Family Therapy.

Practitioner Research and Publications (continued)

3) **Workshop Title: Dementia Carers – What else besides information?**

Presenter: Sally Mendham

Carers' perceptions of local Carers' Information Groups attended four to five years previously formed the basis of this research. Findings supported the continuation of such groups as a range of available interventions for carers together with services aimed at reflecting the person-centred approaches promoted by the groups and adopted by the carers. A strong theme of the temporal nature of caring, the concept of the development of carer "wisdom" and a strong appreciation of accompanying printed information, also emerged from the study.

Sally Mendham qualified as a social worker in 1973 and has worked in medical, psychiatric and community settings. Sally has specialised in dementia care and in working with carers since 1987 and undertook an MSc in Dementia Care which provided knowledge and an opportunity to examine practice through a small-scale research project related to the Information Groups she runs for carers of people with dementia. Sally is currently a project worker on a dementia care training project for carers and staff from health, social services, voluntary and private sector backgrounds.

5) **Workshop Title: Voyage of the Outsider – surviving child abuse**

Presenter: Pam Smart

Trying to unearth treasure in the depths of hopelessness is one of the main themes for this workshop where participants will be presented with a scenario of a child being sexually and emotionally abused. Participants will be asked to explore the damaging and limiting effects of such labels as: Institutionalised child, Bad, Mad, Mentally ill, Personality Disorder, Uneducated and Uneducable. Pam Smart will present true examples, drawn from her own experience, of what worked, what didn't help and why.

Pam Smart worked for Islington Council for 21 years in various settings with people with learning disabilities. Her final years as a social worker were as manager of a Care in the Community project, bringing people out of long stay hospitals into supported living, teaching life skills towards independent living. Pam trained in counselling at the Pellin Institute and now practices as a psychotherapist. Pam is disabled and during a long post-operative period wrote "Who's Afraid of the Teddy Bears Picnic" a story of child abuse and recovery.

4) **Workshop Title: Leadership and Management - What really works?**

Presenter: Shirley Williams

What do we mean by leadership and management in social work/care, and how have expectations of leaders and managers changed in the past 10 years and how do we see them evolving over the next 10 years?

These questions are among a range explored by Shirley Williams who will also present findings from mentoring workshops for middle and first line managers in a number of local authorities. Other issues to be highlighted include the values, behaviours and skills social workers want to see in their leaders and managers and what can be done to ensure improved leadership and management.

Shirley Williams qualified as a social worker in 1970 and has worked as a probation officer, residential child care worker, lecturer, social worker and social work manager. Since 2004 she has been part of the Social Care Can Do Partnership working on a range of assignments, including the Department of Health and Department for Education and Skills improvement programmes, in local authorities. The partnership has also developed and delivered a group coaching/mentoring programme for first and second line in four local authorities.

6) **Workshop Title: Working across professional boundaries to provide the best outcomes for older people.**

Presenter: Catherine Poulter

This workshop aims to link current issues of health and care partnerships to policies relating to older people. Catherine Poulter will present research findings on outcomes for older people experiencing health and social care interventions, and identify the challenges of inter-disciplinary working. Participants will be expected to discuss how these issues can be addressed and to identify positive solutions to difficulties encountered in providing a social work service in health settings.

Participants will be given an overview of the policy development promoting partnership working between health and social care services; together with practice issues drawn from research findings and case studies of inter-disciplinary working.

Catherine Poulter is a qualified social worker with more than 30 years experience in the sector. She is currently a service manager at Bridgend Council responsible for assessment and care management services for people with physical or sensory impairments.

About the Social Workers' Educational Trust

The Social Workers' Educational Trust (SWET) was established in 1972 by the British Association of Social Workers.

Rapid changes in the nature of social problems, in legislation and in social services means that social workers need to seek new knowledge and skills to respond to changing expectations and new partnerships. In addition there is an urgent need to support innovatory practice-based research and to encourage the development of new approaches to providing social services.

THE TRUST AIMS:

to assist qualified social workers to develop their knowledge and skills encourage research into social work practice and education educate the public in the nature of social work.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Qualified social workers who have completed at least two years post-qualifying practice, and who work, or are looking for work, within the UK, can apply for grants from the Trust. You can download the application from the website, or obtain it from the Honorary Secretary.

HOW THE TRUST HELPS

The Trust provides small grants to individuals (usually in the range of £100 - £300) who undertake post-qualifying training to improve their knowledge and skills for social work practice. In addition, the Trust manages funds bequeathed or subscribed in memory of colleagues. These funds provide more substantial scholarships which are awarded annually through open competition.

The Social Workers' Educational Trust.

Registered Charity Number 313789

Correspondence should be addressed to:

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BASW, 16 Kent Street, Birmingham, B5 6RD

www.socialworkerseducationaltrust.org

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SOCIAL WORKERS' EDUCATIONAL TRUST SCHOLARSHIPS

THE 2007 ANNE CUMMINS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP OF £1500

AWARDED ANNUALLY FOR A STUDY/RESEARCH PROJECT ON HEALTH RELATED SOCIAL WORK.

Successful candidates in recent years have used the scholarship:

- 2002** To undertake research into the prevalence of Multiple Sclerosis in her local area, identify current services and disseminate examples of Best Practice.
- 2004** To undertake research into traumatic brain injuries and community integration.
- 2005** To examine and explore carers' perceptions of the usefulness of Carers' Information Groups on their caring situation, in order to inform future practice.
- 2006** To investigate the social factors that impact on hospital admissions of people over the age of 75.

For details of how to apply - see overleaf

Be Inspired!

THE 2007 SWET RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP OF £1500

The Trust invites applications from qualified and experienced social workers planning to undertake a study/ research project in the area of inter-professional or multi-agency practice

Applicants for either scholarship should complete the Trust's scholarship application form and submit a proposal of not more than 1,000 words, setting out: the objectives, methodology, estimated costs, time-scale and intended outcomes of the research project

Application forms for both scholarships are available at this conference, www.socialworkerseducationaltrust.org or by writing to:

The Hon. Secretary, Social Workers' Educational Trust
BASW, 16 Kent Street, Birmingham B5 6RD
*Completed forms with proposals must be received by **15th May 2007***

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