



FRUITFUL EUROPEAN CONFERENCE



Left to right, Don McKinnon, Commonwealth Secretary-General, Corinne Ward, European Board Member and Maura Buchanan, President of the RCN.

Very appropriately the CNF hosted its 6th European Conference in London on 9/10 March immediately prior to Commonwealth Day. The Conference was held at the headquarters of the Royal College of Nursing, UK with the theme Commonwealth nurses advancing nursing care: collaboration in Europe. RCN President, Maura Buchanan, welcomed delegates and Corinne Ward, the CNF's European Board Member, gave the opening address. Over 80 delegates attended.

Don McKinnon, Commonwealth Secretary-General, delivered the keynote address. He said, "In the poorest and the richest Commonwealth countries, nurses are the unsung heroines and heroes – on the frontline of health care. There are an estimated 12 million nurses in the world, and I salute you all."

He added "The Commonwealth has one abiding message for health sectors all over the world. It is this. Wherever you are, there can be no health services without the trained and motivated staff to deliver them."

Turning to the Commonwealth context of the Conference he said, "You know, as you launch now on two days of serious and technical debate, that you are part of a global family of 53 countries, home to a third of the world's population, to countries large and small, rich and poor, and to people of every colour and creed."

You know too that you are part of a huge network of both governments and peoples. You yourselves are one of nearly 90 civil society organisations around the world which bear the Commonwealth name, and which lobby their own professions, governments and multilateral bodies on behalf of the people they serve."

He then referred in some detail to the Commonwealth ideals of democracy, development, respect and understanding. He concluded by saying "I thank you for all that you are doing to promote respect and understanding, and for all that you are doing – both as skilled scientists and as creative artists, in 'the finest of the fine arts'."

The Conference covered the following healthcare aspects:

- promoting and facilitating collaborative working
- developing services to meet patients' needs
- supporting innovation in nursing policy and practice
- supporting individual learning and development.

The Conference featured an important plenary panel session on *Reducing the incidence of lifestyle diseases: the nursing contribution*. The panellists were Martin Bradley, Chief Nursing Officer, Northern Ireland (representing UK), Jesmond Sharples, Director, Nursing Services, Malta and Angeliki Tapakoude, Chief Nursing Officer, Cyprus. Ioannis Leontiou, President of the Cyprus Nurses and Midwives Association, chaired the session.



Left to right, Chief Nursing Officers Martin Bradley, Angeliki Tapakoude and Jesmond Sharples with Ioannis Leontiou, President of the Cyprus Nurses and Midwives Association.



The panellists addressed significant aspects of lifestyle diseases resulting from poor diet, smoking, lack of exercise, alcohol etc and gave examples of actions taken in their countries to deal with such diseases, including preventive measures. School health education from an early age, health promotion in the community and through the media and nurses as educators, role models and advocators were among the points emphasised. The audience was involved in the discussions. The session helped to raise the profile of these diseases and in-country actions and contributed to plans for an input to the Commonwealth Health Ministers Meeting in Geneva in May, which has the theme Lifestyle diseases – health systems approaches.

Other plenary sessions were by Julie Santy, Lecturer, Faculty of Health and Social Care, University of Hull, UK on *Scaling the castle walls – bringing Commonwealth nurses together on-line* and Anne Jones, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Health, Edge Hill College of Higher Education, Liverpool, UK on *Where there is no vision (leadership for the future)*.

Concurrent sessions at the Conference covered such areas as leadership, practice development, education and training, writing for publications, management of human resources, collaborative working, extended nursing roles, standards of care, patient perspectives, older people and infection control.

In the concluding session of the Conference Neville Decalis, Secretary of the Student Nurses section of the Malta Union of Midwives and Nurses gave an interesting presentation. Then Rudolf Cini, President of the Malta Union of Midwives and Nurses, invited delegates to the CNF's 7th European Conference in Malta in 2008. A short presentation and promotional video about Malta followed.

