



## RCN Council

<b>Date of meeting:</b>	<b>23 July 2015</b>
<b>Title of Paper:</b>	<b>President's report to Council</b>
<b>Appendices:</b>	<b>n/a</b>
<b>Presented by:</b>	<b>Cecilia Anim</b>
<b>Is a decision required? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></b>	

This reporting period has certainly been eventful and offered the opportunity to deepen my insight into the experiences of our members across the UK.

A common theme emerging from my interaction with members has been a sense that we need to do more to find ways for members to engage with the College.

Promoting proactive member engagement with the myriad of valuable services that the RCN provides to its members is crucial. We saw excellent examples of this during congress through the use of #rcn15 on twitter.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Comments</b>
24 April	Visit to the York Teaching Hospitals NHS FT in Scarborough and Bridlington	Travelled from Hull to Bridlington with RCN senior officer Sharon Benstead and regional operational manager Karl Norwood. We visited the district hospital and spent some time with the staff at the orthopaedics ward and observed the innovative way care is being managed both pre and post-surgery to improve patient outcomes. We also visited the minor injuries unit for a short period of time. We continued onto Scarborough Hospital met senior nursing staff as well as the RCN lead steward Carol

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		<p>Popplestone. Carol shared a detailed overview of the key challenges and opportunities faced by members in the region. She underlined the issues of recruitment and retention and staffing levels as key areas of concern. I also met with RCN council member, Roy Tomlinson and visited the Dales unit. This is a newly refurbished ward a good environment for both staff and patient wellbeing then to paediatrics had a positive experience with this visit made most welcome despite the daily challenges faced by staff.</p> <p>The day concluded with a meeting of RCN members and staff in the region and we were also joined by a medic.</p>
30 April	Cecilia/Emma Selim (RCN Communications officer) -blog and speech from 19th	
	Ethics Committee Meeting	
	Congress Fringe shaping	
1 May	RCNi Nurse Awards	<p>These awards have been designed to celebrate nursing practice and innovation. The winner was praised for her work on tackling domestic abuse and violence.</p>
4 May	Citizen UK General Election Accountability Assembly	<p>This event was attended by stakeholders from public services, business communities, charities, voluntary organisations trade unions, students, youth organisations and religious communities.</p> <p>The aim is to build a new generation of civic leaders prepared to act together for the common good.</p> <p>The RCN is a signatory organisation in support of this</p> <p>Movement and early successes have been aware securing support for the living wage. I was particularly impressed to see such strong engagement with younger people and there are perhaps valuable lessons to be learned from the way in which this network has sought to engage with groups that are often defined as hard-to-reach.</p>
6 May	Florence Nightingale Commemoration Service and reception	Annual event at Westminster Abbey
7 May	Cecilia/Michael Brown/Peter Carter/Jane Clarke	Business meeting

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	Cecilia/Sarah Abley (RCN Centenary Programme manager) - catch up re Centenary	To follow up on progress to date and the way forward with planned activities
	Congress speech prep	
	Cecilia/Emma Selim/Andrew Greasley (RCN Assistant Communications officer) - recordings and speech rehearsal	
	Cecilia/Gill Coverdale (RCN's Professional Lead for Education)/Jim Blair (GOSH first Consultant Nurse for Learning Disabilities) - Hospital Passports	<p>During this meeting we discussed the importance of leadership in developing innovative practices for people with learning disabilities in hospitals and the work being done to promote better care and healthier lives</p> <p>We highlighted the need for all nurses to be both competent and confident in dealing with learning disability and the need for continuing professional development post-registration as well as ensuring that pre-registration training and development covers this area properly.</p>
8 May	Cecilia/Claire Murdoch (CEO of CNWL)	I met with Claire Murdoch, Chief Executive of my employing Trust to discuss a wide-range of interest including the continuing engagement with staff side and other professional issues
10 May	Florence Nightingale Commemoration Service	During the commemoration service, I read the first lesson. This was following by the actual wreath laying. The service was attended by a wide-variety of groups such as retired nurses, student nurses and members of the Florence Nightingale Foundation. I took the opportunity to speak to some of the retired nurses about their engagement with the College.
13 May	North East London Foundation Trust - International Nurses	This was an excellent event which drew more the engagement of more than 150 members. I spoke about the need to reclaim our profession from those that may seek to inadvertently damage it. I also used the opportunity speak to members and share with them the work that the RCN is carrying on their behalf
14 May	Speech prep / training	Preparation for Congress
	Michael Brown/Jane Clarke /Cecilia	This was a scheduled business meeting

