



The
University
Of
Sheffield.

Tu13-00 Introduction and Overview

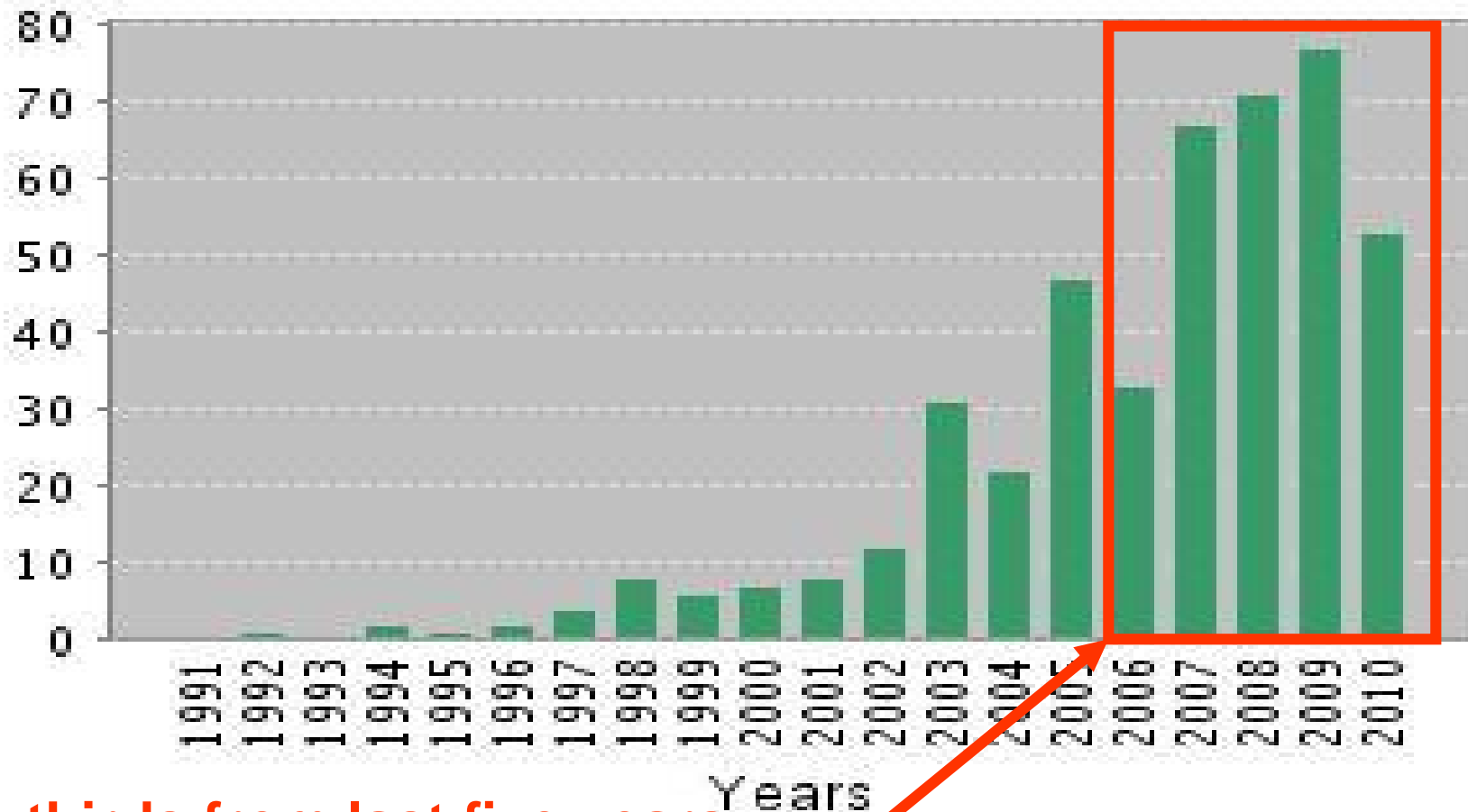
Andrew Booth, Reader in Evidence
Based Information Practice, Co-
Convenor – Cochrane Collaboration
Qualitative Methods Group

Evidence Synthesis of Qualitative Research in Europe (ESQUIRE)

- To provide participants with state-of-the art perspective on methodology of qualitative systematic reviews (qualitative evidence syntheses).
- Focus on methods that feature in guidance of Cochrane Qualitative Research Methods Group.
- Also incorporates broader perspective on available methods of qualitative synthesis.

