

HOMEWORD

Home Injury Prevention News in Scotland July - September 2007

An Introduction

My name is Nicola Butters (Nikkie), and I am the new Home Injury Prevention Development Officer for Scotland, replacing Josie Isles and Hazel Leith.

I qualified recently with a degree in Occupational Therapy, but decided I would prefer to work helping to prevent accidents happening in the first place. I also have a background in exercise instruction, the leisure industry and have hands-on experience building my own house.

I hope some of the following news and links are of interest to you.

Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics Guide (SNS)

The Scottish Government launched the latest phase of this project in February 2007 and it can enable you to keep informed about the information held by the government about small area statistics and socio-economic statistics from other administrations such as NHS, Index of Multiple Deprivation, Department for Work and Pensions and the Inland Revenue. None of the information is about individuals, more about the demand for knowledge about small areas. The site can be accessed at <http://www.sns.gov.uk>

Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)

This is the tool used by the Scottish Executive to enable identification of small area concentrations of multiple deprivation. Scotland is broken down into 6,505 different areas (or geographies); each comprised a median number of 769 people. The more rural areas covered are larger due to less population in that area. You can download your copy from <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/SIMD>

If you have difficulty using either of these sites, RoSPA hopes to host short familiarization sessions in a computer suite. Please contact me if you would be interested in this.

Better Health, Better Care – A Discussion Document

This was published on the Scottish Executive website in August 2007, and as you can see, it is a discussion document – so let's discuss as invited!

We feel that there is room for **Home Injury prevention** within this document, especially if their "Evolving Model for Care" promotes *preventative* care. It mentions the rise in emergency admissions, the need to prioritise patient safety, the ageing population and age-related conditions, and for people to take more of a responsibility for their own health and well-being (and injury prevention?). At the back of said document, there is a response form, which you can fill in before Monday 12th November 2007, or send me some of your views/ideas for me to forward to the next **Home Safety Scotland Meeting** on 18th October. This document is downloadable from: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/08/13165824/0>

Update - Falls Prevention Day 26th June 2007

524 events took place throughout the country and were deemed a great success. Also downloadable from the **Help the Aged** are documents on **Osteoporosis** and **Preventing falls**.

http://www.helptheaged.org.uk/en-gb/AdviceSupport/HomeSafety/FallPrevention/as_fallprev_030106_3.htm

Petition PE 758 – Home Safety Officers

As you are aware, the final meeting of the Local Government and Transport Committee that took place in January, the outcome of which was not as positive as hoped, although Home Safety awareness topics have been raised and reconsidered. However, now that there is a new government, **Home Safety Scotland (HSS)** hope to re-petition and have so far received a very general letter from Mrs Robison (MSP without portfolio). The afore mentioned MSP has since been invited to the HSS Conference in April to convince her of the need for Home Safety Officers and that we are an organisation in the know.

Luke warm response to the aptly named RIP cigarettes

<http://www.ash.org.uk/html/press/061116.html>

Roaring response from Europe

<http://www.ash.org.uk/index.php?navState=&getPage=http://www.ash.org.uk/html/workplace/pdfs/PB8.pdf>

<http://www.ash.org.uk/html/press/061113.html>

<http://www.eph.org/a/2443> or join the Petition at: <http://www.firesafercigarettes.org.uk/>

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Millennium Cohort Study

This study proves that children from disadvantaged families were up to a year behind by the age of three. The study was drawn from a sample population from all live births in the UK over a 12-month period.

<http://www.cls.ioe.ac.uk/studies.asp?section=000100020003>

<http://www.cls.ioe.ac.uk/studies.asp?section=0001000200030016>

<http://www.cls.ioe.ac.uk/studies.asp?section=000100020001>

European Child Safety Alliance/Child Safety Action Plan

It is hoped that 35 delegates from Europe will be visiting Scotland in December this year to discuss developments in child safety across Europe. **Watch this space**

Scottish Accident Prevention Council Annual Conference

This took place at the stunning Airth Castle on 3rd and 4th September. The event was well attended, enjoyable, with some very interesting presentations. The topics covered Home, Road and Water and Leisure safety, but I will only add links to the Home safety parts. Find below links to various projects in case you are unaware of them.

