

CUTTING EDGE

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Welcome to this year's second issue of *Cutting Edge* - Edge Hill's institutional research newsletter which is issued three times a year in March, July and November.

The Research Office.

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RESEARCH UPDATE

Edge Hill's Writing Studies tutors are active researchers, but their research outputs are very different from those from non-creative art fields. Creative arts practitioner research can involve the production of cultural artefacts such as poems, films, pieces of music or, as in Robert Graham's case, work of fiction. **Cutting Edge** is pleased to present Robert's short story 'Fruit or Vegetable'.

Fruit or Vegetable by Robert Graham

Martha slices tomatoes over corn flakes for Lily's breakfast. Sarah is opening the post: a mail order catalogue, a gas statement, and a postcard from her Dad about a garden centre she already knows too much about. She's skimming the card when Martha distracts her:

'But we did fruit and vegetables in school this week, and Mrs Robinson definitely said tomatoes were a fruit. Really, Mummy.'

Sarah's mind drifts away from tomatoes and the morning post. She is thinking about Naomi, who died over a month ago, and when she thinks of Naomi she misses the maternal attentions of the older woman, which makes her sad. She also compares her own devotion to God to Naomi's, which makes her feel bad.

In the car on their way to the retail park, Sarah and Joe sit in stiff silence and look everywhere but at each other. Rain is drilling down on the sunroof.

Years ago, in another, single, life, a Saturday night might have meant Scafell, Edale or Llanberis. It meant getting out of the jammed city and feeling free amongst the leaves and lambs and hills. Single life and years ago are very appealing this morning. Ever since Naomi's death, she has been feeling bad about her own life. Jesus was so apparent in Naomi and, compared to Sarah's, her priorities were so uncluttered.

Martha says, 'Mummy? Maybe it would work if we had tomatoes in fruit salad?'

'No.'

'But it's a *fruit*.'

'It might be a fruit, but it always gets treated like a vegetable.'

'Well, that's not fair, then, is it?'

Sarah thinks Martha gets her stubbornness from Joe. She wishes Joe would deal with it now.

She wishes Joe would disappear off the face of the earth now.

Sarah loves her children, but wonders if being a mother has to involve all the soul-numbing experiences that it seems to: shopping, cooking, a torturous relationship with the washing machine and consumer adventures like this trip to a retail park. In terms of living out the Christian message, her life seems a far cry from Naomi's, who was unencumbered by husband or children.

Frustrated with not being able to find what she's looking for in the toy superstore, Sarah leaves Joe and the girls in the play area strides down the aisle labelled *Arts & Crafts*

Last night, they visited a new colleague of Joe's - a new, glamorous, *young* colleague of Joe's. Including Charlotte, their hostess, there were seven of them for a meal. Not exactly a meal; something more casual than that. True, there was summer pudding afterwards, but the preamble was a desultory smattering of choice, but inadequate, items: smoked salmon canapés, Stilton and Bath Olivers, something with anchovies.

Right in front of Sarah, Charlotte told Joe his voice was like honeycomb. 'Honestly. You should be on the radio.'

Joe raised his eyebrows and looked helpless. Charlotte said, 'I've always been a sucker for gentle voices.'

Joe replied, 'What can I say?'

You could try telling her to bog off, Sarah thought, because the light of your life is sitting listening to this *Gold Blend* smarm. But, always a sucker for anyone who appeared to like him, Joe allowed himself to be led by the nose. Charlotte laughed at even the hint of wit and he lapped it up.

Most shameful of all for Sarah was when she complimented Charlotte on the tidiness of her house, nine parts Habitat to one part Japanese minimalism - and flawless.

'I have a woman who comes and does, twice a week.'

Joe said, 'We could do with that: a woman to come and do.'

'There's no need,' Sarah said. 'You've got a woman who stays and keeps on doing - me.' The intention was to shame Joe in front of this slinky poppet, but it blew up in her own face.

'Mmm,' Charlotte said, throbbing in Joe's direction, 'I think I'd be the same if I had a nice, squeezey man. I'd just pamper him like a pussycat.'

Sarah is looking for three items: a play-table for Lily's second birthday, a tapestry kit for her niece's sixth and something or other for the third birthday of one of Lily's little friends at her childminder's. The trouble is, there are too many products to choose from.

She is beginning to despair not only of finding the presents she needs, but also of doing anything satisfactory today at all when something hits her behind the knee. She experiences a flash of adrenaline and, twisting round, comes face to face with a boy in a Buzz Lightyear track suit - *Infinity And Beyond!* it says. He's maybe eight or nine and she sees that he has kicked a football at her.

A man's voice calls, 'Sorry, love,' and when she looks in its direction she realises that this father and son are entertaining themselves by kicking a Children's World ball up and down the aisles.

She pulls a tight-lipped smile.
Aw 'ey, cheer up, love,' he goes.

Sarah flounces off in search of plastic furniture, the man's voice following her: 'Worse things happen at sea, pet, eh?'

'This,' Joe says, indicating the toddler-sized table between them and the shin-height chairs on which they are doubled up, 'is nonsense.'

Sarah didn't want to discuss anything with Joe just now. As they were undressing for bed last night, Joe said, 'Charlotte flirts with everyone. It doesn't mean anything.'

'You don't have to put up with it, though. You don't have to accept it like a birthday treat.'

'You're too extreme about everything, faith included,' he said and she failed to come up with a response. This remark has been needling her ever since.

But now, in spite of herself, she says, 'Sorry?'
'It's nonsense. I just hate the idea that having kids seems to condemn you to a life of consumerist mediocrity.'

'You always think you were so sharp and free before we had a family - before you were married, probably,' Sarah snaps at him. 'But isn't mooching in bookshops just another form of the same thing?'

Joe looks up to the ceiling and around the plastic café and sighs. 'You're just in a bad mood this morning.'

Sarah gasps a mouthful of air. 'I'm in a bad mood!'

On the way home, they stop at Beech Road, and Joe and Lily go to the Italian deli and buy a *ciabatta* while Sarah and Martha pick up the latest issue of *Noddy* from the newsagents. Sarah and Martha get back to the car first.

While Martha reads her comic, Sarah looks through the windscreen at all the twenty-somethings going about their Saturday morning business. How footloose and unfettered, she thinks, how *young* they look. Consequently, she feels yoked and old.

Joe returns, belts Lily into her car seat plumps himself down beside Sarah, grinning. 'You seem to have cheered up very suddenly,' she says.

