



AFMS NEWS

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AFMS Conference Montpellier 18th to the 21st of September 2019

The next AFMS conference will take place in Montpellier from the 18th to the 21st September 2019. The vibrant capital of the Languedoc-Roussillon region, Montpellier has been a centre of commerce and learning since the Middle Ages, when it was both a crossroads for pilgrims on their way to Santiago de Compostela in Spain and an active shipping centre trading in spices from the East.

Montpellier imported Renaissance learning, and its university (founded in the 13th century) has nurtured a steady influx of ideas through the centuries. Although the port silted up by the 16th century, the city never became a backwater. A student population of some 75,000 keeps things lively, especially on Place de la Comédie; and, as a centre of commerce and conferences, Montpellier keeps its focus on the future. An imaginative urban planning program has streamlined the 17th-century Vieille Ville, and monumental perspectives dwarf passersby on the Promenade du Peyrou. An even more utopian venture in urban planning is the Antigone district, a vast harmonious 100-acre complex designed in 1984 by Barcelona architect Ricardo Bofill.

The city has 3 Michelin star restaurants in addition to other simpler, but equally thrilling delights: strolls through the sweet-smelling markets, Languedoc and Grés de Montpellier, wines to enjoy and follies such as the Château de Flaugergues and the Château de l'Engarran.

If you would like to attend the conference please complete the booking form enclosed in this newsletter. Please also inform the admin secretary if you would like to give a presentation at the conference.



AFMS –Instagram.

We now have an Instagram account. Please visit us at

[https://
www.instagram.com/
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ciety/](https://www.instagram.com/anglofrenchmedicalsociety/)

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September Meeting.
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Committee Update

Meeting and Events

• September 2019

**Scientific Conference
Montpellier France.
18th to the 21st
September 2019**

• January / February 2020

**Winter Conference
Chamonix.
30th Jan to the 3rd
of February 2020**

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**Provisional Social Programme for
The Anglo-French Medical Society / The Association Médicale
Franco-Britannique. Montpellier Meeting;**

September 18th to the 21st of September 2019.

**Venue: Hotel Oceania Le Metropole, 3 Rue de Clos René.
34000 Montpellier France.**

Wednesday 18th September

Pre 16:00 Arrival – free time

16:30 Registration in the hotel.

18.30 Talk on Montpellier followed by a welcome dinner.

Thursday 19th September

09.00 Visit to The Musée Fabre and Musée Sabatier d'Espeyran

12.30 Lunch at the hotel

13.30 Visit to Pézenas, a beautiful town from the renaissance period.

Friday 20th September

09.00 Visit to the historical boutiques of Montpellier.

12.30 Lunch at the hotel.

**14.00 All the conference delegates join us in the afternoon for a walking
tour of Montpellier.**

**18.30 Gala dinner at the Faculty of Medicine of Montpellier – the oldest
faculty in France.**

Saturday 21st of September

Morning free for shopping, sightseeing etc,

12.30 Lunch.

13.30 For those remaining:

Coach departs for a tour of the most scenic areas of the Camargue.

Accommodation on Saturday for those who have pre-booked.

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AFMS MEETING: Chamonix January 2019—Dr Tim Reilly

As a newbie to the Chamonix meeting in a world of old Chamonix hands I wasn't quite sure what to expect. Would I fit in, would I keep up on skis or in the intellectual cut and thrust of après ski debate? I needn't have worried. There was a warm welcome to this diverse and inclusive group and the patient expert skiers amongst us never showed anything other than kind encouragement to the slower ones like me. One supper, we even drew in a passing American orthopedic surgeon waiting alone for a flight home after doing a stint with the US ski team, and introduced him to the AFMS.

It seems to me that any time you get a dozen or so doctors from different disciplines together (and add an engineer), you have an instant mini-university, so every session either on snow or round a well-merited vin chaud or bière was a seminar and exchange of knowledge and ideas.

There was a formal scientific session with three talks. Jeremy Campbell shared his experience as an anesthetist with an obstetric interest to speak to 'Saving Mothers' Lives', and it seems we are better at it than we were. Jeremy showed us how and why. Nick McCarthy gave of his medico-legal experience in speaking to 'The cases behind the law' which charted those landmark cases which have shaped the law of medical negligence. And I, seeing we were somewhere cold and snowy and it was before supper, talked about polar explorers, nutrition and starvation, though whether it whetted the appetite or killed it stone dead I cannot judge. In my talk I mentioned Dr John Rae, the nineteenth century Orcadian FRCS who explored the Canadian North, and I was delighted to find out afterwards that there was a relative of his in the audience (Nick McCarthy) who was able to expand my knowledge.

There had been heavy snowfall before our arrival, and the snow conditions were excellent, although the light a little flat in overcast conditions for the first three days. I hear that those who stayed on a had a perfect day of bright sunshine to round off their trip, which I take to be a reward for their patience earlier on.

Tim Reilly



27th AFMS Medical French Weekend

Residential Course at Lille University.

Paul Male reports on how he benefited from attending the course...

My dream of working as a GP in France started to become a reality after I attended the AFMS Medical French weekend course in Warwick in April 2016. Eight months later, in November, I was 'Inscrit au Tableau de l'Ordre des Médecins.' This took longer than average as my GP qualification in the UK dated from 1986, which was before the UK joined the EU! The GMC issued me with a GP qualification certificate dated 2016 which solved the problem. Finally I visited the branch of L'ordre in the département, where I was told where I could find work, issued with my certificate and a copy of the Hippocratic Oath.

I worked as a locum in Aveyron and Tarn et Garonne for two years in 2017 and 2018. Communication was a challenge at first but rapidly improved. There are many similarities to working as a GP in the U.K. Patients have the same pathology, symptoms and signs. Blood tests, imaging and other investigations are the same. Favourable differences include the two hour lunch break, ease of organising investigations and referrals, and also the general lack of administration for the GP partners. Even the GPs working in groups who I saw, had personal patient lists which made their work a lot easier. The patients do seem to be less demanding and don't complain.

I had a fantastic time. If you have the opportunity to work as a GP in France, then give it a go.

Dr Paul Male.

Student Request

Thi Lan Thanh Nguyen is a student of Medical English of Créteil University. This student would like to do a training course in paediatric service this Summer in order to practice more medical English in paediatric areas. If you could help Thi Lan, the contact details are;

lanthanh23y98d@yahoo.com

Committee

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Dr James Mc Donald

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Notre Dame

French architects have revealed a stunning set of plans to redesign the Notre Dame's fire-ravaged roof as a greenhouse.

The proposal was shared after the Prime Minister proposed 'an international competition' to rebuild the iconic cathedral's spire .

The PM shared his wish that the cathedral should be 'adapted to issues of our time' Architects have come up with the concept of turning the damaged roof into a giant green-house as a homage to the importance of nature.