Information exchange
Helping you to help each other

- The RCN Enrolled Nurse Advisory Committee is seeking applications from enrolled nurses in membership of the RCN for funding for continuing education other than conversion courses. The committee welcomes applications for help to attend courses, study days and conferences whether local or national. Applications will be considered in February. For an application form write to Miss A Ferdenzi, Department of Nursing Policy and Practice, The Royal College of Nursing, 20 Cavendish Square, London W1M OAB.

- I am currently working on a postgraduate thesis exploring the role, function and legal liability of those nurses working in a consultant nurse or nurse consultant capacity. This is a substantial study which will seek to define this group of nurses and their professional and legal accountability. Please contact Mr M A Elliott, Clinical Leader, Neurosciences NDU, c/o NDU office, D Floor West Block, Queen's Medical Centre, Derby Road, Nottingham NG7 2UH.

- We are a team of nurses working on a gynaecology ward/early pregnancy assessment unit, and wish to develop a miscarriage support group for our local area. Any information which may be of help in its development would be much appreciated. Julie Johnson, Ward D40, Gynaecology Unit, City Hospitals Sunderland, Kayll Road, Sunderland.

- We are currently looking at several aspects of wound care, in particular the problem of trauma (blisters, grazes) caused by some dressings on removal, treatment of these blisters/grazes and alternative dressings available. Any information would be gratefully received. F Gough and ST Westmacott, Ridgeway Hospital, Moormead Road, Wroughton, Wiltshire SN4 9DD.

- We are a group of school nurses hoping to set up a nurse-led enuresis clinic. We would appreciate information from other nurses involved in setting up such a clinic. Eileen Gaskin, School Nurse, Tower Hill Health Centre, Moorfield, Tower Hill, Kirby L33 1XD.

- We are a team of nurses working on a gynaecology ward/early pregnancy assessment unit, and wish to develop a miscarriage support group for our local area. Any information which may be of help in its development would be much appreciated. Julie Johnson, Ward D40, Gynaecology Unit, City Hospitals Sunderland, Kayll Road, Sunderland.

Good to hear sense over care assistants

At last there are some RNs who are beginning to see sense. Both Ran Sangar and Ged Parsons 'More prejudice over rank than colour' and 'Let's fight cutbacks and not each other' (Letters November 29) have highlighted the fact that care assistants are part of the care team and should neither be used as just the ward gopher or as a handmaiden to RNs.

Since it is now highly debatable whether there are actually any so called 'unskilled' care assistants, then any prejudices shown towards the lower grades must surely say more about the prejudiced persons themselves, rather than the focus of their pretentious bigotry.

This of course leads to the debate about whether a prejudiced person can actually be a professional? Should such people either be denied entry to nurse training, or at least be appropriately counselled if they are already here?

JA Bradley
Glasgow

1995 review not a true reflection

I am writing to you about 'Review of the year 1995' (News December 13). This said: 'A report into Ashworth special hospital said many nurses there were untrained or inadequately trained.'

I have lost nursing jobs and am losing money as I can only practice as an enrolled nurse and be paid a C grade at my local nursing agency.

It is about time that the colleges, ENB and UKCC got their act together and stopped this waste of precious nursing time. No wonder nurses are disillusioned and leaving the profession.

Ralph Powell
Ashford
Middlesex