'It's being amongst the beautiful people here.' He gestures out the windscreen. 'Makes me glad to be settled down and not have to impress some babe.'

'Really?'

'Really.' He turns to face Sarah. 'I've found my babe and moved onto the next phase: bringing up babies.'

something heavy and tasting of metal sinks inside her.

Joe looks at her and says, 'What?'
'Right. So you can tick me off your list.'
'That's a bit twisted.'
She flips the door-handle and swings her legs out. 'Drop dead.'

She goes to a florist's, where she buys pink carnations. By the time she emerges, she is stiff with anger, she is cold stone, walking.

'You get it all your own way,' she says to Joe, as she throws herself down on the passenger seat. 'You get a life at work that I hardly even glimpse.'

'What are you talking about?'

'You. You just get on with the things you want to achieve. When do I ever get to achieve anything? I can't remember the last time I was able to do something that was just for me.' She flicks a commanding hand at him. 'Start the car, will you?'

'What's your rush to get home? Why can't we finish the argument here?'

'Just *drive*.'

'Where to?'

'Drive and I'll tell you.'

As the car moves off, she turns around. Martha and Lily are sitting very still, their eyes like saucers.

'Mummy needs a little time on her own,' she tells them.

When they are passing Chorlton Park, Sarah orders Joe to stop, which he does, in silence. And she's out on the street and the door slams hard behind her. She marches towards the park gates, wading through the thick air, brandishing the carnations like a machete.

'Sarah!' she hears. '*Sarah!*'

She launches herself across the empty football pitches. Out the other side of the park, she crosses Mauldeth Road and goes up Nell Lane, where she soon reaches Southern Cemetery. She is still shouldering a sackful of woes. Apart from the thing with Charlotte, of course, and all the domestic injustices she feels and the things her dutifulness compels her to take care of; apart from Joe being a man and simply being Joe, there is the sense she has of having lost control of her life. She has collected too many responsibilities and her life now has a relentless momentum she feels powerless to alter. She could emulate the heroine of any of the Anne Tyler novels she loves and just up sticks and start all over again. But the temptation, though powerful, wouldn't get her anywhere. The last Anne Tyler she read had a protagonist who threw up her family and started over only to duplicate her old life in her new one.

Here, among the graves and headstones of a couple of centuries, her anger turns to anxiety and she worries that she may have missed her calling - that God asked and she was unwilling or maybe not even tuned in enough to hear him. If true, that would have been Joe's fault, too. How much more effective she could have been as a single Christian. She is flooded with hatred for Joe and almost wishes him off the earth. Bitterness and resentment engulf her in a black, airless cloud.

She remembers something she once heard in a sermon: that often in relationships you have to force yourself to forgive; you have to breathe out forgiveness. And the preacher had modelled it by forcing a gust of breath out of himself to demonstrate. It was, he said, an act of will. You have to *breathe out* forgiveness. It is the last thing she feels like.

Naomi lies in a family plot in the old part of Southern Cemetery. As yet, there's no indication on the headstone that she has been buried there. The fresh, red soil and the gravediggers' planks stacked nearby are the only

traces of Naomi's burial.

Sarah stands for a moment, holding the carnations and reflecting.

At one time, years ago, they were in the same Home Group, where Naomi mothered Sarah and the other women. She remembers Naomi in the hospice, disappearing before their very eyes. She thinks of the fruit bushes Naomi gave her - redcurrant, raspberry and gooseberry. She remembers how Naomi divided her possessions amongst her friends at church, every item allotted to a specific individual - a sewing machine, suitcases, a radio cassette, winter and summer coats, pewter vases and Toby jugs, a brass hearth-set.

Suddenly Sarah is weeping freely, weeping and sobbing. The tears run into her mouth, the curtains sweep back off her heart, baring its tender surfaces to the sharp air of the open world. How, submerged beneath her husband and children, will she ever grow to be the equal of Naomi? Can Jesus ever be as real to her as he clearly was to Naomi?

Sarah takes out her handkerchief and blows her nose noisily. As she cries, as pained noises squeeze out of her, she sees that her heart is soft and not hard, that she loves her children more than she resents her circumstances. Truth is, she adores her children and thus she has a purpose in life - a calling, perhaps.

She inhales the air around her deeply and, finally, out loud to her husband wherever he is by now, she declares, 'I forgive you.'

As she wipes the tears off her cheeks and relishes the sudden, fresh rawness in her heart, she thinks that life, she hopes that life, is long. There may be time to grow more like Naomi.

At home, Joe has made soup, which the family eats in a lighter, brighter mood.

Sarah finds now that the prospect of breathing out is no longer so daunting. She draws in breath and lets it out again, willing forgiveness.

Martha turns to Joe and asks what's in the soup.

'Tomatoes - '

'So it's fruit soup?'

'Well - '

'Let's say fruit and vegetable,' Sarah tells Martha, who seems happy with that.

The above short story is going to be in *Pool 2*, Liverpool John Moore's second anthology of fiction, jointly published by JMU and Headland Publications, 2003.

Alexandros Arampatzis recently attended a conference organised by Intercom and the European Union on "Cross Media Platform Delivery", held in Santorini, Greece, June 2003 and presented a paper on "Online Business Models for News Publishers". In the following paragraphs he shares his experiences and outlines his own paper.

* * *

The weather was hot, well above 25 degrees Celsius, the cafes on top of the steep rocks of Santorini offered spectacular views (the island boasts that it offers its visitors the most beautiful sunset in the world!) but that Friday morning the "Nomicos Centre" was packed with conference delegates.

Most of the 250 academics and media executives from Greece, the UK, France and the rest of Europe and the Middle East were professional enough to resist the temptation to glance at the breathtaking views through the large windows of the conference venue.

Under the auspices of the European Union, and with sponsorship and the support of major European new media and technology companies, the conference discussed the business models behind news web sites with a particular focus on current developments such as subscription initiatives, e-commerce operations through external partnerships and micropayments, as well as the provision of content through various media platforms.

Versed in their subject areas, the speakers unanimously dismissed the (now old) analysts' view according to which advertising was the alpha and omega of online business models, and explored the different parameters of the fee-based businesses initiatives.

In brief, a strong consensus was formed around the need to actively support the selling of online subscriptions by a well designed and delivered direct marketing mechanism/campaign. Driving conversions from free to fee, then keeping customers happy so that they keep renewing, is all about funnel management (from free to various levels of fee to actual usage after the first sale.)

