



Bristol Study Centre

# NEWSLETTER

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## Introducing Kim Harman, the New DUTY Study Manager

**Dr Kim Harman** is taking over from Harriet Downing as the DUTY Study Manager, from 1 April 2012 (Harriet will still be involved in the DUTY study a bit, but will mainly be working on a different study). We asked Kim to tell us about herself, in her own words...

"I was a NHS clinician (a podiatrist) before this job so I can appreciate the importance of clinical questions such as DUTY's. My passion for research began with my MSc in public health when I realised, because of my training, that I had only ever considered the traditional model of illness and health, and not the wider causes. Following my doctorate, which looked at new ways of diagnosing bone infection in diabetic foot ulcers, I wished to work towards improving health more widely, which inspired me to apply for this role.

"The challenges for the DUTY study, as we move towards closure, will be making sure that the data has been entered as accurately as possible. We will, no doubt, be asking many practices for their assistance in resolving any outstanding data queries, and your help will be greatly appreciated. The article overleaf will give you some more information about how we plan to close down the study. Please feel free to contact me with any questions and I will do all I can to get an answer for you.

"A little more about me... I enjoy the great outdoors, including helping some friends at their alpaca farm. We currently have about 30

## New DUTY Study Staff



animals including about six youngsters born last year. I also help at shearing and toe nail clipping time! Plus I am chief knitter of the yarn into garments we sell at craft fayres around the local patch."

Thanks Kim, a warm welcome to the DUTY team!

## New DUTY Research Nurse Dives In: Susan George

"I have worked in paediatric health and social care since qualifying as an RSCN in 1984. I have worked in a variety of clinical and managerial posts in the NHS in England and Wales and moved to the voluntary sector in 2000 as Director of Services for CLIC Sargent. I have carried out a number of research studies including looking at the unique contribution of specialist social workers in cancer care for children and young people and establishing the care and support needs of children and young people with cancer when they are not in hospital. I have a particular interest in developing the role of Specialist Nurses and encouraging Nurses be actively involved in research activities.

"Outside of work I have been married for 22 years and have two teenage children. I am a keen gardener, qualified scuba diving instructor, keen hill walker and runner."

## The Wee Detective: Annie Sadoo

### Q. What role do you play in the study?

My role is to liaise between the labs, recruiting nurses and DUTY IT when there are queries about the data or the database. Also, I liaise with the NHS labs to try to find results for any samples we're missing data for. This can be fun as I've had to do some of this digging myself. Sadly, I'm quite happy when I find one which took a bit of time to track down.

### Q. Are there any ways in which this study could have been made more straightforward for NHS laboratories?

Well, perhaps it would have reduced the number of errors with date of birth mismatch if the recruitment nurses were able to access the surgery's system for printing out sample labels where ICE is not available.

### Q. With which famous person would you most like to go out for dinner?

Ha ha, funny, I don't know about "most like" but dinner with Wes Borland, guitarist from Limp Bizkit, in costume, would be no end of fun!

Thanks for keeping on the trail of those wees, Annie!



### How are we doing?

Spectacularly! The DUTY study target has now been met, thanks to your amazing efforts. Overall:

**6623 children, with 87% urines**

Bristol centre:

**2759 children, with 90% urines**

DUTY will continue recruiting to the end of April 2012, to maximize the potential value of the data, thus improving the quality of the diagnostic algorithm which is the goal of this study.

Kim Harman, DUTY Study Manager

0117 331 3811 / 928 7294

[Kim.harman@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:Kim.harman@bristol.ac.uk)

Catherine Derrick, Study Administrator

0117 331 3814

[catherine.derrick@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:catherine.derrick@bristol.ac.uk)

Steven Beech, Study Assistant

0117 928 7205

[steven.beech@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:steven.beech@bristol.ac.uk)

Liz Thomas, Senior Research Nurse (Thursdays only)

0117 928 7290

Mob 07531 892232

[liz.thomas@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:liz.thomas@bristol.ac.uk)

Lyn Liddiard, Research Nurse

0117 928 7297

Mob 07772 291600

[lyn.liddiard@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:lyn.liddiard@bristol.ac.uk)

Susan George, Research Nurse

0117 928 7290

Mob 07896 137945

[se.george@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:se.george@bristol.ac.uk)

or [duty-nurses@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:duty-nurses@bristol.ac.uk)

SECURE OFFICE FAX

0117 331 3838

## And some not-so-new, but equally lovely DUTY Staff...

Steve Beech, DUTY Project Assistant and Master of Potties (sorry, Steve) finally agreed to let us include his profile in the newsletter:

**Q. What role do you play in the study?** I work part-time and have particular responsibility for getting equipment out to the various 'Bristol' sites, i.e. from Cornwall to Cumbria! This has run into many thousands of items, and although most gets mailed reasonably quickly, inevitably there are occasional problems with availability and different methods of posting. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone out there for their patience when this happens!

**Q. How many potties have been sent out for DUTY?** I could only be specific for Bristol, but if you think that there are now approaching 300 sites that have been involved in the Study overall and most need their own potty, that gives you a reasonable idea.

**Q. Apart from reading this newsletter, what do you enjoy most about working on DUTY?** I've been very lucky to work with a great team, but I guess the most rewarding thing has been speaking to a couple of parents who say the Study 'changed their life', because it picked up UTIs in their children who became so much happier as a result of simple treatment.

**Q. As you're an old hand at BBC radio interviews, I am not going to ask you which famous person you would most like to dine with. Can you tell us about a claim to fame instead?** A long time ago I wrote some comedy for Radio 4, and was a winner in a competition that involved appearing live on national TV with Prunella Scales. I've also been knighted by Brian Clough, strangled by Screaming Lord Sutch and helped Tessa Sanderson to welly-wang, but then I am getting on a bit now (be careful you don't misprint 'welly-wang!')

Thanks Steve. So I guess I can't look that up on iPlayer then...

The February challenge was to identify the object on the right. This is a balloon sculpture by New York artist Jason Hackenwerth, representing a segmented filamentous bacterium (apparently). The only correct answer was submitted by DUTY Administrator Catherine Derrick, who is not really allowed to have a voucher (despite deserving one) because she is staff. We are a hard-nosed bunch.

### Quick quiz



For March, something slightly easier. A £25 M&S voucher will be up for grabs if you can tell us in which city the sculpture on the left is found. According to legend, in the fourteenth century the city in question was under siege by a foreign power, who conceived of a plan to place explosive charges at the city walls. A little boy happened to be spying on them as the attackers were preparing. He urinated on the burning fuse and thereby saved the city. The message that has inspired us through the DUTY project is thus nothing new: **never underestimate the power of wee.**



### Study closure

From now onwards, the DUTY study team will be closing down the study at recruiting sites on a rolling programme, starting with those sites who have ceased recruiting, and this will continue after the end of the official recruitment at the end of April. As part of this process we will liaise with you about:

- returning any paperwork that needs to be archived.
- returning any equipment items of value to Bristol University (e.g. Post office safeboxes, high street vouchers).
- ensuring that any gaps or queries in the data for the patients recruited at your site are resolved as efficiently as possible.

