

from storehouse to observatory

information provision in transition

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Centre for Policy on Ageing (CPA)

- established by Nuffield Foundation in 1947 as National Corporation for the Care of Older People
- independent
- respected trusted 'broker' with many years experience
- works with a variety of partners across all sectors
- has produced over 150 reports and publications
- has kept older people at the heart of its work for past 60 years
- currently developing links with Better Government for Older People (BGOP) / Older People's Advisory Group (OPAG)

Centre for Policy on Ageing (CPA)

- gathers, summarises and disseminates research evidence and good practice for users in all sectors, including older people.
- has over many years built up a specialised multidisciplinary resource comprising books, policy reports, government publications, official statistics, and journals on matters around ageing and older age.
- makes available a range of online databases and customised services so that information on a wide spread of topics around ageing can be accessed

Centre for Policy on Ageing (CPA)

- work programme with DWP
 - desktop access to Ageinfo for selected DWP staff
 - Ageinfo based bi-monthly publications alert
 - sustain and develop NDAR (research) database
 - NDAR based bi-monthly research alert
 - classified listing of all current research (updated bi-monthly)
 - facilitate cross-departmental working
 - develop an information infrastructure
 - create a shared learning network
 - ...leading to the development of an 'observatory model' to support *Opportunity Age*.

Centre for Policy on Ageing (CPA)

- current key online information resources
 - Ageinfo
 - bibliographic database
 - organisations database
 - events database
 - National Database of Ageing Research (NDAR)
 - Single Assessment Process resource
 - indexed and searchable document bank
 - web links and dedicated search engine
 - enhanced glossary with auto-links and auto-searching
 - discussion forum

An Observatory on Ageing

“We will develop improved arrangements to share knowledge about ageing issues and service successes – to provide a sound foundation for policy and promote culture change”

Opportunity Age

- House of Lords scientific and technical committee – Ageing: scientific aspects (report).

Observatory model

- 'at one remove' to provide objective description and analysis
- forecasts - to help build the business case for future funding and allocation of resources for service planning, research, policy and practice
- its aims :
 - analysis, synthesis, interpretation, dissemination and stimulation of information on ageing and older age related issues for all those who make or influence policies
 - changing culture; challenging discrimination
- its activities:
 - collecting, collating, describing and interpreting existing information to provide intelligence
 - monitoring and evaluation
 - supplement and develop existing information through dissemination, promotion, and communication
 - build and sustain a network of shared learning – a community with older people at the heart

Observatory model - indicators

- the observatory model informs and supports the provision of key indicators
 - overall well-being (quality of life)
 - independence in supportive communities
 - healthy active living
 - fairness in work and later life
 - material well-being
 - support and care

Observatory model - stakeholders

- older people
- government – central, regional, local
- voluntary sector, charities
- business commercial sector
- practitioners
- professionals
- carers
- policy makers
- academics and researchers

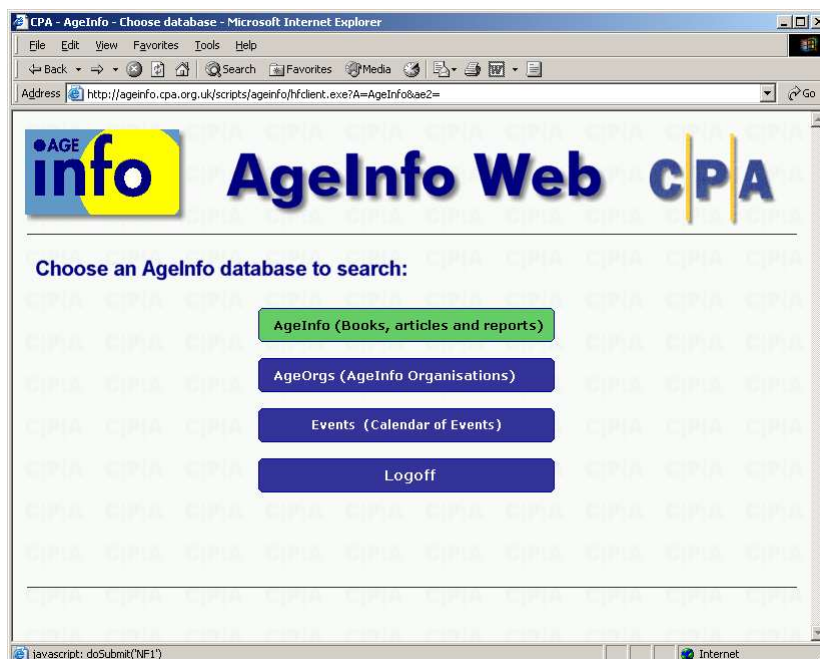
Observatory model – information resources