"You don't just sit there and put a small button somewhere on your site asking for visitors to sign up. You need to make sure that all your free output (on your own web site, emails and newsletters, on your partners' publications,) leads to a relevant sales pitch. You also need to monitor whether customers use the service: if they don't, it's highly unlikely that they'll renew and recommend it to their friends and peers," said Dr Jan Bierhoff, from the Infonomics Institute, one of the keynote speakers.

Moreover, the increasing challenge for generic news publishers was highlighted. In contrast to specialised

publications (or, in any case, publications which target a niche market, such as the FT.com or the WSJ.com), which appear to have an easy task in identifying the value of their product before they package it appropriately and sell it to interested consumers, generic news publishers still struggle to come up with a value added commodity amid the wealth of "for free" news on the web.

I am grateful to Edge Hill's Overseas Conference Travel Award scheme for giving me the opportunity to attend this conference.

Alex's paper

As of April 2000, more than 4,400 newspapers provided online services worldwide, of which 3,161 were based in North America, 1,634 in Europe, 269 in South America, and 214 in Asia, and at the same time radio stations, TV stations, news agencies, independent producers of multimedia content and thousands of other individuals or organizations operating in the content industry, posted output online (Editor & Publisher Interactive 2000).

The economic potential and various implications of this undoubtedly make the emergence and continuing growth of the online content service providers industry worthy of media researchers' attention.

In fact, plenty of scholars take the emergence and eventual dominance of electronic news media for granted. Negroonte (1995), for example, envisions a future in which all news will be conveyed in digital format, and the associated challenge will not be related to bandwidth, but rather to finding ways to filter and classify huge amounts of information. Watters et al. (1998) admit that there is some concern about the acceptability of the newspaper in electronic versus paper form, but forecast that the electronic form will be inevitable.

However, and despite the dramatic growth in the number of online newspapers, it appears not to be entirely clear whether this medium will become an economically viable business, and if it ever does, how that will come about.

Practically, online news media are economic institutions, engaged in the production and dissemination of content and operated by private parties for the purpose of generating profit (Picard, 1989:19). But online newspaper economics is complex. The convergence of the print newspaper and the Internet creates a new medium that must deal with two sets of market factors simultaneously. As Chui et. al (2000:75) say, "confusion still exists as to how online newspapers define a market between the local and the global, how they position themselves in the market, how they define the relationship between online and print products, and how they define competition and develop market

strategies. How, in all, they can create profitable enterprises, which, at the end, mean viable and sustainable businesses.”

It is exactly this uncertainty overshadowing the net as a commercially sustainable publishing medium that makes other authors more cautious and reserved towards the so-called “Internet hype”.

What follows is an exploration of the dominant business models for online news publishers today.

Subscription Model – Variations

· *Free Content; Advertisement supported; paid subscription content verticals and paid premium content*

This model is gaining favour among web news publishers who wish to charge for content, but fear that charging for all or most of that content would be risky. The majority of content on such sites is available free (with or without required user registration) but a minority of high value or premium content has a price tag.

For example the NYTimes, which is primarily a free content site, does offer some paid premium content – such as electronic versions of its popular crossword puzzles. The same applies to the FT.com, the website of the Financial Times and thestreet.com, which provides financial news to its users for free but it also maintains speciality web content services or newsletters for which it charges annual subscription fees ranging from \$200 to \$2,200 (source: Poynter Institute, thestreet.com, FT.com).

· *Free Content; Advertisement supported; plus ad-free access paid subscriptions*

This model entails offering two versions of a site. One version is free-access, and includes advertising (often intrusive web ads such as pop-ups and pop-unders, interstitials and large animated or flash banners).

The other version of the site is for those willing to pay a subscription fee and is advertisement-free. A variation of this model is represented by the website of Le Monde, the French publication. Since April 2002, the site offers a premium online subscription service that includes alerts, special newsletters, personalisation features and thematic archive offerings, and it is devoid of advertisements.

Although this model appears to satisfy the desires of a portion of the online audience by removing advertisements from their experience, at the same time it sends an awkward message to advertisers. The site's ‘best’ customers- those willing to pay for a subscription, presumably the more affluent site users- do not see ads.

· *Paid Subscriptions; No or very Limited Free Content; No Advertising*

Although few websites can live on subscription fees alone, exceptions do exist, possibly only to prove the rule. ConsumerReports.org is such an exception: the website of the venerable consumer products review publication offers a limited amount of free content as most of its articles and reviews are behind a subscription wall, yet it boasts 800,000 registered subscribers (ConsumerReports.org website).

· *Paid Subscriptions; No or Very Limited Free Content; Advertising Accepted*

Sites adopting this model typically offer a very limited amount of content for free, putting most of their wares behind a subscription wall. And although they accept advertising, only websites with a substantial subscription database (such as the Wall Street Journal) can hope to attract sufficient number of advertisers.

“In most of these cases newspaper publishers view this model as a means to prevent the web from ‘cannibalising’ their print editions. Others view their subscription websites as a new line of business that will add to the overall corporate bottom line” (Laudon et. al., 2001: 57).

Although a number of publications have adopted the paid subscription model (WSJ.com, Variety.com, Elpais.es), the truth is that it is more common among vertical/industry news sites.

· *Free Content to In-Market Internet Users; Paid Subscriptions for Out Of Market*

This is a pioneering model instituted only by the Times.co.uk, the online edition of the Times of London. In this model, Internet users in the circulation or the broadcast area of a media entity are given free access to its website. Those outside of the area are required to pay a fee for access.

Thus, in the case of thetimes.co.uk, a subscription fee will be charged to the users coming to the site from outside the UK, whereas British users will visit the site for free.

The theory is that this will:

- 1) Define the audience primarily to UK users, thus making the site more attractive to advertisers who seek to reach only UK customers
- 2) Reduce bandwidth costs due to lost of overseas users
- 3) Bring in some subscription revenue from overseas. (source: Poynter Online, 2002)

Yet, the question is how easy it is to identify out-of-market Internet users. The BBC news website, which ventured to charge a fee for non-UK Internet users soon dropped the plan concluding that it is

either very difficult or impossible to track non-UK users who come to the site without paying.

Additionally, it has been suggested that some of the prominent papers will “drop off the world stage” as a result and therefore these media will see their international influence diminished

· *Regional Content Providers Cooperate in Charging Scheme; Everyone Charges*

This model is based on an agreement between web publishers in a confined geographic region, or within a topic niche, to charge for specified content areas or services of their sites.

Payment can be a subscription fee that gains access to all websites, or microtransaction payments at individual sites.

