



Alcohol Education and
Research Council

NINETEENTH ANNUAL REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

presented to the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport

2000–2001

The Council's Objectives

The Council seeks to increase awareness of alcohol issues, to facilitate a reduction in alcohol-related harm in society and to encourage best practice. Our aim is to make a positive difference to the ways in which society understands and uses alcohol.

Within this overall purpose the Council aims to:

- generate and disseminate research-based evidence to inform and influence policy and practice; this includes research on innovative educational initiatives; and
- support appropriate innovative educational initiatives and

Through its studentship scheme the Council aims to:

- contribute towards the formation of the next generation of academic researchers; and
- assist workers in the alcohol treatment field to provide a better service for their clients by enabling them to obtain appropriate qualifications.

THE ALCOHOL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH FUND

The Alcohol Education and Research Council was established in 1982 under the Licensing (Alcohol Education and Research) Act 1981 to administer the Alcohol Education and Research Fund, a charitable foundation established with assets from the former licensing compensation authorities.

The Fund is available to finance projects within the United Kingdom for education and research and for novel forms of help to those with drinking problems, including offenders. The Fund may also be used to aid other charitable organisations having similar purposes.

To facilitate its objectives the Council:

- will foster alliances with other organisations which have similar aims and objectives; and
- may from time to time set priorities and welcome proposals in priority areas.

However the Council will not normally:

- contribute to the running costs of organisations; or
- fund bio-medical research.

Registered as a charity under the Charities Act 1963
(Charity Number: 284748) at:

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Bankers **Barclays Bank plc, Bank of New York and CafCash Ltd**

Fund Managers **Baillie Gifford and Co**

Auditors **Messrs Saffery Champness, Chartered Accountants**

Solicitors **Arlington's Sharma & Co**

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Baroness Flather JP DL FRSA



This is my sixth report since my appointment in 1996 and, because my term of office comes to an end in February 2002, it is my last. It is also the Council's first report to the Secretary of

State for Culture, Media and Sport and follows the transfer of the responsibility for licensing matters from the Home Office to that Department.

In the past year the Council has attracted record numbers of applications and interest in its work. We are currently funding more projects and studentships than we have at any time in the past. The Council is also playing its part in developing policy on alcohol issues at the national level.

In approaching our task we have been guided throughout by the *Statement of Purpose* which we adopted in 1999. More than ever before we are determined to use our limited funds so that they do make a positive difference to the ways in which society understands and uses alcohol.

DISSEMINATION

In July 2000 we launched the first batch of *Alcohol Insights*, as a major initiative to generate and disseminate research-based evidence to inform and influence policy and practice. This has been well received and we have had many requests for copies of the full reports on which the *Insights* are based.

The next batch of *Insights* will be published in October. We see the series as providing a bridge between researchers and policy makers and others who are in a position to implement the research findings.

RESEARCH AND ACTION PROJECTS

We have further refined our procedures for dealing with applications and in the past year they have all been dealt within the four-month cycles. Record numbers of applications have been received and this year, for the first time for several years, we have spent the entire budget allocation for new project grants.

Some very good research projects have been funded. Disappointingly, very few applications were received for educational action projects, and none merited funding. This is particularly discouraging when one considers that the report of the *European Schools Project on Alcohol and other Drugs (ESPAD)* showed that, out of the 30 participating countries, UK teenagers reported amongst the highest levels of alcohol consumption and drunkenness.

The Research and Education Committees are now considering whether we might prioritise our funding policies so that we can make best use of our limited budget. The Council's Secretary and several members are taking part in the Alcohol Research Forum organised by Alcohol Concern and one of its aims is to identify significant gaps in research. This will inform our own discussions on prioritisation.

One area where I believe that more work is needed is in researching the use and problem use of alcohol in minority groups and the appropriateness of existing responses, including service provision, to address harmful use.

EDUCATION

One of the highlights of the year was the seminar, which the Council organised in March jointly with the then Department for Education and Employment. This brought together policy makers and agencies to consider what is required to support alcohol education in schools and how they might work together more collaboratively in future.

The seminar followed immediately upon the publication of the ESPAD report and the adoption of the *WHO Ministerial Declaration on Young People and Alcohol* adopted in Stockholm on 21 February 2001, which called on governments to increase alcohol education for young people.

The findings of the ESPAD report and other evidence of irresponsible drinking behaviour by young people is worrying and demands urgent action. Whilst there are examples of good practice, especially within the context of life skills education within the PSHE curriculum, many children do not receive adequate alcohol education. An imaginative approach is required and the Council is very willing to work with the Department and other agencies in developing appropriate policies and materials.

RESOURCES

In the financial year 2000/01 the Council spent £62,000 more than it received in income. This was more than offset by the underspend carried forward from the previous year. In the present year it is likely that we shall need to draw on our reserves to maintain an adequate level of funding. We are exploring ways of increasing our income and we are also keen to enter into partnerships to fund the more costly applications. Following discussions with Mr Charles Clarke, when Minister of State, the Home Office has agreed in principle to consider suitable requests for partnership funding. I hope that other Departments will follow this lead.

NATIONAL ISSUES

We are pleased that the Government is now giving higher priority to alcohol issues. However, we are very concerned by the long delay in publishing the *National Alcohol Strategy* for England and Wales. A strategy is needed in order to give focus to the development of alcohol policies and co-operation.

One way in which to give greater prominence to alcohol issues would be to express drugs programmes in terms which indicate specifically that they cover alcohol. Including alcohol issues within the remit of the National Treatment Agency would be a useful start.

It is also important that alcohol programmes receive the same level of funding as those for drugs.

THE COUNCIL

In February we were very sorry to say goodbye to Alastair Eadie and Gill Mackenzie. Their contribution to the work of the Council over six years was enormous and they will be sorely missed. We were also sorry to lose Roger Farmer, especially for his work in the Research Committee.

In their place we were glad to welcome Ilana Crome, Gaye Pedlow and Peter Harraway. I hope that they enjoy their service on the Council.

I should like also to record my thanks to the members of the Council for their unstinting efforts over the past year, with special thanks to the chairmen of the functional committees.

CONCLUSION

I believe that, within the constraints of our budget, the Council is now making a significant contribution to tackling the problems of alcohol misuse. Our members have considerable expertise and a strong commitment and will be very happy to work with the government and other agencies in developing effective measures for alleviating these problems.



Baroness Flather

Professor Robin Davidson

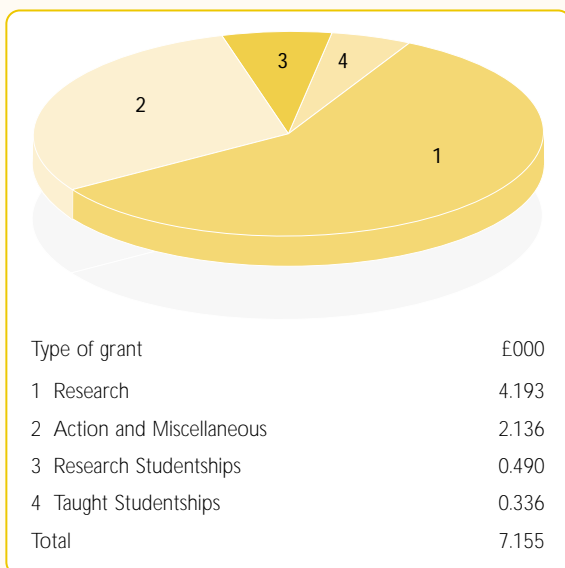
GRANT APPLICATIONS

In the past year my Research Committee colleagues and I have been impressed by both the number and quality of grant applications. Out of 22 applications considered, 6 awards were made, totalling £360,805. This was the first time in some years that the Council has spent the full budgetary provision. Details of the successful applications are given in Annex II.

Over the past 6 years there has been an exponential rise in the number of research applications received. The trend is continuing and in the first half of 2001 there has already been over 30 applications. The Committee is now considering whether there is a need to limit grants to priority research areas. A root and branch examination of our procedures has also led to a decision to limit grants to £90,000 or £30,000 per annum over a maximum period of 3 years. We advise applicants for larger grants to seek additional partners to fund any shortfall.

FUNDING ALLOCATION

As the chart indicates, since the Council was established in 1982 more than half of the grants



budget has allocated to research projects

PROCEDURES AND FUNDING CRITERIA

In the course of the year the Council streamlined yet further the procedures for considering applications and delegated to the Research and Education Committees the power to approve or reject applications. The only qualification is that decisions to award grants need to be endorsed by the full Council. This has enabled us to deal with all applications within the four-month cycle; indeed the time from initial submission to a final decision can often be less than 4 months.

In considering an application, the criteria of the Council's *Statement of Purpose* are applied. Full details of the funding controls can be found on our website www.aerc.org.uk.

The Committee is always happy to discuss proposals at the formative stage. We welcome these outline proposals, particularly for the opportunity it provides to ensure that they take account of Council policies and evaluation criteria.

THE COMMITTEE

In the past year we were very pleased to welcome Ilana Crome, Perminder Dhillon and Peter Harraway to the Committee. We were also very sorry to lose Roger Farmer, and we shall miss his thoughtful and constructive contributions to our discussions. I never cease to be impressed by the breadth of experience and expertise that is represented in this committee and within the Council. I am most grateful to my colleagues for their continuing support and companionship.



Mr John Bennett

THE COMMITTEE

This is my first report as the chairman of the Education Committee and, in doing so, I should like to play tribute to the work of my predecessor, Gill Mackenzie, who created the existing committee out of the former Studentship Committee. In February we were glad to welcome Gaye Pedlow, from Diageo plc, who brings a wealth of experience of alcohol issues both in the UK and internationally. I should like to thank all my colleagues on the Committee for their support since I took over the chairmanship, especially the deputy chairman Dali Sidebottom.

In the past year the Committee met three times. As in previous years one of our main tasks has been to administer the annual competition for Studentship awards, but we have also considered applications for action projects and are developing the Council's educational policy.

STUDENTSHIP SCHEME

In 2000 there was a marginal increase in the number of applications and, out of a total of 18 applications, awarded 5 research studentships and 7 taught course studentships. Details of these are given in Annex II. The total cost of these grants was £142,000 and the cost of the studentship scheme in the financial year was £105,545, compared with £111,624 in 1999/2000.

MISCELLANEOUS GRANTS

The Committee approved applications from Addictions Forum and New Directions in the Study of Alcohol Group to fund bursaries to enable people to attend their annual conferences.

These bursaries are intended particularly to assist junior workers in the alcohol field, so that they can benefit from the exchange of ideas and opportunities to meet colleagues that is a feature of such meetings. In addition, the Council funded the attendance at these meetings of the AERC students.

From the reports that we have received from the holders of these bursaries we consider that this is a good use of the Fund.

EDUCATIONAL GRANTS

The Committee considered 6 applications but was only able to approve one. This was a research project to investigate the effectiveness of preventive programmes for youth. Both the paucity and quality of educational applications disappointed us and we are considering ways in which to address this situation.

However, a number of projects granted funds in the previous year did continue, including a Theatre in Education project aimed at young farmers, and a briefing seminar for professionals on alcohol education and young people. The Council also funded the production of resources for schools and youth work settings through TACADE. We look forward to seeing the final results.



Like our colleagues on the Research Committee, we apply the criteria of the Council's *Statement of Purpose* and we ask ourselves whether the proposal will make a difference and increase the way in which people understand and use alcohol. We do not normally fund local educational programmes unless they are innovative in their approach and are likely to produce results that can be used elsewhere.

We attach great importance to how a proposal will be evaluated and normally we require the project to be assessed by an external evaluator. Having agreed the arrangements with the applicant, the Council contracts the evaluator separately so that impartiality is assured.