A CNF Business Meeting was held on 10 March involving the Presidents and officers of the three member associations. Corinne Ward chaired this meeting. Matters considered were a review of the 2007 Conference, preparations for the 2008 Conference, the forthcoming Commonwealth Health Ministers Meeting and the future direction of the CNF.

Successful Workshops Held in Singapore



Marla Salmon (right) of the School of Nursing, Emory University, USA addressing the delegates with President, Susie Kong and Peggy Vidot, Commonwealth Secretariat.

Very useful workshops for nurses and midwives from the Pacific region were held in Singapore on 12/13 February 2007. These were organised by the Commonwealth Steering Committee for Nursing and Midwifery in conjunction with the CNF. The workshops focused on improving working lives and on presentation, proposal writing and influencing skills for senior nurses and midwives. About 80 delegates from six countries in the region took part. President, Susie Kong assisted with the arrangements for the workshops.

The workshop sessions were conducted informally, with opportunities for participants to discuss issues in groups, as well as in plenary sessions, and to practice skills taught. Delegates were encouraged to complete action plans at the end of the workshops to help them apply and share what they had learnt on return to their work places. They were also given copies of related Commonwealth and WHO resource materials to take away with them. A nominated representative from each country's delegation was given an evaluation questionnaire to complete and return four months after the event.

Countries unable to send representatives would be included in the distribution of the report of the workshops. The Commonwealth Secretariat and the Commonwealth Foundation are thanked for providing funding assistance for these workshops.

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Group work at the workshops.



Additional CNF Workshop Helpful



The workshop participants and facilitators.

Following the Commonwealth Steering Committee workshops on 12/13 February the CNF held a further workshop at the office of the Singapore Nurses Association on 14 February. The objective of this workshop was to help participants to develop project action plans utilising the tools learnt during the Steering Committee workshops. There were 10 participants in the workshop from 4 countries.

The workshop was facilitated by Peggy Vidot (Commonwealth Secretariat), Jill Iliffe (Australian Nurses Federation) and Susie Kong. Member associations developed appropriate action plans and agreed to submit regular progress reports on their projects to the CNF. The organisers were impressed with the amount of work done in one day and considered that the workshop had been very worthwhile.



Commonwealth Day

An Observance for Commonwealth Day was held at Westminster Abbey, London, UK on 12 March. Her Majesty the Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, and His Royal Highness, the Duke of Edinburgh were in attendance. The theme of the Day was *Respecting difference, promoting understanding*.

In her message for the Day the Queen said "Today's Commonwealth is home to nearly a third of the world's population. Its almost two billion citizens come from so many faiths, races, cultures and traditions. I think that one of the reasons for the success of this organisation is that it draws not only on certain shared values, but also from the principles and practices of everyday life, which can be observed day after day in the cities, towns and villages of our 53 member countries. Over thousands of years, the very basis of community life has been the pooling together by individuals of their resources and skills. Rather than having to be good at everything, people were able to practise their own skill or craft. The lesson of community life is that to flourish we must help each other. To do this, there has to be a sense of fairness, a real understanding of others' needs and aspirations, and a willingness to contribute."

The message continued "In today's difficult and sometimes divided world, I believe that it is more important than ever to keep trying to respect and understand each other better. Each and every one of us has hopes, needs, and priorities. Each of us is an individual, with ties of emotion and bonds of obligation - to culture, religion, community, country and beyond. In short, each of us is special. The more we see others in this way, the more we can understand them and their points of view. In what we think and say and do, let us as individuals actively seek out the views of others; let us make the best use of what our beliefs and history teach us; let us have open minds and hearts; and let us, like the Commonwealth, find our diversity a cause for celebration and a source of strength and unity."

Michael Stubbings, Executive Secretary, represented the CNF at the Observance in London. Entertainment included the Burntwood School Steel Band, the City of Birmingham Young Voices, Sipiwo Ntshebe, a South African tenor, the Asian Dance Group and Andy Sheppard, jazz musician.



