Introduction

CERVICAL SMEAR CAMPAIGN (CSC)
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SCOTTISH WOMEN’S HEALTH FAIR (SWHF)
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Introduction

This collection was gifted to LHSA by Penny Richardson in 2003, she was a founder member of the Cervical Smear Campaign. She was also a member of the Planning Group for the Scottish Women’s Health Fair, and an active member of the Head On project group. This collection is made up of papers, notes and correspondence collected by Penny, relating to her roles within each of the groups.

Cervical Smear Campaign, 1985-1991

In the early 1980s, because of public concern about several avoidable deaths from cervical cancer, a larger number of women began to go for cervical smears than had been catered for. Until then, the service had been largely opportunistic, in that women were not invited to have a smear on a regular basis. In July 1985, the Lothian Health Board put a freeze on smear tests because existing laboratory facilities were swamped with a backlog of 10,000 un-read slides.

In response to public concern about the freeze, Edinburgh District Local Health Council organised a public meeting, jointly with the Edinburgh District Council Women’s Committee, in October 1985. The meeting was very well attended and an action group, the ‘Cervical Smear Campaign’ was formed. The campaign’s aims were to pressurise Lothian Health Board to lift all restrictions on the cervical screening service in Lothian and to campaign for a fully comprehensive service in Lothian and Scotland.

In March 1986 a petition was launched which encapsulated the Campaign’s aims. The petition demanded: a complete end to the freeze on smear testing; adequate funding so that all women could have a smear every three years; an efficient system of notifying women of the results of all smears with adequate follow-up for abnormal smears; and a full call and recall system to be set up by Lothian Health Board.

Public support for the campaign was massive in Lothian, Fife and the Borders and in July 1986, the petition was presented to Lothian Health Board with nearly 18,000 signatures. The Health Board agreed to look into the petition’s demands and they invited a campaign representative to sit on their Cervical Screening Committee.

In September 1987, the Lothian Health Board announced that 3 yearly screening for women aged 20 and over, a computerised recall system, and automatic notification of all smear check results to women as well as their doctors, would be introduced in early 1988. And in May 1988, the Health Board launched its new screening service which provided 3 yearly screening, a system of notification of smear results and a computerised call and recall system.

In 1987 the campaign became national, joining with the Scottish Health Service Campaign. In November of that year, a second petition was launched nationally, demanding a full screening service across Scotland.

The campaign also worked extremely hard to inform women of the need for cervical screening and the work of the campaign. They gave talks to hundreds of women across the region; they produced information leaflets in the absence of any health
education material; and with the Edinburgh Film Workshop Trust co-produced a video entitled ‘Women’s Health and Cervical Smears. The campaign succeeded in raising awareness and changing attitudes towards cervical cancer within the general public, the health board and the media.

Scottish Women’s Health Fair, May 1983

The Scottish Women’s Health Fair was held on 27th-29th May 1983. It was organised by a group of local women with the backing of the Scottish Health Education Group, and coincided with a conference on ‘Women and Health’ which was held in Peebles on 25-27th May (organised by the World Health Organisation (Europe) and the Scottish Health Education Group).

The Scottish Women’s Health Fair aimed to take a wide-ranging look at factors affecting the health of women in Scotland and encouraged local participation and input from Women’s organisations and groups across Scotland. The Fair took place at venues across Edinburgh, and involved stalls, exhibitions, workshops, displays, films and discussion groups etc.

‘Head On’ A Women and Mental Health Project 1982 – 1989

Head On was a women’s mental health project, supported by the Scottish Association for Mental Health. It was set up as a core part of the Scottish Women’s Health Fair, May 1983. The aims of the project group were: to help women become more responsible for their own well being and mental health; and to increase awareness of the politics of mental health for women.

The group met these aims by organising workshops and discussion groups; producing information leaflets; and giving talks. They also made the video ‘Mad, Bad or Ill’ with the Scottish Association for Mental Health; and were closely involved in the organisation of the ‘Women Talking to Women’ project.