DEVELOPING OUR REMIT

The biggest event of the year was the seminar on *Alcohol Education in Schools*, which we organised in association with the then Department for Education and Employment. The importance of this seminar was underlined by the presence of the then Minister for Schools Standards, Jacqui Smith MP. An account of this event is given elsewhere in the report.

The seminar brought together key people involved in alcohol education and generated many ideas. We are now considering with the Department how these ideas can be taken forward, particularly in relation to our own funding policies.

We look forward to developing the educational work of the AERC and receiving more applications for quality education projects that *will make a difference*.

Professor Richard Velleman



THE COMMITTEE

Once again, this has been a busy year for the Committee. We met four times and a great deal of progress has been made in devising and implementing systems so that the research

and education work both of the AERC in general and of the projects which we fund is disseminated effectively. I have been delighted by the very high quality of ideas and debate on dissemination issues which has emerged within this committee, and I am most grateful to my colleagues for all their help and support.

During the year we were very pleased to welcome Betsy Thom on to the Committee. Because she also sits on the Education and Research Committees, she has been able to ensure that our deliberations deal with dissemination issues emerging from these committees. Unfortunately, we also had to say farewell to Alistair Eadie, whose time on the Council ended, and to Perminder Dhillon, who decided to concentrate her work on the Research Committee.

The work of the committee has revolved around two strands: disseminating the results of funded projects, and disseminating the work of the AERC in general.

DISSEMINATING THE RESULTS OF FUNDED PROJECTS

Alcohol Insights and Accessible Reports

Until last year, the only requirement on grant holders was to produce a detailed and technical final report, although it was also hoped and expected that they would publish their findings in relevant scientific or professional journals. The Dissemination Committee has introduced two further requirements: *Alcohol Insights*, and *Accessible Reports*.

The previous Annual Report described the development of the *Alcohol Insights* series of abstracts. The first series was issued in the summer of 2000, and copies were widely distributed to key opinion leaders such as journalists, politicians, and members of the alcohol research and education communities. In addition copies were posted on the AERC Website. Extremely positive feedback has been received, and a second batch of *Alcohol Insights* is under preparation, and the publication is due to coincide with the Edinburgh Seminar on 11 October 2001. This is described elsewhere in the report.

Further discussion is underway within the Dissemination Committee over how best to target individual *Insights* more specifically in future. Ideas include identifying particular journalists (depending upon the subject matter), who might be interested in writing about the work, and registering the *Insights* under the ISBN system.

The second innovation has been the requirement on grant holders that, as well as their detailed final report they produce a briefer and more accessible report, for wider circulation. This *Accessible Report* is meant to be longer than the draft *Insights*, but considerably shorter and less technical than the final report. It is primarily aimed at explaining in

lay language the key points of the 'story' which has emerged from the project, written to relate specifically to the audience targeted in the project's dissemination strategy. The purpose of these reports is to ensure that the findings which emerge are of value to policy-makers, practitioners and service commissioners. It starts from the assumption that these people generally have very little time to read books and long reports.

Finally, work is underway to ensure that the publication of results in *Alcohol Insights* and *Accessible Reports* will have no detrimental effect on the ability of authors to submit their work to scientific and professional journals in the normal way.

Dissemination strategies

A further innovation has been the move to develop an individualised dissemination strategy for every project as it comes to fruition. Given that *making a difference* is now a key criterion for funding new projects, it follows that each project needs to have a clear route to ensure that its findings can indeed make a difference, and dissemination of these findings is a key part of that route. These strategies are planned between grant-holders and the Council representatives (Scientific Officer, Secretary and members of the research committee) as each project nears its end.

DISSEMINATING THE WORK OF THE AERC IN GENERAL

As well as developing methods of disseminating the results of individual projects, the Committee has also been developing its methods of disseminating the work of the Council in general. The large upswing in grant applications, reported elsewhere in the report, demonstrates that the AERC is indeed becoming more visible to potential applicants.

Annual reports

This is the fourth annual report that the Committee has been responsible for producing. As in the previous one, we have tried both to make the content more readable and to develop a more attractive design. The fact that the last Annual Report was short-listed for the Charities' Annual Report and Accounts Award demonstrates that we are starting to be successful in this.

Website

Our website www.aerc.org.uk, which came on-line in January 2000, has been widely welcomed and widely visited. All *Alcohol Insights* are posted there, as will be all *Accessible Reports* as they become available. Application information and forms are also available there, and it is likely that this improved availability has been partially responsible for the large upswing in applications coming to the Council. Please visit us if you have not already done so and let us have your comments.

SEMINAR

The annual October seminar continues to provide a good shop window for the Council, as well as being a way in which Council Members can meet people from various regional alcohol scenes. The seminar in Newcastle in October 2000 was very well attended and very successful, and our thanks go to those grant-holders who shared their experiences with the audience and us. The seminar for October 2001 in Edinburgh has already been planned, and again has a very stimulating programme.

As well as these annual seminars, the AERC has also participated in a variety of other seminars and conferences. These have included a joint AERC/DfEE seminar, a seminar on brief interventions in hospitals organised jointly with the Health Development Agency, and a conference on Reducing Harm from Alcohol and Drugs organised jointly with the Centre for Research on Drugs and Health Behaviour. The events are described elsewhere in this report.

WORK WITH OTHER AGENCIES

As well as these activities, the Council has also been undertaking work with a number of other partner agencies. A notable example is within the Research Forum that Alcohol Concern has established to develop the research agenda for England and Wales. This has met under the chairmanship of Sir Alexander Macara. The AERC is represented by the Secretary and Council members Betsy Thom, Jonathan Chick, John Kemm and I serve in our personal capacities.

Finally, the AERC has also made representations to Ministers in the Home Office and the Department of Health to try to ensure that funds earmarked for illicit drugs are also made available for alcohol. We believe this is especially important within the auspices of the Drugs Prevention Advisory Service (DPAS) and the new National Treatment Agency.

FUTURE WORK

The Dissemination Committee was set up as a time-limited group, to devise an effective strategy for the dissemination both of the AERC's work generally, and of the individual projects which we fund. In this report I have described the ways in which we have discharged this responsibility. We anticipate that, by October 2001, the Council will be able to judge whether or not these processes are working and, if so, the Dissemination Committee will then be wound up.

Mr David Rae

THE COMMITTEE

During the year, the Finance and General Purposes Committee met four times to review expenditure and our working methods. In February, I succeeded Alastair Eadie as Chairman on his retirement from the Committee. In the same month, we also lost Gill Mackenzie. I should like to record the Council's thanks to Alastair and Gill for their very substantial contributions over the past three years. Jonathan Chick and John Bennett have succeeded them and represent respectively the Research and Education Committees.

I am grateful for the support and sound advice of my colleague, Henry Fairweather, who continues to serve on the Committee.

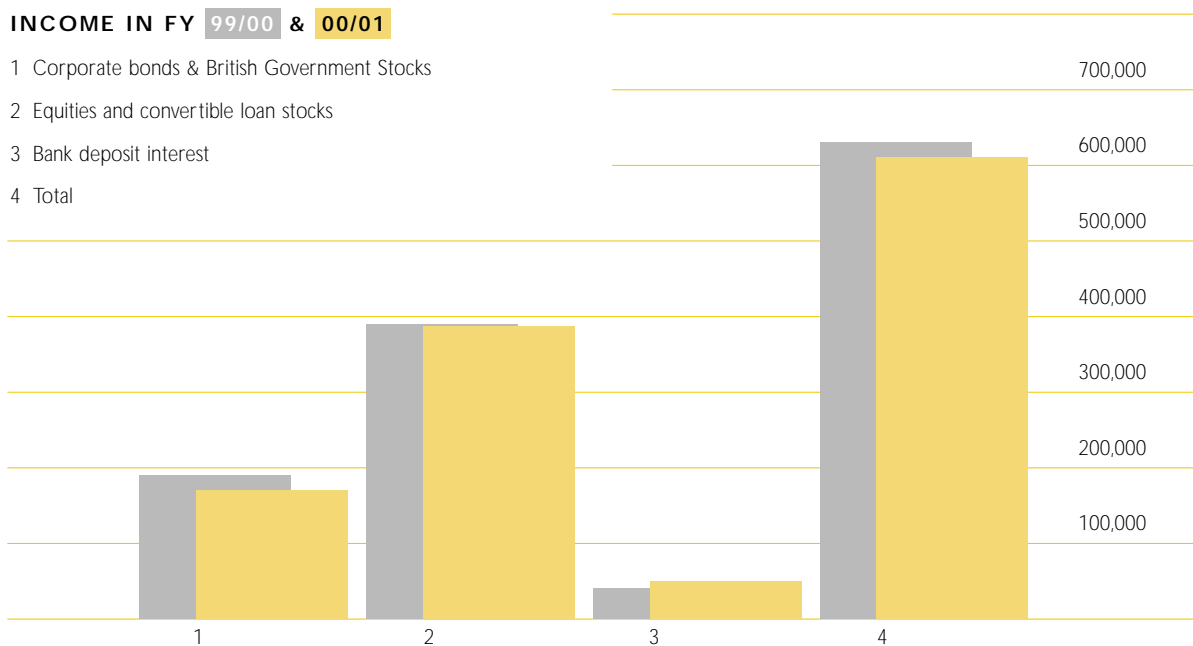


THE FUND

This has again been a turbulent year for the stock market and the market value of the Fund fell from £11.67 million at the beginning of the year to £11.37 million at the year-end. As a result of fluctuations in the Fund's value and the further removal of tax concessions for charities, our investment income fell from £629,075 to £609,766. In all the circumstances this is a creditable performance and reflects well on the Fund managers, Baillie Gifford & Co. We are now discussing with them how we might increase investment income whilst maintaining the growth needed to keep pace with inflation despite the removal of tax concessions by April 2004.

INCOME IN FY 99/00 & 00/01

- 1 Corporate bonds & British Government Stocks
- 2 Equities and convertible loan stocks
- 3 Bank deposit interest
- 4 Total



