



# AFMS NEWS

Spring 2008

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## AFMS Meeting 9th May 2008 Manchester



The 11<sup>th</sup> Manchester AFMS meeting took place in the Alliance Francaise Manchester on the evening of the 9<sup>th</sup> May 2008.



There were 40 delegates consisting of AFMS members and a good showing from the University of Manchester Medicine and French Departments. We had 5 presentations, 4 from students taking the European Option in their Medical Degrees. Deborah Kirkham spoke on the French “stay and play” approach to the management of those involved in trauma and compared this with the British “scoop and run” approach. This was a fascinating insight into both systems; unfortunately there is little comparative evidence to demonstrate the superiority of one over the other. Lona Jawaheer brought us up to speed on modern angiographic techniques used in interventional cardiology, she learned much in her stay in Geneva and those present were able to use her talk to add to CPD/CME points!

Thomas Kelley spent some time in the Bichat Hospital, Paris in the Department of Surgery. And like his colleagues brought the assembled up to date with modern vascular surgical approaches to such things as carotid stenosis...performed under local anaesthesia in France to allow the surgeon to ensure intact neurological function during the procedure. Claire Nissenbaum studied haematology in Paris. Much discussion was had about the management of Myeloid versus Lymphoblastic Leukaemia.

Our last speaker was Dr Catherine Stewart who spoke passionately on her experiences of HIV and AIDS management in ....South Africa. Whilst not a francophone country, HIV is world-wide and to discuss this issue in French was every worthwhile. We look forward already to the next meeting and would invite all AFMS members to join us, it will again be on a Friday in May...visits to Old Trafford, Harvey Nichols, the Reebok Stadium, Body-Works, the Lowry, any European Football Cup finals that happen to be on, the play on at the Palace Theatre opposite the Alliance, hotel accommodation etc. are NOT included in the fee! Likewise visits to the 2008 European Capital of culture only 60 Km (40 miles) away will have to be made at one's own expense. Come on, make a weekend of it! Many thanks to Servier Pharmaceuticals for sponsoring the meeting and to the Award-Winning Caterers “Saints and Scholars” for providing such a wonderful buffet and of course to Dr Mark Cottrill for his wine selection skills!

Dr Mark Savage Hon Sec.

## AFMS NEWS

Welcome to the latest edition of the AFMS news!!!

If there is anything you would like to be included in further editions. Please send an email to Tony Ridge at [tonyridge72yahoo.co.uk](mailto:tonyridge72yahoo.co.uk)

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## Meeting and Events.

### • October 2008

Scientific Meeting. Plymouth. October 1st to 4th.

### • November 2008

Advanced French Speaking Course. Stoke. Dates TBC.

### • February 2009

Chamonix Winter Meeting. Details to follow.

## AFMS NEWS

### **25th Anniversary AFMS Conference - Plymouth** **October 1st to October 4th 2008**

The AFMS is pleased to announce that its 25th anniversary conference is to take place in Plymouth from October 1st to October 4th. Plymouth nestles in an area of outstanding natural beauty, with the Dartmoor National Park to the north, the natural harbour of Plymouth Sound to the south and the rivers Plym and Tamar on either side. Its rich history and maritime heritage combine the advantages of city living with the benefits of having the countryside and coastline of Devon and Cornwall on its doorstep.

### **Draft Social Programme for The Anglo-French Medical Society Plymouth Meeting; October 1<sup>st</sup> to October 4<sup>th</sup> 2008.**

#### **Venue:**

**Jurys Inn Plymouth**

**50 Exeter Street, Plymouth PL4 0AZ, England**

**Tel: +44 (0) 1752 631 000 Fax: +44 (0) 1752 631 111**

**[www.jurysinns.com/guideplymouth](http://www.jurysinns.com/guideplymouth)**



The hotel is situated quite centrally and within easy access by foot to the historic Barbican area. Plymouth City centre and local restaurants are all within easy walking distance. The hotel's conference centre is well appointed and spacious.

The hotel has limited parking available but there will be other parking nearby.

#### **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October**

1930. Reception followed by buffet

#### **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October**

Travel by bus a.m. and p.m.

0930 Visit to Her Majesty's Dockyard Museum

1215 Lunch at Jury's Inn (Please note early lunchtime)

1320 Trip to Saltram House (National Trust 18<sup>th</sup> Century Mansion and Grounds. The interior designed by Robert Adam. The house contains many paintings by Joshua Reynolds, Angelica Kauffman. Used as set for "Sense and Sensibility".) Evening: Free to take dinner in the hotel or in local restaurants.

#### **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October.**

1000 Visit to the National Marine Aquarium. Travel on foot. There may be an alternative visit if any wish to visit the Plymouth gin distillery instead.

1300 Lunch at Royal Plymouth Corinthian Yacht Club.

1450 Boat trip around the River Tamar with views of the Dockyard and Mount Edgecumbe.

Optional walk around Plymouth's Historic Barbican area for those who do not wish to go on boat trip.

1800 Transport by bus to Royal Marine Barracks Stonehouse. There will be a pre-dinner talk by a senior consultant surgeon in the armed forces followed by dinner in the Mess. This will be an occasion not to be missed.

2300-2330 Transport back to Jury's.

#### **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October.**

Morning free for shopping, sight seeing or having a lie-in!

1230. Lunch

For those remaining:

1330 Bus departs for visit to Eden Project. A real must if you have the time.

Evening: Dinner in Plymouth.

## AFMS NEWS

### How to get to Plymouth

Head for the South West on the M5 from Bristol to Exeter, then the A38 Devon Expressway to Plymouth. Drive time from London is around three and a half hours. A rapid luxury coach service from London's Victoria Coach Station (via Heathrow) takes four and half hours. Telephone 08705 808080/898989.