The Asian Dance Group in London.



CNF as Partner in Workshop in Uganda

The Commonwealth Foundation has accepted a proposal for a health workshop involving the CNF at the Commonwealth Peoples Forum (CPF) before the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Kampala, Uganda in November. This is seen as an important opportunity to lobby Commonwealth Governments on key health issues. The theme of the CPF is *Realising peoples' potential*.

The workshop will take place on 19/20 November and run with the theme *Prioritise health – realise potential*. There will be four sub-themes – Human resources for health; Maternal and child health; Lifestyle diseases; and Safe health practices. The workshop will aim to influence government health policy and processes and effect changes to people's lives.

Partner organisations, which have agreed to arrange the workshop, are the Commonwealth Dental Association, Commonwealth Medical Association, CNF, Commonwealth Pharmaceutical Association, Organisation for Safety and Asepsis Procedures, Secretariat of the Order of St John (UK) and St John's Association (Uganda). It is hoped that local

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associations of health professionals in Uganda, including the nurses and midwives association, will also become partners in this venture.

The communication of transformational policy issues to Governments and the dissemination of health information and potential measures to benefit national health systems and the work of NGOs are expected outcomes of the workshop.



Overcoming HIV/AIDS – Secretary-General's Message

"Overcoming HIV and AIDS requires leadership from all parts of society," Commonwealth Secretary-General, Don McKinnon said in his World AIDS Day message on 1 December 2006. "Without accountability and the full, active commitment of governments, civil society organisations, communities and individuals, we cannot confront and defeat a pandemic that threatens us all," he added. 'Stop AIDS: Keep the Promise' was the slogan for World AIDS Day and its theme was 'Accountability'.

"The world is strewn with half-kept promises, whose makers are at best half-accountable," the Secretary-General said. "Most people have broken promises, but few have - however unconsciously - caused millions to die in the process. Those promises are those of the international community, of governments, of civil society, of local communities - and of us all individually. No group of countries cares more about that than the Commonwealth, which is home to one-third of the world's people, but two-thirds of its cases of HIV and AIDS."



HIV/AIDS Action Group

Following initiatives by Commonwealth Heads of Government, in 2000 some Commonwealth non-governmental organisations (NGOs), including the CNF, and some other organisations, which were concerned about the HIV/AIDS situation, formed the Para55 Group. The Group was reconstituted in 2004 as the Commonwealth HIV and AIDS Action Group. It continues to focus on a multi-sectoral approach to combating HIV/AIDS. It is principally involved in international and national advocacy and information sharing with NGOs. The Chair of the Group is now Dr Mandeep Dhaliwal, Senior Technical and Policy Advisor, International HIV/AIDS Alliance.

In recent times the Group has submitted papers on universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support to the following important international meetings and participated in them:

- Commonwealth Health Ministers Meeting, Geneva, Switzerland, May 2006
- XVIth International AIDS Conference, Toronto, Canada, August 2006.

In September 2006 Dr Dhaliwal met the Commonwealth Secretary-General, Donald McKinnon, to brief him on current global issues arising from the Toronto Conference and to learn more about the Secretariat's strategy document on HIV/AIDS, which is under review.

It is expected that the Group will be involved in the Commonwealth Health Ministers Meeting, Geneva, Switzerland, May 2007 and the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, Kampala, Uganda, November 2007.



Board Changes

Elections for two regional Board members of the CNF have taken place and results are as follows:

Europe – Mr Ioannis Leontiou (Cyprus) elected to replace Mrs Corinne Ward (Malta).

South Asia – Mr Arvind Kulkarni (India) elected to replace Mrs Saramma Samuel (India).

