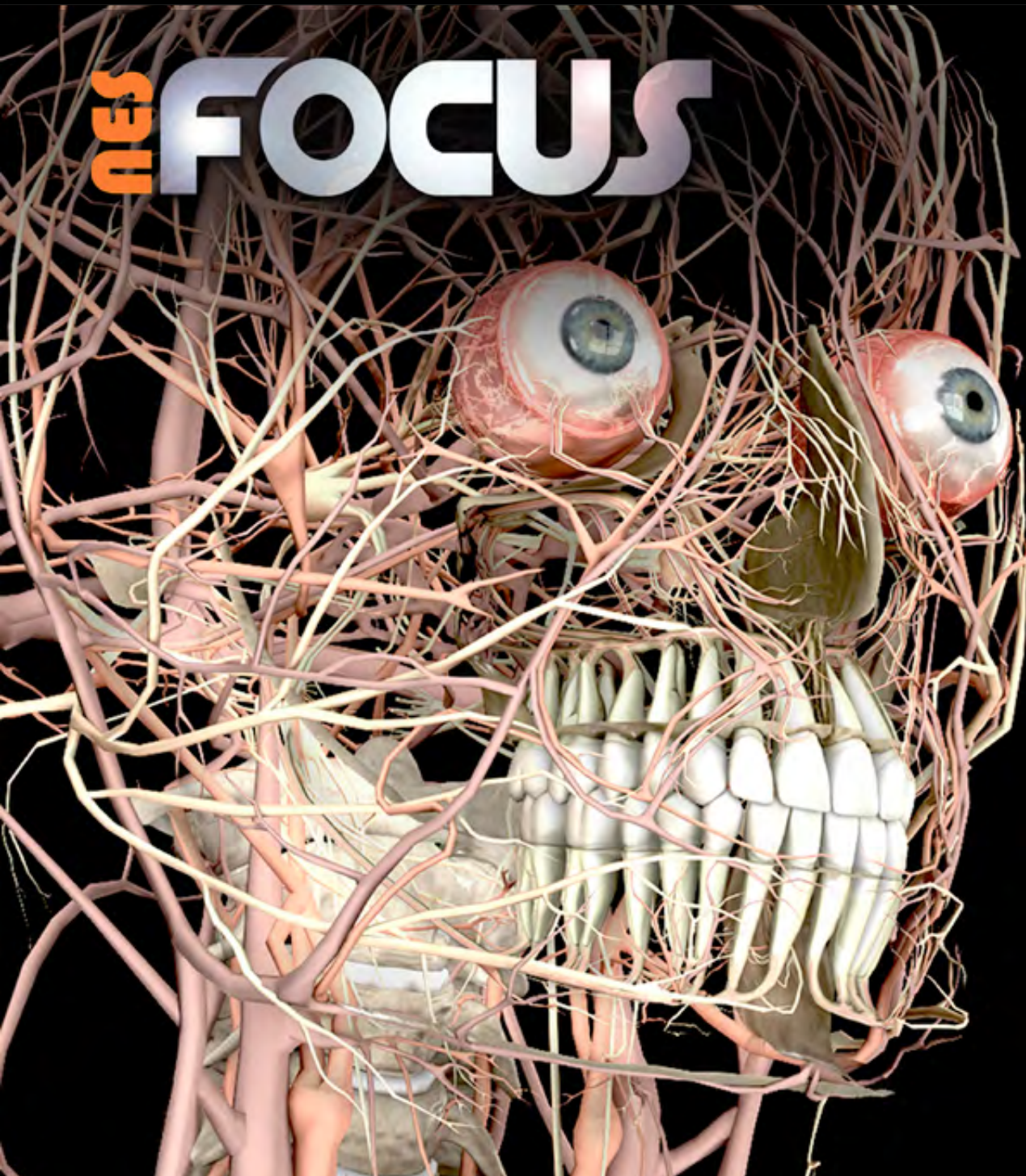


nes FOCUS

NHS
Education
for
Scotland



FOCUS ON...

IN FOCUS



IN FOCUS
Introduction

aWORD

from the Chair & Chief Executive


A very warm welcome to our summer issue of fOCUS. We hope you enjoy this issue's snapshot of some of the exciting and varied work underway in NES.

In Head of the Class, we take a closer look at the development of innovative technological solutions, incorporating 3-D technology and interactive anatomy, designed to support the education and training of the dental team in the first instance but with clear opportunities for other healthcare professionals of the future.

We also look at some of the work underway around providing advice and care for patients with acute dental problems, one of several evidence-based guidance educational initiatives developed by the Scottish Dental Clinical Effectiveness Programme (SDCEP).

We also feature a look back at our presence at the recent NHSScotland event. You can read more about the NES stand, who dropped by, and the role of our Mobile Skills Unit which dominated the exhibition hall skyline.

This issue also reports on the recent graduation of over 200 new Dementia Champions, each one of whom is set to improve standards of health and social care provision for people with dementia in Scotland. A great achievement for all concerned.

Our fOCUS survey is still running and we'd urge you to complete it. It will only take five minutes and will help us know that we are meeting your needs, or how we can improve the publication for you. **You can complete the survey here** 

Join the
Conversation

▶ As always, you can join our conversation by liking us on **Facebook** and following us on **Twitter**.

FOCUS on...

3-D technology and interactive anatomy

HEAD ^{of} the CLASS

3-D technology and interactive anatomy join forces to provide a world first in training for healthcare professionals



Scotland's First Minister launches innovative approach to education and training for healthcare staff

In April, Scotland's First Minister, Alex Salmond, MSP, experienced, first-hand, how 3-D technologies and interactive anatomy can work together to improve training for healthcare professionals.

Following three years of development, NES is launching innovative educational resources that will enhance the understanding of anatomy, improve

patient safety, and increase the flexibility of training for all healthcare professionals.

They represent a significant time and financial investment by NES to help meet the Scottish Government's Quality Strategy aims of improving patient safety and aspirations in their recently announced digital strategy.