Arrangement of collection

The collection has retained its original order where possible throughout the collection. Original file covers have been retained where they feature annotations/attachments.

Entries marked with an asterisk (*): documents have not been numbered within the folder.
CSC: Minutes of the Cervical Smear Campaign Action Group, 1986-1989

With associated correspondence and notes attached. There are gaps in the series.

1  Minutes, Jun-Dec 1986
2  Minutes, Jan-Dec 1987
3  Minutes, Jan-Jun 1988
4  Minutes, Jul-Sep 1989
Mainly correspondence, handwritten notes and associated papers of Penny Richardson. GD31/2/11, 12 and 13/4 contain copies of journal articles which have been retained in their original order, however, see also GD31/7 for Reports and Journal Articles.

1 Notes and General Correspondence, Feb-Dec 1986
[1 folder*]

2 Notes and General Correspondence, Jan-Dec 1987
[3 folders ]

1 Jan-Apr

2 May-Sept

3 Oct-Dec and n.d.
Includes Campaign Strategy Action Sheet and Campaign Progress Report.

3 Notes and General Correspondence, Jan-Nov 1988
[2 folders*]

1 Jan-May

2 Jun-Nov and n.d.

4 Notes and General Correspondence, Mar-Sep 1989 and n.d.
Includes ‘Review of the Cervical Smear Campaign 1985-1989’, (2 copies) and flip-chart notes on the history, development and achievements of the campaign.
[1 folder*]

5 Notes and General Correspondence, Feb-Jul 1990
[1 folder*]

6 Papers relating to Lothian Health Board, May-Nov 1985
Includes Lothian Health Board press release announcing the suspension of routine smear tests (27 June 1985).
[1 folder]

7 Papers and correspondence relating to Lothian Health Board, Jun-Dec 1986
Includes notes on the lobbying of the Lothian Health Board and presentation of Cervical Smear Campaign petition (17th July 1986); subsequent correspondence between the Cervical Smear Campaign and Lothian Health Board; and a number of Lothian Health Board press releases relating to cervical screening.
[1 folder*]
2  CSC: Administrative Papers, 1985-1990

8  Papers and correspondence relating to Lothian Health Board, Jan-Nov 1987
   Includes minutes of the Community Liaison Sub-Group (a sub-group of the
   Lothian Health Board Cervical Screening Committee).
   [1 folder]

9  Papers relating to Lothian Health Board, Jan 1988-Sep 1989
   Includes notes and final report of the Cervical Screening Community
   Liaison/Health Education Working Party (a subsidiary of the Lothian Health
   Board Cervical Screening Committee, possibly a variation of the Community
   Liaison Sub-Group in 8 above).
   [1 folder]

10 Correspondence and notes relating to, and drafts of, articles; written mainly by
    Penny Richardson on the Cervical Smear Campaign and Cervical Cancer for a
    number of different publications, 1985-1989
    [2 folders*, see also GD31/5/10 for publications featuring Cervical Smear
     Campaign articles]

   1  1985-Aug 1986


11 File containing notes, papers and correspondence relating to positive smears,
   Jun 1985-Oct 1989
   [2 folders*]

   1  Jun 1985-Jun 1989
      Includes leaflets, fact-sheets, press cuttings, and copies of the
      following papers (dispersed throughout the file):

      Franks, H., *Is fear preventing you from having this life-saving
      examination?* Living Magazine, June 1987

      Bowling, A. and Jacobson, B., *Screening: the inadequacy of

      Duncan, I. D., *Colposcopy & treatment of the abnormal cervical
      smear.* Update, 15 May 1989

      Elkind, A., *Tests to hit the target.* British Medical Journal, 1 June
      1989

   2  Jul –Oct 1989
      Includes leaflets, fact-sheets, press cuttings, and copies of the
      following papers (dispersed throughout the file):

      Salfield, N.J. and Sharp F., *Planning colposcopy and gynaecological
      laser services.* Community Medicine, Vol. 11, No. 2, 1989
Privatisation and Medical Laboratories – Lessons from North America, MSF, 1988


File containing notes and research into Colposcopy treatment and attendance at clinics in Lothian area, Jan 1987-Oct 1989

Jan-Dec 1987 and n.d.

