

Miscellany

Diploma in Alcohol Counselling and Consultation

A diploma qualification course, part-time from October 1988 to September 1989, will be held at the University of Kent. It is designed for those in the helping professions who wish to develop their skills in work with problem drinkers. The course begins in October 1988 with a three week module at the University, followed by four two-week modules over the following 11 months, finishing in September 1989. Students will be expected to have at least one year's relevant experience and for the duration of the course to be working with clients who have alcohol-related problems. Fee: £840 (subject to review). Enquiries and application forms: Mrs Gail Jones, Alcohol Interventions Training Unit, Secretary, School of Continuing Education, Rutherford College, University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NX (telephone 0227 764000, extension 3691).

National Institute of Crisis Intervention Therapy & Research

Huddersfield Health District has set up the above Institute from 1 April 1988. It will be based at 63 Nabcroft Lane, Crosland Moor, Huddersfield. Dr N. Rao Punukollu, Consultant Psychiatrist and Clinical Director of the Huddersfield Crisis Intervention Team has been appointed as Director. The institute's aims and objectives include: organising educational programmes on crisis intervention theory and practice for mental health professionals; organising introductory courses on crisis intervention approach; developing a specialist library on crisis intervention theory and practice in mental health; launching a journal on crisis intervention and recruiting membership. Dr Punukollu would welcome approaches direct to him at the Institute headquarters from those interested in becoming involved in this organisation.

Mental Handicap: Patterns for Living

This individual study pack is produced by the Open University's Department of Health and Social Welfare. It is built around case study material and supplemented by a programme of optional group meetings. Although initially the course was aimed at unqualified care staff, patients and volunteers, feedback since its launch in November 1986 has indicated

that it is also of considerable interest to qualified professionals such as social workers, nurses, health visitors, GPs and medical students. It addresses a mixed audience with an emphasis on reading about and understanding the points of view of people in different situations. The group meetings are designed to underline this process of mutual understanding. Further information: Jenny Rook, Department of Health and Social Welfare, North Spur Building, The Open University, Milton Keynes, MK7 6AA (telephone 0908 653743).

Recent publications

Women's Problems with Alcohol and Other Drugs: Improving our Response. Edited by Jan Waterson, Betsy Ettorre, Ronno Griffiths and Rosemary Kent. These Proceedings of a Conference organised by the Alcohol Interventions Training Unit, University of Kent at Canterbury, with the Addiction Research Unit, Institute of Psychiatry, London and held on 5 July 1986 at Eliot College, University of Kent are available from Mrs Gail Jones, School of Continuing Education, Rutherford Extension, University of Kent, Canterbury CT2 7NX. Price: single copies £2.50; £1.75 per copy for orders of 10 or more; £1.50 per copy for orders of 20 or more (all prices include postage and packing). Cheques should be made payable to UNIKENT (Those who attended the conference are entitled to a complimentary copy).

Preventing Mental Illness is the first stage of a project to encourage the development of preventive mental health services. Dr Jennifer Newton (MIND's Prevention Research Officer) reviews the research literature relating to prevention and focuses on depression and schizophrenia as examples of what might be possible. The book is published by Routledge & Kegan Paul and is available from bookshops and MIND's Mail Order Department, 4th Floor, 24-32 Stephenson Way, London NW1 2HD. It costs £25 (post free from MIND).

The new edition of *A-Z of Welfare Benefits for People with Mental Illness* which includes changes in force from April 1988 can also be purchased from MIND's Mail Order Department at the above address; price £1 per copy, postage and packing included.