Topic=("qualitative systematic review" OR "qualitative evidence synthesis" OR "qualitative research synthesis") OR Topic=(metastudy OR metasyntesis OR "meta synthesis" OR "meta ethnography" OR "meta ethnographic" OR "metaethnography" OR "metaethnographic") OR Topic=("systematic review of qualitative") = 456

Published Items in Each Year



**Two-thirds from last five years;
two-fifths from last three years**

Qualitative Evidence Synthesis

- Whereas quantitative meta-synthesis, or meta-analysis, aims to pool numerical results of individual quantitative studies, qualitative meta-synthesis looks for “themes” or “constructs” that lie in or across individual qualitative studies.
- Goal not aggregative in sense of “adding studies together,” as with meta-analysis. On the contrary, it is interpretative in broadening understanding of a particular phenomenon.
- Within this broader category of “qualitative meta-synthesis,” the narrow term “meta-ethnography” refers to the specific method of data synthesis most widely adopted in the literature to date.

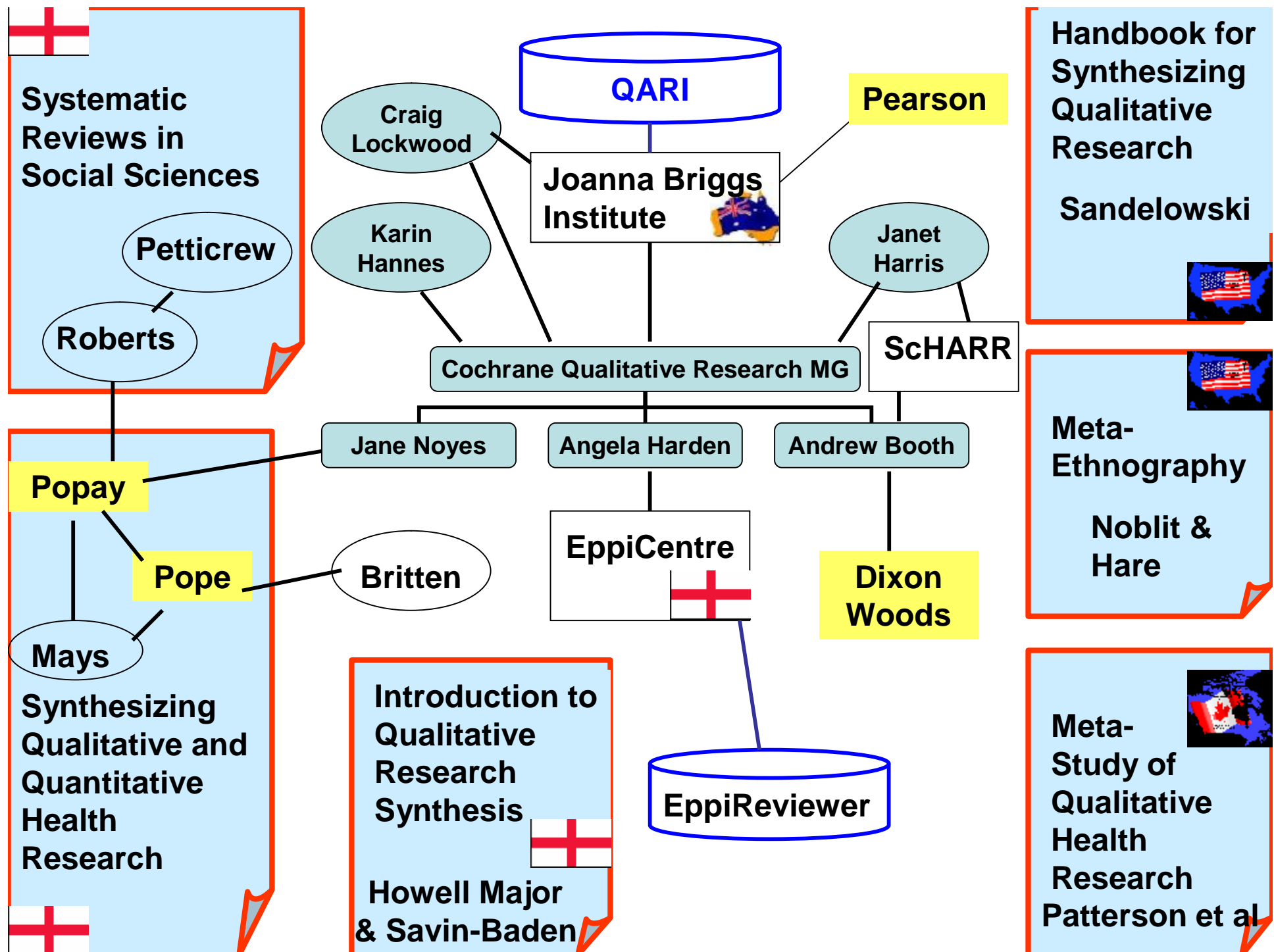
An Example

- Paterson and colleagues identified thirty-eight studies examining firsthand experience of living with diabetes.
- The prevailing metaphor was the concept of “balance” and specific sub-themes identified across multiple studies included “knowing one's body,” “learning how to manage diabetes,” and “fostering supportive, collaborative relationships with others.”

Stages of a Qualitative Evidence Synthesis?

- Formulating the review question
- Conducting a systematic literature search
- Screening and selecting appropriate research articles
- Analyzing and synthesizing qualitative findings
- Maintaining quality control
- Presenting findings

(Sandelowski & Barroso, 2007)



Plethora of terminology

- Meta-Ethnography (1988)
- Meta-Study (2001)
- Narrative Synthesis (2002)
- Realist Synthesis (2002)
- Critical Interpretative Synthesis (2006)
- **Qualitative Evidence Synthesis (2007)**
- Qualitative Research Synthesis (2010)

Qualitative Metasynthesis

- An interpretation of qualitative findings that are themselves interpretive syntheses of data including phenomenologies, ethnographies, grounded theories, and other integrated and coherent descriptions or explanations of phenomena, events, or cases that are the hallmarks of qualitative research (Sandelowski & Barroso, 2007, p. 151)