Bringing together web publishers is a fairly new phenomenon, by and large borne out of frustration over free-content models not being profitable and the drying-up of online advertising in 2001 and 2002.

The Bottom Line: The New Economy is just a new version of the Old Economy

“We have seen an ongoing trend towards perfectionism in the division of labour, we have seen a never-ending reconstruction of the value of the web as well as the invention of novel products and the emergence of new societies. Such processes are not specific for the digital economy, they are simply the motor that operates a continuous civilisation process that has existed throughout history,” Schmid (1999: 32) elaborates.

The over-enthusiasm of the early days has withered, the Information and Communication Economy is by and large a living reality but its fundamental rules seem all the more in tune with old, basic economic rules: the creation of a product that offers added value to consumers. Issues of peripheral importance and function, such as the marketing of a product or the method of production might differ, but the fundamental economic axioms still apply.

KEITH CRAWFORD of the School of Education, has recently visited Serbia and Montenegro to discuss with officials at the Ministry of Education, teachers and publishers the reconstruction of Serbian textbooks in the post-Milosivic era. A paper on this theme will be published in the journal *Paradigm* later this year.

11th Annual British Women Writers Conference

Harriet Jump, English Department

I travelled to Fort Worth Texas for this conference. This is an important yearly event for any academic who, like myself, works on women's writing of the 18th and 19th centuries. Although mainly attended by American scholars (from professors to graduate students) there is always a smattering of people from Europe and beyond. This year the papers were particularly lively and enjoyable -- it is noticeable that, over the 5 or so years since I first started attending, the emphasis has shifted away from highly theorised literary analysis towards a more historicised approach. My own paper, 'Is there a biography in this text? A Case Study of Marguerite Blessington', was well received and I am in the process of adapting it for publication. I met many old friends and made several new ones, and came back feeling energised and encouraged having found others working on, and interested in, my own particular area of concern. Thanks to Edge Hill for helping with the finance to enable me to attend!

MAUREEN SAWYER of the School of Education recently undertook some consultancy work with local schools to help children produce murals for different areas of their school. Maureen has discussed initial starting points with teachers and children who will begin by designing plans from which the mural will be developed. She has also been approached by the headteacher of one Burscough primary school to undertake a practical project working with Key Stage 2 children as part of an arts festival to be held in the Summer Term.

Maureen will also be working with a former Edge Hill trainee (Pat Peel, who has received funding for a CPD/Partnership/Cultural exchange scheme in St Joseph's, Penkith in June, providing INSET for staff and practical experiences for children at Key Stage 2 relating to an 'Africa Week'.

Maureen has recently exhibited her work at the Chapel Gallery, Ormskirk - 17 three-dimensional boxed images (multi-media) relating to her preoccupation with the images of plant forms. She is also exhibiting ten pieces of textile work alongside other artists at The Welsh Craft Centre in the Conway Valley during July.

TEXT: The UK Centre for the Study of School Textbooks and Educational Media

Launched at:

School textbooks and educational media are intensely powerful tools in the potential they offer to transmit not only knowledge and information but also the kinds of images, social and political values that a society considers worthy of dissemination to future generations. Despite the fact that there is a range of evidence showing a clear commitment to the value of textbooks and educational media as teaching and learning tools, there is a “deafening silence” between those who author, edit and publish textbooks and educational media and those teachers and pupils who use them. The aim of the Centre is to provide a forum within which publishers, authors, teachers and researchers can explore a range of issues of mutual concern. The Centre will provide structured and co-ordinated opportunities to disseminate and promote research aimed at improving our understanding concerning the production and use of textbooks and educational media. This will include sponsored research, consultancies and conferences.

The UK textbook market is worth approximately £275 million per annum. The Centre will be *unique* as there is no national centre for the analysis of textbooks and educational media which might offer opportunities for educational publishers to improve their knowledge base regarding their products, educational publishers tending not to engage in market research, particularly in terms of the growing market for web-based learning resources. Topics of interests may include:

- Textbooks, educational media and national identity;
- Textbook content and discourse analysis;
- The political economy of textbook publishing; teacher and pupil selection of textbooks and educational media;
- The impact of new forms of educational media upon teaching and learning;
- Children’s use of digital media;
- Textbooks and genders;
- The history of textbooks;
- Ethnicity in textbooks and the involvement of the “other”;
- Centre-periphery issues in textbooks;
- Whose Europe and whose world in textbooks and educational media.

The Centre will continue to build upon our growing national and international reputation in the area of textbook analysis and educational media.

HEATHER MCKAY of the School of Education spent a weekend in Atlanta in February as a member of the Society of Biblical Literature's Committee on the Status of Women in the Profession. During the weekend visit, Heather led a structured visualization. This involved viewing SBL's future beginning from 10 years hence and working back to targets to be achieved in the next year. Everyone gave feedback on her own vision and outline of priority tasks. Heather also met with colleagues from a parallel group, The American Academy of Religion's Status of Women in the Profession Committee, which meets annually with SBL to discuss general concerns and ways forward.

Despite his imminent retirement, **Chris Parker's** involvement in the ESF [European Science Foundation] Programme, *Representations of the Past: The Writing of National Histories in Nineteenth - and Twentieth-Century Europe* continues as the ESF is funding the programme for a further five years. Four teams are working on different aspects of the project, and Chris has the task of looking at 'Institutions, Networks and Communities of National Historiography'. A number of publications are planned. The next meeting, to discuss individual contributions, is in Bologna in November. Chris says “I'm told Bologna's nickname is 'Bologna the Fat' because it is the gastronomic capital of Italy. It will be a tough life, being retired”.

Clive Jermy, the recognised British authority on the plant genus *Carex* and co-author of the new edition of the *Sedge Handbook* of the Botanical Society of the British Isles, has formally asked two of our research students in biology, **Colin Smith** and **Mary Dean**, to provide opinions based on their research for inclusion in the new publication. This amounts to public recognition of the value of their work on the genus being carried out here at Edge Hill. In addition he has asked whether Colin would be willing to provide anatomical details of the plant to replace the line drawings in the book and so aid in the clearing up some of the taxonomic anomalies. This constitutes high-level recognition of the work being undertaken at Edge Hill in this area of botany.

Phil Prescott is the course leader for Childhood and Youth Studies and Early Childhood Studies at Edge Hill. His research interests concern child protection and issues related to disability. He is currently engaged in research concerning child protection policies in amateur sport, the experience of siblings of disabled children and the experience of parents with disabled children.

