



Cochrane Schizophrenia Group, Sir Colin Campbell Building,  
University of Nottingham Innovation Park, Triumph Road, Nottingham, NG7 2TU, UK  
Tel +44 115 8231286 E-mail: [Bethany.York@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:Bethany.York@nottingham.ac.uk)  
<http://szg.cochrane.org/en/index.html>

## What a Year!

**Well two years, really.**  
Moving from Leeds was very painful in many ways. I greatly miss the closeness of friends and colleagues I made there. Moving editorial base is difficult... but Nottingham has been just great – supportive and welcoming.

Having diminished the load of the Group over time - anticipating rebirth in Nottingham – the CSG has emerged from the fire twice as strong, twice as vigorous.

Our register of studies is now 10,000 in number (12,000 pdfs) and increasingly linked to already extracted data.



Our reviews number 139 - and are all converted to the new RevMan format (see below).

Our publishers (Wiley-Blackwell), in 2008, noted CSG reviews to be of particularly high impact ☺ – just that there were not enough new ones ☹. Well, no wonder with the changes of 2007 – but we expect 2009 to be a bumper year.

Across this same period the CSG – as a collective group – has been producing its own primary research too - lots of research on searching, surveys of studies, six high-grade, real-world trials in Brazil, India, and the UK with more to come.

Thank you for all your support and help – but CSG needs more of it. We need your continued interest and enthusiasm - to help us do more, encourage new people, provide a better service and to improve the quality of our output of reviews and other research. We are [all] moving into a new phase of working with, I hope, industrial output of highest quality work but still keeping the *esprit de corps* that has been such an important and enjoyable part of our working together for the last 14 years.

**Clive Adams**  
Co-ordinating Editor

Best known for the legend of **Robin Hood and Sherwood Forest, Nottingham** is also the home of...



- \* Author **DH Lawrence**
- \* Poet **Lord Byron**
- \* Ice skaters **Torvill and Dean**
- \* Football manager **Brian Clough**
- \* Footballer **Stuart Pearce**
- \* Fashion designer **Paul Smith**
- \* Boxer **Carl Froch**
- \* Author **Alan Sillitoe**
- \* Actress **Samantha Morton**
- \* Film director **Shane Meadows**
- \* Founder of The Salvation Army **William Booth**
- \* **Raleigh** bicycles
- \* **Boots the Chemist**
- \* The **MRI scanner**
- \* **Ibuprofen**
- \* **WHO incidence of schizophrenia study.**

## Our New Home - Nottingham

Nottingham is right in the centre of England. With two universities and a very large student population, Nottingham is a young and vibrant city with great shopping and nightlife.

Nottingham is convenient for accessing all parts of the country.

Air → - 1/2 hour drive from the city ([East Midlands International Airport](#))  
Train - Direct route to mainland Europe via Eurostar - London 90 mins  
Car - M1 4 miles away

In mid-October 2008 the Editorial Base moved to our new accommodation in The

Institute of Mental Health, Sir Colin Campbell Building, on the University of Nottingham Innovation Park (picture left). We have settled in and unpacked the boxes and are already welcoming visitors. So whether you need help and advice using [RevMan 5](#) or [Archie](#), a chat with me about getting your review done, or with Sam about searches and references, or just the space and time to get your head down and get on with your review — we can accommodate you.

There is plenty of space so just let us know by e-mail or telephone when to expect you and we'll put the kettle on!

**Beth York**



## Editor Joins CSG



**Mahesh Jayaram** has joined our team of editors. Mahesh is a clinical consultant psychiatrist in Leeds, UK. He initially trained in India and moved to the UK in 2001. He has been working with CSG since 2003 and his other interests include training and promotion of mental health service delivery in Zambia.

## Introducing Beth & Sam



**Two new faces appeared at the editorial base in 2008 - Beth York** (left), the new Review Group Co-ordinator and **Sam Roberts** (right), the new Trial Search Co-ordinator...

Hi, I'm Beth. As well as finding my feet in the job over the last few months I have been heavily involved, along with **John Rathbone**, in a project to convert all reviews into the new RevMan 5 format. I also had a really useful visit to Germany for our

annual editors' meeting and the Cochrane Colloquium. I am now setting up new systems and editorial processes including working with **RETHINK**, a UK consumer organisation, to develop our plain language summaries and getting our peer review system working well.