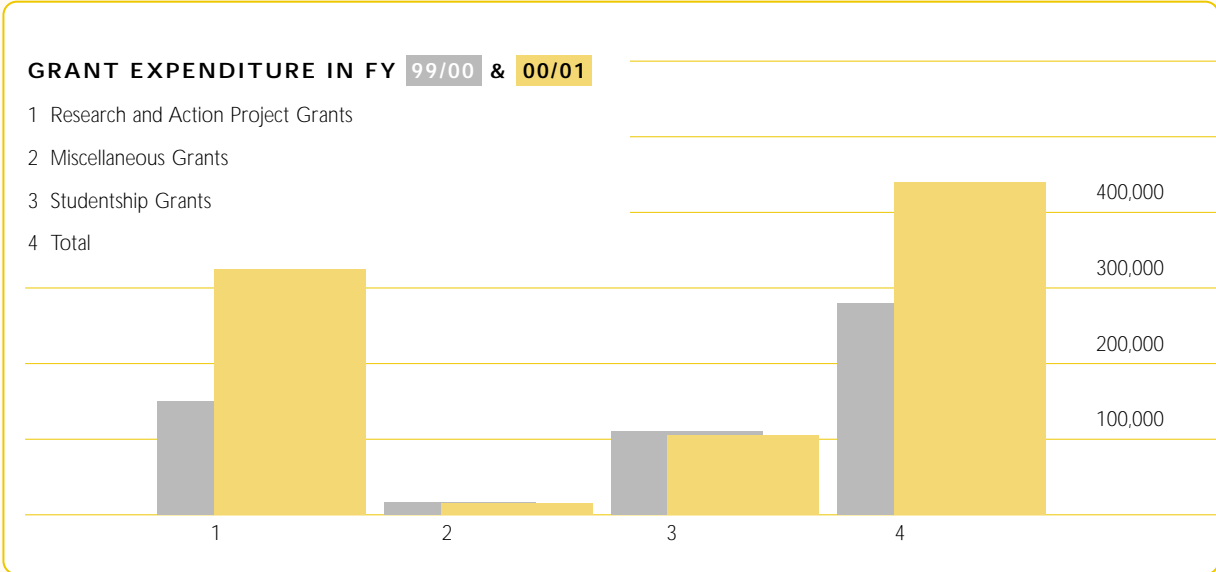
PROCEDURAL MATTERS

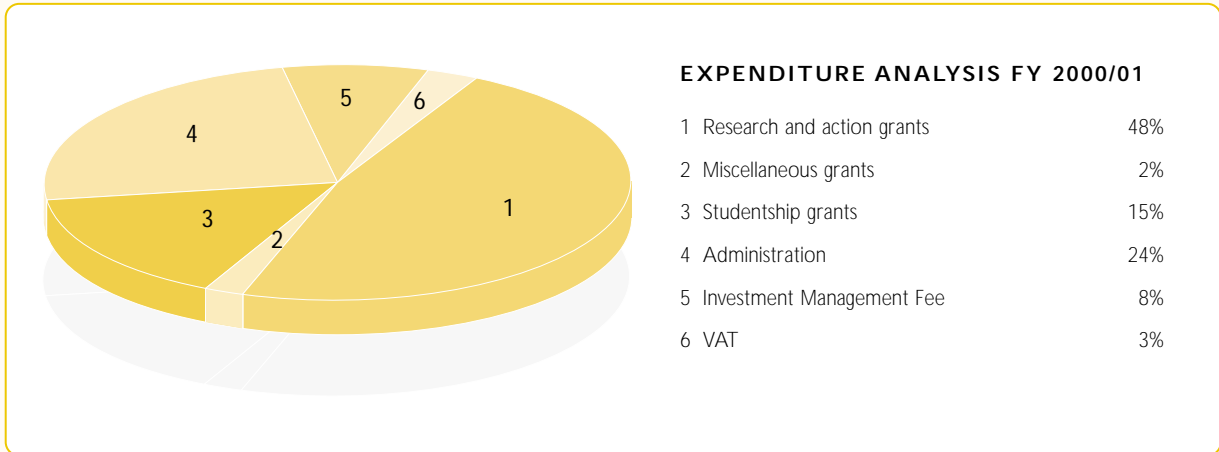
The format of the accounts differs slightly from that of previous years in that the details of the administration costs are set out as a note, and thus conform more to current accounting practice.

A further procedural change is that, although Saffery Champness has been responsible for both the preparation and audit of the accounts, within the firm there has been a separation of responsibilities for supervising each component. One partner has been responsible for the preparation of the accounts and another has signed off the audit. This system has been introduced to accord with Treasury and National Audit Office guidelines that provide that external auditors should not be involved in administration matters.

INCOME/EXPENDITURE

In 2000/01 expenditure exceeded income by £61,874, whereas in 1999/2000 we underspent by £148,447. The increased expenditure was due to a substantial increase in the money made available for research and action grants and reflects the increase in good quality research applications over the past 18 months. In line with the Council's policy, the underspend accrued in 1999/2000 has been utilised to fund the increased activity levels in research grants.





ADMINISTRATION COSTS

Overall administration costs increased by 13% from £202,180 to £228,521. The most significant increase was in printing, postage and stationery and in the costs of meetings.

Printing, postage and stationery costs rose from £8,794 to £30,721. This increase was due mainly to the costs of designing the new style annual report, *Alcohol Insights* and other promotional materials for the seminar and studentship schemes. In the coming year, we forecast that the costs of printing the report and the *Insights* will be £10,000 less and have set a budget of £21,000 for this heading. This is still substantially more than the cost in 1999/00 but this is the inevitable cost of disseminating our work more effectively and to a wider audience.

The increase in the cost of meetings, from £26,536 to £33,996, has been due partly to increased activity by the committees, but also to the additional costs associated with holding two seminars. The Council has addressed this issue by reducing the number of Council and committee meetings from four to three each year.

Administration costs, excluding the Fund management charge, represented 24% of the total expenditure and compares favourably with those of charities with similar budgets.

BEQUESTS AND DONATIONS

In the financial year 2000/01, the Council received the following personal donations:

	£
From Mr A Collier (in the form of shares)	19.13
From Mr N J Ross	180.00
Total	199.13

The Council is most grateful for these donations. A leaflet on how to donate to the Fund is being distributed with this report. This describes the tax-efficient methods of giving, especially in relation to the donation of shares.

Statement of the Council's Responsibilities
in Relation to Financial Statements

The Licensing (Alcohol Education and Research) Act 1981 and the Charities Act 1993 require the Council to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Council at the end of the year and of the income and expenditure for the year. In preparing financial statements which show a true and fair view, the Council is responsible for selecting suitable accounting policies and then applying them consistently, making judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent and preparing the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Council will continue in being.

The Council is responsible for keeping proper records to enable it to produce financial statements which comply with the requirements of the Licensing (Alcohol Education and Research) Act 1981, the Charities Acts and relevant Statements of Recommended Accounting Practice. It is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Alcohol Education and Research Fund and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Auditors' Report to the Members
of the Alcohol Education and Research Council

We have audited the financial statements on pages 15 to 21 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of investments and the accounting policies set out on page 17.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COUNCIL AND AUDITORS

As described on page 13, the Council is responsible for the preparation of financial statements. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements and to report our opinion to you. We have been appointed as auditors under Section 10 of the Licensing (Alcohol Education and Research) Act 1981 and report in accordance with that Section of that Act.

BASIS OF OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the Council in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Council's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

OPINION

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Council as at 31 March 2001 and of its incoming resources and application of resources in the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Licensing (Alcohol Education and Research) Act 1981 and the Charities Act 1993.



Saffery Champness, Chartered Accountants, Registered Auditors
Fairfax House, Fulwood Place, Gray's Inn, London WC1V 6UB
18 June 2001

Statement of Financial Activities

	Note	2001	2000
Incoming resources			
Investment income	3	609,766	629,075
Bequests and donations		280	574
Total incoming resources		610,046	629,649
Resources expended			
Direct charitable expenditure:			
Research and action projects	13	323,009	151,248
Miscellaneous grants	13	14,845	16,150
Studentship grants	9	105,545	111,624
		443,399	279,022
Other expenditure:			
Management and administration of the Charity	4	164,186	135,405
Investment management fees		54,753	56,830
Irrecoverable VAT on investment management fees		9,582	9,945
		228,521	202,180
Total resources expended		671,920	481,202
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources for the year		(61,874)	148,447
Other recognised gains and losses			
(Losses)/gains on investments:			
Realised		(827,058)	(857,027)
Unrealised		669,521	(120,829)
		(157,537)	(977,856)
Net movement in fund		(219,411)	(829,409)
Fund balance brought forward		11,681,951	12,511,360
Fund balance carried forward		£11,462,540	£11,681,951

The notes on pages 17 to 21 form
part of the financial statements

Balance Sheet

	Note	2001	2000
Fixed assets			
Office Equipment	6	2,698	5,592
Listed investments and cash	7	11,370,774	11,668,253
		<u>11,373,472</u>	<u>11,673,845</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	10	37,768	9,496
Current bank account balances		4,580	29,641
Cash on deposit		70,000	198,934
		<u>112,348</u>	<u>238,071</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year			
	11	(23,280)	(229,965)
Net current assets			
		<u>89,068</u>	<u>8,106</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			
		<u>£11,462,540</u>	<u>£11,681,951</u>
Financed by:			
Funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>£11,462,540</u>	<u>£11,681,951</u>

Approved by Council on 13 June 2001 and signed on its behalf by:


Baroness Flather


W D Rae

CASHFLOW STATEMENT

Net (outgoing)/incoming resources in year before investment (losses)/gains		(61,874)	148,447
Depreciation charges		4,587	4,511
Profit on disposal of tangible fixed assets		(763)	-
Increase in debtors		(28,272)	(1,019)
(Decrease)/increase in current liabilities		(7,751)	4,013
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operating activities		<u>(94,073)</u>	<u>155,952</u>
Investing activities			
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets		(1,693)	(2,911)
Receipts from sales of tangible fixed assets		763	-
Payments to acquire investments		(3,758,075)	(5,100,073)
Receipts from sales of investments		3,701,786	5,233,978
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from investing activities		<u>(57,219)</u>	<u>130,994</u>
(Decrease)/increase in cash balances			
Balances at 31 March 2001	12	740,860	892,152
Less balances at 31 March 2000		(892,152)	(605,206)
		<u>(£151,292)</u>	<u>£286,946</u>

The notes on pages 17 to 21 form part of the financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The Council has adopted the following policies which should be read in conjunction with the financial statements set out on pages 15 to 21 which have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting by Charities' issued in October 1995, and which comply with Section 10 (1) (b) (ii) of the Licensing (Alcohol Education and Research) Act 1981.

1.2 INVESTMENT INCOME

Investment income comprises interest and dividends receivable in the year and is shown inclusive of recoverable tax.

1.3 EXPENDITURE

All grants paid during the year are charged to the statement of financial activities. No provision is made for grants approved but not paid.

Administrative and other expenditure is charged to the statement of financial activities in the year in which it is incurred.

1.4 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS AND DEPRECIATION

Tangible fixed assets are stated at purchase price less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Office equipment 25%–33%

1.5 INVESTMENTS

Investments are included at market value at the balance sheet date. Market value includes accrued interest on Corporate bonds and Government stocks.

1.6 FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSLATION

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. All differences are taken to profit and loss account.

1.7 TAXATION

As a registered charity the fund is not liable to taxation on its charitable activities.

1.8 RESERVES POLICY

The Council has considered the Charity Commissioners leaflet CC19 Charities' Reserves dated May 1997. It is the Council's intention not to accumulate reserves, but to expend income year on year. However, due to the nature of the projects that the Council finances, it is possible for the Council to overspend or underspend in any one year depending on the quality of grant applications received and the timing of grant claims. The Council reviews the policy on an annual basis.

2. CONSTITUTION

The Alcohol Education and Research Fund is provided for as a statutory charity under the terms of the Licensing (Alcohol Education and Research) Act 1981, which was brought into operation on 1 October 1981 by Statutory Instrument 1981 No 1324. The Fund is applied for the charitable purposes outlined in Section 7 sub-section 2–4 of the Act.

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2001	2000
Corporate bonds and British Government stocks	173,418	197,501
Equities and convertible loan stocks	388,416	389,649
Bank deposit interest	47,932	41,925
	£609,766	£629,075

4. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE CHARITY

	Note	2001	2000
Secretary		39,352	35,942
Scientific officer		11,345	9,300
Secretarial assistance		10,969	11,836
Pension costs		624	–
National Insurance		5,121	5,319
Recruitment costs		–	3,836
Rent and service charges		3,523	5,049
IT costs		2,858	7,117
Printing, postage and stationery		30,721	8,794
Travel expenses		929	96
Meetings of Full Council	8	26,972	19,193
Research committee meetings	8	3,860	4,183
Education committee meetings	8	1,199	1,225
Finance and GP committee meetings	8	1,562	631
Dissemination committee meetings	8	403	1,304
Auditors' remuneration		5,000	4,035
Auditors' accountancy fees		4,385	2,525
Bank charges		1,915	1,437
Irrecoverable VAT		9,994	5,706
Exchange differences		(370)	3,366
Depreciation		4,587	4,511
Profit on disposal of fixed asset		(763)	–
		£164,186	£135,405

5. STAFF COSTS

The Council employed two part time staff during the year (2000: two), who were engaged in administrative duties. In addition the Scientific Officer assisted the Council on a daily fee consultancy basis.