Board members serve for an initial period of four years but are eligible to serve for two additional terms subject to election. Mrs Samuel (8 years) and Mrs Ward (4 years) are thanked for their valuable contributions to the CNF's work. They leave office after the Biennial Meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in May. Mr Leontiou and Mr Kulkarni are welcomed to the Board and will take up office after the Biennial Meeting.



CNF Subscriptions

Please note that members' subscriptions to the CNF for the year 2006/07 should be paid by 30 September. For an association to claim free accommodation for a representative at the Biennial Meeting in May (see below) this subscription must be paid before the meeting.



Biennial Meeting in May

The CNF will hold its Biennial Meeting and Workshop at the Cititel Mid Valley Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 24/25 May. A Board Meeting will be held at the same venue on 22/23 May.

Among other things the meetings will consider membership matters, regional Board members' reports, implementation of the CNF's Strategic Directions, contributions to meetings of Commonwealth Health Ministers and Heads of Government and the work of the Commonwealth Steering Committee for Nursing and Midwifery.

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The Workshop will be on the theme *Achieving the Millennium Development Goals - the Commonwealth nursing and midwifery contribution*. The Workshop will consider international, regional and in-country nursing and midwifery initiatives contributing to the achievement of the health related Millennium Development Goals. These Goals relate to reducing child mortality, improving maternal health and combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.

It is important that member associations make every effort to be represented at the Biennial Meeting and Workshop. Circulars and reminders have been sent to all associations and invitations have also been sent to national Chief Nursing Officers. Time is getting short but it may not be too late to make arrangements to attend. Enquiries should be made to the Executive Secretary, Commonwealth Nurses Federation, c/o Royal College of Nursing, 20 Cavendish Square, London W1G 0RN, UK. Tel: (44) 20 7647 3593; Fax: (44) 7647 3413; E-mail: cnf@rcn.org.uk.



A Better Start

In addition to other aspects of its work programme the Commonwealth Steering Committee for Nursing and Midwifery produces practical resource materials to support nurses and midwives in their roles in helping to improve the health of the peoples they serve.

Last October the Steering Committee produced a resource entitled *"A better start - improving maternal health and reducing infant and maternal mortality"*. This aims to support the nursing and midwifery contribution to the Millennium Development Goals on reducing child mortality and improving maternal health. It brings together some of the key published materials in a simple format for the benefit of all Commonwealth countries at no cost and includes references to other materials that cannot be included in full.

The resource includes a number of very practical items, such as the "TALC baby" model, the script of a play promoting antenatal care, exercises, games and other training materials, as well as posters and policy and guidance materials from a range of organisations and settings.

Copies of the publication were sent to national Chief Nursing Officers and Presidents of national nursing associations. It is hoped that nurses and midwives will find the resource useful as it stands, or with minor adaptations to their situation, and that all readers will find something that is helpful in the varied settings in which they work.

South Pacific Nurses Forum

The 13th South Pacific Nurses Forum was held in Apia, Samoa on 4-8 September 2006. The theme of the well attended meeting of this regional nursing body was *Healthy nurses for a NCD free Pacific*.

Mrs Alumita Bulicokocoko, the CNF's Board member for the Pacific region, gave a presentation to the Forum on the background and work of the CNF.

Papers presented at the Forum included nursing leadership; the power of radio in leadership; nurses as actors in health promotion; smoking, alcohol, nutrition and physical exercise; healthy lifestyle habits of children in urban schools; preventing diabetes; health challenges for nurses working with diabetes; developing mental health nursing; the health effects of climate change; midwifery practice; and the migration of nurses.



Caribbean Nurses Organization

More than 400 nurses convened in Nassau, Bahamas for the 25th Biennial Conference of the Caribbean Nurses Organization on 20-26 October 2006. The Conference theme was *"Caribbean nurses collaborating for excellence in global health"*.

Presentation topics included cultural competence in nursing; the challenges of coping and managing losses; being female and HIV positive; infection control in the workplace; sharing best practices; Bahamian midwives knowledge and perception of post-partum depression; and ethnic differences in adherence to anti-hypertensive medication.