Graham Rogers has been awarded an ICT Grant (£1000) made available through the LTSN History Subject Centre (Jan 2003) Graham was also the winner of a National Award for History Teaching in Higher Education (LTSN History Subject Centre, April 2003)

Dr Graeme Chesters of the Centre for Local Policy Studies has recently completed work on a book he was co-editing for Verso. *We Are Everywhere* will be published in July and is the result of three years hard work by the editorial collective 'Notes from Nowhere' which in addition to Graeme includes John Jordan the artist and writer, Katherine Ainger Co-editor of the *New Internationalist*, Tony Credland graphic designer for the *New Scientist*, Djennifer Whitney a Seattle based writer and musician and Andrew Stern, the renowned photo journalist.

We Are Everywhere is a radical departure in publishing, combining a history from below of the anti-capitalist movement with ground breaking design that includes photo-essays, timelines, practical guides to direct action techniques and, most importantly, a vast collection of the most informative and exciting writing to emerge from global social movements over the last ten years. Told by activists from every continent and framed by the authors using seven critically informed essays, Naomi Klein (author of the seminal *No Logo*) suggests that '*We are Everywhere* is the first book to truly capture and embody the exuberant creativity and radical intellect of the protest movements opposing neo-liberalism around the world.'

We Are Everywhere will be launched with a number of events including a discussion between the editorial collective and Naomi Klein at the Institute for Contemporary Arts and a joint release in the US with a new independent film on the 'War on Terror' produced by Big Noise Films.

Graeme has recently joined the editorial board of the academic journal *Anarchist Studies* and is now beginning research associated with his Leverhulme Special Research Fellowship on global civil society and deliberative democracy.

Rob Foster and **Marion Jones** of the School of Education are undertaking an evaluative study on the retention of PGCE and GRTP (Graduate/Registered Teacher Programme) trained newly qualified teachers in their second and third year of professional practice. The purpose of the research is to evaluate two training models in relation to the retention of new teachers in order to establish why retention amongst GRTP trained teachers is significantly higher than that of PGCE trained teachers. External funding has also been received for this project from Lancashire LEA.

Jo Arthur of the English Department has been elected to the UK's Committee for Linguistics in Education. The Committee has a joint membership drawn from the British Association for Applied Linguistics and the Linguistics Association of Great Britain and Jo is a representative of the British Association for Applied Linguistics.

SPREADING THE WORD

Congratulations to **Jurgita Dzialtuvate**, a research student in the English Department who was given a British Council International Student Award in the national 'Shine' competition seeking to identify students who have made the most of their time in the UK.

Paul Reynolds has been asked to join the Editorial Board of *Sexualities, Evolution and Gender*, a Routledge/Taylor and Francis Journal

Marxism, Intellectuals, Politics

Edge Hill's Social Movements Research Group (SMG) co-hosted a conference on the theme of *Marxism, Intellectuals and Politics* at Canterbury Christchurch College in Kent in April 2003. Co-convened by David Bates for Canterbury Christchurch College and **Paul Reynolds** for the SMG, the conference involved two days of eclectic discussion thematised around Marxist ideas of the intellectual and politics and the Marxist critiques of the intellectual in institutional settings (principally the university). Paul spoke at the opening session of the conference on 'The Intellectual Odyssey or What is to be Done Now?: The Intellectual and Class Struggle from Marxism to Post-Marxism'. Edge Hill was also represented by **Marta Rabikowska**, who gave a paper on 'Intellectualism: Freedom or Responsibility? The Ethics of Postcommunist Academia in Poland'.

Julie Kirby 'On Lake Louise, bears, ethics, responsibility and an international qualitative methods conference'.

"I'll tell you sir, no man has been able to describe that picture painted for the Indians by the Great Spirit. I felt puny in body but glorified in spirit and soul." (Tom Wilson)

This verse is to be found on a wooden remembrance bench located on the shore of Lake Louise in the Canadian Rockies, voted one of the top twenty places in the world that you should visit before you die. It is truly breathtakingly beautiful, awe inspiring yet tranquil. When I visited in May this year (2003), Lake Louise was frozen over, with a deep covering of snow on the lake, ground, mountains and pine trees, with a frozen waterfall and avalanche warnings in the near vicinity. Yet the sun was beaming down, making it warm enough for shorts and tee shirts. It was so peaceful that I could quite literally hear the snow melting under the warmth emanating from the sun, which was sitting high up in a clear blue sky. The air was fresh and clean, the colours crisp and clear and the stillness interrupted only by the occasional soft 'phlop' as snow fell to the ground from the abundant trees. I thought how lucky the people living nearby were to be privileged with this precious gift of such uplifting natural beauty.

However, my reason for being in Canada, was to present a paper at the 4th International Annual Advances in Qualitative Methods Conference. It was held in Banff, the gateway to the Canadian Rockies, a forty-minute drive away from Lake Louise. The conference had been organised by the International Institute of Qualitative Methods (IIQM), which is located at the University of Alberta in Edmonton. The Director of IIQM is an internationally renowned expert on qualitative methodology Dr. Janice Morse. Dr. Morse (who incidentally has TWO PhD's!) was on the editorial board selecting the abstracts for presentation, so I was thrilled when my abstract was selected. However, as the conference drew nearer I started to become anxious – especially when I received my program. There were internationally acknowledged experts in all the current main qualitative methodological approaches attending the conference. In addition to Janice Morse and her impressive team from IIQM, Norman K. Denzin, Juliet Corbin, Max van Manen, Arthur Frank and Michael Agar were among the 'names' attending. However, there was thankfully a distinct absence of precious 'prima donnas', the conference had a very friendly and supportive feel to it. The conference was multidisciplinary, with papers and posters from an impressively wide range of academic disciplines, the only proviso being that they involved qualitative research approaches. The

delegates included academics as well as practitioners from various fields such as health and education.