[Rail Services](#) from London (Paddington) to Plymouth take three and a half hours. Direct services also run from South Wales, the Midlands, the North of England and Scotland. Call Plymouth National Rail Enquiry Office on 08457 484950 (credit card bookings 08457 000125), or contact your local station. Fly direct to Plymouth from London Gatwick, Bristol, Manchester, Leeds/Bradford and Jersey with [Air SouthWest](#) (reservations 0870 241 8202). This airline also flies from Newcastle, Glasgow, Cork and Dublin.

[Brittany Ferries](#) sail from Roscoff in France to Plymouth. Sean Bennett, one of the organisers of the conference, has set up an account with Brittany Ferries enabling any French doctors who make a booking with Brittany Ferries (any route) for travel during the period 27 September – 6 October, to enjoy a 15% discount on the total ticket price. The telephone number for them in France is 44-825 828 828 and they should quote account number 980A1.

Donc, si vous êtes médecin français, vous pouvez recevoir une réduction de 15% du coût du ferry entre Roscoff et Plymouth. Il faut simplement téléphoner à Brittany Ferries à +44-825 828 828 en citant la référence 980A1.

### UN MOT DU SECRETAIRE DE L'AMFB

#### L'ENTENTE FORMIDABLE

A l'heure où j'écris ces quelques lignes, le président SARKOZY est sur le point de terminer sa visite d'état en Angleterre. Comme à leur habitude, les médias ont fait leurs choux gras beaucoup plus avec le sourire et les toilettes de la première Dame de France la belle Carla ( merci aussi à l'Italie...) qu'aux problèmes politico-économiques évoqués au cours de la rencontre avec le premier ministre Gordon BROWN.

Face aux élus britanniques, le Président français a dit : " Je suis venu proposer d'écrire une nouvelle page de notre histoire commune " .L'entente cordiale, c'est du passé...Place à l'entente formidable.." Cette histoire commune, heureusement, n'a pas attendu les visites officielles pour exister déjà au travers d'amicales ou de groupes tels nos deux associations. Nous la vivons depuis bientôt un quart de siècle puisqu'à PLYMOUTH nous aurons l'occasion de fêter le 25<sup>e</sup> congrès annuel. Et nul doute que " l'accueil royal " qu'a reçu la délégation française à Windsor et à Londres aura son pareil au mois d'octobre quand nos amis de l'AFMS nous réceptionneront dans cette grande et belle ville du Devon.

A bientôt chers Amis.

Pierre Radice



# Back Page Notes

The AFMS would like to pass on its condolences to Andrew Hassan, the President of the AFMS and Michel Dubisson of the AMFB, whose mothers both passed away over the last few months. Our thoughts are with the families and friends of both Andrew and Michel.

## French Placement in England

Nouritza Torossian, a French medical student, tells us of her placement with a GP in England last summer.

*“If you are a French medical student, and if you are thinking about having a training course in England, do not hesitate anymore!*

*I spent one week in Manchester, following 2 GPs in their consultation, and although the period was short, this stay was a great experience.*

*Of course, it allowed me to listen to intensive medical English, and it also gave me the opportunity to see Medicine practised in different kinds of medical settings: a little surgery, in a lovely green district at the periphery of Manchester (Northern Moore), and a medical centre, located in the student and multicultural area of Rusholme, famous for its « Curry mile ». The GPs were very welcoming, and very Francophile. It was interesting to observe their close approach to the patient (they sat just next to the patient), and at the same time the rigorous way in which they conducted a consultation (only one complaint treated, in approximately 10 minutes). I also noticed the importance of their computerised system, in which the GP is a real gate-keeper of the patient’s file (always updating it, in real time ! most of the time during the consultation).*

*I was also lucky to attend an away-day of the Northern Moore Practice: a meeting with the whole team (doctors, receptionists, nurses, practice manager) in which the practice’s specific needs are statistically analysed (according to the characteristics of the practice’s patients population, so that for example preventive measures can be taken: amazing, isn’t it?) The medical education system was also interesting to discover (containing for example, communication courses, performance-based assessment with students filmed and actors playing the role of patients!) and it was a pleasure to meet both students and professors, especially when we went to the pub all together!*

*I am very grateful to the Anglo-French Medical Society that made it possible for me to have such an experience.”*

If you are a GP and would like to offer a similar opportunity to a French student then can you contact the administrative secretary in the first instance.

## AFMS Subscriptions Due

The annual subscriptions are due on July 1st 2008. If you do not already pay by standing order, please forward your payment as soon as possible to the administrative secretary: Tony Ridge, 9 Babbacombe Road, Childwall, Liverpool, L16 9JN, Merseyside. The annual subscription is £15 (£5 for students) and cheques should be made payable to the “Anglo French Medical Society.” It would be appreciated if you could send your payment promptly. Please note that the society will only accept payments by standing order from July 2009.

## Committee

Dr Andrew Hassan

( President )

Dr James Taylor

( Treasurer )

Dr Helen Sykes

( Membership Secretary)

( helen.sykes@nhs.net)

Robyn Hughes

( Webmaster )

Dr Mark Savage

( Hon Secretary )

Dr Nicola Strickland

Dr Mark Cottrill

( co-opted member)

Dr Colin Mumford

Dr Helen Mackay

Dr Rex Melville

Dr Emma Reynish

Dr Andrew Leitch

Student Representatives

Emilia Holland

Laurie Hanna

## Interesting But True

Although more Britons are travelling abroad than ever before, half a million fewer adults in the UK are learning foreign languages than a decade ago according to a new survey. Of those adults who are learning a language in the UK, 25% study English!

## Administrative Secretary

Please send details of any change of address, incorrect addresses, subscriptions and changes in email to

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