National News Round Up

As usual the Nurses Association of **Botswana** organised a stall at the Botswana International Trade Fair in Gaborone. This was to promote the Association, share information on health and provide community health services to visitors. Nurses from two branches, Lobatse and Francistown, provided the services at the stall on a voluntary basis. Many visitors to the stall had blood pressure, vision and weight checks. The stall also provided some catering services and sold Association standards, cups and T-shirts to raise revenue.

Dr Peter Carter OBE has been appointed the new General Secretary of the Royal College of Nursing, **UK** in succession to Dr Beverly Malone. Dr Carter, a trained general and psychiatric nurse, was formerly the Chief Executive of the Central and North West London Mental Health NHS Trust, a post he held from 1995.

Namibia's Minister of Health and Social Welfare has announced that retired nurses may be recalled and those near retirement may be allowed to continue working in order to help address the acute shortage of nursing personnel in the country. The Minister stated that "...such personnel would help share their wealth of experience with junior nurses and also help to enforce discipline at the workplace. This will serve as a temporary measure while student nurses under training qualify." The Minister has stressed that this strategy is intended to complement nurses in training and is not meant to replace them.

The **Swaziland** Wellness Centre for health care workers and their families has opened in Manzini. The Centre, run by the Swaziland Nurses Association (SNA), will address the severe health worker crisis in Swaziland. It will deliver health and other professional services to all Swazi health workers and their immediate families. This initiative is held as a model by many global organisations, including the World Health Organization. The Centre is the result of a partnership between the SNA, the International Council of Nurses (ICN), the Danish Nurses Organization, the Stephen Lewis Foundation and BD Corporation. The Centre, a new accredited clinic, will provide a complete range of services, including stress management; continuous professional development; antenatal expertise; testing, counselling and treatment for HIV and TB; and occupational health and safety services such as post exposure prophylaxis and needlestick injury surveillance. Similar centres are planned for Lesotho, Malawi and Zambia.

The **Cyprus** Nurses and Midwives Association held its 13th National Conference on *Nursing and midwifery: science, profession, experience* in Larnaca, Cyprus on 24-25 November 2006. Over 800 nurses, midwives, health visitors and students attended. The conference has always been a landmark for the development of nursing and midwifery in Cyprus and for the improvement of health care services. Presentations covered nursing and midwifery education; intensive care nursing; community nursing; medical nursing; surgical and perioperative care nursing; oncology nursing; mental health nursing; midwifery; and legal issues and communication.

CNF Snippets

The Executive Secretary, Michael Stubbings, had a meeting with Rosemary Bryant, the Executive Director of the Royal College of Nursing, Australia, when she visited the RCN in London in November 2006. They discussed the current work of their respective organisations and the CNF's Biennial Meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in May. Mrs Bryant hoped to be in a position to send an observer representative to that meeting.



Ugandan visit, left to right, John Wakida, Margaret Chota, Maura Buchanan (President, RCN) and Florence Rita Matte.

Mr Stubbings also met some Ugandan visitors to the RCN in London in February. These were Margaret Chota (Chief Nursing Officer, Ministry of Health), John Wakida (Principal Nursing Officer, Ministry of Health) and Florence Rita Matte (Registrar, Uganda Nurses and Midwives Council). Discussions covered the position and strength of the Uganda National Association for Nurses and Midwives, the hope that the Association would be involved in a workshop with the CNF and others at the Commonwealth Peoples Forum in Kampala in November and Commonwealth aid. The visitors agreed to get in touch with the Association with a view to the re-establishment of contact with the CNF.

Obituary

Muriel Skeet, the first President of the CNF from 1973-76, died in November, aged 80. She was one of the outstanding nursing and healthcare figures of her generation. Her positions included Chief Nursing Officer of the British Red Cross (8 years), consultant to WHO (20 years) and adviser to the British Council on nursing and healthcare matters (10 years). She was also a distinguished author and disaster relief specialist working in a number of countries.