Includes copies of the following papers (dispersed throughout the file):


Moffat, B., The influence of relative accessibility on attendance patterns at antenatal clinics: An isochronal study of public transport in North Edinburgh as it relates to a defined population of women. Department of Community Medicine, Lothian Health Board, c. 1981

King, J., Women’s attitudes towards cervical smear. Update, January 1987

CSC: Administrative Papers, 1985-1990

2 Jan 1988-Oct 1989
Includes copy of the following paper:


13 File containing notes and correspondence relating to the Strong Report, MPs, the Scottish Home and Health Department and statistics, 1985-1990
[4 folders]

Includes 2 copies of the Strong report and a Scottish Office press release announcing the publishing of the report and the introduction of new cervical cytology arrangements (10 Dec 1987).
[1 folder]

2 Correspondence and notes relating to MPs, 1986-1988
Includes copies of written parliamentary questions and answers.
[1 folder*]

3 Loose correspondence and notes relating mainly to the Study Group on the Management of Gynaecological Services in Scotland (set up by the Scottish Health Service Advisory Council), Mar 1989-Feb 1990
Includes a report on evidence and progress submitted to the group by the Cervical Smear Campaign in March 1989.
[1 folder]

4 ‘Background information and Statistics’, Mar 1985-Nov 1987
Also includes copies of the following papers:


2 CSC: Administrative Papers, 1985-1990

14 Papers relating to Scottish Health Service Campaign’s survey of cervical screening in Scotland, 1986-1987
Includes ‘Scottish Health Service Campaign Report on the survey on action taken by Scotland’s local authorities to provide cervical cancer screening facilities at the workplace’ (January 1987).
[1 folder]

Includes copy of letter and questionnaire sent out to each Scottish Health Council, and table of the results.
[1 folder]

16 Responses from Scottish Health Boards to the Cervical Smear Campaign survey of Cervical Cancer Screening Services in Scotland [see GD31/2/15 above], filed in alphabetical order, 1987-1988
[2 folders]

1 A-G

2 H-W

Includes showings of the Cervical Smear Campaign video [see also GD31/4].
[2 folders*]

1 Oct 1986-Apr 1987


18 Prompt cards for talks and lectures (mainly given by Penny Richardson) on the Cervical Smear Campaign and women’s health issues, 1986-1989
[3 bundles]

1 Mar 1986-May 1987

2 Jun 1987-Aug 1988

CSC: Publicity Material, 1986-1989

   1 *Cervical Smears and Women’s Health*, 1986  
     [1 copy]
   2 *Cervical Smears and Women’s Health* in several languages:  
     Bengali [pink, 2 copies]; Chinese [green, 2 copies]; Hindi [yellow, 2  
     copies]; Punjabi [buff, 2 copies; blue, 1 copy] and Urdu [blue, 2  
     copies] 1986
   3 *Cervical Smears and Women’s Health*, 1987,  
     [2 copies]
   4 *Meeting MPs*, 1987  
     [1 copy]
   5 *Women’s Health and Cervical Smears*, video leaflet, 1987  
     [1 copy; see also GD31/4]
   6 *Join the Cervical Smear Campaign*, n.d.,  
     [2 copies]
   7 *Action Sheet – How can you help the Cervical Smear Campaign*, n.d.  
     [1 copy]

2 Headed notepaper and stickers, n.d.  
   Illustrates different versions of the campaign logo.  
   [1 folder]

3 Blank campaign petition forms, 1986 and 1988  
   [1 folder]

4 Correspondence and notes relating to the Cervical Smear Campaign’s  
   publicity campaign, Mar 1986-Mar 1988  
   [1 folder*]

5 Draft/original text layouts for Cervical Smear Campaign leaflets/posters,  
   c.1986-1987  
   [1 folder*]

6 Cervical Smear Campaign Press pack, (created for launch of petition Nov  
   1987), and associated documents, 1987  
   [1 folder]