I am always happy to help and *should be your first port of call for any query* whether you want to do a new review or need advice on software. **Beth York**

Hi, I'm Sam(antha) - the new Trial Search Co-ordinator. In between running your searches, we are currently fully merging all citations in our register into studies - in 2009 our register will be fully merged - we even have a semi-automated study-finding tool.

The review author will therefore receive the full study folder which will include the new reference and references which they may have seen before. The unseen reference is

identified by looking at the references file provided on the disc to get its ID number. This way of working has been seen as valuable by our reviewers as the new reference could provide further information about a trial already documented in the review. We hope to make this yet more slick in 2009.

Please drop me an e-mail if you need any help, tracking down your references, or you need a new search for an update. That's what I'm here for. **Sam Roberts**

## 快乐宝宝



\* **Jun Xia**, who provides us such a valuable service extracting data from Chinese trials, is to have a baby early in 2009 - so if you want Chinese data extracted ask now or wait until late next year! \*



**Cochrane review recently mentioned on US TV show - ER**  
- not one of CSG's ☹



## Circle of Evidence

**2002 - Review** - haloperidol + promethazine for psychosis-induced aggression (zero data)

**2003-7 - Trials**  
1-4 published

**2008 - Review** - haloperidol + promethazine for psychosis-induced aggression (1100 randomised, 95%+ follow up)



## The Nottingham Systematic Review Course 2009

**Where:** University of Nottingham **When:** 12 – 15<sup>th</sup> May 2009

**What:** This course will appeal to all interested in completing Cochrane-style reviews.

Experienced tutors give practical and individual advice. After attending participants should be able to understand search strategies, extract data, manage the results of systematic searches, understand data syntheses, apply methods and conduct reviews.

**Who:** All people wishing to undertake reviews of randomised studies.

**How:** Small group teaching, workshops, library-based interactive tutorials with hands on practical work at computer stations and group work.

**How much:** £675. All learning materials, lunch and refreshments are included.

**Contact:** Jun Xia on [Jun.Xia@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:Jun.Xia@nottingham.ac.uk)

**FREE OFFER**

**ONE FREE, FULLY-FUNDED, PLACE (INCLUDES FLIGHT, MODEST EXPENSES, HOTEL) IS AVAILABLE ON THE NOTTINGHAM SYSTEMATIC REVIEW COURSE FOR A PERSON FROM A LOW/MIDDLE INCOME COUNTRY**



**The South Asian Cochrane Centre** (formerly the South Asian Cochrane Network) was officially registered with the Cochrane Collaboration on the 15<sup>th</sup> July 2008. **Prathap Tharyan**, an editor at the CSG, is the Director of the Centre which is based at the Christian Medical College in Vellore, India. Visit their website for more details and to get involved.

## Reviews Pack a Punch

In 2008 The Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews was given its first official Impact Factor. It is 4.654 (14<sup>th</sup> out of journals in the category 'Medicine, General and Internal'). Straight in at #14 is not half bad - certainly a rebuff to all those who dismissed this work for so long.



## Colloquium & UK meeting



**Those of you who went to the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Cochrane Colloquium** in Germany in October, or have been to previous Colloquia, will be aware of the benefits of attending Cochrane Collaboration events. As well as the valuable and varied programme of workshops, oral presentations and poster sessions, they present a great opportunity for networking with other review authors, editors and editorial base staff and for picking the brains of experienced statisticians and methodologists. The 17<sup>th</sup> Cochrane Colloquium will be held in Singapore from 11 -14<sup>th</sup> October 2009 but for those who are UK based there is an opportunity to meet up even sooner at the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of UK and Ireland-based Contributors to the Cochrane Collaboration which is being held in Edinburgh, Scotland on March 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> 2009. Visit [www.cochrane.org](http://www.cochrane.org) for more details.