The conference was held in the beautiful setting of the Banff Centre, with wild animals roaming freely in the extensive grounds. Elks and reindeer were frequent visitors, grazing peacefully and totally unperturbed by the presence of conference delegates. Cougars, mountain lions and bears were also resident within the surrounding area. In view of this, great care was taken with rubbish disposal so as not to attract unwelcome visitors to the areas populated by humans. It appears that bears in particular enjoy a 'free lunch', especially when they are awakening hungry from their winter hibernation. Unfortunately, 'a fed bear is a dead bear', in that bears are considered to be a threat to the human population should they pick up the scent of irresponsibly discarded waste food and be drawn to human populated areas. Tragically, up until the early 1980s killing bears to solve the problem of irresponsible rubbish disposal was a routine practice. However that changed when Eric Langshaw a now famous park warden, took an ethical stand after being forced to shoot a gizzly bear as a direct consequence of a well-known hotel flagrantly ignoring the advice and numerous warnings issued by the park wardens regarding the responsible disposal of their waste food;

"He (the bear) just stood there and looked at us as we pumped one slug after another into him. It took five shots to put him down. He was just a beautiful old bear, the biggest I'd ever seen, and we had to kill him." (Van Tigham 1999, p.40-41)

Sickened by what had happened, Langshaw collected all the information regarding the history of the bear, and the warnings given to the hotel by the park wardens regarding waste disposal dating back over the previous eighteen months. Against the advice of his employer Parks Canada, Langshaw took on the powerful tourist industry by serving the hotel management with charges of irresponsibility. He was laughed at by the hotel management and sacked from his job as a park warden on the grounds of insubordination. However, he persisted with the charges privately, he took the case through the Canadian courts and won. Langshaw's lone stand against corporate interests resulted in bear-proof rubbish storage facilities being introduced throughout areas populated by both bears and humans. Killing bears as standard practice was no longer a tenable solution to the problem of irresponsible human behaviour towards the disposal of rubbish. Public interest in the case ensured that Langshaw was eventually re-instated to his job, and public pressure ensured that he received back pay and was cleared of any reprimand in his employment record.

My paper pales in comparison to Langshaw's example, however, it was on ethics and it focussed on the problem of how I could minimise the risk of harm to the participants in my research. The paper was entitled '*How was it for you? – Negotiation and Obligation in a Sensitive Research Arena*'. The paper outlined how I negotiated the challenging ethical dilemmas I both envisioned and encountered as a qualitative researcher exploring a potentially distressing subjective experience. It began to take shape during the design stage of my research project, which is a qualitative sociological exploration of the subjective experience of voice-hearing. Voice-hearing, despite its long history (written accounts date back to 400BC), has become associated by some with mental health problems and is medically termed as 'auditory hallucinations'.

However, my research is not confined within the conceptual boundaries of Western mainstream mental health care practice. My research sample is composed of sixty self-selected adults with personal experience of voice-hearing recruited from the general population. My ethical concern with regard to minimising the risk of harm to participants in my research, was problematised by the diversity amongst voice-hearers with regard to how voice-hearing is subjectively experienced. Briefly, my reading and pre-participant recruitment fieldwork revealed that whilst some voice-hearers can experience voice-hearing as distressing, others find the experience positive and enriching.

Given the implications of this subjective diversity on minimising the risk of harm, I started from the premise that voice-hearers are experts in interpreting their own experiences of voice-hearing, including the personal and social impact of the experience. Then, ethical guidelines and professional codes of conduct formulated for conducting research with human participants were searched for guidance on 'good practice'. These guidelines were seldom helpful in identifying actual measures that minimise harm. A collaborative and cumulative approach to data collection was thus designed built around mutual trust and respect centred on negotiation and obligation between the researcher and each participant. As experts in their own experience of voice-hearing, and the impact that the experience has on them on a personal and social level, each participant controlled his/her own level of participation. Information regarding support networks for voice-hearers was also in place prior to recruiting participants, should any participant become distressed during the research.

At an early stage in the data collection process, some participants began commenting on how participating in the research had been of personal benefit to them. So, based on comments freely given by participants, a qualitative evaluation pro-forma was constructed around open qualitative questions as opposed to rating scales, seeking the

views of each participant regarding his/her experience as a participant in the research. This pro-forma entitled 'How was it for You?' provided a rich source of participant views regarding their motivation to participate, as well as feedback on the efficacy of the ethical safeguards incorporated.

I presented my paper at 08.30 on the first morning of the conference – which also happened to be my birthday. It was well attended (approximately 40-50 delegates), and very well received. The ideas within the paper were considered to be innovative by many attendees, who had then apparently gone on to discuss it with other non-attendees. As a result, throughout the remainder of the conference, I continued to be approached by delegates who had 'heard' about the content of the paper from other delegates, and wished to discuss it further. Tape recordings of all the paper presentations were available for purchase, and I was encouraged to find that the tape containing my presentation was selling well. I am currently working on one of three articles derived from the conference paper, that I intend to submit to a peer-reviewed journal.

Who said qualitative data software packages 'analyse' data? Lyn Richards the self-proclaimed 'mother' of NUDIST and Nvivo qualitative data analysis software computer packages was at the Banff conference. I attended Lyn's pre-conference workshop on qualitative software choices, and found her to be warm, friendly and approachable. She confirmed my belief that computer software data analysis packages are very good at 'organising' data but the 'analysing' remains a human endeavour. However, coding data through software packages such as NUDIST and Nvivo has many advantages. Firstly, and most importantly all the data coded at a node is instantly retrievable, secondly it keeps the living room carpet free of paper work, and thirdly it can negate the need for the increasingly adventurous use of coloured pens and card indexing systems. In my experience I have also found that coding at nodes can stimulate ideas that can be stored and developed in memos alongside the data, which keeps all the paper work together. I have found this useful because I have the unfortunate habit of sticking 'post-it' notes anywhere and everywhere thus removing the idea from the context within which it was conceived.

So, whilst I have found the software to be an excellent filing system, the analysis rests solely with the creative skill of the researcher and the ability to 'see' what is happening in the data.

It all sounds highly subjective and yes that could be argued, but then again is any method of analysis 'objective' and value-free given the background of the researcher and subsequent ideas s/he brings to the research? At least recognition continues to grow amongst qualitative researchers that a researcher's own biography and belief frameworks have the

potential to impact on the findings. This insight in itself provokes reflective self-conscious awareness within individual qualitative researchers of the potential danger and 'pitfalls' of 'forcing' data to 'fit' within pre-conceived theoretical and conceptual frameworks.

Overall then, I found the little corner of the Canadian Rockies I have had the pleasure of seeing to be very beautiful, Langshaw's ethical stand to be uplifting, and the conference both exciting and enlightening. I am planning to have a paper ready for the conference next year and hope that it is accepted for presentation. The value of meeting with other active and experienced qualitative researchers, discussing and exchanging ideas is immeasurable. I swapped email addresses with qualitative researchers from Canada, the USA, Australia and the UK. I found attending Lyn Richards' workshop informative and she extended an invitation to me to attend a trainers' course for qualitative data software packages held in her native Australia. My next challenge will be to secure funding not only for the possibility of Canada again next year, but Australia too perhaps! I would also like to take this opportunity to float the idea of setting up a qualitative methods discussion group – is anyone interested? If so, my contact details can be found below:-

Reference

Van Tigham K. (1999) *Bears: An Altitude SuperGuide* Altitude Publishing, Canada Ltd.