FOCUS on...**3-D technology and interactive anatomy**

First Minister Alex Salmond said:

"I am delighted to be launching this hugely exciting venture that could transform medical and dental training by giving students an opportunity to learn about human anatomy using virtual reality tools.

"Scotland is leading the way when it comes to 3D visualisation, with our innovative Scottish Ten project already capturing some of the world's most precious heritage sites in digital form to aid conservation efforts and improve education.

"Using the same technology as the Scottish Ten, the 3D Digital Head and Neck will keep Scotland at the forefront of clinical technology and training, opening up opportunities for these techniques to be used in other medical disciplines.

"This project is an excellent example of partnership working, with the clinical expertise of the NHS and University of Glasgow working in tandem with the Digital Design Studio at Glasgow School of Art to produce a truly ground-breaking clinical training tool."

Following a rigorous procurement process that attracted interest from across Europe and the UK, NES has worked with the Digital Design Studio (DDS), part of the Glasgow School of Art, to produce the world's first anatomically accurate interactive 3-D Head and Neck learning resource.

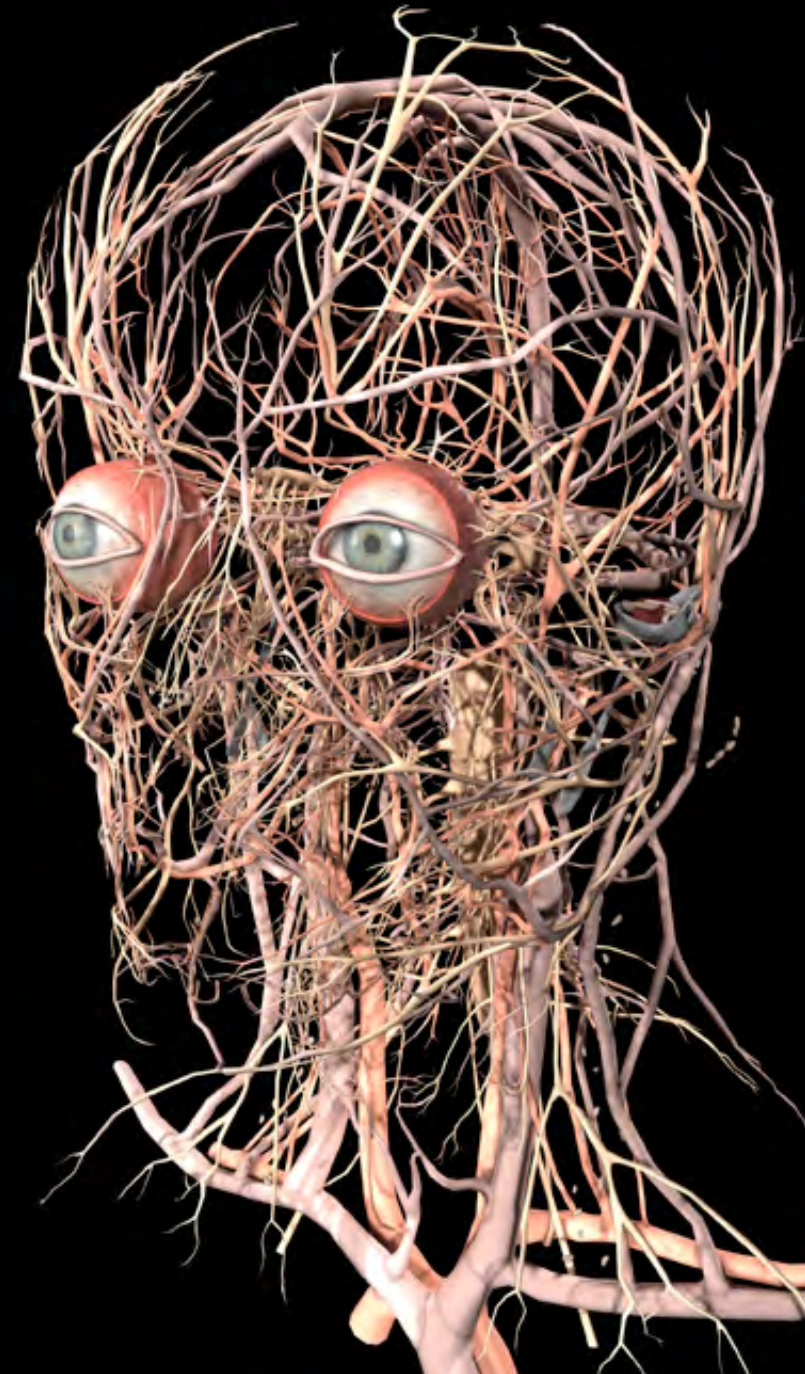
Dr David Felix, NES Dean for Dental Training said:

"This is a fantastic example of effective partnership working. The project has produced user friendly resources which put Scotland at the forefront of education and training internationally, not just within dentistry but also for healthcare professionals in other disciplines.

"I am delighted that we have agreed to invest a further £100,000 to continue the development of the 3-D model and details are being finalised with DDS.

"In addition, NES will also fund a clinical lecturer based in the Dental School in Glasgow who will also register for a doctoral level research degree in the theme area of medical visualisation. The project chosen will build upon the current strong collaboration between the Dental School and the Digital Design Studio of the Glasgow School of Art."

The 3D Head and Neck will enable dissection education to be taken to the next level. Construction of the model required careful dissection of a cadaver, with laser scanning at each stage, to ensure that all anatomical details were captured in three dimensions. DDS then used their expertise to reconstruct the head and neck and develop software that could manipulate the model.



FOCUS on...

3-D technology and interactive anatomy

This extremely accurate model and software allows students to dissect the head and neck "virtually" whether this is by rotating the head and neck, zooming in on specific areas or focusing on discrete anatomical structures such as nerves or blood vessels as often as they like. When used in one of the 3-D teaching laboratories, students can immerse themselves in the anatomy of the head and neck and appreciate the relationship between different structures from any angle.