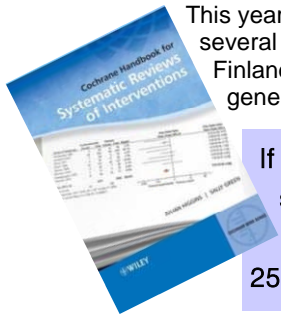


## Training



This year CSG editors have taken a lead in running several workshops. These were in Albania, China, Finland, India and the UK. We hope that these will generate more reviews for all Cochrane groups.

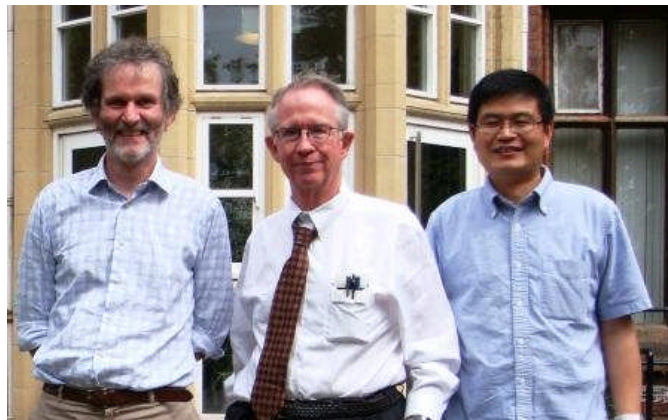
If you *really* love someone this festive season why not give them the Cochrane Handbook as a gift? 25% discount for reviewers.



## Visitors

This year the CSG editorial base has had lots of visitors including CSG Editors **Chunbo Li** and **John Davis**.

The Group is currently hosting **Ichiro Omori** from Japan, **Marina Dieterich** from Italy and **Saskia de Haan** and **Xiaomeng Liu** from the Netherlands and recently benefited from the work of two fantastic students from Ulm in Germany, **Janina Bobrich** and **Moritz Morath**. Authors are always welcomed and are regular visitors to the office.



Clive

John

Chunbo

## 5 HINTS 4 REVMAN 5

- \* **Risk of bias tables** are best fully expanded for each included study
- \* When starting a new paragraph pressing **Shift-Enter** adds less of a gap than **Enter** alone
- \* You can now add a **hyperlink** to an outcome graph or heading in the review of your choice
- \* You can run a **report** on your review to pick up any problems by **File>Reports>Validation Report**
- \* Give it a go - **it won't break!**

## Peer Review

As one of my first projects for CSG I have been tasked with improving our system of peer review. Currently I am asking all new authors to peer review one existing review prior to their title being registered.

I hope that this will benefit all parties. We will get lots of peer review - authors of existing reviews will get feedback from fresh readers and new authors will have an introduction to Cochrane reviews and how CSG works.

If you have any suggestions on how this could be improved or if you know someone who might like to get involved - please get in touch.

**Beth York**

## RevMan 5

**It's all new – but not really.** RevMan 5 does all you know of RevMan 4 but just looks a bit different. It is nice to use and does have added functions – such as allowing you to pick a graph and hyperlink to it in the text and the ability to save the file not to your computer but to a central server so that your co-reviewer or us here at the editorial base can pick up the latest version. It also has more wizzy stats and graphics. A nice feature is that there is a Risk of Bias table for each of the included studies – this is a bit of a pain to fill out for your old reviews – but does really help improve things.

All protocols and reviews already on our system have been converted into RevMan 5 format and any submitted from now on need to be in RevMan 5 in order to be published - so do download a copy (<http://www.cc-ims.net/RevMan/RevMan5/download/>) and give it a go. Contact me at [Bethany.York@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:Bethany.York@nottingham.ac.uk) if you have any difficulties.

**Beth York**

## rethink CSG and RETHINK

**rethink** **RETHINK** is the UK's leading national mental health membership charity. We now collaborate with **Janey Antoniou**, who works at RETHINK, to help write the *Plain Language Summary* of each review. For new reviews and updates Janey will draft the summary, send it to you for checking, and ensure that it gets into the final review. This is an experiment for 2008-9 and we will see how it goes. Going well so far.

## Season's greetings

*It is the end of another year and one where we have seen lots of positive change. Thank you for your patience and support.*

*We wish you all the very best for the season and may you have peace and happiness across the holiday - and return rested and renewed.*

**Clive Adams**