Staff costs for the above persons were:

	2001	2000
Salaries and Scientific Officer fees	61,666	57,078
Social security costs	5,121	5,319
Pension costs	624	–
	£67,411	£62,397

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Office Equipment
Cost	
At 1 April 2000	21,080
Additions	1,693
Disposals	(5,897)
At 31 March 2001	<u>16,876</u>
Depreciation:	
At 1 April 2000	15,488
On disposals	(5,897)
Charge for the year	4,587
At 31 March 2001	<u>14,178</u>
Net Book Value	
At 31 March 2001	<u>£2,698</u>
At 31 March 2000	<u>£5,592</u>

7. LISTED INVESTMENTS AND CASH

	2001	2000
At valuation:		
Listed Investments 1 April 2000	11,004,676	11,917,503
Additions	3,559,141	5,299,007
Disposals	(4,528,844)	(6,091,005)
Unrealised gains/(losses) on revaluation	669,521	(120,829)
Listed Investments 31 March 2001	<u>10,704,494</u>	<u>11,004,676</u>
Cash awaiting re-investment	666,280	663,577
	<u>£11,370,774</u>	<u>£11,668,253</u>

	2001		2000	
	Market Value	Cost	Market Value	Cost
Analysis by type:				
Corporate bonds & British Govt. Stocks	2,563,546	2,706,535	2,706,068	2,668,168
Equities and convertible loan stocks	8,140,948	7,139,573	8,298,608	6,821,867
Cash awaiting re-investment	666,280	666,280	663,577	663,577
	<u>£11,370,774</u>	<u>£10,512,388</u>	<u>£11,668,253</u>	<u>£10,153,612</u>

8. MEMBERS' REIMBURSEMENTS

Included in the cost of meetings is a total of £12,533 (2000: £9,901) reimbursed to 14 members (2000: 14).

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

9. STUDENTSHIP GRANTS

The council paid grants to 17 students during the year, totalling £105,545. The grants covered course fees and, in the case of full-time students, included maintenance and other allowances on a scale similar to that of the Economic and Social Research Council. The amount outstanding at the year end is as follows:-

Payable 2001/02	71,715
Payable 2002/03	24,060
	£95,775

A summary of studentship awards approved during the year is given in Annex I of the Council's Report.

10. DEBTORS

	2001	2000
Tax recoverable	11,553	9,086
Other debtors	26,215	410
	£37,768	£9,496

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2001	2000
Due to stockbrokers	-	198,934
Accrued expenses	23,280	31,031
	£23,280	£229,965

12. CASH BALANCES

	2001	2000	Change in Year
Cash on deposit and at bank	74,580	228,575	(153,995)
Cash awaiting re-investment <i>(note 7)</i>	666,280	663,577	2,703
	£740,860	£892,152	(£151,292)

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

13. GRANTS PAID

	Paid in Year	Outstanding	Payable
TACADE	39,503	5,397	2001/02
University of Bath	23,712	78,518	2001/02
Centre for Alcohol and Drug Studies, Newcastle-upon-Tyne	58,154	74,070	2001/02
National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs	21,241	–	
University of Nottingham	17,017	10,544	2001/02
Medical Council on Alcoholism	973	–	
Alcohol and Health Research Centre	40,822	–	
Church of Scotland Lifestyle Centre, Stornaway	285	–	
University of Wales College of Medicine	–	8,416	2001/02
Addictions Forum	2,530	–	
University College London Medical School	26,571	2,539	2001/02
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine	29,721	–	
Alcohol Concern	23,303	4,626	2001/02
Addictions Forum	5,850	1,150	2001/02
Alcohol and Health Research Centre	30,775	10,225	2001/02
Aquarius	353	–	
Leeds Addiction Unit	–	34,125	2001/03
Kings College London	10,773	23,182	2001/02
Joint Project between AERC and Centre for Information on Beverage Alcohol (CBA)	291	–	
Camden and Islington Community Health Service NHS Trust	–	57,394	2001/03
Nursing Council on Alcohol	2,500	–	
New Directions in Study of Alcohol Group	3,480	3,520	2001/02
Health Development Agency	–	6,000	2001/02
Royal College of Surgeons of England	–	45,000	2001/02
Oxford Centre for Health Care Research and Development	–	14,805	2001/02
Pontypridd and Rhondda NHS Trust	–	90,000	2001/05
Imperial College School of Medicine	–	112,606	2001/03
	<u>£337,854</u>	<u>£582,117</u>	
Studentship grants (<i>note 9</i>)	<u>£105,545</u>		
	<u>£443,399</u>		

Of the grants in the list opposite, two Council members and the Scientific Officer were involved in three research projects and received funding from the institution to which the grant was made. The details are as follows:

University of Wales College of Medicine: throughout the grant the Scientific Officer Professor Ray Hodgson received a total of £15,000 for project management and supervision.

In respect of the grant to the University of Bath, the grant holder is Professor Richard Velleman, a member of the Council.

In respect of the Joint AERC/CBA project the work was undertaken by Dr Betsy Thom and, with the approval of the Charity Commission, she received £291.

In respect of the Health Development Agency project Dr Thom received £1,500 for writing a conference report.

A summary of grants approved during the year is given in Annex 1 of the Council's Report.

The outstanding grants (excluding studentship grants) are anticipated to be payable in the following accounting periods:-

Payable 2001/2002	448,279
Payable 2002/2003	98,838
Payable 2003/2004	27,000
Payable 2004/2005	8,000
	<u>£582,117</u>

Len Hay, Secretary to the Council

In February 2001, the Home Secretary appointed to the Council Professor Ilana Crome, Ms Gaye Pedlow and Mr Peter Harraway to replace Professor Brian McAvoy, Mr Alastair Eadie and Mrs Gill Mackenzie.



Mr Peter Harraway

Peter Harraway is currently the Amalgamation Programme Manager for the London Area of the National Probation Service for England and Wales, which was created in April 2001 from the previous 5 probation services within the Greater London area. He was previously the Chief Information Systems Officer for the Inner London Probation Service.

He has worked in the probation service for 28 years, as a probation officer and at various levels of management. In the 1980s, he initiated the development of offending behaviour programmes in Inner



London, and researched effectiveness in this area. He has a particular interest in the associations between alcohol misuse and crime and in the development of accredited programmes to tackle this with offenders. Between 1991 and 1994 he managed the community service by offenders scheme across the Inner London area.

Mr Harraway has also developed performance management and evaluation processes in probation and information exchange protocols with other agencies. He has lectured on this, and has represented the service nationally on various committees within the Home Office and the former Association of Chief Officers of Probation.

Ms Gaye Pedlow

Gaye Pedlow is currently Group Alcohol Policy Director for Diageo plc, the world's leading premium drinks company. She has been a senior external affairs manager in the drinks business for over eight years, having joined Guinness plc in 1992.

Under the Licensing (Alcohol Education and Research) Act 1981, the Home Secretary appoints Members in a personal capacity. The initial appointment is for three years and members may be reappointed for a second term. The maximum period that members may serve is six years.



Professor Ilana Crome

Ilana Crome has been involved in the field of addiction for 20 years. She is currently Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Wolverhampton and is Lead Consultant in

Addiction, Wolverhampton Healthcare Trust.

She has played an active role in service development, research and training, as well as in policy domains. In addition to providing comprehensive addiction services, she has published widely and lectures extensively. She is especially keen to ensure that research investment is wide-ranging so that it can be translated into practice and inform policy. Professor Crome's other appointments include being Chair of the Faculty of Substance Misuse in the Royal College of Psychiatrists and Member of the Government's Scientific Committee on Tobacco and Health. She also sits on the Executive Council of the Society for the Study of Addiction.

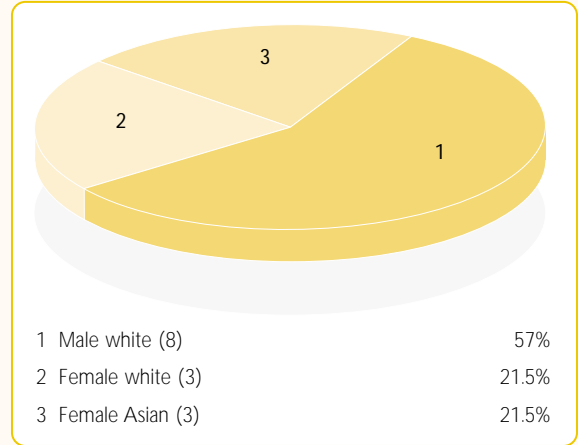


Ms Pedlow's role includes acting as advisor to Diageo companies internationally on social and health issues related to alcohol consumption. The Diageo Foundation has funded alcohol education initiatives in

many countries world-wide, including the UK, United States, Poland, South Africa and Brazil. Ms Pedlow brings to the Council a great deal of international experience, gained from her involvement in these and many other industry-funded initiatives aimed at reducing alcohol misuse.

CURRENT COMPOSITION OF COUNCIL

With the new appointments the current composition of the Council by gender and ethnicity is as follows:



OBITUARY

Dr Jeremy Queenborough

Members of the Council were saddened to learn recently of the death of Dr Jeremy Queenborough, who was a member of the Council from 1991-1997.

Jeremy was a very committed and supportive team member, a good friend and a knowledgeable colleague. He clearly enjoyed working in the field of alcohol research. The Council even more clearly enjoyed working with him. His death at the age of fifty-one was a shock to family, friends and colleagues but also a great loss to the alcohol field.

Jeremy received his public health training in the Oxford region and progressed through a number of posts to a position as Consultant in Public Health in Windsor with the East Berkshire Health Authority. His next post was in Wales. As Director of Public Health for East Dyfed in South Wales he was responsible for promoting a broad view of the health of communities. In particular, he was active in developing mental health services and partnerships with social services. He was highly respected by voluntary agencies, especially those dealing with alcohol and drug problems. Jeremy was also convinced that a whole range of professional groups and diverse approaches to health were essential in developing a public health agenda. Whatever activity he was involved in, Jeremy attempted to get rid of blinkered views from wherever they might emerge.

As part of the process of restructuring the Health Authorities in Wales, Jeremy was one of many senior professionals, from a range of disciplines, who submitted themselves to psychometric testing. It did not surprise

his friends and colleagues to learn that he came out ahead of the whole field on tests of general intelligence. The AERC certainly recognised that it was lucky to have a member who was at the same time very bright and also extremely personable.

For the last two years, Jeremy took the lead on a major piece of work with colleagues at the WHO Collaborating Centre at the University of Wales Institute in Cardiff. The important document that he produced, on *Public Health and Chemical Incidents*, has found its place as an authoritative and useful guide to the area of chemical safety. His colleagues believed that this was the start of a very productive and influential line of work. Unfortunately this was not to be.

He was innovative and creative, both at work and at play, but also had a humorous slant on most of his own activities. Having developed a novel approach to defining recommended units of alcohol he toyed with the possibility that the Queenborough Rules in alcohol education would trip more easily off our tongues than the Queensbury Rules in boxing.

Jeremy was a very influential academic, manager and practitioner but he will also be remembered for the strength of the relationships that he developed. He added stability and power to the groups that he was involved with. He always appeared to carry with him the quietness of Manordeifi, his house in the West Wales countryside as well as the unwavering support of his family. Our sympathy is with his wife Judith, his 11-year-old daughter Jemma and his sons by his first marriage Simon and Ben

The Council pays tribute to his many skills and achievements, but especially to his work in the field of alcohol education and research.