"The 3D Digital Head and Neck has been one of the most important multi-disciplinary research projects undertaken by the Digital Design Studio to date," says DDS Director, Professor Paul Anderson. "It has been a privilege to work with NES and with academic colleagues and medical practitioners across Scotland to create this important clinical resource, which will revolutionise the training of healthcare professionals and improve patient safety."

"It is the highest resolution 3D model of a human male head and neck currently available in the world, he adds "which includes dynamic transparency and culling of volumes. It enables immediate recognition of related anatomical structures, from superficial to deep, thus allowing easy identification of structures that may be at risk from medical or surgical intervention."

Integral to the development of the interactive anatomy model was the development of an innovative, interactive dental injection simulator. This simulator gives students the opportunity to feel what it is like to give a dental local anaesthetic injection and links this with the anatomical model to check that the injection would have been successful.

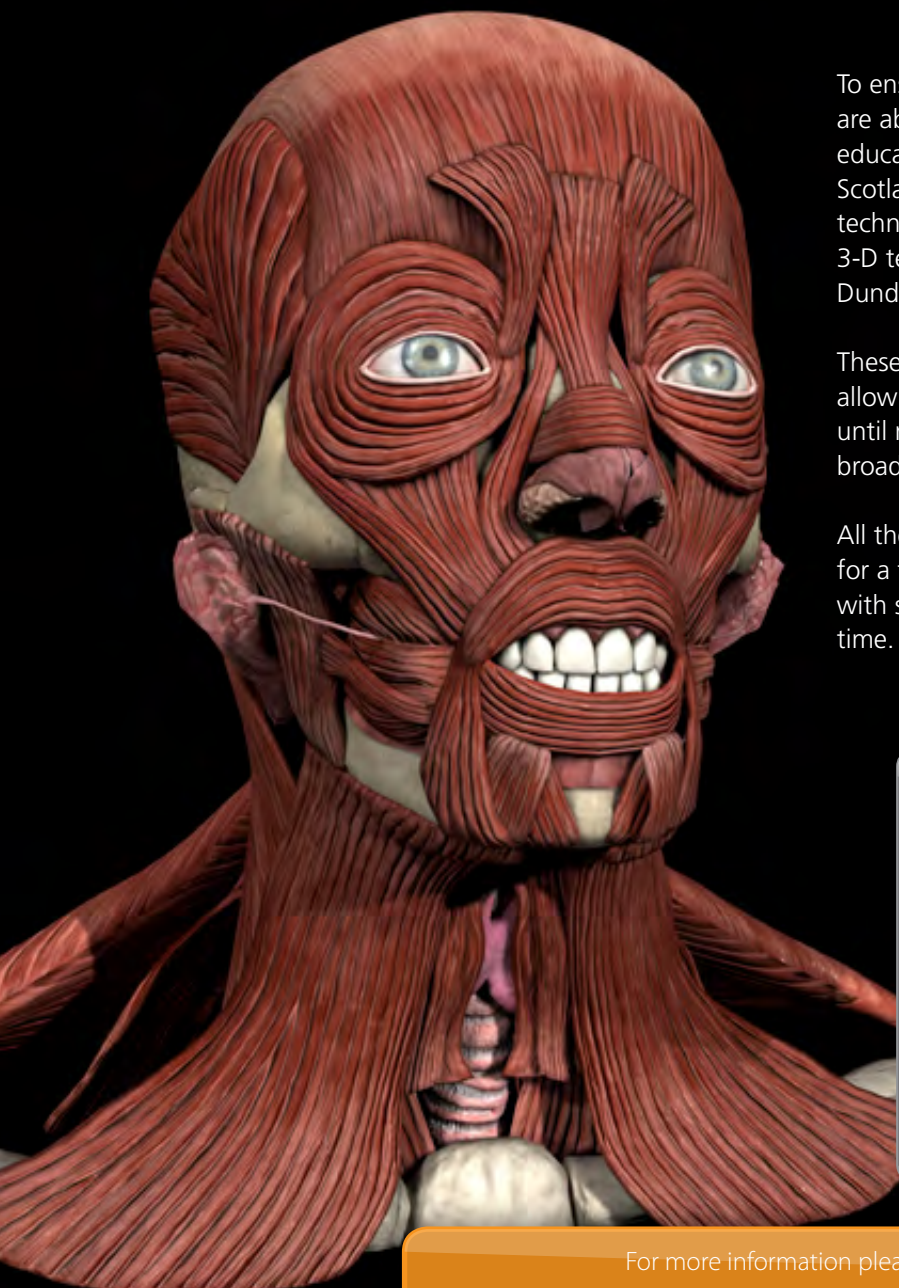
Allowing students to practice giving injections as often as they want with no consequences to patients helps them feel less apprehensive when giving their first injections to real patients. Good news for both patients and students.

In fact, dentists at Dundee and Glasgow Dental Schools involved in the testing of the simulator have commented that despite their years of experience they feel more comfortable giving injections having used the simulator.



FOCUS on...

3-D technology and interactive anatomy



To ensure that dental teams and undergraduates are able to take advantage of the new educational resources, and to ensure that Scotland is able to maximise the use of new technologies, NES has invested in state of the art 3-D teaching laboratories in Aberdeen, Dumfries, Dundee, Glasgow, Inverness and Stornoway.

These laboratories use active 3-D technology that allow students to experience a level of 3-D that until now has only been available to professional broadcasters and media.

All the centres are linked and it is possible for a tutor in one centre to lead a lesson with students at multiple centres at the same time. This capability is already being used by




hygiene/therapy students of the University of the Highlands and Islands based in Dumfries, Inverness and Stornoway.

Colm Rice, a dental tutor in Stornoway, has welcomed the innovative educational approaches: *"... the integration of state of the art cutting edge technology within the new dental facilities has given us the ability and resources to provide high quality training and education. The course has already attracted several students from the islands with young families who were unable to move to the mainland to study and are delighted to have this opportunity locally."*


These facilities will be available to local groups such as schools and other public sectors to help meet the aspirations of Scotland's Digital Strategy.