Expected outcomes of this Programme:

By end of this programme participants will be able to:

- Describe main methods of evidence synthesis in terms of their strengths and weaknesses**
- Rehearse stages of systematic review process, specifically in relation to methodological challenges associated with synthesis of qualitative evidence**
- Distinguish between aggregative and interpretive approaches to qualitative evidence synthesis**
- Identify circumstances under which framework analysis or grounded theory-based approaches to synthesis are most appropriate**
- Describe requirements for presenting data and disseminating findings of qualitative evidence syntheses, both as stand-alone reviews and when integrating with outputs of quantitative systematic reviews.**

Day One – Tuesday 7th September

***12:00 p.m. – 17:00 p.m. Overview, Focusing the
Question and Searching***

13:00 Introduction and Overview Andrew Booth

13:30 Focusing the Question Janet Harris

14:15 Planning Your Review Andrew Booth

14:45 Break

**15:15 Searching for Qualitative Evidence
Helen Buckley Woods**

**16:00 Using Filters and Supplementary
Methods Helen Buckley Woods**

16:45 Summary of the Day Andrew Booth

Free Evening



Day Two - Wednesday 8th September

9.30am to 5pm Data Extraction, Quality Assessment, Synthesis and Writing Up

09:30 a.m. Challenges of Data Extraction

Myfanwy Lloyd-Jones

09:50 a.m. Data Extraction Practical

Myfanwy Lloyd-Jones

(Includes 10:40-11:00 Break)

11:15 a.m. Quality Assessment - Practical

Andrew Booth & Myfanwy Lloyd-Jones

12:30-13:30 Lunch

Day Two - Wednesday 8th September

13:30 p.m. – 16:30 p.m. Analysis and Synthesis

13:30 Case Study Vinita Mahtani

14:15 Synthesis Practical Andrew Booth

15:00 Break

15:20 Integrating Your Data Practical Andrew Booth

16:30 Writing Up and Dissemination Andrew Booth

17:00 Close

19:00 Course Dinner – St Paul's Hotel



119 Norfolk
Street
Sheffield, South
Yorkshire S1
2JE
0114 278 2000

Day Three – Thursday 9th September

Issues & Challenges for Qualitative Research in Evidence Synthesis (InCQuiRES)