Ray Hodgson

A major innovation in 2000 was the publication of the first batch of *Alcohol Insights*, a series of abstracts of the findings of research funded by the Council. Hitherto it had been left to grant holders to publish the results of their research, usually in academic journals. This meant that much useful work had not come to the notice of policy makers and others who were able to implement the lessons learnt.

The first six *Alcohol Insights* were published at the end of July 2000 and copies were circulated with the last annual report. They covered the following projects:

- Insight No 1: University of Wales: *Sales of alcohol to under-aged adolescents.*
- Insight No 2: University of West of England: *Controlling supply: the concept of need in liquor licensing.*
- Insight No 3: University of Wales: *Reducing alcohol consumption in young men with alcohol-related facial injuries.*
- Insight No 4: Centre for Alcohol and Drugs Studies, Newcastle-upon-Tyne: *Aiming for moderation rather than total abstinence.*
- Insight No 5: Health Education Authority: *Fast screening for alcohol problems.*
- Insight No 6: Imperial College at St Mary's: *The effect of alcohol on surgical dexterity.*

Copies of these can still be obtained from the Council secretariat. They can also be downloaded in pdf format from the Council's website www.aerc.org.uk.

We are aiming to publish the next batch of *Alcohol Insights* on 11 October, to coincide with the AERC Seminar in Edinburgh. As is now Council policy, all these will have been peer-reviewed. The provisional list of projects to be included is:

- University of Belfast: *Maternal alcohol consumption and the behaviour of the foetus.*
- University College, London: *Antecedents of midlife alcohol consumption.*
- University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne: *Brief interventions by primary health care nurses.*
- University of Nottingham: *Drinking habits of 16 year olds: associations with contemporaneous attitudes and social circumstances, socio-economic factors and early childhood experience.*
- London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine: *Optimal levels of alcohol consumption for different ages, and the mortality attributable for heavier drinking.*
- Centre for Alcohol and Health Research, Edinburgh: *ESPAD 1999.*

Copies of the *Insights* will be distributed widely to those who receive the annual report and to government departments, alcohol organisations, commissioners and providers of services.

Copies of the *Insights* and accessible reports describing the research in greater detail will also be on the Council's website from the date of publication.

An important objective of the Council is the generation and dissemination of research-based evidence to inform and influence policy and practice. In addition to disseminating our work through *Alcohol Insights* and the website, in the past year we have organised or contributed to the organisation of six important seminars, which are described below.

AERC ANNUAL SEMINAR 2000 Newcastle-upon-Tyne: 19 October 2000

Over the past five years the Council has sponsored several important projects within the Department of Primary Care of the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne and the Centre for Drugs and Alcohol Research. Members of the Council were glad, therefore, to have the opportunity of learning about these at first hand from the grant holders and their teams.

Professor Nick Heather and his team spoke about the WHO Collaborative Project on the identification and management of alcohol-related problems in primary health care (PHC) and the development of a strategy for implementing screening and brief alcohol intervention in PHC in England. This is a very important project that will have widespread implications for alcohol services.

Dr Eileen Kaner and her team then described their project on the nurse-led implementation of screening and brief intervention in primary health care. This has now come to fruition and will be featured in the next batch of *Alcohol Insights*.

Professor Paul Willner of the University of Wales, Swansea, then presented the conclusions of his project on the sale of alcohol to under-aged adolescents, which involved a major survey of school

children and test purchasing by adolescents in two areas. This project, which demonstrated how relatively easy it was for children to buy alcohol from off licensed premises, has contributed to changes in legislative policy.

Nemesis with Wings a theatre-in-education company, then presented *Down in One*, a performance which had just been piloted as part of a sensible drinking programme developed by the National Federation of Young Farmers Clubs of England and Wales.

Finally, **Anne Fox** of Galahad Substance Misuse Solutions Ltd spoke about the evaluation of alcohol projects in which she drew on her experience of evaluating four AERC-sponsored educational projects.

ALCOHOL-RELATED PROBLEMS IN HOSPITAL SETTINGS - SCREENING AND INTERVENTION London: 16 March 2001

This seminar, which was organised jointly by the Health Development Agency and the AERC, brought together a wide range of alcohol professionals and policy makers to consider the opportunities for screening and intervention in different hospital units.

The seminar developed out of a project funded by the Council and the then Health Education Authority to test the *FAST* screening instrument within several accident and emergency departments. Professor Ray Hodgson, the Council's Scientific Officer Dr Betsy Thom of Middlesex University and Dr Seta Waller of the Health Development Agency led this project.

The first part of the seminar focussed on screening and monitoring in different hospital settings and set the scene for the afternoon session, where practitioners gave examples of good practice. Work financed by the Council was to the fore of the seminar and included:

- The development of the *FAST* screening instrument and its use in accident and emergency departments (presentations by Professor Hodgson and Dr Tina Alwyn);
- Brief interventions on young men admitted to a surgical unit with facial injuries (Professor Jonathan Shepherd and Ms Kathryn Bridgeman); and
- The role of the specialist alcohol nurse in an accident and emergency department (Mr Adrian Brown).

The seminar was a demonstration of work that has made a difference. It brought together over 80 professionals from a range of specialities and it was clear from the informal feedback that it was both timely and needed.

JOINT AERC/DFEE SEMINAR ON ALCOHOL EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS Westminster: 7 March 2000

The proposal for this seminar stemmed from discussions the Council had had with the then Department for Education and Employment as part of its review of its educational remit. It brought together key people from government departments, educational authorities and alcohol organisations to

- review the current position of alcohol education in schools;
- consider what is required to support the schools;
- take stock of recent developments and examples of good practice; and
- consider how the different interested agencies might work more collaboratively.

In opening the seminar, Baroness Flather said the timing was particularly appropriate as it took place only days after the publication of the *Report of*

the European Schools Project on Alcohol and other Drugs (ESPAD 1999). This showed that the out of the 30 participating countries, UK teenagers, together with those of Denmark, Finland and Ireland, reported the highest levels of alcohol consumption and drunkenness.

For the DfEE Ms Jacqui Smith MP, then Minister for Schools Standards, described the Government's support for alcohol



education through funding to support prevention, training for teachers and Connexions advisers, and funding for local advisers. She emphasised the role of the National Healthy Schools Standard in delivering alcohol education at a local level, and the importance of reflecting what young people want and the need to involve them in generating policy. She said that she recognised that alcohol education has possibly been overshadowed by the focus on illegal drugs, and that it needed to be given a higher profile in schools.

Following the Minister's address Dr John Rae took the chair. Presentations were then given by representatives of the Drugs Education Forum, Department of Health, Home Office, The Portman Group, AERC, TACADE and Alcohol Concern/DrugScope. These informed a wide-ranging discussion at which many points were identified and explored.

Seminar participants agreed that alcohol should be delivered as part of a broader drug education programme within PSHE and supported by Healthy Schools. It was not clearly understood that the Government's investment in drug education (£14.5m in 2001–02, including £7.5m for prevention, £5m for LEA advisers, £1m for teacher training and £1m for Connexions adviser training) also covers alcohol. The recent ESPAD survey into alcohol misuse amongst young people focused participants' minds on the importance of supporting effective alcohol education.

It was clear that a good deal of work is going on, with a range of effective practices. The forthcoming DfEE/HO/DH longitudinal research into effectiveness of drug education would provide more evidence of effective approaches. Seminar participants agreed that it would be important to respond to the information they had gathered about what young people and teachers and other practitioners thought would be helpful. It would be important to think beyond more guidance / leaflets. The forthcoming *National Alcohol Strategy and the Action Plan to Tackle Alcohol-related Crime and Disorder* provided a valuable context and impetus for this work.

A full report of the proceedings can be viewed on the Council's website www.aerc.org.uk. All in all, we believe this first joint DfEE/AERC seminar was a good event. Seminar participants demonstrated a strong commitment to improving alcohol education and to sharing expertise between organisations. There was also a clear commitment to taking practical actions to make a difference. A follow-up event is planned for 2002.

CENTRE FOR RESEARCH ON DRUGS AND HEALTH BEHAVIOUR – 10th ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE

The Council was happy to contribute to the funding of two events that marked the 10th anniversary of this Centre.

Reducing Harm from Alcohol and Drugs: Making the Research, Policy and Practice Connections London 7 April, 2000

This first event brought together scientists, policy makers and people working on drug and alcohol projects in the fields of both alcohol and drugs. The key questions addressed by the meeting were:

- What can alcohol harm reduction learn from drugs harm reduction?
- What can drugs harm reduction learn from alcohol harm reduction?

The topic was well chosen because the last decade has seen considerable advances in measures to reduce alcohol and drug related harm. While there has been some overlap between the alcohol and drugs fields, for the most part harm reduction work on alcohol, and harm reduction work on drugs, have developed as separate traditions. The work has also become characterised by different research, policy and intervention agendas and there has been insufficient cross-fertilisation of ideas and practices.

The organisers must be congratulated on their selection of speakers and the way in which they shared their experiences in answering the key questions. Richard Velleman joined Professor Gerry Stimson in welcoming participants and a keynote opening speech was given by Betsy Thom entitled *Harm reduction – lessons from the past*. Amongst the presentations that followed were contributions by AERC grant holders Professor Nick Heather and Dr Martin Plant.

Dorothy Black Lecture 2001 – Alcohol, Public Health And Social Order: Policing And Regulating Licensed Premises London 28 February 2001

The second 10th anniversary event was this annual lecture given by Professor Tim Stockwell, Director of the National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University, Australia. At a time when the Government is developing proposals to change the licensing law in England and Wales and Scotland it was particularly interesting to learn of the Australian experience in enforcing the licensing law as a means of reducing disorder and drunkenness.

**NEW DIRECTIONS IN ALCOHOL STUDIES – 25TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Dumfries 5–8 April 2001**

The Council was also pleased to be associated with the 25th anniversary New Directions conference, which this year focused on the spiritual dimension in the treatment of alcohol problems.

The principle speaker at the conference was Professor Bill Miller of the University of New Mexico, an internationally acknowledged expert in this area.

From the Council Betsy Thom spoke at the opening session on 25 years of New Directions. Richard Velleman shared his experiences of growing up in a

Jewish household in England in the 1950s and 60s. Robin Davidson complemented this by describing his experiences as a son of the manse in Belfast, and about the Oxford Group, which had been instrumental in the establishment of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Council members were particularly pleased that 10 Council-sponsored students had accepted invitations to participate in the conference. This was the first time that the Members, the Council Secretary and students had come together in this way. The sharing of experiences and the reports we received subsequently from the students confirmed the value of conferences such as this for developing knowledge and networking.



Pictured: AERC sponsored students with Richard Velleman, Robin Davidson and Len Hay

**AERC SEMINAR 2001
Roxburghe Hotel, Edinburgh 11 October 2001**

As in previous years, this seminar will present recent and on-going examples of work the Council has funded. For the first time it will last a whole day. It is fitting that it will be held in Scotland at a time that the Scottish Parliament and Executive are developing a national alcohol strategy.

We shall be honoured by a keynote speech from Malcolm Chisholm MP SMP, Deputy Minister for Health and Community Care and Chairman of the Scottish Advisory Committee on Alcohol Misuse. Full details of the seminar are given in a leaflet which accompanies this report.

Briefly summarised the programme comprises:

- Alcohol, work places and cultural change:
Professor John Davies
- Alcohol and gender: *Dr Martin Plant*

- Teenage drinking – ESPAD 1999: *Dr Patrick Miller*
- Launch of www.downyourdrink.org – help to heavy drinkers via the Internet: *Mr Stuart Linke*
- Effectiveness of alcohol misuse prevention programmes for youth: *Professor David Foxcroft*
- New alcohol education materials: *Martin Buczkiewicz*
- Alcohol research priorities for the future:
Dr Bruce Ritson
- Nursing interventions in hospital settings:
Ms Kathryn Bridgeman, Ms Helene Lesley and Ms Louise Learnmonth

Also for the first time doctors and nurses who take part in the seminar will be able to count their attendance for the purposes of Continuing Professional Development or Post Graduate Education. Certificates of attendance for this purpose will be issued.