Links to video footage

-  <http://vimeo.com/glasgowschoolofart/ddsdentalinjection>
-  <http://vimeo.com/glasgowschoolofart/ddsheadandneck>
-  <http://vimeo.com/glasgowschoolofart/ddsnerves>

Link to video package from Scottish Government Video Unit:

-  <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2013/04/3D24042013>



Link to stills

-  <http://www.flickr.com/photos/nhseducationforscotland/sets/72157633315602227/>

IN FOCUS

The Management of Acute Dental Problems

unscheduled CARE

Providing advice and care for
patients with acute dental problems

Management of Acute Dental Problems is one of several evidence-based guidance publications from the Scottish Dental Clinical Effectiveness Programme (SDCEP). While focused on improving the quality of oral health care, this is an interesting example of a multi-disciplinary educational initiative of relevance to a diverse healthcare audience..

NHS 24 and Health Boards work together with dental practices to ensure that emergency dental services are available both during normal working hours and out of hours.

While patients who experience an acute dental problem do use these services directly, a significant number may seek advice and care from other healthcare providers, including their general medical practitioner, local pharmacy or emergency department.

This was the backdrop for the development of guidance recently published by the Scottish Dental Clinical Effectiveness Programme (SDCEP) which operates within NES's Dental Directorate.

Management of Acute Dental Problems aims to facilitate the consistent provision of safe and effective care for those with an acute dental condition that is tailored to each patient's needs.

IN FOCUS

The Management of Acute Dental Problems

SDCEP convened a multi-disciplinary group to research and write the guidance and consulted widely during its development. This helped maximise the suitability of the guidance for use in the range of healthcare settings in which staff may be asked to advise or manage a patient with an acute dental problem.


Most patients will have one or more of a few typical symptoms, such as pain, swelling, bleeding or trauma. Within the guidance, decision support flowcharts based on these symptoms lead the

user through the initial decision making process to identify any immediate attention or advice that they can give to the patient, prioritise their subsequent care and determine the appropriate care provider.

More detailed guidance on a range of acute dental conditions is also provided.

SDCEP has provided the guidance in three formats: a detailed document, a quick reference guide and an interactive Web App for viewing on computer, tablet or smartphone.

SDCEP's Management of Acute Dental Problems guidance is an example of a NES initiative that bridges the healthcare disciplines for the benefit of patients.

A World Health Organisation oral health target for 2020 is to increase the number of healthcare providers who are competent to recognise and manage various acute dental problems. With its relevance to both dental and non-dental healthcare providers. This new guidance aims to contribute to achieving this target. 



The Web App can be accessed at:

 <http://madp.sdcep.org.uk>

while other versions of the guidance and further information are available at:

 www.sdcep.org.uk

or by contacting SDCEP at:

 scottishdental.cep@nes.scot.nhs.uk

IN FOCUS

NES at the NHSScotland Annual Event

stand AND DELIVER

Collaborating for Improvement

NES at the NHSScotland Annual Event: 11-12 June 2013

Some 1200 delegates attended this annual event and NES was there in force.

Our stand featured a number of key strands of our education and training support for NHSScotland staff.

- Medical Appraisal and Revalidation
- How to turn knowledge into action with the help of our Knowledge Network
- Tools and techniques to help you improve patient safety
- Learning resources for support workers and their managers
- A partnership approach to joint health and social care learning and development
- E-Modules to help you learn more about the harm that adverse drug reaction can cause to patients
- Using analysis, intelligence and modelling to inform workforce planning

IN FOCUS

NES at the NHSScotland Annual Event



12 June saw the Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing, Alex Neil, visit our stand to launch ***Making the Most of PDP/R***, a new type of resource designed to help staff in support roles to engage effectively with personal development planning and review processes. It involves people who have been involved in PDP/R reviewing in non-clinical services across service areas and takes the form of a filmed workshop which can be used as a flexible resource to support reviewer/manager training. It builds on earlier work we carried out with the Workers' Educational Association.

The filmed workshop is complemented by 'talking heads' of staff members describing how they have made the most of PDP/R

Mr Neil met two staff who have made good use of the process. Margaret Cardigan is Assistant Laundry Manager with NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde (GGC). This facility provides the laundry services for delivery to hospital sites across NHS GG&C's remit. As part of her role, Margaret manages and supports the development of the 57 staff in the laundry. A keen lifelong learner, she is an enthusiastic champion of engagement and learning for staff working at all levels within the organisation.

Lorna Doherty is a supervisor in domestic services in the community in NHS Lanarkshire. As part of her role, she manages and supports the development of 30 staff across six sites. Lorna was a participant in the NES-funded KSF Essential Skills Programme, delivered by WEA.

Mr Neil then visited our Mobile Skills Unit which dominated the skyline in the Exhibition area!

Simulation based education enables healthcare students and staff to 'prepare for clinical practice' in a safe environment (for learners and patients) with the benefits of video based feedback or debriefing as a powerful learning tool.

NES's strategy for high quality, standardised clinical skills training for all staff and all geographies in Scotland has included a commitment to ensuring staff and patients in Remote and Rural settings are able to benefit from the same leading edge simulation based education that is available in specialised centres.

In 2009, we commissioned and evaluated a Mobile Skills Unit (MSU) with on board mid-fidelity simulation equipment and video based feedback facilities to assess the delivery of simulation based education in Remote and Rural settings. Following a highly successful evaluation, the MSU has been incorporated into mainstream NES funding with a dedicated team in the Clinical Skills Managed Education Network to manage the Unit and the delivery of varied educational events and courses.

IN FOCUS


NES at the NHSScotland Annual Event

In the last four years the Unit has delivered over 370 training sessions to more than 3300 staff in 36 Remote and Rural locations across Scotland. Over 20 different educational activities have been delivered from basic resuscitation training by local educators to advanced paediatric and neonatal resuscitation and stabilisation delivered by educators from specialist centres.

Each visit to a locality is generally for two weeks and includes a programme agreed with local educators and supported by the NES team in the Clinical Skills Managed Educational Network. It is the network of wider support that makes the Unit one of the most successful anywhere in the world.