- Information about ageing and older age issues
 - published and semi-published material (bibliographic database)
 - current research (National Database of Ageing Research etc)
 - practice based information – pilots, projects, action learning
 - statistical data resources (eg ONS, ELSA, UK data archive)
 - tools – weblinks and dedicated search engine
 - community of interest - age related organisations (organisations database)
 - age related events (events database)

CPA's information resources

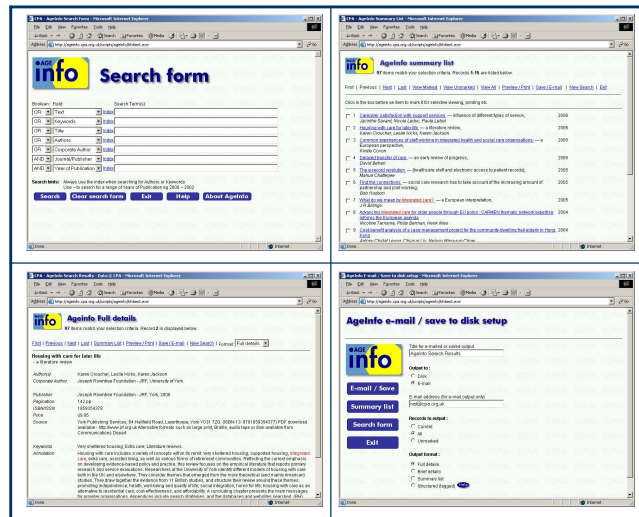
- **The Ageinfo information resource**

- has for many years, provided the UK's only resource dedicated to published and semi-published materials on older age issues including books, articles, research reports and practice evaluations. A search of Ageinfo is a necessary precursor to any new research project and key in the dissemination of published research materials once a project is complete.



Ageinfo database of books, articles and reports

www.cpa.org.uk/ageinfo

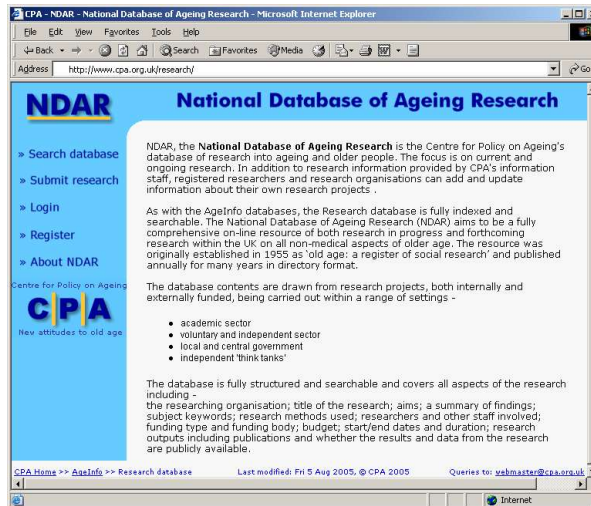


CPA's information resources

- **NDAR, the National Database of Ageing Research**
 - provides information on current and recently completed research projects, often before they reach the stage of publishing their results.

The National Database of Ageing Research

www.cpa.org.uk/research

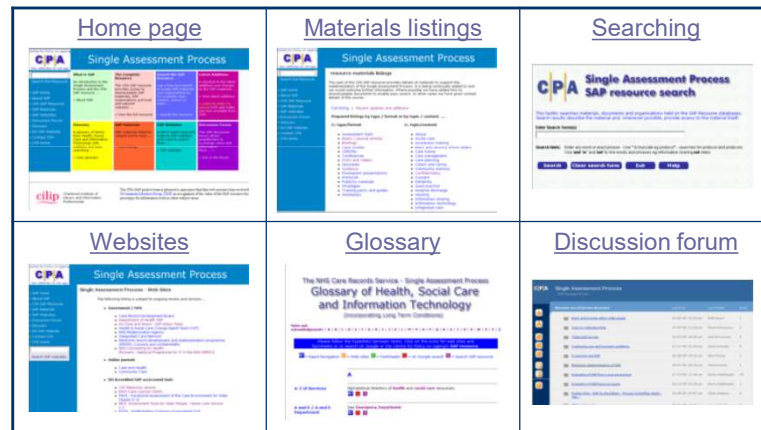


CPA's information resources

- **SAP (Single Assessment Process) resource**

- an example of a 'practice based' resource which allows practitioners to exchange materials and ideas, directly feeding into the improvement of practice and also informing researchers of lessons learned in practice.

The CPA SAP resource... www.cpa.org.uk/sap



The framework / observatory the Centre is developing seeks to facilitate research, collect and provide information and establish contacts in all areas related to older age in order to ensure better outcomes for all older people.

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September 2006

Centre for Policy on Ageing

CPA
New attitudes to old age