To reserve a place, please complete and return the reservation form in the leaflet or register via the AERC website www.aerc.org.uk.

Have we made a difference? Professor Ray Hodgson, Scientific Officer

Most researchers want to make a difference. So do most funding bodies and from time to time we in the Council ask ourselves whether we are making any difference at all. We believe that we are. The following recent examples of research studies, funded by the Council, are slowly having an influence on policies and services. These studies fall into two groups, namely risks associated with drinking and brief interventions designed to reduce hazardous drinking.

STUDIES ON RISK AND HAZARDOUS DRINKING

Professor Peter Hepper and colleagues, at Queen's University of Belfast, have demonstrated that moderate maternal alcohol consumption (5 to 6 units per week) is associated with a reduction in the movement of the foetus. Foetuses of drinking mothers exhibited decreased mouthing, breathing and general activity compared to those of non-drinking mothers. Also, the adaptive startle response of the foetus, defined as the response of the foetus to a single auditory stimulus, was affected at 25 weeks gestation. Only 39.6% of foetuses of mothers who drank elicited a startle response compared to 66% in foetuses of mothers who did not drink. This work strongly suggests that alcohol consumed by a mother can have a detrimental dampening influence on the central nervous system of the foetus. Furthermore, similar physiological effects were observed at 5-months of age.

(Contact: p.hepper@qub.ac.uk)

Research on risk involving teenagers and young people has also been a priority for the Council with support being provided for the 1995 and 1999 ESPAD projects (The European School Survey Project on Alcohol & Other Drugs). The UK part of this work was carried out by Martin Plant and

Patrick Miller of the Alcohol & Health Research Centre in Edinburgh. It is clear from this study that, by international standards, UK teenagers reported high levels of involvement with alcohol, tobacco



and illicit drugs. The latest survey, published in February 2001, showed that, out of the 30 participating countries, UK teenagers, together with those of Denmark, Finland and Ireland, reported the highest levels of alcohol consumption and drunkenness and continue to lead this international league table. The UK still has a serious problem in spite of the apparent decline in drug use among 15–16 year olds between 1995 and 1999.

(Contact: mplant.ahrc@onet.co.uk)

This is even more significant when considering the work of Ian White and his colleagues from the Medical Statistics Unit of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. They made use of data from previous long-term population follow-up studies in various countries on the risks related to alcohol consumption in order to further develop evidence-based guidelines for sensible drinking. The researchers present policy makers with a challenge. On the one hand, the cultural expectation is that young people drink the most. This binge drinking stage is then followed by a gradual reduction in consumption through maturity and senior citizenship. On the other hand, the epidemiological data on risk indicate that recommended safe levels of consumption should actually be lowest in the young. This is mainly because older people get some benefits from alcohol that are not evident in young people. Using this data it can be estimated that, in

England and Wales in 1997, over 13,000 deaths were attributable to alcohol consumption but over 15,000 ischaemic heart disease deaths were prevented, mostly in older men and women. For young people few if any lives are saved, because ischaemic heart disease is rare in the young. Deaths related to alcohol in the young are mainly due to injuries, without the counterbalancing benefits of improvements to physical or psychological health. Among the policy implications the authors propose that drinking messages should be different for younger and older people. More specifically safer patterns of drinking should be encouraged in young people to reduce the large number of deaths from injury.

(Contact: ian.white@mrc-bsu.cam.ac.uk)

A further project on alcohol use and the young involved 13 and 16-year-old adolescents attempting to purchase alcohol. Paul Willner and colleagues from the University of Wales, Swansea, demonstrated that 16-year-old girls and boys as well as 13-year-old girls find their age does not impede purchasing alcohol. There was little difference between types of outlet in their willingness to sell alcohol to minors. In particular, there was no support for the public perception that the problem of underage sales is linked mainly to corner shops and that the chain supermarkets have put their houses in order. Vendors overestimate the age of underage customers, particularly girls. However, age estimation errors were not sufficient to account for the full extent of underage alcohol sales. This important study, which was disseminated widely as *Alcohol Insight No1*, was cited by the Government during the passage of the Criminal Justice and Police Bill as an authority for changing the licensing law so as to allow test purchases by young people under 18. This was enacted as section 31 of the Criminal Justice and

Police Act 2001 and provides that it is not an offence for young people to purchase, or attempt to purchase, alcohol when acting under the directions of a constable or an inspector of weights and measures. (Contact: p.willner@swansea.ac.uk)

SCREENING AND BRIEF INTERVENTIONS

A second set of studies has focused upon screening and brief interventions within primary care and hospital settings. It is clear that health care professionals can have a positive effect on the processes involved in change. The Council has funded three studies, which form part of a wider World Health Organisation study on screening and brief alcohol intervention strategies in primary health care. Professor Nick Heather, Dr Eileen Kaner and Dr Eilish Gilvarry of the Centre for Alcohol and Drug Studies and the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne have led the UK contribution to this international effort.

One of these pragmatic studies, led by Dr Eileen Kaner, investigated three methods of training primary care nurses in screening and brief intervention methods. In spite of time and workload constraints, 60% of all the nurses who agreed to use the programme actually did so. The three training approaches were: 1) written guidelines; 2) written guidelines plus training; 3) written guidelines plus training and telephone support. The written guidelines alone were not as effective as the other two and the most cost-effective method turned out to be training without telephone support. The investigators also considered barriers to implementation, for example, the view that patients do not consider lifestyle discussions to be the nurses' role. "Sometimes you get the hedgehog

bristle reaction if you start talking about alcohol". In fact, the majority of patients presenting to primary care are concerned about their lifestyle and most would welcome relevant counselling. A second important factor is support provided by the receptionist. Where this support was available the programme was implemented more extensively. Although there are many barriers to implementation, this study has developed a training package and taken the first steps towards developing routine screening and brief intervention services by nurses within a primary care setting. (Contact: e.f.s.kaner@newcastle.ac.uk)

Another screening and brief intervention study also demonstrated that a nurse is able to influence binge drinking by giving the right message, at the right time, to the right people. Many patients entering maxillofacial services, via accident and emergency departments, have alcohol-related injuries. In a randomised controlled trial, researchers at the University of Wales College of Medicine demonstrated that hazardous drinking, in the year after such an injury, could be significantly reduced by a very brief motivational intervention. The nurse sensitively and naturally introduced a discussion of the beneficial effects of safer drinking as she carried out a routine medical activity such as removing sutures. A video of a typical interview has been produced in order to facilitate dissemination. (Cost £25; contact Professor Jonathan Shepherd: oralsurgery@cardiff.ac.uk). Substantial additional resources are not required for this service development since the interview is woven into routine procedures.

The Council has also funded further work on a very brief screening instrument. The Fast Alcohol Screening Test (FAST) is a short version of the Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT). One advantage of the FAST is that the first question (of four) identifies over 50% of patients as either hazardous drinkers or not. The FAST is now being used routinely across a range of medical settings. (Contact Professor Ray Hodgson for details of the test: ray.hodgson@ntlworld.com)

CONCLUSION

Although these and other research studies funded by the Council are leading to service and policy changes, we are aware of two important considerations. First, positive results from just one study do not justify widespread and unmonitored change. Local service developments or demonstration projects must first be implemented and evaluated. Second, evidence is never enough. The continuing support of policy makers, managers and practitioners is essential. That is why the Council is committed to the dissemination of useful research findings to a wide range of decision makers as well as to making persistent attempts to influence change.

Our doctors of philosophy Professor Hodgson

Through its studentship scheme the Council continues to fund a wide range of research projects leading to a PhD and one of our core beliefs is that we are not just a funding body. As far as possible we take an interest in the progress of the studies as well as their findings. The following very brief notes provide a hint of the type of work we are funding. But first we would like to congratulate the four people whose PhD theses have recently been given pride of place on our shelves. They are Susan Harper, Wendy Loretto, Lynn Preston and Saoirse Nic Gabhainn.

The studentship scheme began in 1991. The Council has always seen this as contributing towards the formation of the next generation of academic researchers. As evidence of this, David Foxcroft, who was one of the first students to be awarded a research studentship, is now Professor of Health Care at Oxford Brookes University.

Verbal reports as signal detection: An alternative approach to the collection and analysis of questionnaire data.

DR SUSAN HARPER

This challenging thesis explores the way in which self-reports vary depending upon the context and the person. At the centre is the notion of response bias, which represents the motivation of the individual to respond in one way rather than another. To give an extreme example, a person with an alcohol problem intent on gaining admission to an inpatient treatment unit will describe themselves differently from the same person trying to get out. More specifically, this project found that the demand characteristics of two interviewing situations could be quantified in terms of response bias scores and also that these scores could distinguish between those

individuals who would drop out of treatment and those who would successfully complete treatment. This thesis also provides a thorough overview of the literature on self-report data, as well as differing philosophical approaches to self-reports.

Licit and illicit drug use in two cultures: A comparative study of adolescents in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

DR WENDY LORETTO

This cross-national study explored self-reported alcohol, tobacco and illicit drug use amongst 1,172 secondary school pupils in Northern Ireland and Scotland. The study group was further divided by gender, socio-economic status and religious affiliation. The results make it very clear that different social and developmental processes are involved in these diverse cultures. Northern Irish teenagers were less likely than their Scottish counterparts to have consumed an alcoholic drink, but those who did drink were more likely to drink hazardously. The influence of religious affiliation and socio-economic status were more marked in Northern Ireland, where those attending a Roman Catholic school were less likely to drink. In contrast to their drinking behaviour, Roman Catholic pupils were more likely to smoke and to smoke heavily. It is argued that Northern Ireland is in many ways a separate cultural entity with its own social and national identity.

Women constructing identities around alcohol use: The narratives of older and younger women.

DR LYNN PRESTON

This is a qualitative study of women's use of alcohol, based upon their life-story narratives. It covers alcohol use from each woman's standpoint rather than as an instance of hazardous or deviant behaviour. Two groups of women were interviewed in depth. The first was a sample of women who believed that they had an alcohol problem. The second was a sample of younger women who were heavier drinkers but who did not see their drinking as a problem. For those who considered that they had a problem there is an exploration of the dissonance between wanting to be dependent on others and wanting to be autonomous or self-reliant. The sociological investigation covers treatment, experience of power and the salience of alcohol related discourse. For the younger group, who did not consider themselves to be excessive drinkers, their stories are explored in terms of transitions from childhood dependence to adult independence and the part that alcohol plays in these transitions. The main theme of this research is how identity is constructed.

The relationship between social networks, social support and membership of Alcoholics Anonymous.

DR SAOIRSE NIC GABHAINN

This exploratory study focused upon the importance of social support in both treatment and AA membership. The aim was to investigate the relationships between social support provided by the natural social network and that provided by AA. Three separate samples of participants were involved: members of AA in the community, inpatient alcoholics and a comparison group comprising adults from the community. Data was obtained at two time points, the second either six or twelve months after the first. Over time, the comparison group reported relatively stable levels of social networks and social support. The inpatient group reported increased levels of support and reduced levels of alcohol dependence. The results for the AA group were equivocal but positive changes in social networks and social support predicted later involvement with AA.