Increasingly, the Unit is being used by other public services (fire, police, RNLI) and for basic resuscitation training for the public through the Heartstart programme.

Both the Alex Neil and the Minister for Public Health, Michael Matheson, took time out to visit the Unit. Mr Matheson was persuaded to test out the Heart Start resuscitation equipment which is used not only to train professional healthcare staff but also the general public.

Elsewhere in the exhibition hall, we shared a stand with the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman (SPSO). We used the opportunity to promote the launch of an online educational resource for all NHSScotland staff to deal with patient feedback, concerns and complaints called **Can I Help You?** 

The interactive modules raise awareness of topics like the value of apology, and encouraging feedback from patients and provide staff with knowledge of the NHS complaints process. They emphasise front line resolution to prevent escalation and focus on person centred care.

We also had success in the poster submission process with five NES abstracts being accepted which give an idea of the range and depth of our work.

- Building Capacity for Remote, Rural Knowledge Exchange: A Global Health Collaboration
- Promoting Excellence in Person Centred Dementia Care and Support
- A Collaborative Approach to Improving Educating for Patient Safety Training for NHSScotland
- Releasing Time to Learn – making our priorities possible
- Ensuring the quality of AHP Practice Education 



IN FOCUS
Dementia Champions

we are the **CHAMPIONS**

Over 200 new Dementia Champions to improve standards of health and care provision for people with dementia in Scotland



On 2 May 2013, 210 healthcare and social services professionals graduated from the second and third cohorts of Scotland's Dementia Champions Programme. This is the first cohort to include social services staff who will take their skills into local communities. The original 100 healthcare graduates from 2012 are already making a measurable difference in how people with dementia are cared for in Scotland's acute hospitals.

IN FOCUS Dementia Champions

The graduation ceremony featured a keynote address from Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing, Alex Neil MSP. The Cabinet Secretary is committed to Scotland being able to deliver the best possible standards of care and support for people with dementia.

Mr Neil said: *"This event is about recognising all the graduates who have successfully completed the Dementia Champions Programme. Their roles are invaluable to the people with dementia, in hospitals and other care settings, and their families."*

"It is essential that both health and social care staff are well equipped to understand the care people with dementia and their families are entitled to, in order to ensure that services are of the highest standards."

"The graduates will be supported to apply what they have learned in their workplaces so that they can improve dementia services right across the country."

"Empowering staff to deliver dignified and personalised dementia care builds on Scotland's strong performance on increasing diagnosis rates and our national action on supporting people after a diagnosis."

The Dementia Champions will work closely with Alzheimer Scotland's Nurse Specialists/Consultants across all NHS Boards in Scotland. Together, they will support NHS Boards and social services organisations to focus on bringing about improvements in the experiences and outcomes of care, treatment and support for people with dementia, their families and carers across in acute hospital settings and in social services organisations which bridge hospitals and communities.

NES commissioned the University of the West of Scotland (UWS) in partnership with Alzheimer Scotland to develop, deliver and evaluate the programme. NES and SSSC invited applications for the Dementia Champions programme from NHS Boards and social services organisations.

Malcolm Wright, Chief Executive at NES, said: *"The second and third groups of graduates are made up of a diverse range of staff from health and social services. All have a key role in ensuring real improvements in frontline dementia care, sustaining that change in their area of work and cascading information and education about dementia to other staff."*

Henry Simmons, Chief Executive of Alzheimer Scotland, added: *"The Dementia Champions are already driving forward meaningful change to people with dementia and their families and their work complements that of the Alzheimer Scotland Dementia Nurse Specialists/Consultants. We are delighted to see the new Champions reaching beyond healthcare and into social services, recognising the integrated approach necessary to delivering consistent, dementia-specific, high quality care and support for people with the illness, their carers and families."*

Anna Fowlie, Chief Executive of the Scottish Social Services Council, said: *"I welcome the inclusion of social services professionals in the Dementia Champions' Development Programme. Working together with health services, we can really improve the quality of the care journey for people with dementia, their families and carers from home to hospital and back again. Good quality social care working effectively with health services can prevent unnecessary admission to hospital and ensure that earlier discharge with the right support becomes the norm."*



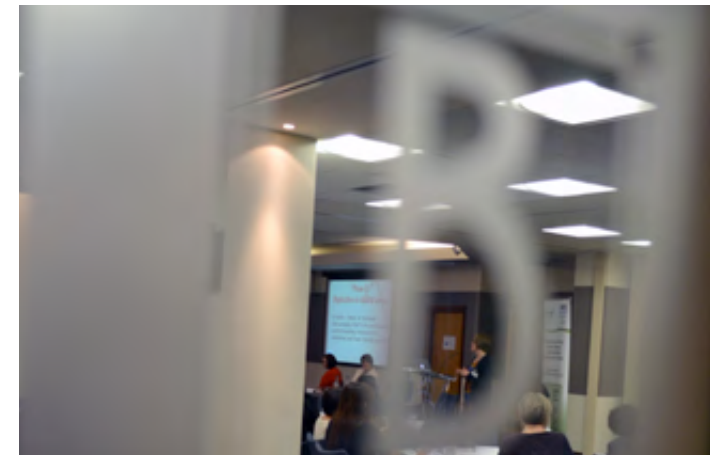
IN FOCUS
Effective Practitioner

effective NETWORKING

Effective Practitioner in NHSScotland: engaging, discussing and shaping to 2016



Effective Practitioner provides work-based learning resources and support for nurses, midwives and allied health professionals at level 5 and 6 of the career framework for health. It assists them to deliver the three quality ambitions of the NHS Healthcare Quality Strategy for NHSScotland – person-centered, safe and effective care.



One hundred and thirty nurses, midwives and allied health professionals enjoyed the Effective Practitioner national event at the Beardmore conference centre in April. Hazel Dykes, co-chair of the Effective Practitioner steering group chaired the event. Belinda Dewar, Professor of Practice Improvement, University of the West of Scotland gave a thought provoking keynote speech that included developing a practice model for compassionate care for everyone.