7 Lothian Health Board Leaflets and Posters, 1988
   1 Leaflet *What Happens after a Cervical Smear Test*, 1988, [2 copies]
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3  CSC: Publicity Material, 1986-1989


4  Leaflet *Well Woman Services in Lothian*, 1988, [1 copy]

5  Poster *Have you had a Well Woman check-up?*, 1988, [1 copy]
CSC: Cervical Smear Campaign Video Group, 1986-1987


2 Papers relating to the launch of the video (took place on 9 March 1987), Dec 1986-Sep 1989 [1 folder*]

3 VHS copy of “Women’s Health and Cervical Smears, 1987
Local press cuttings relate specifically to the Cervical Smear Campaign and/or the Lothian region.

1. Local press cuttings, 1986
   Includes an article written by Penny Richardson, Cervical Smear Campaign, for *Equal Voice*, Autumn 1986
   [1 folder*]

2. Local press cuttings, 1987
   [1 folder*]

   [1 folder*]

   [1 folder*]

   Includes an article written by Penny Richardson, Cervical Smear Campaign, for *Radical Scotland*, No. 24, Dec 86/Jan 87
   [1 folder*]

   [1 folder*]

   [1 folder*]

   [1 folder*]

   [1 folder*]

    Includes the following which contain articles on the Cervical Smear Campaign, the majority written by Penny Richardson:

    *Women – News from Edinburgh District Council Women’s Committee*, Summer 1986

    *Link-Up*, July 1986

    *Scottish Home and Country*, September 1986

    *Equal Voice*, Autumn 1986

    *Scottish Convention of Women, Convention Notes No. 17*. Autumn 1986,
CSC: Press Cuttings, Newspapers and Magazines, 1985-1990

Edinburgh Health Council Newsletter, October 1986, [3 copies]

Focus, the Magazine of the Scottish Health Visitors Association, Winter 1986,

Our Times, February 1987 and January 1988

Radical Scotland, Apr/May 1987

Scottish Women’s Aid Newsletter, Spring 1987, [2 copies]

Also includes, Lothian Health Education Department Newsletter, Spring 1988, featuring an article on screening services in Lothian.
6  CSC: Fact-sheets, Leaflets and Information Packs, 1985-1988

1  Fact-sheets and leaflets, 1985–1988
   [1 bundle]

2  Information Packs, 1986–1988
   [2 folders]

   1  The Royal College of General Practitioners Library and Information
      Service Cervical Cytology Information Pack, 16 January 1986

   2  Lothian Health Board Cervical Screening Information Pack for Health
      Care Staff, May 1988
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7 CSC: Reports and Journal Articles, 1981-1991

REPORTS

1. **Taking Uterine Cervical Smears.** British Society for Clinical Cytology, 1981


5. **Report on the survey on action taken by Scotland’s local authorities to provide cervical cancer screening facilities at the workplace.** Scottish Health Service Campaign, January 1987


8. **Cervical Cancer, National Survey of WI Membership.** National Federation of Women’s Institutes and Women’s National Cancer Control Campaign, c. 1987

9. **Study of the Well Woman Services provided in Dumfries and Galloway (Draft).** Well Woman Sub-Committee, Dumfries and Galloway Local Health Council, April 1988

10. **Annual Report 1987/88.** West Local Health Council (Greater Glasgow), 1988

11. **Evidence Submitted to the Study Group on the Management of Gynaecological Services in Scotland.** Cervical Smear Campaign, March 1989 [2 copies, see also GD31/2/13/3]


13. **Cervical Screening and Women’s Health in Lothian; Report on the work of the Health Education Department.** Lothian Health Education Department, Autumn, 1989

A Survey of Women’s Knowledge, Attitudes, and Experience of Cervical Screening in the Tower Hamlets Health District, Wendy Savage, Monika Schwartz and Julie George, c. 1989


The western way to die. The Economist, 31 August 1985


Cancer under the Microscope. Labour Research, March 1987, [2 copies]