**10:00 a.m. Welcome and Introduction to the Day Andrew
Booth**

**10:15 a.m. Issues and Challenges around Scoping and
Focusing the Question Janet Harris**

**11:00 a.m. Issues and Challenges around Searching the
Literature Andrew Booth**

11:20 Break

**11:50 Issues and Challenges around Assessing
Qualitative Research Andrew Booth**

12:30 Lunch

Day Three – Thursday 9th September

Afternoon Session: Synthesis and Integration

**13:30 Issues and Challenges around Synthesising
Qualitative Research Vinita Mahtani**

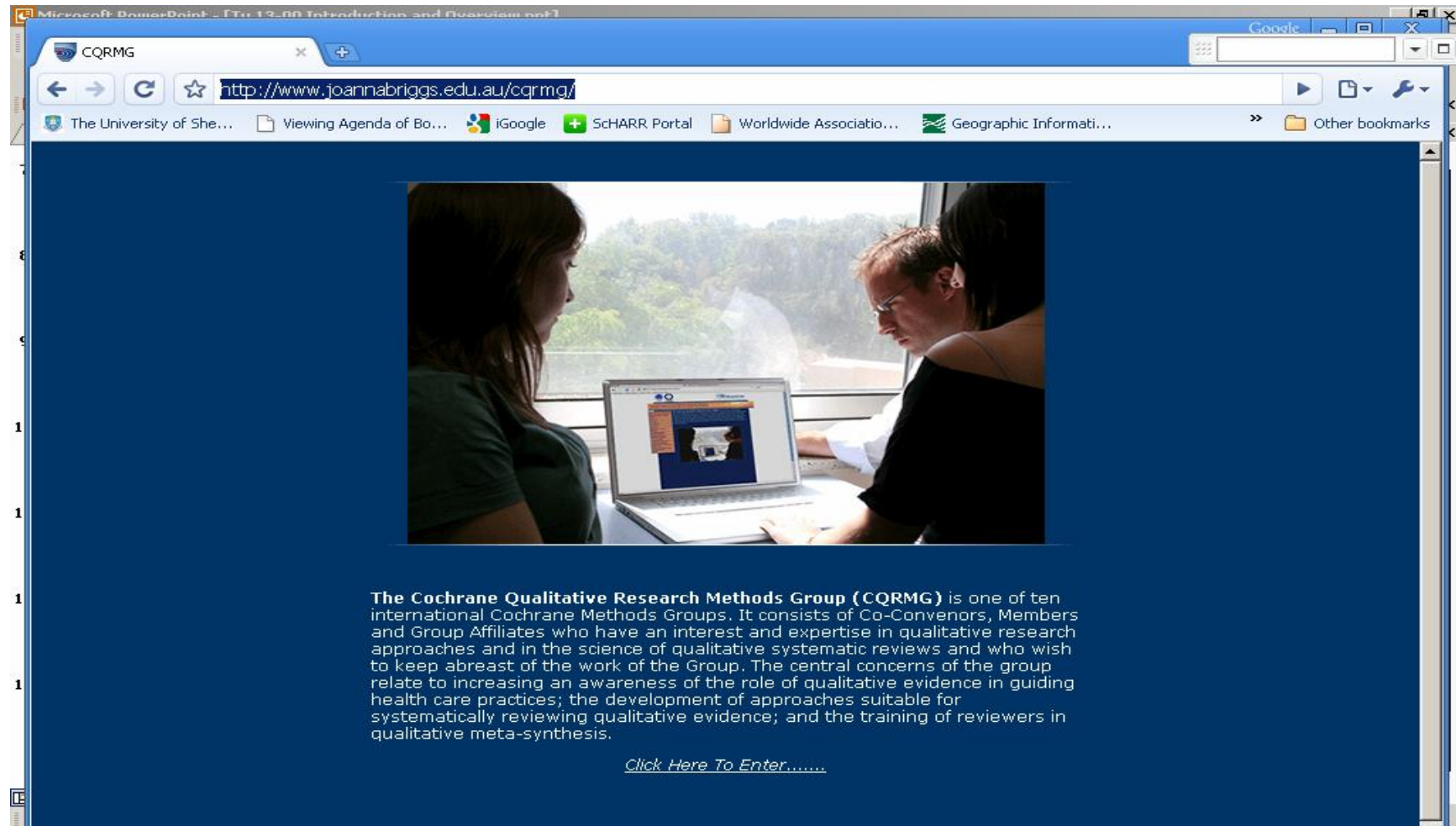
**14:15 Issues and Challenges around Integrating
Qualitative and Quantitative Data Angela Harden**