In FOCUS Effective Practitioner

It was fantastic to hear practitioners sharing their local projects at concurrent sessions, and also hear feedback from the national evaluation. Dr Lesley Holdsworth, Chair National NMAHP ehealth Network gave a keynote speech on 'Effective Practice in the Digital Age' that encouraged us to think differently about how we could use technology to the benefit of patients and practitioners. A Releasing Time to Learn workshop was very popular too.

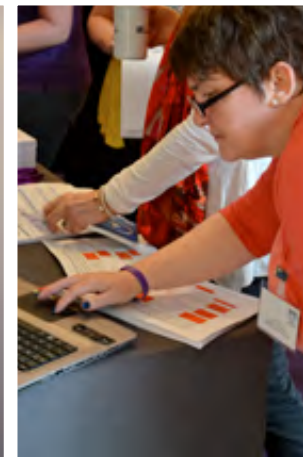
Delegates informed the development of the Effective Practitioner initiative over the next three years in a visioning environment. Messages included ...

"Effective Practitioner will be a resource that everyone uses in NHSScotland"

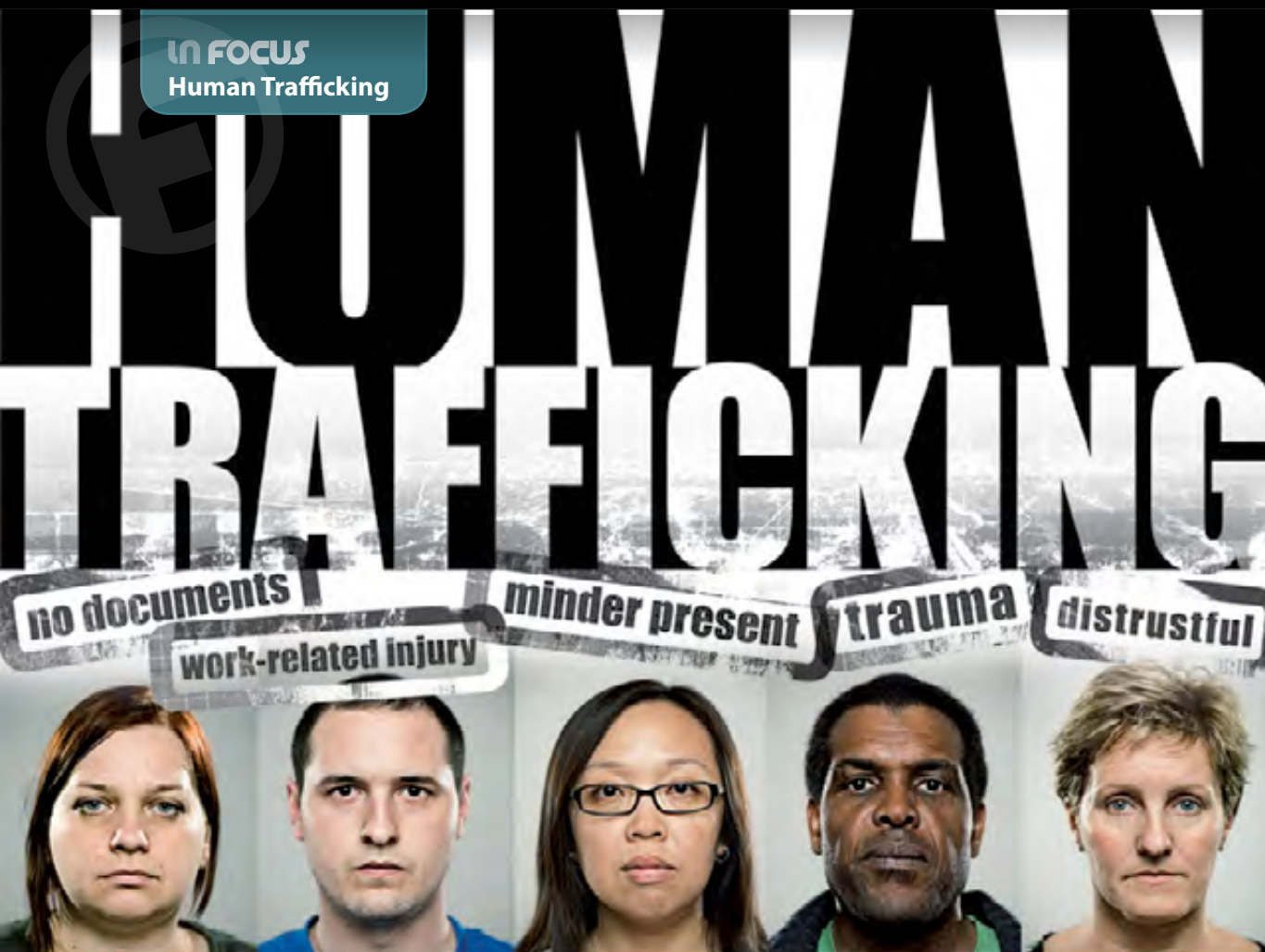
"Practitioners will be empowered to facilitate change and influence practice"

"There is a culture where workbased learning is valued and supported"

W Video footage of the presentations, photos and copies of the posters are all available online



IN FOCUS
Human Trafficking



Can you read the signs?

For a victim of human trafficking, contact with someone in the health service may be the first – or only – chance to ask for help.

New Educational Resources on Human Trafficking

NES and NHS Health Scotland have developed new resources to support health and social care staff in identifying and managing victims of human trafficking.

The work was completed in partnership with NHS Health Scotland within their Gender-Based Violence Programme. It also links to Equality and Diversity and e-learning workstreams.

Human Trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery. People are recruited and transported from their communities for the purpose of exploitation. There are many different reasons for human trafficking; the most prominent are commercial sexual exploitation, forced labour and domestic servitude.

It takes place all over Scotland, not just in urban areas, and it is joint responsibility between the Scottish Government, the UK Government, the police, local authorities and support agencies.

