



FRIDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2013

Welcome to the FOM Newsletter.

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## Single Organisation progress report

Work is continuing on scoping the possibility of creating a new single organisation for occupational health. A microsite has now been set up where members can access all the relevant information about work towards the single organisation, including the initial letter from the Presidents outlining the case for a single organisation and an 'FAQs' document. The address of the site is:

<http://singleorg.co.uk/wordpress/>

As part of the ongoing consultation process, we are keen to hear from as many members of both organisations as possible. We have now been to meetings in Scotland, London, Bristol and the East Midlands to outline the work so far and listen to members views; we continue to appreciate your feedback.

There are more meetings taking place in the coming weeks so please check the [full list](#) for more information and instructions on how to register to attend.

However, if you are not able to attend a meeting in person but would still like to have your say, members can also book onto the following interactive webinars (online remote conferencing system):

Single org Webinar 1: 7 October 2013 5pm – 6pm  
Single org Webinar 2: 23 October 2013 8am - 9am  
Single org Webinar 3: 29 October 2013 5pm – 6pm

Please email [contactus@singleorg.co.uk](mailto:contactus@singleorg.co.uk) clearly stating the webinar that you would like to attend. You will be sent further details on how to dial in before the webinar.

We hope to hear from as many of you as possible.

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## Professional Briefing Day: Upper Limb Disorders

On 18 September the Faculty held a half-day training workshop on upper limb

disorders for members. Expertly led by Dr Karen Walker-Bone, Honorary Fellow of the Faculty and the only Occupational Rheumatologist in the country, and Dr Ira Madan, Consultant Occupational Physician, the day started with an overview of upper limb disorders and their physiological symptoms.

There followed a discussion on the assessment of occupational causes and a practical demonstration of how to undertake an examination of neck and shoulders.

Delegates commented that the quality of the presenters made the day particularly stimulating, as well as finding the practical demonstration very useful for their own practice.

The Faculty will be running more Professional Briefing Days throughout 2014 so be sure to check the newsletters for information.

If members have suggestions for topics that they would like to see at forthcoming training days, please email Melissa Ford at [melissa.ford@fom.ac.uk](mailto:melissa.ford@fom.ac.uk).

The Faculty would like to thank Sara Shortt, who left the Faculty this week, for all her hard work in organising Professional Briefing Days, as well as assisting the trainees and providing support for doctors using the Faculty's Responsible Officer. Sara is returning to Australia and we wish her every success for the future.

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## Winter conference 'Hidden Disabilities' - 10 December 2013

The Faculty's Winter conference, 'Hidden Disabilities', taking place on 10 December 2013 in Manchester, focuses on lesser-known conditions that affect workers.

The day will feature presentations from a range of eminent speakers, including Professor Else Guthrie on medically unexplained symptoms and Professor Cary Cooper on organisational psychology.

The day will also feature a session on dyslexia from Nicola Newman, a leading advisor on age and disability, as well as Dr Owen Bowden-Jones, Honorary Senior Lecturer at Imperial College London, sharing his wealth of experience on mental health difficulties.

The conference programme has been designed to encourage delegates to participate actively and reflect on areas of practice that they find challenging. There will be two breakout sessions during the day where delegates will receive case studies and worked examples from other renowned presenters, on topics including: cancer; bipolar disorder; alcohol abuse; stress and depression; chronic fatigue syndrome; and diabetes in shift workers.

Online booking is now open via the 'book online now' button on the website or you can download and complete the [flyer and booking form](#).

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## Do you have a project which is prize-worthy?

The Faculty is committed to recognising the exemplary work of its members, and is always keen to encourage members to think about significant extra-curricular

projects they have undertaken in the past. The annual Wilf Howe Memorial Prize is one such way that the Faculty aims to recognise the outstanding work of its members.

The Wilf Howe Prize is an excellent opportunity to publicise and reward our members' achievements in the field of occupational health, and we are very keen for our members to contribute any relevant projects that they may have been involved in over the past year.

We are accepting submissions for this year's round until **28 February 2014**. If any of our members feel that they have conducted a suitable project to be considered for the prize, please download and complete an [application form](#) from the Faculty's website.

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## General Osteopathic Council - call for medical assessors

The General Osteopathic Council ("GOsC") is currently recruiting a new pool of medical assessors for its Fitness to Practise Committees. The role of the medical assessor is to provide advice about the medical significance of evidence before the Committee. Occasionally, medical assessors may also be required to undertake a medical examination of an osteopath, and to produce a medical report for the Committee.

The GOsC has identified a need for practitioners with consultant level expertise (or equivalent) in a number of specialties, including occupational health.

Further information about the recruitment exercise, including a candidate information pack and application forms, is available on the [GOsC website](#).

The closing date for receipt of completed applications is 3 October 2013. Interviews will be held at the GOsC's offices in London on 18 and 19 November 2013.

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With best wishes



Nicky Coates  
Chief Executive