Julie Kirby,
Research Associate/Research Student,
Centre for Health Research and Evaluation.
Email: kirbyj@edgehill.ac.uk
Telephone: 01695 584776

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Lenahan, P. (2003) Anabolic Steroids and other performance enhancing drugs Taylor & Francis

Chris Macro as recently had two books published by Routledge. The first *Making Progress in Primary Science* is a handbook for pre-service and in-service providers. This provides outlines of suggested teaching sessions and includes the materials for the sessions. The companion volume is a study book of the same name for the trainee teachers or practising teachers.

ARTICLES

Berrington, E and **Jemphrey, A** (2003) 'Pressures on the press: Reflections on reporting tragedy,' *Journalism* Vol 4(2) pp225-248,

Berrington, E, and **Jones, H**, (2002) 'Reality vs. Myth: Constructions of Women's Insecurity' *Feminist Media Studies* Vol 2(3) pp307- 323

Corteen, K, Moran L, Skeggs B, Tyrer P, 'The Constitution of Fear in Gay Space' in Stanko E (ed) *The Meanings of Violence*, Routledge London, 2003

Corteen, K, **Moran L**, **Beverley Skeggs** and **Paul Tyrer**, 'The formation of fear in gay space: the straights' story' in *Capital and Class* (80) Summer 2003, pp173-198

Corteen K, **Moran L**, **Beverley Skeggs** and **Paul Tyrer**, 'Safety Talk, violence and laughter: methodological reflections on focus Groups' in **R Lee** and **E Stanko** (eds) *Researching Violence*, Routledge, 2003

Gregg, Stephen, 'Representing the Nabob: India, stereotypes and eighteenth-century theatre', in *Picturing South Asian Culture in English: Textual and Visual Representations*, pp. 19-31 ed. by Tasleem Shakur and Karen D'Souza (Open House Press, 2003)

Reynolds, P, 'Introduction' and 'Rape, Law and Consent: The Scope and Limits to Sexual Regulation by Law' in *Contemporary Issues in Law* Volume 6 No.1 - **Special Edition on Rape and Sexual Consent**, edited by Paul Reynolds, pp1-7 & 92-102

Russell, P, 'Gerard Manley Hopkins and the Lancashire Connection' *The Local Historian* Vol.33 No2 May 2003

Scraton, P. (2003) 'From Fear to Disclosure: The Politics of Official Inquiries in the UK' in Gilligan G and Pratt J (eds) in *Crime, Truth and Justice: Official inquiry, discourse, knowledge*. Willan Publishing

CONFERENCE PAPERS

PUBLICATIONS

Alana Barton (2002/03) 'Responding to Punishment in the Community: Conformity as Resistance in a Women's Probation Hostel' in *British Journal of Community Justice* Vol 1 (3) pp 37- 49

Coleman J, (2003) 'User Authentication for E-Business' paper presented at the *International Conference for Enterprise Information Systems* in Angers, France, April.

Culbertson, L, (2003) 'The Group-in-Fusion: A Temporary Resolution of Political Alienation?' paper presented at *British Sociological Association Annual Conference* in York, April.

Culbertson, L, (2003) 'Leading with the Left: Boxing, Incarnation and Sartre's Progressive-Regressive Method' paper presented at *British Sociological Association Annual Conference* held in York, April.

Hartill, M. and **Prescott, P** (2003) 'Safeguarding Children in Sport: A Critical Approach to Policy Implementation', paper presented to the *British Sociological Association Annual Conference*, held in York, April.

Naylor, A & **Prescott, P.** (2003) Exploring the Needs of Siblings of Disabled Children, paper presented at the *British Psychological Society Annual Conference*

Naylor, A . (2003) Non-Directive Play Therapy: How do we measure its effectiveness? paper presented at the *British Psychological Society Annual Conference*

Reynolds, P, 'The Necessity of Reason: The Retrieval of the Enlightenment Project in Contemporary Philosophy' in Meyer-Dinkgate D. (ed) *European Culture in a Changing World: Between Nationalism and Globalism - Proceedings of the 8th Conference of the International Society for the Study of European Ideas* ISSEI (CD Rom)

Rogers, G. (2003) 'Learning Technology and the Relationship between Teaching and Research', paper presented at the *5th. Annual Conference for the Development of Teaching and Learning in History*, Lancaster University, April.

Rogers, G. (2003) ' Learning Technology and the Teaching and Research Nexus: bridging the divide?' paper presented at the *COMET 2 Conference "E-Solutions: Harnessing the potential of IT and VLEs"*, Edge Hill, July.

Sanchez, X. & Torregrosa, M. (2003) 'Aspectos psicológicos básicos para la escalada según los expertos' (Basic psychological aspects for climbing according to expert climbers). In *FEPD Spanish Sport and Exercise International Congress*, CD-ROM of Abstracts, pp. 279-284 (Leon, Spain).

Sanchez, X. 'Psicología, Deporte, y lo que pueden hacer la una por el otro: Ejemplos para combatir estereotipos' (Psychology, Sport, and what one can do for the other: Example to fight stereotypes). In *FEPD Spanish Sport and Exercise International Congress*, CD-ROM of Abstracts, pp. 431-434 (Leon, Spain) 2003.

REPORTS

Hartill, M. and **Prescott, P.** (2002) '*An Evaluation of BARLA's Child Protection Policy Implementation (Pilot Study)*' - Consultative Report for the *British Amateur Rugby League Association*, November.

Reynolds, P. (2003) 'We Cannot Have Love Without Lovers, Nor Deference Without Squires and Labourers': Reflections on the Contemporary Relevance of *The Making of the English Working Class* in the study of Social Movements and Making Democracy. – A Paper for the "The Freeborn Englishman 40 Years On" (40th Anniversary of EP Thompson's *Making of the English Working Class*) Conference, organized by the *London Socialist Historians at the Institute of Historical Research*, London, UK, May.

Reynolds, P. (2003) 'Marxist Constructions of Sexuality: Some Thoughts on a Fragmentary Project', paper presented at a seminar for the *Division of Psychology & Sociology, University of Huddersfield*, March.

AROUND THE EDGE

In collaboration with the University of Granada (Spain), **Xavier Sanchez** has been awarded funding to research the topic 'How do players and coaches explain success and failure when competing?' This involves assessing the impact of new Badminton rules on performance outcomes in the 2003 World Championship.