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7  CSC: Reports and Journal Articles, 1981-1991

29  Cameron, J., Setting up your Well Woman Clinic. GP, June 1989

30  Skrabanek, P., Cervical Cancer Screening. Practice Update, April 1990


33  File of research notes and copies of journal articles, 1988-1989
   [1 bundle*]
   Includes copies of the following papers:

   Murphy, M. F. G., Campbell, M. J. and Goldblatt, P. O., Twenty Years’ screening for cancer of the uterine cervix in Great Britain, 1964-84: further evidence for its ineffectiveness. Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health, 1987


8   SWHF: Minutes, 1982-1983

The minutes run in chronological order although the names of the group(s) change. There may be gaps in the series.

1   Minutes of the Planning Group, Publicity Group, Steering Group and Co-ordinating Group, Jun-Dec 1982
   [1 folder]

2   Minutes of the Planning Group and Co-ordinating Committee, Jan-Jun 1983
   [1 folder]
9 SWHF: Administrative Papers, 1982-1984

1 File containing papers and handwritten notes of Penny Richardson, Mar 1982-Jul 1983
   [2 folders*]

1 Mar 1982-13 May 1983
   Includes Scottish Women’s Health Fair newsletters, programmes and
draft publicity statements.

2 17 May 1983- Jul 1983
   Includes Scottish Women’s Health Fair programmes, press cuttings
   and the draft report on the Scottish Women’s Health Fair (July 1983).
10    HO: Head On Minutes, 1982-1984

The first set of minutes (9th November 1982) are of a meeting of the ‘Women and Mental Health Group’; by 3rd February 1983, the title ‘Women and Mental Health Group (Head On)’ is being used; by 2nd June 1983, the group is referred to simply as ‘Head On’; and from the 26th January 1984, the minutes are of the ‘Head On Core Group’ meetings. There are gaps in the series.

1    Minutes, Nov 1982

2    Minutes, Jan-Jul 1983

3    Minutes, Jan-Nov 1984
    Notes of meeting held 28 March 1984 – possibly a typing error, from the context of the minutes, should read 28 March 1985.
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11 HO: Administrative Papers, 1982-1992

1 Notes and papers relating to the Women and Mental Health video group, Mar 1982-Nov 1983
Includes notes of meetings, and papers relating to the production of the Mad, Bad or Ill video.
[1 folder*]

2 File of general notes and correspondence, Jun 1983-Jun 1985
[2 folders*]

1 Jun 1983-Aug 1984
Includes handwritten notes of Penny Richardson; copies of the Newsletter of the Mental Health Network (November 1983 and March 1984); and papers relating to the ‘Women Talking to Women’ project.

2 Nov 1984-Jun 1985
Includes handwritten notes of Penny Richardson; some financial papers [see also GD31/12]; and first draft of the Head On constitution.

3 File of notes and papers relating to women’s mental health issues, Mar 1982-Jul 1992 and n.d.
[2 folders*]

1 Mar 1982-May 1983
Includes handwritten notes of Penny Richardson relating to Head On; fact-sheets and press cuttings, programmes and leaflets for conferences and seminars; and also papers relating to the Scottish Women’s Health Fair.

Includes handwritten notes of Penny Richardson relating to Head On; fact-sheets, press cuttings and leaflets.
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<td>1</td>
<td>Financial papers, May 1983-Oct 1987</td>
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<td>Includes notes and correspondence of Penny Richardson</td>
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<td>Accounts information, 1983-1985</td>
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Head-On’s 3-monthly newsletter, entitled *Newsnotes*.

   [1 folder]

2. Newsnotes, Feb-Dec 1984  
   [1 folder]
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14 HO: Leaflets, c.1983

1 Pack of 6 leaflets, c.1983

Women & Smoking

Women and Pills

Women & Sexuality

Women & Food

Women and Anxiety

Women & Depression

[2 packs, 1 incomplete]

2 Women and Mental Health, c.1983
[1 copy]

3 Women and Loneliness, c.1983
[1 copy]