

GINA recruits new Project Officer

I would like to start this newsletter by introducing myself as the new Project Officer for the Gender Issues Network on Alcohol (GINA). My name is Carol Brown and I joined GINA on 15 November.



My background is in social research, with a particular interest in public health, substance misuse and gender studies. I worked previously for ASH Scotland as Research and Evaluation Officer, where I was involved in developing evidence based recommendations for stop smoking services and conducting research into tobacco and inequalities. I have also worked as an interviewer for a project about methadone maintenance therapy and have just returned to Scotland after a year working in Spain and Italy on immigration issues.

I look forward to working in partnership with you over the coming months and to developing the activities of the network. In the meantime, if you have any comments or suggestions about the work of GINA then please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Best wishes,

Carol Brown

Second phase of GINA Project

Over the next year GINA will continue to work on issues relating to women and alcohol. Two key outputs will include developing a Scottish message on alcohol and pregnancy, and developing a programme for women in prison with alcohol misuse problems. We will also continue to raise awareness of significant issues around gender and alcohol through events, publications and research. In this vein, we will shortly resume publication of the fortnightly news bulletins and the quarterly 'GINA's Journal'. While the initial focus of this second phase of the GINA project will continue to be women, we are aware that there are other issues that we may wish to get involved in at a later stage.

Further information about GINA, including our aims and objectives, are available on our website (see box on page 2). Membership of GINA is open to anyone who has an interest in, or is involved with, women and men whose lives are affected by alcohol. Please forward this newsletter to anyone you think might be interested in joining the network or contact the Project Officer for more information.

Call for nominations for GINA Stakeholder Group

We are currently looking to establish a Stakeholder Group to steer the work of GINA and ensure that the project's aims are achieved.

We would like to recruit members from different organisational and professional backgrounds, and from across Scotland's regions. The Stakeholder Group will meet four times a year, with the first meeting on 15 February 2007 at Alcohol Focus Scotland's office in Glasgow.

If you have an interest or expertise in alcohol issues involving women and would be interested in sitting on the Group then we'd like to hear from you. Please contact the GINA Project Officer (details in box below) for more information.



We Need You!

Women and Alcohol Workshop

Alcohol Focus Scotland is running a 1-day workshop entitled 'Alcohol and Women: Why all the fuss?' on 14 February 2007. Further information is on our website (see box below).

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The next fortnightly newsletter will be distributed on Friday 8 December.