

Dianne Mitchell, NHS Librarian for Tayside.

I began my professional career with the (then) City of London Polytechnic in 1982 after completing a Postgraduate Diploma in Librarianship at the College of Librarianship-Wales, Aberystwyth University. I was at the Poly for 8 years before leaving for a post at Brunel University. After a return to Scotland at the end of November 1991 and the patter of tiny feet I took up a post at the University of Dundee in May 1993.

As Subject Librarian I had budget responsibility for a variety of subject over the years – Health & Safety, Physics, Chemistry, Accountancy and Education & Design Technology, providing User Education, dealing with reference enquiries, literature searching for students & staff and management of issue desk services. As Site Services/Reader Services Librarian I was responsible for running the site, staff management, staff training and development, appraisal, interviewing and induction.

I brought this experience and skills when I joined NHS Tayside in 1998 in providing Library and Knowledge Services (L&KS) to NHST staff, first in Primary Care then to the Board as a whole.

The focus of L&KS is to bridge the knowledge practice gap through a strategy of Knowledge into Action to **apply** knowledge from research, practice and experience in day to day work. In practice this means supporting health and social care staff in using tools and resources such as The Knowledge Network, providing training/support for staff in developing their information, digital and health literacy skills and providing a literature search service to gather the evidence needed to improve practice and CPD.