Tail piece

Completing a PhD is recognised as an exceedingly stressful life event. This is well known but it is also clear from reading some of the acknowledgements in these theses: — “writing a thesis takes over home life as well as university life”, “thanks are due to my family for having faith in my abilities even when it had deserted me”, “thanks to all my friends who have put up with me, read chapters and supplied wine where necessary”. But the one that may help us all acknowledges, “the Higglers, the Sawdoctors, the Big Bag of Sticks, the Nationals and the Midnight Cowboys – for helping to keep me sane”.

The Alcohol Education and Research Council and Functional Committees

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Director, Health Citizenship and Community Education
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Clinical Psychologist, Belvoir Park Hospital, Belfast

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Consultant Psychiatrist, St George's Hospital Medical School,
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Schools Co-ordinator, Health Promotion Service, Avon

Dr Betsy Thom

Senior Research Fellow, School of Social Sciences,
Middlesex University

Professor Richard Velleman

Director of Development and Research, Avon and Wiltshire
Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust and Professor of Mental
Health Research, University of Bath

APPOINTMENTS MADE IN MARCH 2001

Professor Ilana B Crome

Consultant Addiction Psychiatrist/Professor of Psychiatry,
Wolverhampton NHS Trust

Mr Peter Harraway

London Probation Area

Ms Gaye Pedlow

Group Alcohol Policy Director, Diageo plc

SECRETARY

Mr Leonard Hay

PS Mrs Andrea Tilouche

SCIENTIFIC OFFICER

Professor Ray Hodgson

Cardiff Addiction Research Unit,
University of Wales College of Medicine

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Dr Jonathan Chick

DISSEMINATION COMMITTEE

Professor Richard Velleman *Chairman*

Ms Perminder Dhillon (*until October 2000*)

Professor Robin Davidson

Dr John Kemm

Dr Betsy Thom

Professor Ray Hodgson

Summary of Grants made in FY 2000–2001

Ref		Amount £	Spread of Years
RESEARCH PROJECTS			
R04/00	To the Camden and Islington Community Health Service NHS Trust to investigate the use of the internet to reduce alcohol related harm.	£57,394	2 years
R05/00	To the Alcohol and Health Research Centre, Edinburgh to develop and extend the work on <i>gender sensitive</i> issues begun in phase 1 of the international collaborative study <i>Women and Alcohol</i>	£41,000	12 months
R06/00	To the Oxford Centre for Health Research and Development, Oxford Brookes University to investigate the effectiveness of alcohol misuse prevention programmes for youth: A Cochrane Collaboration Systematic Review.	£14,805	2 years
R07/00	To the Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine to investigate reducing alcohol misuse in patients attending an Accident & Emergency Department.	£112,606	2 years
R08/00	To the Research Board of the Royal College of Surgeons to fund a Research Fellowship.	£45,000	12 months
R09/00	To Pontypridd & Rhondda NHS Trust for a feasibility study for an evaluation of a schools-based peer-led intervention to reduce the prevalence of pupil problem drinking.	£90,000	3 years
		Total	360,805
EDUCATIONAL AND ACTION PROJECTS			
No Action Project grants were made in FY 2000/01			
MISCELLANEOUS GRANTS			
MG04/00	To the Nursing Council on Alcohol to contribute to their launch conference.	£2,500	
MG05/00	To the Health Development Agency to meet 50% of the cost of a conference on alcohol-related problems in hospital settings (screening and intervention), held at Regent's College on 16 March 2001.	£6,000	
MG06/00	To the Addictions Forum, the Alcohol & Health Research Centre, Edinburgh to fund the conference "Durham 2001" in September 2001.	£7,000	
MG07/00	To New Directions in the Study of Alcohol Group to contribute towards their 25th Anniversary Conference in Dumfries in April 2001.	£7,000	
		Total	£22,500

Ref		Amount £	Spread of Years
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STUDENTSHIP AWARDS – RESEARCH

RS00/01	To Mr Victor Robinson to carry out research leading to a PhD from the University of Queen's, Belfast, investigating self-efficacy ratings in affected and non-affected siblings from families in Northern Ireland with a positive family history of alcohol problems.	£33,270	3 years
RS00/02	Ms Barbara Elliott to carry out research leading to a PhD from the University of Bath investigating and further clarifying those behaviours or characteristics which make it likely that an individual will drop-out during an alcohol treatment intervention of their choice, or relapse back to previously high levels of consumption, following the completion of an intervention	£33,270	3 years
RS00/03	Miss Kirsty Jo-Anne Flatley to carry out research leading to a PhD from the University of Strathclyde to predict the behaviour of individuals with problem alcohol use – the utility of a social cognition model.	£19,080	2 years
RS00/04	Ms Susan Boyle to carry out research leading to a Doctor of Clinical Psychology degree at Glasgow University, investigating whether impaired control over drinking mediates the alcohol expectancy-motivation for recovery relationship.	£1,880	1 year
RS00/05	Miss Johanna Tamsin Piper to carry out research leading to a MSc in Health Psychology from the University of Bath to explore the relationship between alcohol consumption, anxiety and depression levels in myocardial infarction patients to determine if these factors are predictive of a future heart attack.	£9,540	1 year

STUDENTSHIP AWARDS – TAUGHT COURSES

TC00/02	Ms Jacqueline Schickler to study for Certificate in Addiction Counselling of the Rehabilitation of Addicted Prisoners Trust.	£10,050	1 year
TC00/03	Mrs Katherine Jones to study for the Diploma of Higher Education in Addiction Studies at the Leeds Addiction Unit.	£500	1 year
TC00/04	Mr Stuart Simpson to study at the University of Paisley for the Post-Graduate Diploma of Higher Education in Alcohol and Drug Studies.	£11,090	1 year
TC00/05	Mr John Nicholls to study for the Diploma of Higher Education in Addiction Studies at the Leeds Addiction Unit.	£1,700	2 years
TC00/06	Mr William Stephen Griffiths-Moore to study at the University of Kent for the Diploma in Addiction counselling.	£3,190	2 years
TC00/07	Mr Philip Rowe to study at the University of Greenwich for the Post-Graduate Certificate/ Diploma/MSc in Addiction Psychology, Counselling and Recovery.	£5,640	3 years
TC00/08	Dr Fiona Robinson to study for the MSc in Addictive Behaviour at St George's Hospital Medical School.	£12,790	1 year

Total Studentship Grants in in 2000/01 £142,000

GRAND TOTAL £525,305

Publications stemming from Council Grants

1. University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne: Department of Primary Health Care: Pilot phase of a trial to encourage GPs to take early intervention against excessive alcohol consumption

KANER E, WUTZKE S, SAUNDERS J, POWELL A, MORAWSKI J, BOUIX JC.

Impact of alcohol education and training on general practitioners' diagnostic and management skills: Findings from a World Health Organisation Collaborative Study.

JOURNAL OF STUDIES ON ALCOHOL (In press)

KANER EFS, HEATHER N, BRODIE J, LOCK CA, MCAVOY BR

Patient and practitioner characteristics influence the provision of brief alcohol intervention in primary health care.

BRITISH JOURNAL OF GENERAL PRACTICE (In press)

MCAVOY B, DONOVAN R, MCCORMICK R, WUTZKE S, JALLEH G, BARFOD S, SAUNDERS J, KANER E, GACHE P, LEE L, HEATHER N

GPs, prevention and alcohol – a powerful cocktail? Facilitators and inhibitors of practising preventive medicine and early intervention for alcohol: a 12 nation key informant and general practitioner study.

DRUGS: EDUCATION, PREVENTION & POLICY
2001;8(2): 00-00 (In press)

HEATHER N, KANER E

Brief intervention against excessive alcohol consumption. Chapter in: Warrell DA, Cox TM, Firth JD & Benz EJ (eds.)

OXFORD TEXTBOOK OF MEDICINE 4th edition.
Oxford Medical Publications, Oxford, 2000. (In press)

LOCK, C.A., KANER, E.F.S.

Use of marketing to disseminate brief alcohol intervention to general practitioners: promoting health care interventions to health promoters.

JOURNAL OF EVALUATION IN CLINICAL PRACTICE
2000; 6(4): 345-357

LOCK CA, KANER EFS, HEATHER N, GILVARRY E, MCAVOY BR

Changes in receptionists' attitudes towards involvement in a general practice-based trial of screening and brief alcohol intervention.

BRITISH JOURNAL OF GENERAL PRACTICE 2000; 50: 111-115

2. R7/96: University College, London, Department of Epidemiology & Public Health: Antecedents of midlife alcohol consumption and alcohol problems

LONGFORD N T, ELY M, HARDY R, WADSWORTH M E J (2000)

Handling missing data in diaries of alcohol consumption.

JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL STATISTICAL SOCIETY
Series A Vol 163 pp 381-402

3. R5/98: Alcohol & Health Research Centre, Edinburgh: Alcohol, Tobacco and Drug Use Among European Students (ESPAD)

HIBELL B., ANDERSSON B, AHLSTRÖM S, BALAKIREVA O, BJARNASON T, KOKKEVI A, MORGAN M, MILLER P. ET AL. (2001)

Stockholm: Swedish Council for Information on Alcohol and other Drugs.

THE 1999 ESPAD REPORT: ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG USE
AMONG STUDENTS IN 30 EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

LEDOUX S, MILLER P, CHOQUET M AND PLANT M A (2001)

Family structure, parent-child relationships, alcohol and other drug use among teenagers in France and the United Kingdom.

ALCOHOL & ALCOHOLISM (submitted)

MILLER, P. AND PLANT, M.A. (2000)

Report for the Department of Health and Social Services Information and Research Policy Branch, Centre for Information and Analysis, Belfast, Edinburgh: Alcohol & Health Research Centre.

DRINKING, SMOKING AND ILLICIT DRUG USE
AMONGST 15 AND 16 YEAR OLD SCHOOL STUDENTS
IN NORTHERN IRELAND

MILLER, P. AND PLANT, M.A. (2001)

Drinking and smoking among 15- and 16-year-olds in the United Kingdom: a re-examination.

JOURNAL OF SUBSTANCE USE 5: 285–289

MILLER, P. AND PLANT, M.A. (2001)

Alcohol and school performance in teenagers.

ALCOSCOPE (in press)

MILLER, P. AND PLANT, M.A. (2001)

Heavy cannabis use among UK teenagers: an exploration.

DRUG & ALCOHOL DEPENDENCE (submitted)

PLANT, M.A. (2000)

Young people and alcohol use, In: Aggleton P, Hurry J and Warwick (Eds.)

YOUNG PEOPLE AND MENTAL HEALTH London, Wiley, 13–28

PLANT, M.A. (2001)

Learning by experiment, In: Houghton, E. and Roche, A. (Eds.)

LEARNING ABOUT DRINKING
Washington, DC, Taylor and Francis, 129–146

PLANT, M.A. AND CAMERON, D. (EDS.) (2000)

THE ALCOHOL REPORT London: Free Association Books

PLANT, M.A. AND MILLER, P. (2000)

Drug use has declined among teenagers in United Kingdom.

BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL 320: 1536–1537
Also erratum note submitted September 26th

PLANT, M.A. AND MILLER, P. (2001A)

UK youth are heaviest drug users in Europe-Again.

SUBSTANCE MISUSE BULLETIN (in press)

PLANT, M.A. AND MILLER, P. (2001B)

Young people and alcohol: An international insight.

ALCOHOL & ALCOHOLISM (in press)

PLANT, M.A. AND MILLER, P. (2001C)

Teenage Drinking in Europe: ESPAD 1999, London.

ALCOHOL CONCERN MAGAZINE (in press)

4. R3/1999: Centre for Alcohol and Drug Studies Newcastle-upon-Tyne: Strategy for implementing screening and brief interventions in primary health care in England

HUTCHINGS D, HEATHER N, KANER E, GILVARRY E,
CASSIDY P, DALLOLIO E & LOCK C

World Health Organization Collaborative Project on
Identification and Management of Alcohol-related Problems
in Primary Health Care: Development of a strategy for
implementing screening and brief alcohol intervention in
primary health care in England (phase IV).