In 1993/4 aged 68, she was in Angola during the civil war running clinics. On one occasion, sleeping in bombed out ruins and living off wild fruit, she and her colleagues spent hours cowering under tables while gunfire raged around them. Eventually she decided to evacuate, leading the team through two hostile roadblocks – easing their way through the second by offering glucose sweets to the soldiers. A distinguished lady!



NEW PUBLICATIONS

Advanced Nursing Practice

2006. Fadwa Affara and Madrean Schober. 248 pages. ISBN: 140 512533 0. Blackwell Publishing. Available from ICN online bookshop: www.icn.ch/bookshop.htm or Blackwell Publishing online book ordering: www.blackwellpublishing.com/book

This publication addresses one of the most dynamic and exciting developments in nursing and highlights the key role nurses with advanced knowledge and skills play in developing health care services worldwide. Advanced nursing practice (ANP) has captured not only the attention of nurses but of key decision-makers and health care planners worldwide.

The book covers the key issues in practice, education, regulation, research and role/practice development, which are central to defining the distinctive nature of ANP and also explores international developments in the field of ANP. Vignettes and contributions from key informants provide an international perspective of the success, failures, hopes and aspirations of various ANP initiatives. In exploring strategies for implementing ANP in the context of countries' health care needs the book addresses legal and ethical challenges and commonalities and differences in ANP, while examining the implications, obstacles and facilitative strategies in maintaining, implementing and supporting the development of ANP.

Community Home-based Care for People and Communities Living with HIV/AIDS

2007. Pathfinder International, 9 Galen Street, Suite 217, Watertown, MA 02472 USA. Tel: (1) 617 924 7200. The materials can be viewed and downloaded from: http://www.pathfind.org/Publications_Training_and_Capacity_building_CHBC CD-Roms of the material can be obtained by contacting tech-comm@pathfind.org

The package comprises two publications - a trainer's guide and participant's manual for community health workers. The first is entitled "A Comprehensive Training Course for Community Health Workers" and the second "A Handbook for Community Health Workers". The pre-tested, peer-reviewed curriculum provides the knowledge and skills necessary for community health workers to care holistically for people living with HIV/AIDS, to train primary caregivers and clients, and to mobilise communities around HIV/AIDS prevention, care, treatment, and support. The trainer's guide uses simple language and emphasises participatory learning that does not require high literacy levels of participants. Unit topics include HIV basics, communication skills, nursing care, nutrition, positive living, family planning, HIV prevention, antiretroviral therapy, and community mobilisation.

The companion handbook can be used as a reference during care and as an aid in training clients and primary caregivers.

Where There Is No Doctor

2006. Hesperian Foundation. The publication can be downloaded from: www.hesperian.org/publications_download.php#ftwtnd

Also available for \$22 plus shipping at online store: www.hesperian.org or by calling (1) 888 729 1796.

The updated 2006 edition of this classic manual is now available online! According to the WHO, this manual is perhaps the most widely used health care manual for health workers, clinicians, and others involved in primary health care delivery and health promotion programmes around the world. The manual provides practical, easily understood information on how to diagnose, treat, and prevent many common illnesses. With over 90 translations and adaptations of the book available worldwide the book is an essential health resource for individuals and communities around the world.

Where Women Have No Doctor

2006. Hesperian Foundation. The publication can be downloaded from: www.hesperian.org/publications_download.php#twwhnd

Also available for \$22 plus shipping at online store: www.hesperian.org or by calling (1) 888 729 1796.