**15:00 Methodological Roundtable Discussion Andrew
Booth, Angela Harden, Janet Harris, & Vinita Mahtani**

**15:20 The Way Forward – Taking Your Interest Further
Andrew Booth & Janet Harris**

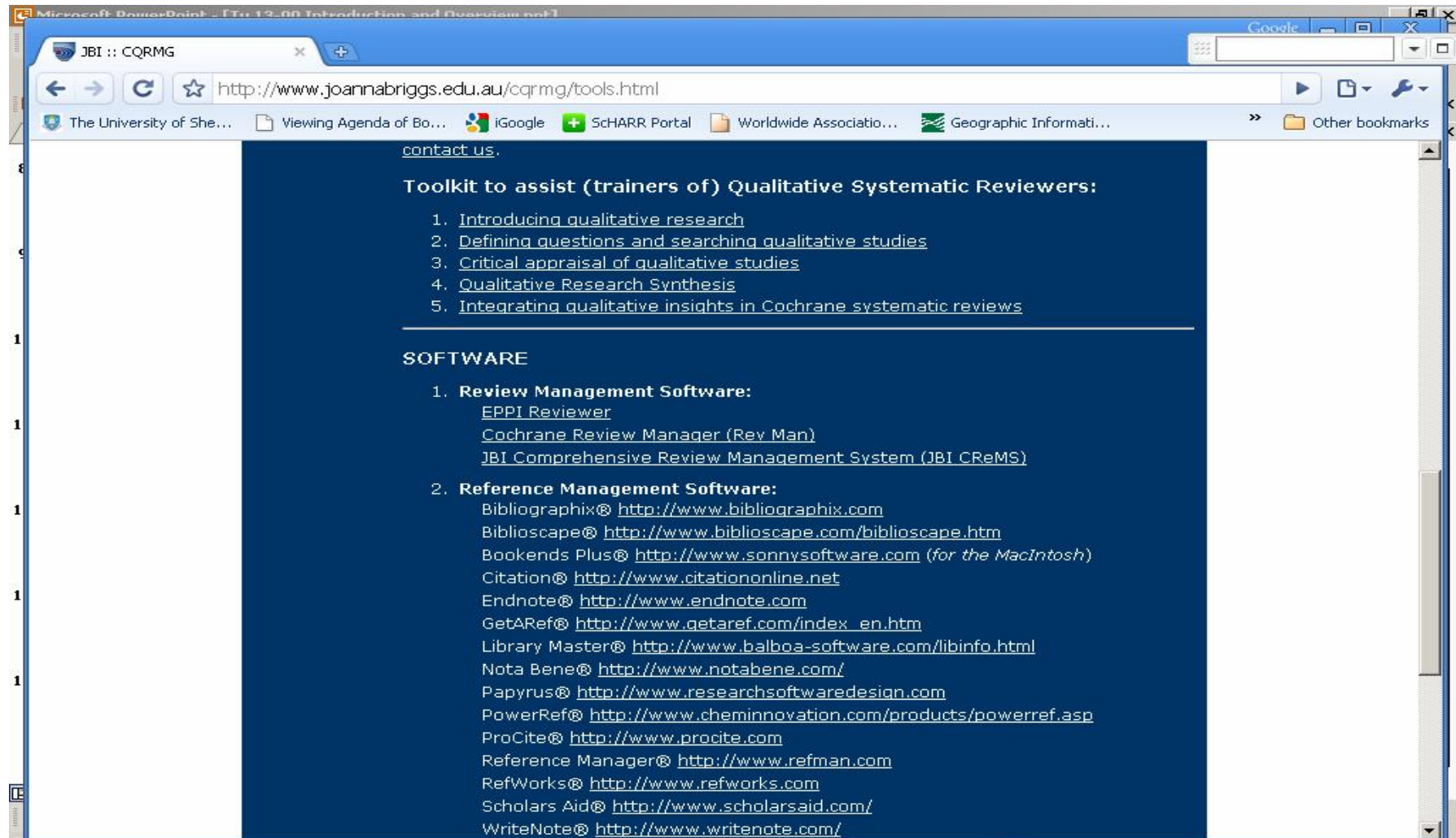
15:30 Tea & Depart

Resources - CQRMG



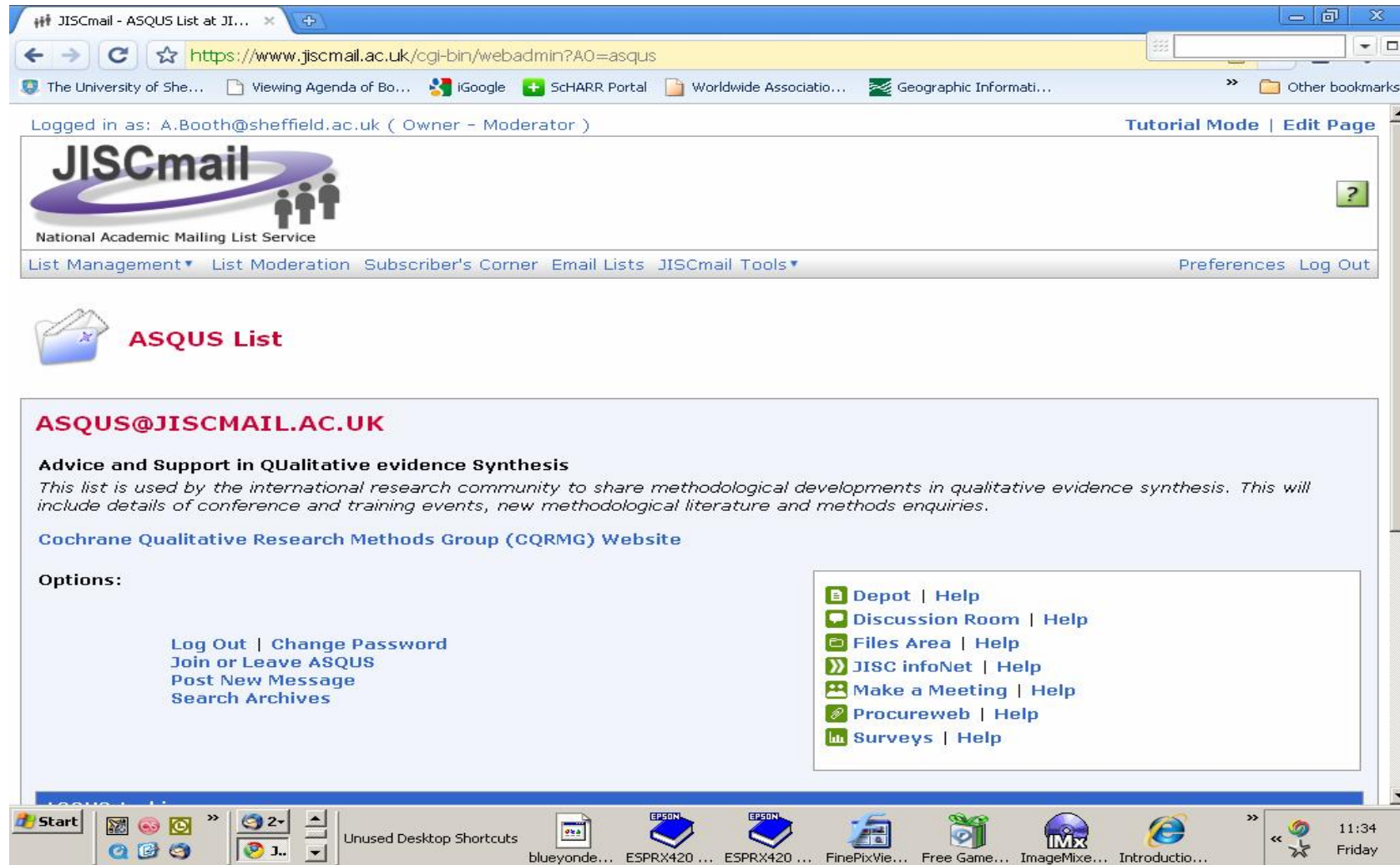
<http://www.joannabriggs.edu.au/cqrmg/>

Includes CQRMG Toolkit:



<http://www.joannabriggs.edu.au/cqrmg/tools.html>

ASQUS Discussion List



<http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/asqus>

References

- Booth A. "Brimful of STARLITE": toward standards for reporting literature searches. *J Med Libr Assoc.* 2006 Oct;94(4):421-9,
- Major, C., & Savin-Baden, M. (2010). *An introduction to qualitative research synthesis: Managing the information explosion in social science research.* London: Routledge.
- Paterson BL, Thorne S, Dewis M. Adapting to and managing diabetes. *Image J Nurs Sch.* 1998; 30 (1): 57–62.
- Sandelowski, M. and Barroso, J. (2007) *Handbook for Synthesizing Qualitative Research.* New York: Springer Publishing Company.