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	Teleconference Cecilia/Ilona Johnston (Assistant International Adviser) re Zambian event	Briefing on the RCN/ZANU project
	Health Service Journal	HSJ on line Judging on Value and Improvement in medicines management as part of cost improvement and ensuring patient safety /reducing waste
15 May	Bradford University	This event was organised by Professor Brian Cantor, Vice-Chancellor of Bradford University and highlighted the range of projects and efforts designed to promote learning and development in this critical area and particularly within the nursing portfolio.
16 May	Zambia Nurses Day	I provided a keynote speech about the work that the RCN is doing with a range of organisations across the globe to secure a better future for nursing. I also provided an update on the ZUMO project. This project seeks to provide pilot implementation of the WHO safer surgery checklist. It is the product of a partnership between the RCN and the Zambian Nurses National Organisation (ZUNO),
19 May	Chief Nursing Officers BME Advisory Group	I was invited to speak to highly-experienced, senior level nurses as well as Mary Seacole leadership and development award winners about the RCN and my vision for its present and future. The event provided an excellent opportunity to share thoughts, reflections and ideas with a group of stakeholders. I reiterated the importance of all members becoming active with the RCN.
20 May	RCN Northern Regional Office	Opened the newly refurbished office welcomed by council member Gordon Lees, board members branch executive members and also attended a well organised board meeting reviewing regional activities
21 May	Congress Fringe	Business meeting
	International Committee	Attended part of international committee meeting
	RCN Northern Ireland Nurse of the Year	An annual inspirational event to celebrate nursing innovation and improvement in best patient out comes
22 May	Visit in Northern Ireland	I visited a community art project for learning disability run by an extremely talented form learning disability nurses. This supports people with LD to develop their creative skills and a training opportunity towards employment. This was a great example of what can be achieved through nursing innovation and access to funding. The programme

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		provided an inclusive and supportive environment for participants.
27 May	Speech Prep/training	
29 May	RCN NHS & Care Homes Conference	I attended this excellent conference which explored how to 'break the boundaries of care' to ensure a seamless service to patients and service users. The programme covered all aspects of care as well as highlighting the need for active involvement of all stakeholders and partners in the delivery of care including families and carers
	Peter Carter/Cecilia 121	Business meeting
	Prep for Congress speech	
2 June	Council Teleconference	
	Michael Brown /Cecilia	
3 June	Health Service Journal	I participated in a HSJ panel for the Value and Improvement in Medicines Management category.
4 June	Speech Prep/training	
	Recording for TTIP	The purpose of this activity was to engage with members in order to create awareness and participation with very important project.
	Cecilia/Bernell Bussue (RCN London Region Director)	Scheduled business meeting
9 June	East Sussex Branch Meeting	I attended the branch meeting and engaged with members in the region. We discussed current nursing issues and I reiterated the need for active participation and engagement with the RCN. Members took the opportunity to share their concerns around working conditions and the work environment.
10 June	Cecilia/Stephanie Wilson (RCN Governance Support Manager) AGM chairs agenda	Scheduled governance meeting
	Official Congress rehearsal	
12 June	Congress Fringe finalising	
	Centenary Programme Board	This was a scheduled meeting of the board

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	Cecilia/Susan Williams (RCN Senior International Advisor)	Business meeting
	Recording for Congress	
18 June	Department of Health event on learning disability	<p>I was delighted to participate in the Department of Health Learning Disability Nursing event to celebrate good practice following implementation of 'Strengthening the Commitment'. I was particularly pleased that the event included colleagues from the Irish Republic. The event provided an excellent opportunity to learn about what approaches are successful from a broad evidence base.</p> <p>I gave a speech which gave a detailed overview of where we are now and the desired future in terms of caring for people with learning disabilities and supporting those who care for them.</p>
19 June	Cecilia/Fiona Johnson (RCN Director of Communications)	Scheduled meeting, 1-1 congress programme and communication issues
	Congress speech prep	
20 – 26 June	RCN Congress	My reflections on Congress 2015 are that it was an absolutely inspiring week, characterised by cogent arguments and debates. The smooth running of the event, despite some of the technical and other challenges we faced is a testament to the hard work and outstanding expertise of the Council Executive Team, the Agenda Committee, the governance team and RCN staff.
30 June	Royal Pharmaceutical Society Presidential reception	Attended the opening of the new Royal Pharmaceutical society building. This was a great opportunity to talk about the work of the RCN.
2 July	Gateshead Health Foundation Trust	<p>This was an illuminating visit. It highlighted the role of nurses with a commissioning function as well as the knowledge and skill they bring to their roles.</p> <p>Prior to this meeting met with the DN visited a state of the art Emergency care unit designed and run by dedicated nursing team with patient centred approach and safety well evidenced .</p>
3 July	Cecilia/Janet Davies (RCN Director of Nursing and Service Delivery)	Scheduled business meeting
7 July	The 2015 Bevan Prize for Health and Wellbeing	This is an annual prize-giving event.

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8 July	Membership & Representation Committee	
	Farewell supper for Dr Peter Carter	
9 July	Michael Brown/Jane Clarke/Cecilia	
	Cecilia/Tom Sandford (RCN Director of England)	
10 July	Centenary Programme Board	
	MSS Team meeting	
16 July	Council Executive Team (teleconference)	
	Peter Carter/Michael Brown/Jane Clarke/Cecilia	