Care and Repair in Edinburgh

This assists older people and people with disabilities to remain safely and independently in their own homes for as long as possible. This service is provided for general repairs around the home and improvements for people who live as private tenants. This service is **free**, but payment for materials is required.

Homecheck is a service, which is set up to prevent accidents in the home. A visit is free and available to anyone over 60, or has a disability and is available to ALL house holds whether owned privately, rented or council or housing association.

<http://www.careandrepaiiredinburgh.org.uk>

Ageing Well – Safe as Houses

This is a project that has been run through partnerships (Edinburgh Leisure, NHS Lothian, South Central Edinburgh LHP, North East Edinburgh LHP, Pilmeny Development), and has been running since July 2002 through 2 localities – South Central Edinburgh and North East Edinburgh. The project targets people over the age of 50 who are inactive and feel they need a bit more “get up and go”, with the overall aim to improve the health and well-being of older people - adding years to life and life to years. The volunteers developed the Ageing Well road show, which was a mini play, which promoted **safety in the home**. The topics covered were Bogus callers, Trips and falls, Money safety, Smoke detectors, Safelink (message in a bottle), Care and Repair services available and Homecheck services.

For more information on Ageing Well in Edinburgh call 0131-652-2178, fax 0131-652-1102,

Or e-mail AnitaMccallum@edinburghleisure.co.uk

The Risk Factory

This project has been up and running now for 8 months at a purpose-built site next to the Corn Exchange. The Risk Factory aims to target 8000 primary 7 children in its first year and teach them about risk, and about real-life risk situations within a safe environment. Topics covered are **Home safety, Fire safety, Electricity safety, Water safety, Farmyard safety, Transport safety, Railway safety, Road safety, Construction site safety and Internet safety**. The Risk Factory has been met with great enthusiasm by the children and the volunteers who help to run it.

For further details contact <http://www.theriskfactory.org/news.html> or phone 0131-455-8930

East End Child Safety Project (Glasgow)

This project provides volunteering opportunities for people furthest from the job market. Intensive training is provided giving the volunteers a sense of belonging and self-esteem. The home safety advisors make up to 4 visits per family ensuring that home safety measures are in place and to advise on accident prevention. This scheme starts with a referral system by a health visitor who can identify people most at risk or who are more vulnerable. For more information

<http://www.eastendchildsafety.org.uk/index.php>

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Forthcoming Event

RoSPA 2007 National Home Injury Prevention Congress 12th – 13th November in Cheltenham

If injury prevention is part of your remit, you can't afford to miss this year's RoSPA National Home Injury Prevention Congress!

To Book now visit or call 0121 248 2120, or if you prefer, you can download the file attached.

<http://www.rospace.com/home/index.htm>

Watch This Space

Keep your Child Safe in the Garden

The aim of this foldout leaflet is to provide carers of young children with free, and easily accessible safety information regarding poisons in the garden. RoSPA is part of a collaboration with The National Poisons Information Bureau Scotland and NHS Lothian and Dynamic Initiatives.

ITS Glasgow

Plans for phase 2 are under way

Press Cuttings

Here are collections of Press Cuttings you may have missed;

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/north_east/6966041.stm

http://women.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life_and_style/women/families/article2284327.ece

http://women.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life_and_style/women/families/article2284323.ece

An Obituary to the late Mr. Common Sense (By Allen Jesson)

This just about sums it up!

<http://www.fullofarticles.com/Article/Obituary-Of-The-Late-Mr--Common-Sense/41838>

Darwin Awards

I don't know if any of you are familiar with this site, but it is a light-hearted take on the most ridiculous way to die or eradicate yourself from the gene-pool thorough accidents and complete stupidity!

<http://darwinawards.com>

I would like HOMEWORD to become more interactive and people-friendly, so I will welcome any feedback, remedies, questions, queries or comments you are willing to give.

If you have a community project on home injury prevention that you would like mentioned in HOMEWORD to enable you to share information with others, please e-mail me at the address below.

If you would like to be added to our new email distribution list for **Homeworld**, or would like a larger print version then please contact Nicola Butters at nbutters@rospace.com 0131 449 9379

Home Injury Prevention – RoSPA Scotland

Newsletter also available on our website: www.rospace.com/homesafety/Scotland

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