

Horses, (research) water and drinking

Some reflections 3 years into EHRNet

By Rob Couch



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Part I – Horses, water & drinking

- Our argument & context
- What is evidence based EH?
- We have a dream...
- The reality... (inc. confessions of a University horse)?

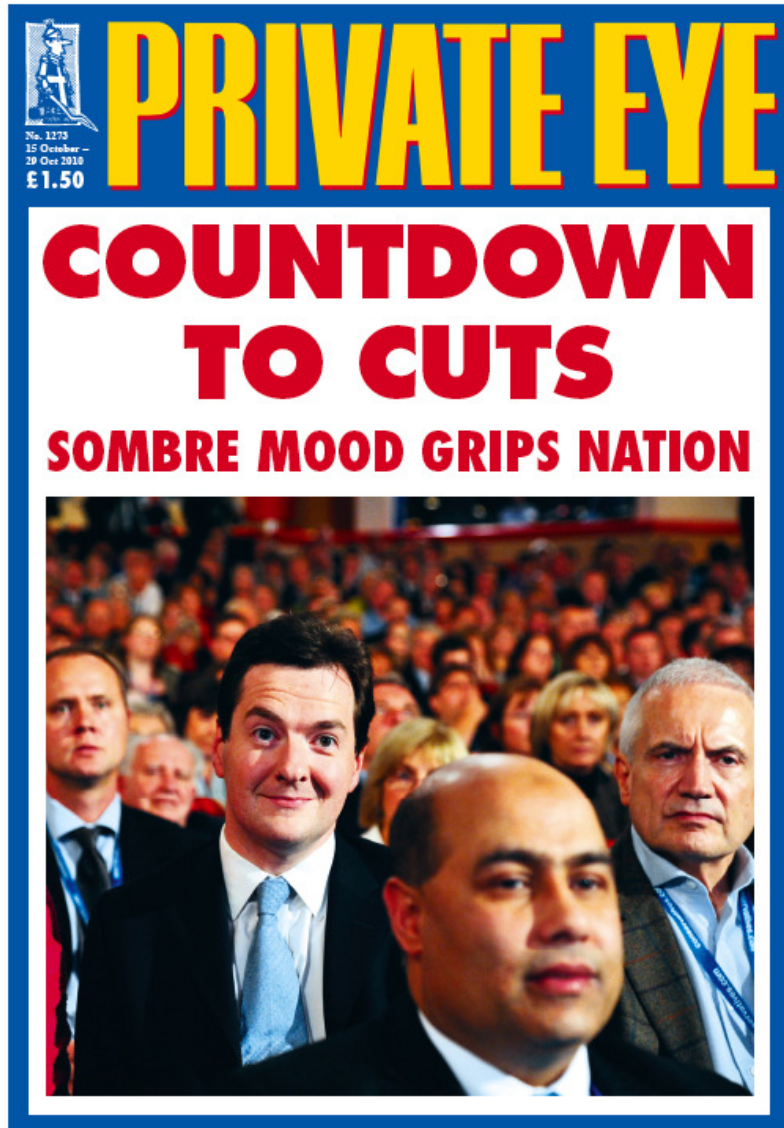
Part II – Evidence based EH quiz... (experiment)

Our arguments: –

- EH is a complex subject comprising many disciplines!
- EH professionals could see further by standing on the shoulders of the giants of EH research (after Newton?)!

Two useful questions:

- What kind of EH do we want?
- What kind of EH does the public's health need?



Self portrait of an Environmental Health Officer by Clare Wildey

Introducing EHRNet

- Independent (not part of CIEH), not for profit...
- To promote the idea of a research and publication culture in the EH profession
- To offer guidance on how research can be better integrated into the EH profession
- To develop the research skills of EH professionals

<http://ukehrnet.wordpress.com>

eBook (£0.99!)

Evidence based EH?

“...environmental health policy and practice supported by the best available evidence, taking into account the preferences of citizens and the wider public and our own professional judgment.” (Couch et al. 2012:6)

- See Research briefing 1
- Beware the term ‘evidence’ !!!

We have a dream...





A few more EHRNet reflections...

- Still very early days...
- Front line EHPs are interested!
- Some are ‘getting on with it’ ...
- ‘Public health’ space has helped, but also threatens
- Some (powerful) EHPs remain uninterested...

- What kind of EH do we want/public health need???
- We soldier on...

Part II: welcome to our Evidence based EH quiz experiment...