ADDICTION BIOLOGY: SYMPOSIUM Abstracts 2001: 6, 268

Current Holders of AERC Grants

Ref	Grant Holder or Project Leader	Details of Project or Studentship	Amount and Period
RESEARCH GRANTS			
R02/99	Professor Richard Velleman Mental Health Research and Development Unit, University of Bath	A randomised comparison of two levels of an intervention to work with relatives of alcohol and drug users in primary care.	£102,230 over 3 years
R03/99	Professor Nick Heather Centre for Alcohol and Drug Studies Newcastle-upon-Tyne	Strategies for implementing screening and brief interventions in primary health care in England.	£132,000 over 2 years
R02/00	Dr Gillian Tober Leeds Addiction Unit	Validation of a manual for process rating psychosocial interventions for the treatment of alcohol dependence and misuse.	£34,125 over 3 years
R03/00	Professor Peter Sönksen Department of Endocrinology St Thomas' Hospital, London	Examination of the link between alcohol and diabetes and what advice doctors should give their patients.	£33,955 over 12 months
R04/00	Mr Stuart Linke & Professor Paul Wallace Camden and Islington Community Health Service NHS Trust	Investigation of the use of the internet to reduce alcohol related harm.	£57,394 over 2 years
R05/00	Dr Moira Plant Alcohol and Health Research Centre, Edinburgh	To develop and extend the work on <i>gender sensitive</i> issues begun in phase 1 of the international collaborative study <i>Women and Alcohol</i> .	£41,000 over 12 months
R06/00	Professor David Foxcroft Oxford Brookes University	Investigation of the effectiveness of alcohol misuse prevention programmes for youth: A Cochrane Collaboration Systematic Review.	£14,805 over 2 years
R07/00	Dr Mike Crawford Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, London	Investigation of reducing alcohol misuse in patients attending an accident and emergency department.	£112,606 over 2 years
R08/00	Research Board Royal College of Surgeons of England	To fund a Research Fellowship.	£45,000 over 12 months

Ref	Grant Holder or Project Leader	Details of Project or Studentship	Amount and Period
RESEARCH GRANTS CONTINUED			
R09/00	RDr M Hasan & Professor Michael Bloor Pontypridd & Rhondda NHS Trust	Feasibility study for an evaluation of a schools-based peer-led intervention to reduce the prevalence of pupil problem drinking.	£90,000 over 3 years
R01/01	Mr Stephen Pilling University College London	A controlled study of community mental health team training and interventions for dual diagnosis (psychosis and substance misuse) patients.	£56,383 over 2 years
R02/01	Dr Jacqueline Collier University of Nottingham	Longitudinal study of alcohol consumption at 16 years, 26 years and 36 years: interactions with past and current smoking, social economic and employment factors.	£20,000 over 12 months
R03/01	Dr Helen Miller National Deaf Services London SW12	Prevalence of alcohol use disorders in deaf patients attending the National Deaf Services, a hospital for deaf people with mental health problems.	£2,250 over 12 months
R04/01	Dr Mark McDermott University of East London	An evaluation of an action-planning intervention to reduce the incidence of high-risk single-session alcohol consumption in moderate drinkers	£40,654 over 2 years
R05/01	Professor Richard Velleman University of Bath	A 12 month follow-up of a randomised comparison of two levels of an intervention to work with relatives of alcohol and drug users in primary health care.	£7,847 over 12 months
ACTION GRANTS			
A1/00	Mr Martin Buczkiewicz TACADE Greater Manchester	Project to develop a photopack for young people (aged 14–18 years) on alcohol related situations; and alcohol education materials for secondary school students.	£44,900 over 12 months
MISCELLANEOUS GRANT			
MG6/00	Dr Martin Plant Addictions Forum	Cost of bursaries to enable persons involved in provision of services for problem drinkers, and Council sponsored students to attend Durham 2001 Conference.	£7,000

Ref	Grant Holder or Project Leader	Details of Project or Studentship	Amount and Period
RESEARCH STUDENTSHIPS			
RS8/97	Ms Kay Wright	PhD at University of Birmingham for research into the use of alcohol in combination with other recreational drugs and its relationship with driving behaviour; University of Birmingham.	£22,982 over 3 years
RS10/97	Ms Aseha Morjaria	PhD at University of Birmingham for research into Incorporating the dimension of spirituality into culturally appropriate interventions for South Asians affected by alcohol-related problems.	£26,910 over 3 years
RS4/98	Ms Ann Maureen Coogan	MPhil leading to DPhil over 3 years at University of Ulster. The research is a three phase project to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the specific areas within the clients' characteristics profile which warrant treatment; • Evaluate the effectiveness of existing treatment programmes for each of these treatments; • Develop a predictor which, by administration before and during treatment, will ensure that the patient is receiving tailored, comprehensive and effective treatment programme. 	£37,610 over 3 years
RS9/98	Ms Tasneem Karimjee	PhD at King's College, London, to research the role of sulphur amino acids in the toxicity of alcohol. Possibilities for protective therapy.	£35,570 over 3 years
RS1/99	Ms Diane Gossrau	PhD at University of Leicester to research drinking patterns and other risk-taking behaviours: relationships between siblings and their parents.	£32,415 over 3 years
RS00/01	Mr Victor Robinson	PhD at Queens University of Belfast. Investigating self-efficacy ratings in affected and non-affected siblings from families in Northern Ireland with a positive family history of alcohol problems.	£33,270 over 3 years
RS00/02	Ms Barbara Elliott	PhD at University of Bath. Investigating and further clarifying those behaviours or characteristics which make it likely that an individual will drop-out during an alcohol treatment intervention of their choice, or relapse back to previously high levels of consumption, following the completion of an intervention.	£33,270 over 3 years
RS00/03	Miss Kirsty Jo-Anne Flatley	PhD at University of Strathclyde to predict the behaviour of individuals with problem alcohol use – the utility of a social cognition model.	£19,080 over 2 years

Ref	Grant Holder or Project Leader	Details of Project or Studentship	Amount and Period
RESEARCH STUDENSHIPS CONTINUED			
RS00/04	Ms Susan Boyle	Doctor of Clinical Psychology degree at Glasgow University. Investigating whether impaired control over drinking mediates the "alcohol expectancy-motivation for recovery" relationship.	£1,880 for 1 year
RS00/05	Miss Johanna Tamsin Piper	MSc in Health Psychology to explore the relationship between alcohol consumption, anxiety and depression levels in myocardial infarction (heart attack) patients to determine if these factors are predictive of a future heart attack.	£9,540 for 1 year
RS01/01	Miss Rachel Jane Farrow	PhD in Psychology at the University of Manchester to research A Protection Motivation Theory approach to the relationship between sexual risk-taking and binge drinking in young women students.	£10,305 over 1 year
RS01/02	Miss Catherine Hills	M Phil/PhD at Middlesex University researching women, alcohol and their children.	£49,890 over 3 years
RS01/03	Miss Sarah Adele Pullen	MSc in health psychology at the University of Bath.	£10,305 over 1 year
RS01/04	Mr Andy Taylor	M.Phil/PhD at the University of Bath for research into parental substance misuse and child welfare: An examination of approaches to substance misusing families, with specific reference to the needs of children.	£35,685 over 3 years
TAUGHT COURSE STUDENTSHIP			
TC00/04	Mr Stuart Simpson	Post-Graduate Diploma of Higher Education in Alcohol and Drug Studies at the University of Paisley.	£11,090 over 1 year
TC00/05	Mr John Nicholls	Diploma of Higher Education in Addiction Studies at the Leeds Addiction Unit.	£1,700 over 2 years
TC00/06	Mr William Stephen Griffiths-Moore	Diploma in Addiction Counselling at the University of Kent.	£3,190 over 2 years
TC00/07	Mr Philip Rowe	Post-Graduate Certificate/Diploma/MSc in Addiction Psychology, Counselling and Recovery at University of Greenwich.	£5,640 over 3 years

Ref	Grant Holder or Project Leader	Details of Project or Studentship	Amount and Period
TAUGHT COURSE STUDENTSHIPS CONTINUED			
TC00/08	Dr Fiona Robinson	MSc in Addictive Behaviour at St George's Hospital Medical School.	£12,790 over 1 year
TC01/01	Miss Andrea Beavon	Posgraduate Diploma in Alcohol and Drug Studies at the University of Paisley	£2,740 over 2 years
TC01/02	Mr Joe Bernadello	Diploma/MSc in Addictions Counselling at Kings College London	£1,835 over 1 year
TC01/03	Mr Owen John Dunn	Postgraduate Diploma in Alcohol and Drug Studies at the University of Paisley	£2,740 over 2 years
TC01/04	Mr Glen Goodchild	Certificate/Diploma/MSc in Addiction Psychology, Counselling & Recovery at the University of Greenwich	£5,640 over 2 years
TC01/05	Ms Carol Leather	Diploma in Counselling at Chester College of Higher Education	£5,640 over 3 years
TC01/06	Revd John Lyons	Postgraduate Diploma in Alcohol and Drug Studies at the University of Paisley	£11,895 over 1 year
TC01/07	Miss Angie Miller	Postgraduate Diploma in Alcohol and Drug Studies at the University of Paisley	£1,370 over 1 year
TC01/08	Mr David M Porter	Diploma in Addictions Counselling at the University of Kent at Canterbury	£3,190 over 2 years
TC01/09	Dr Beverley Ann Rayers	Postgraduate Diploma in Drugs and Alcohol: Policy and Intervention at the Imperial College of Science, Technology & Medicine, University of London (External Programme)	£2,630 over 2 years
TC01/10	Dr Elizabeth Anne Stone	MSc in Drugs & Alcohol, Policy and Intervention at the University of London (External Programme)	£4,640 over 3 years
TC01/11	Ms Mary M Wallace	Postgraduate Diploma in Alcohol and Drug Studies at the University of Paisley	£1,370 over 1 year

AERC Studentships Scheme

GENERAL

Each year the Council awards a small number of studentships. These are in two categories:

- for students who wish to undertake research in the alcohol field leading normally to a PhD or MSc;
- for those who are working, or who intend to work, in the alcohol field and who wish to acquire appropriate professional qualifications by following a taught course.

The purpose of the scheme is to encourage research in the alcohol field and to improve the quality of service provided for those with drinking problems.

The 2002 Studentship scheme will be advertised in January 2002 and the selection process will be completed by the end of June.

Awards for POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH STUDENTS

To qualify the applicant should:

- have been accepted for a higher degree by research in alcohol studies up to a maximum period of three years;
- normally have or expect shortly to be awarded a degree at first class (1) or upper second (2:1). Applications will also be considered from students who have lesser qualifications but who have been accepted for a research degree.

Awards for STUDENTS ATTENDING TAUGHT COURSES

To qualify:

- the applicant should have been accepted or provisionally accepted for a taught course leading to a diploma or similar qualification in alcohol-related studies.
- the institution and the course, which may be full or part-time, must be acceptable to the Council.

It is not a requirement to be a graduate in order to qualify for an award, but all applicants will need to satisfy the Council that they have the intellectual capacity to complete the course successfully.

AMOUNT OF AWARDS

Since 1998 the amounts of awards and allowances payable have been based on those paid by the Economic and Social and other Research Councils. These include mature students incentives and allowances for single parents and disabled persons.

APPLICATIONS

For an application form and details of the standard conditions for the studentship arrangements please write or telephone the Council's office or visit our website www.aerc.org.uk.