“The health consequences of human trafficking are such that the NHS may be the one public agency to which a victim will turn for assistance. The provision of healthcare services to victims may therefore present the opportunity not only to address their health needs but also to facilitate access to wider support services that can afford them care and protection.”

CEL 19 (2012) 7 June 2012

IN FOCUS

Human Trafficking

NHS Health Scotland was asked by the Chief Nursing Officer to develop a brief leaflet to accompany the guidance for healthcare staff in detecting and responding to victims of trafficking created by the Scottish Government. NES was tasked to develop training resources that will equip staff with the knowledge and skills to manage the health consequences of human trafficking.

A team led by Katie Cosgrove, Gender-based Violence Programme Manager at Health Scotland, and Sabine Nolte from the NES Educational Development Directorate produced a leaflet and a short e-learning module, with the aim to raise awareness of trafficking issues so that staff know what trafficking looks like, where it happens, and what they can do about it.

The main target audience for the e-learning module are health and social care staff who are interacting with patients, but it should be of interest to all staff at all levels, from frontline staff to managers.

Further partnership work and developments in this topic area are planned for 2013-14, in order to support victims and stop this terrible crime.

Useful links

The guidance document:

- [Human Trafficking. What health workers need to know about human trafficking](#)
- [Human trafficking: Inter-departmental ministerial group report 2012](#)
- [The Human Trafficking leaflet and other related resources](#)

Access to the e-learning module:

- [learnPro NHS](#)
- [learnPro Community](#)
- [NES Portal](#)

Getting FRESH

Strategic Framework Refresh

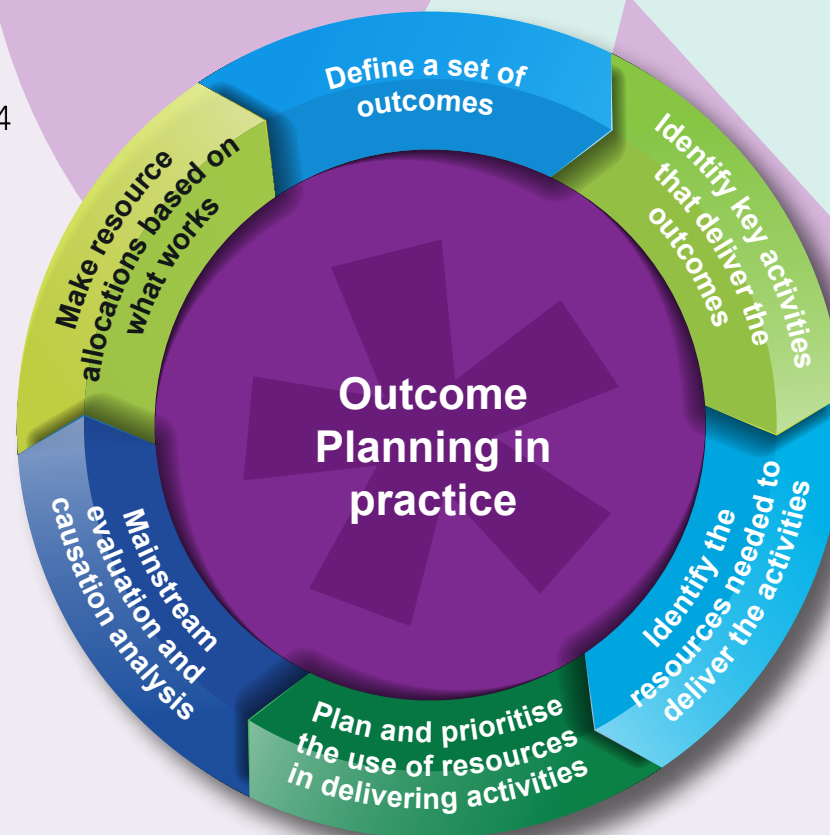
We are about to refresh of our current strategic framework for 2011-14
Quality Education for a Healthier Scotland.

The review will highlights the progress we have made against our current strategic themes and objectives and will also consider which of these need to be continued and further developed into outcomes.

The refresh will look at how we put the person at the centre of our work by aligning our activities with the Quality Strategy and the 20:20 Vision.

In addition, while our current ways of working represent our values based on staff feedback, the refresh will address the extent to which these are now being applied in our day to day work, while also ensuring that they align with the values of the 20:20 Workforce Vision. It is also proposed that the new strategic framework will adopt an Outcome Planning Framework as outlined.

We will be consulting with you later in the year. If you want more information on how you can have your say please contact nes.planning@nes.scot.nhs.uk



IN FOCUS
Equal Partners in Care



Who CARES about CARERS?

Equal Partners in Care - working together to achieve better outcomes for carers and young carers



Equal Partners in Care

Working together to achieve better outcomes for carers and young carers

Equal Partners in Care (EPiC) is a joint project between NES and the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) to implement the workforce education and learning elements of Caring Together 2010-15, the Carers Strategy for Scotland, and Getting it Right for Young Carers. Our aim is to support workers from health and social services to work in partnership with carers and young carers, and to achieve better outcomes for all involved in the caring relationship. This supports the Carers Strategy vision that it is "everyone's job to identify and support carers".

Carers are the cornerstone of a number of Scottish Government policies and strategies, including Reshaping Care for Older People, the Dementia Strategy, and Self-Directed Support. With the changing demographic profile in Scotland, current models of service delivery are unsustainable and increasingly care will be provided at home and in the community. Currently the care provided by unpaid

IN FOCUS

Equal Partners in Care

carers saves the taxpayer more than £10 billion - equivalent to a second NHS in Scotland (Carers Scotland, 2011). It is essential that carers receive adequate support to enable them to continue caring.

As NES and the SSSC have a lead role in workforce development for health and social care, the two organisations have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to prepare the health and social services workforce for the future of increasing joint services. Carers and young carers are a key theme in their joint action plan.