This new edition combines self-help medical information with an understanding of how poverty, discrimination and culture can limit women's health and access to care. It is essential for any woman who wants to improve her health, and for health workers who want more information about the problems that affect only women or that affect women differently from men. It features new and updated information on HIV/AIDS, including the use of antiretrovirals and preventing mother-to-child transmission, treatment of sexually transmitted infections, family planning, TB, care for women after abortions, and medicines. Other topics covered include pregnancy, birth and breastfeeding, health concerns of women with disabilities, girls, older women and refugees, sexual health, sexually transmitted infections, the use of medicines in women's health, mental health, and rape and violence against women. The book is available in over 20 languages worldwide, extending its impact to an even wider global audience.





C O N F E R E N C E

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24-25 May

CNF Biennial Meeting and Workshop

Theme: Achieving the Millennium Development Goals – the Commonwealth nursing and midwifery contribution.

Venue: Cititel Mid Valley Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Details: Commonwealth Nurses Federation, c/o Royal College of Nursing, 20 Cavendish Square, London W1G 0RN, UK. Tel: (44) 20 7647 3593; Fax: (44) 7647 3413; E-mail: cnf@rcn.org.uk

27 May-1 June

ICN Conference and Council of National Representatives

Theme: Nurses at the forefront: dealing with the unexpected. Concurrent sessions, symposia etc will address clinical practice; pandemics, epidemics, sudden crisis and disasters; nursing/health policy and services management; nursing education; nursing/health research and informatics; ethics, values and wisdom; labour and workplace issues; and regulation.

Venue: Yokohama, Japan

Details: International Council of Nurses, 3, Place Jean Marteau, 1201-Geneva, Switzerland.

Tel: (41) 22 908 01 00; Fax: (41) 22 908 01 01;

E-mail: icn@icn.ch Website: www.icn.ch

31 May-1 June

International Nursing Midwifery Research Conference

Theme: Nursing research providing evidence for improved nursing practice.

Venue: Jamaica Conference Centre, Kingston, Jamaica

Details: The Nursing/Midwifery Research Centre, University of West Indies, Mona, Kingston 7, Jamaica.

Tel: (1876) 970 3304; Fax: (1876) 927 2472;

E-mail: nursing@uwimona.edu.jm

Website: www.mona.uwi.edu/nursing

8-11 July

3rd Tri-annual International Conference

Theme: Caring is our concern.

Special emphasis will be placed on wound care and midwifery.

Venue: University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa.

Details: University of the Free State, P O Box 29923, Danhof 9310, Bloemfontein, South Africa. Tel: (27) 51 401 2965; Fax: (27) 51 401 9463;

E-mail: gnvkinofs.MD@mail.uovs.ac.za

Website: www.uovs.ac.za/nursing

30 July-3 August

14th Biennial School Nurses International Conference

Theme: Looking beyond – charting the direction in school nursing.

Venue: Fort Canning Lodge, Singapore.

Details: Orient Explorer (S) Pte Ltd, 12 Aljunied Road, #05-02 SCN Centre, Singapore 389801. Tel: (65) 6339 8687;

Fax: (65) 6339 9536; E-mail: SNI2007@orient-explorer.com

Website: www.orient-explorer.com/SNI2007/



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25-26 February

Commonwealth Steering Committee/CNF Workshops

Theme: Human resources and influencing skills.

Venue: Labadi Beach Hotel, Accra, Ghana

Details: Commonwealth Nurses Federation, c/o Royal College of Nursing, 20 Cavendish Square, London W1G 0RN, UK. Tel: (44) 20 7647 3593; Fax: (44) 7647 3413;

E-mail: cnf@rcn.org.uk

28-29 March

7th CNF European Conference

Theme: Unity through the Commonwealth – present challenges in nursing.

Venue: Golden Sands Hotel, Golden Bay, Malta

Contact: Commonwealth Nurses Federation, c/o Royal College of Nursing, 20 Cavendish Square, London W1G 0RN, UK. Tel: (44) 20 7647 3593; Fax: (44) 7647 3413;

Email: cnf@rcn.org.uk