In collaboration with other staff members (Peter Hitchen, Michelle Jones, Paul Jones and Pascual Marques) and Belgian and French international level Taekwondo participants.

Xavier has also been awarded funding to research Approaching Olympic Taekwondo from Sport Sciences: An interdisciplinary Sport Science support project.

Congratulations to **Clifford Yates**, a part-time research student in the English Department, who has received an Arts Council England Writer's Award of £7000 to complete his forthcoming collection of poems, 'Emergency Rations'.

A warm welcome goes to our latest research students:-

Paula Dalziel – part time in English 'The Reinvention of American National purpose since 9th September 2001'

Gordon Glasgow – part time in History 'The Campaign for Medical Coroners in Nineteenth-Century England: A Lancashire focus on its failure.'

Andy Heyes – part time in Education 'Traditional Curriculum - The Research & Development of a Curriculum Design Model within Police Training'.

Ursula Hurley – part time in English 'A Novel with Secondary Discourses'

Helen Wells – part time in English 'Female Detective in Fact & Fiction (1860-1930)'.

READERSHIP AWARDS

Congratulations to:

Dr. Mark McGovern (Centre for Studies in Social Sciences)

Dr. Kevern Verney (History Department)

who were awarded Readerships.

and also to:

Dr. Graham Rogers (Faculty of Education)

Mark Schofield (Faculty of Education)

who were awarded Readerships in Educational Development.

RESEARCH FUNDING OFFICER

Dr. Joanna Poon was appointed Research Funding Officer in January. Her primary roles are to provide staff with general information about external sources of research funding as well as seeking out possible sources of funding for specific projects. She provides assistance to members of staff with preparation of bids for external funding, in particular providing assistance with costing; proof-reading and advising on funding bodies' rules and regulations. As Joanna gets to know the areas of interest of individual members of staff and research groups, she will take a more proactive approach in suggesting bids that might be developed in response to specific calls for applications.

e-mail poonj@edgehill.ac.uk

contact: 01695 584568

Room: JD17 (John Dalton)

RESEARCH PROJECTS OFFICER

Katherine Straker has recently been appointed Research Projects Officer and will be based in Ormskirk from July. Her role will be to provide research assistance on externally funded research projects across the college. She will also assist staff by undertaking background research directly related to the development of bids for research funding.

Contact strakerk@edgehill.ac.uk

Tel: 01695 584568

Room JD 17 (John Dalton)

A NEW DIRECTION IN PARTNERSHIP

During the past year, Katherine Straker (formerly of the School of Education) has continued to provide research support sessions for the CHIP (Chorley Heads in Partnership) Consortium. The research coordinators from each school involved in the four-year funded project have received guidance on defining the research question, choosing appropriate research methodologies, designing questionnaires and undertaking literature reviews. Following on from the success of these sessions, Katherine is also supporting a similar network - Partnerships Across Lancashire (PAL) - based in Lancaster.

Our Congratulations go to the following Research Students who have been awarded their Degrees

Thanks also to their external examiners (name and institution in brackets after the title of the thesis)

Corteen, K, (PhD) – 'The Sexual Ordering of Society: A Critical Analysis of Secondary School Sex and Relationship Education'
(Professor Beverley Skeggs, MMU)
(Professor Celia Brackenridge)

Itohan Igbini (PhD) – 'A Study of a Local Strategy to Increase Access to Initial Teacher Education for Minority Ethnic Groups'
(Professor A. Ross, University of North London)

Helen Jones – (PhD) – 'Zero Tolerance: Destination or Direction? A Comparative Study of Multi-Agency Approaches to Conducting Campaigns on Male Violence Against Women in Three European Locations'
(Professor Jalna Hanmer, Leeds)

BEYOND THE EDGE

CALL FOR PAPERS

31st Annual Conference

THE EUROPEAN GROUP FOR THE STUDY OF DEVIANCE AND SOCIAL CONTROL

Helsinki, Finland – 2003

August 30^h - September 2nd

Critical Perspectives on Crime Prevention

Almost all western industrialised countries have witnessed a paradigmatic shift towards law and order societies in the past few decades. Examples of this approach are campaigns involving a strict approach to the crime problem, such as "zero tolerance", "three strikes and you're out", being "tough on crime and tough on the causes of crime", and most recently, "war on terrorism". In short, the function of crime control has been to recapture the streets, the society and the world from criminals and to make them safe for the rest of us. Furthermore, contemporary crime prevention approaches include spreading responsibility for crime control onto agents outside the criminal justice system. The notion of "community safety" has been adopted and associated with crime prevention strategies in many industrialised countries.

It has been claimed that preventive strategies aiming at managing "unwanted people" have replaced individually based or restorative justice. The populist punitive rhetoric presents "criminals" as different from the rest of us creates fear towards certain populations. It forms a part of a process which furthers the labelling of the most vulnerable people, and thereby increases their criminalization and exclusion from the society. Furthermore, the recent developments may include violations of human and civil rights. For example, as a form of protection of safety, demonstrations and other protests may be now responded to as a form of terrorism.

The current trend in the expansion of crime prevention strategies can be criticised/analysed from another perspective. The thought that this approach would encapsulate a broad range of phenomena within crime prevention, that "nothing is ruled out", is highly illusory. Economic crime as well as violence in the private sphere and intimate relationships are examples that are commonly "forgotten" in the discourses on community safety and in local safety strategies and they are seldom included in any partnerships against crime. When crime prevention is aimed at "traditional" offences, citizens are encouraged to join these partnerships. But when citizens express their concerns or protest against certain forms of economic crime such as

environmental offences, this activity is defined as criminal.

The conference will deal critically with the above mentioned developments as well as to sketch some positive breaks and alternatives to them.

Papers are encouraged on the following areas:

- **Critical approaches and alternatives to contemporary crime prevention strategies**
- **The prevention of interpersonal violence**
- **Regulating and preventing corporate crime**
- **Racism and crime prevention**
- **Citizen participation and empowerment in policing and crime prevention policy making**
- **Business accountability thinking in police organisations and in crime prevention networks**
- **The growing business of crime prevention evaluation and evidence led policy**
- **Ethics of crime prevention evaluation, performance measuring, research and funding**

Papers on ongoing projects on these and related topics may also be submitted. For information and Booking Form, contact Karen Leander at karen.leander@smd.sll.se or look at <http://www.europeangroup.org>.

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEXT ISSUE
ARE INVITED – PLEASE FORWARD TO
JULIE PROUD BY 1st October 2003**