

## **SSHA 2008 –BIOGRAPHIES.**

### **Chris Ashford**

Chris Ashford is a Senior Lecturer in Law at the University of Sunderland. His research focuses on the broad area of human rights, particularly the intersection of sexuality, law and technology. His sexuality research has focussed on the phenomenon of Public Sex Environments (PSEs) and the role of the Internet in sex work, particularly amongst male sex workers. Chris has also advised the NHS, Police, LGBT charities and LGBT youth groups on sexuality and the law. In July 2008 he gave evidence to the Communities and Local Government Select Committee Enquiry into Public Toilet Provision on the subject of public sex.

### **Gill Bell**

Gill Bell has been a Nurse Consultant Sexual Health Adviser in Sheffield since 2004. She has served on SSHA NPC from 2001 – 2007 as a Regional Representative (2001-2), Conference Organiser (2002-3) President (2003-4) Research Officer (2004-5) Education Officer (2005-7). She is currently chair of the SSHA – NICE sub- committee which has developed teaching materials and study days on risk reduction interventions, in accordance with NICE guidelines.

### **Maeve Cross**

Maeve has been working in Sexual Health for eight years, first as a nurse, and for the past two and a half years as a health adviser. She is the Regional Representative on SSHA's NPC.

### **Ceri Evans**

Ceri Evans has been a Sexual Health Adviser since 1991 and a Senior Sexual Health Adviser since 1995. Her particular interests are working with groups who have often found difficulty in accessing sexual health services, including men who sell sex, people in the adult entertainment industry and people with Learning Disabilities. She is a member of the Expert Advisory Group on AIDS and is the Health Adviser representative on the BASHH Clinical Governance group.

Her current projects include a particular interest in the criminalisation of HIV and ensuring all Health Advisers join BASHH!

### **Linda Furness**

Linda Furness is a Senior Sexual Health Adviser at Cardiff Royal Infirmary Dept of GUM and the SSHA NPC Welsh representative

### **Baroness Joyce Gould of Potter Newton**

Baroness Gould is currently chair of the Independent Advisory Group on Sexual Health and HIV. She is a House of Lords Life Peer with a strong interest in sexual health.

### **Allan Harrison**

Allan is a Sexual Health Adviser. Who works in the Dept of Genitourinary Medicine, Newcastle General Hospital

He has worked as a Sexual Health Adviser for just over three years. Prior to this his background was working for eleven years as a Senior Staff Nurse on the Dept of Infection & Tropical Medicine at Newcastle General Hospital, four of which were spent as the Research Co-ordinator for HIV and infection related drug trials.

His main interests within the sexual health field are issues relating to HIV positive clients and men having sex with men, particularly around partner notification hence the introduction of Internet based notification.

### **Claire McCluskey**

Has worked part-time as a Sexual Health Adviser in Genito-Urinary Medicine in the Royal (Belfast) for eight years now.

She is an accredited counsellor with British Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy and for the "other half" of her week works as a couples and family Counsellor both with Relate and in independent counselling/supervision practice.

She is an ex-nurse and has prior counselling experience in both addictions and working with young people.

### **Lyndsey Mc Cann**

Lyndsey Mc Cann is the Area Sexual Health Advisor, Southern Health & Social Care Trust: Lyndsey holds a unique post in Northern Ireland in that it is a combination of both sexual health promotion work and sexual health advising in both GUM and community settings. The 'Sexelearning' programme being presented was developed in response to the recommendations of a Sexual Health Training Needs Analysis undertaken with health, social services, youth and education staff from within the Southern Area in NI which called for "innovative methods" of delivering a "mixed learning programme".

### **Martin Murchie**

Martin is the Senior Sexual Health Adviser at the Sandyford Initiative-The Centre for Sexual Health in Glasgow

He is the longstanding SSHA Scottish Representative on the NPC and SSHA Membership secretary and has played a big part in ensuring that the professional issues and the concerns of Sexual Health Advisers are regularly raised as part of the Sexual Health Agenda in Scotland.

### **Mel Ottewill**

Mel is a qualified nurse & Social Worker.

She has worked as a Sexual Health Adviser for over 10 years and been the Senior Sexual Health Adviser in the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton since 2002.

Mel became the Educational Officer for SSHA in 2007 and has been part of the sub-committee progressing the work on registration & also part of the sub-committee who has developed a day's training on risk reduction using a motivational interviewing approach.

### **Robert Palmer**

Robert has a background in media and arts, having working as a professional broadcaster and performance artist in the UK, Canada and US.

He has been a sexual health advisor and psychotherapist for over 15 years and presently works part-time at Guy's and St. Thomas'. Robert also freelances as a trainer and lecturer with particular interest in gender, diversity, sex and sexuality, teaching healthcare professionals and providing tailored interventions for private companies. He has published in therapeutic journals in both the UK and US, has contributed to magazines as diverse as Skin 2 and Positive Nation, as well as edited collections of psychological essays. He lives in Bethnal Green with roses round the door and an evil scratchy cat.

### **Janine Roderick**

Janine completed general nurse training at the University Hospital of Wales in 1994 and following this worked in trauma and general practice. She has now worked in sexual health for 10 years and as a sexual health adviser for 6 years. She is currently studying for a Masters Degree in Health Promotion.

She is particularly interested in the areas of sexual health risk reduction and the care of individuals who have been sexually assaulted.

### **Dr K N Sankar**

Dr K N Sankar is a Consultant in Genitourinary medicine at Newcastle GH

### **Hopeton Shaw**

Hopeton is the Senior Health Adviser, Marlborough Department, Royal Free Hospital, London. He is Currently involved in the Risk-Reduction/NICE Group and is a UKCP registered Psychotherapist.

### **Dorinda Thirlby**

Dorinda Thirlby is currently a Health Adviser at Withington Community Hospital, Manchester. She is currently involved in risk reduction /NICE group. And was a key part of the SSHA manual steering group, She is ex SSHA council, Registered Nurse and a UKCP registered Psychotherapist.

### **Richard West**

Richard West is the Health Adviser Lead for Young People's Services and works at West Middlesex University Hospital  
He has worked as a Health Adviser for West Middlesex University Hospital over two years, with half his role dedicated to Young People's Sexual Health Services. This involves developing young people's sexual health clinics/drop ins, in both GUM and the community. He also visits schools, pupil referral units and other youth settings to provide Sex and Relationships Education to young people and training to professionals. Previous to Health Advising his background has been predominately in the youth sector, working most recently as an Intensive Personal Adviser for Connexions providing holistic support and guidance. He has a degree in Psychology, specialising in Health Psychology, from Royal Holloway, University of London.

### **Heather Wilson**

Heather Wilson. Health Adviser since 1989. Working at the Sexual Health clinic in Barnet, North London. Currently involved in the NICE/risk reduction group. Contributor and member of the editorial committee for the Health Adviser manual. Health Adviser rep on the DH Independent Advisory Group on Sexual Health, Ex member SSHA council. UKSCC registered social worker