The name of the project is derived from the Carers Strategy which states: "We recognise carers as equal partners in the delivery of care in Scotland and fully acknowledge the expertise, knowledge and the quality of care they give." (Caring Together, the Carers Strategy for Scotland 2010-15)

Carers have a unique role in the life of the person they care for and have a right to be involved in the planning and delivery of services. They have valuable knowledge to contribute and any decision will have an impact on their caring role. Person-centred working should see each person who uses services, their carers, and workers from health and social services as partners in achieving

better outcomes for all involved in the caring relationship.

To foster this change in culture, staff should also feel valued as equal partners. Managers and employers have a role in ensuring that a person-centred ethos is evident throughout the organisation.

Equal partners could equally refer to the joint working relationship between NES and SSSC. During the consultation phase of the project, it was evident that workers from both sectors had shared values but different terminology for expressing these. One of the challenges has been the absence of a shared language for integration.

A key action for the project was to develop a set of core principles for working with carers and young carers. These are intended to underpin workforce education and learning so workers in health, social services and other relevant sectors have a shared understanding of the knowledge and skills they need.

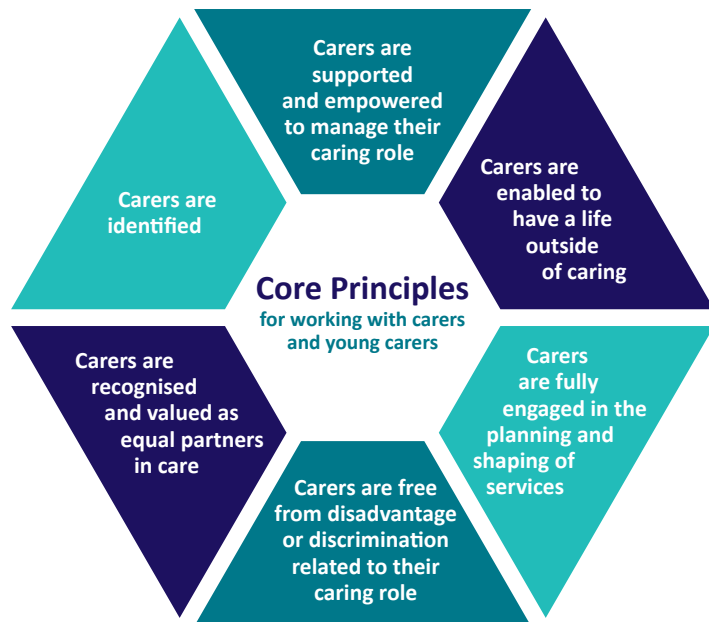
The project consulted widely with carers of all ages, staff with different roles in health and social services, managers and employers, educators and trainers, carers organisations, professional bodies, local authorities, health boards, and others who have a role in identifying and supporting carers.



IN FOCUS
Equal Partners in Care

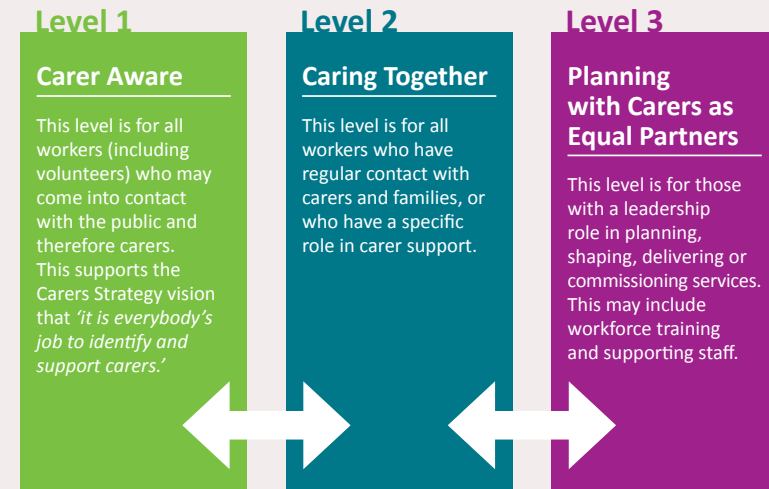
A recurring theme was the issue of terminology, particularly around person-centredness, personalisation and personal outcomes. In response to this, the jargon was pared back to maximise understanding and usability of the core principles in different practice settings.

The principles are based on six key outcomes for carers and young carers. Each outcome is linked to the knowledge and skills workers need to effectively support carers to achieve this outcome.



There are three levels of the principles:

- Level 1**
Carer aware
- Level 2**
Caring together
- Level 3**
Planning with carers as equal partners



The principles can be used by individual workers to reflect on and improve their practice; by educators and trainers to plan learning outcomes for induction, CPD and other learning; to inform higher and further education curricula for health, social care and social work; and by managers as part of staff support and supervision. They are mapped to the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (KSF), as well as the Continuous Learning Framework (CLF) and the National Occupational Standards (NOS), to facilitate their use in career development.

The EPiC core principles were launched on 12 June, as part of a Carers Reception hosted in Edinburgh Castle by the Cabinet Secretary to mark Carers Week.

The next step for the project is to disseminate and implement the core principles.

EPiC Implementation Demonstrator Sites have been identified to pilot the principles and assist in the development of an evaluation methodology to capture their impact. Those involved in the consultation phase of the project have been invited to join an EPiC Implementation Network and promote the core principles in their practice setting. A series of learning and sharing events will take place towards the end of the year to showcase improving practice in relation to carers and young carers. This links to the Scottish Government's commitment that "best practice will become universal practice".

NES Board Meetings

NES Board business meetings are held throughout the year and are open to the public. The meetings normally begin at 10.15 am and last 2 - 3 hours.

Anyone interested in attending a Board business meeting should contact David Ferguson, Board Services Manager, on 0131 656 3424 or via:

[✉ david.ferguson@nes.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:david.ferguson@nes.scot.nhs.uk)

The Board business meeting dates from now until March 2014 are set out below. Details of the venues will be publicised in due course, although the meetings will normally take place at Westport 102, West Port, Edinburgh, which is the new Edinburgh office base for NES.

2013

Thursday 1 August
 Thursday 12 September
 Thursday 24 October
 Thursday 5 December

2014

Thursday 23 January
 Thursday 13 March

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