



NEWS UPDATE FOR MEMBERS

April 2009

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

14 May 2009:	FOM Annual Scientific Meeting and Dinner – NOW BOOKING
1 October 2009:	FOM Autumn Conference – “Confidentiality and Consent”
2 December 2009:	FOM Winter Conference – “Risky Business”
27 May 2010:	FOM Annual Scientific Meeting

Faculty Events

- Annual Scientific Meeting and Dinner – 14 May 2009
- Autumn Conference – 1 October 2009 – “Confidentiality and Consent”
- Winter Conference – 2 December 2009 – “Risky Business”

Education and Training

- Applications invited for RSA and Deputy RSA posts – **deadline 5 May 2009**
- Working for a healthier tomorrow – taking up the challenge
- Faculty past examination papers

Obituary

- Dr Kenneth Nickol

Information from other bodies

- NHS Practitioner Health Programme in London
- BUPA Foundation
- NICE Guidelines
- Professors Waddell & Burton - rehabilitation document available on line

Faculty Information

- Retaining Faculty membership following ‘voluntary erasure’

Footnote

FACULTY EVENTS

Annual Scientific Meeting and Dinner 2009 – NOW BOOKING

We remind you that the Annual Scientific Meeting, AGM and Dinner will be held on Thursday 14 May 2009 at the Royal College of Physicians. Members will have received registration documents in the post and these are also available [in the website library](#).

FOM Autumn Conference 2009

This conference will be held at the Manchester Conference Centre on 1 October 2009, with the theme, "Confidentiality and Consent". Further details will be available shortly.

FOM Winter Conference 2009

This event will take place on Wednesday 2 December 2009 at the Royal College of Physicians and the topic will be "Risky Business".

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Applications invited for the posts of: Regional Specialty Adviser (RSA), Scotland South Deputy Regional Specialty Adviser, South West Thames Deputy Regional Specialty Adviser, Northern region

Philip Wynn has stood down as Deputy RSA for the Northern region and we wish to thank him for his service to the Faculty in this role. We are now therefore seeking a replacement Deputy RSA for this region.

There are still vacancies for an RSA in the Scotland South region and for a Deputy RSA in the South West Thames region.

If you are interested in taking on one of the roles or would like further information, please contact David Greening (Training Coordinator (Programme Support)) at david.greening@facocmed.ac.uk.

The closing date for applications is 5 May 2009.

WORKING FOR A HEALTHIER TOMORROW - TAKING UP THE CHALLENGE

One of the particular challenges facing occupational medicine and general practice in the coming years will be the efficient and effective delivery of competent occupational health advice to the wider population including those who are no longer in formal employment.

Within NHS Grampian, with the support of NHS Education for Scotland (NES), we have attempted to address some of these challenges through integrated training approaches for general practitioners, occupational health, and those with an interest in occupational

medicine. From within the NHS Occupational Health Service budget we have managed to fund learning opportunities for general practitioners who have recently completed their training and also specialist trainees undergoing their formal rotational training programmes in general practice.

Within the department, we host a full time six-month general practice training registrar who undertakes the full duties of occupational medicine. This includes working in a clinical setting, forming telephone management referrals and accessing workplaces. As part of the integrated multidisciplinary team, they have access to occupational therapists, ergonomists and psychologists. To date there have been three full-time posts within the department and the feedback from the individual trainees has been positive:- "I have become more aware of the impact of health on work". "I have become much more careful about issuing sick notes".

One trainee has completed the course for the Diploma in Occupational Medicine and another is considering starting it. The links with the post graduate deanery in relation to developing the curriculum have proved invaluable and it is anticipated that this rotation will continue as part of the general practice experience offered to those training in the North East of Scotland. Should anyone require or desire further details please do not hesitate to get in touch with Dr Elizabeth Murphy, at: elizabeth.murphy2@nhs.net.

Dr Elizabeth Murphy, Lead Consultant, NHS Grampian Occupational Health Service

Faculty past examination papers

The Faculty has in the past issued on request past examination papers. This practice has now ceased and instead model questions will be developed for the website.

OBITUARY

KENNETH HUGH NICKOL MB BS (Lond) FRCP (Lond) FFOM

Born 5 September 1924 Died 5 January 2009

Ken Nickol, who has died peacefully aged 84 years from a mesothelioma, was closely associated with the Faculty since its inception in 1978. He was an early Member of the Faculty and shortly afterwards was awarded Fellowship and had a leading role in postgraduate occupational medicine training.

He qualified MB BS in 1946 from the London Hospital Medical School and retained a close tie with the Royal London Hospital throughout his career with his interest in respiratory medicine.

He completed his National service in the Royal Air Force. Extensive hospital experience, including Papworth and the Brompton hospitals, was gained in general and respiratory medicine and he obtained the MRCP (Lond) and appointed FRCP in 1974

In 1961 he joined Hoffmann Manufacturing Company, at that time the largest employer in Chelmsford, which produced ball bearings to extremely tight tolerances. After five years he joined Ford Motor Company where he remained until he retired at 65 years. For more than 20 years he was Senior Medical Officer in the foundry operations where his great clinical skills and knowledge of foundry workers' pneumoconiosis could best be used. His opinion

particularly on the interpretation of chest x-rays was regularly sought and highly prized by his colleagues. During this time he continued as a part-time clinical assistant in respiratory medicine at his teaching hospital.

Ken's major contribution to the profession was his strong commitment to education and training. He was co-opted on to the first Faculty Board as Conference Secretary and was subsequently appointed as the second Faculty Academic Registrar, later becoming Chief Examiner. He contributed greatly to the Faculty during its early growth and also served as a member of the working parties on Postgraduate Medical Education, *Fitness for Work* and the Prison Medical Service.

Ken's work in these fields carried on long after his formal retirement. He was Chief Examiner, Diploma in Industrial Health Conjoint Board, Course Tutor for the Royal Institute of Public Health and examiner for the Society of Apothecaries, where his guidance, encouragement and friendship to doctors entering occupational medicine was greatly valued.

Ken was a vigorous member of the Society of Occupational Medicine serving on the Council and as chairman of the London Group. He was regularly to be found attending meetings to keep up to date and he continued to do until his last illness.

Ceasing active work was not for Ken and for a further seventeen years he was consultant occupational physician to a wide group of private companies and a several local authorities.

Gentle and urbane, his love of music, illustrated by his mellow baritone singing, was passed on to his family.

Ken was an Essex man. He was born in Walthamstow on the border of the county, educated at Felstead School, worked in Chelmsford, lived in Great Baddow, was on the parole board of his local prison, sailed on the Blackwater and played golf at his local club.

His wife Anne and two sons and grandson survive him.

Monty Brill

INFORMATION FROM OTHER BODIES

NHS Practitioner Health Programme in London

NHS occupational physicians in the London area should be aware that the NHS has initiated a Practitioner Health Programme, which provides a free, confidential service for doctors and dentists in London, to help them deal with mental or physical concerns or addiction problems. Further details can be found at www.php.nhs.uk; phone: 0203 049 4505; email: php.help@nhs.net.

BUPA Foundation

Health at Work award for excellence in occupational medicine

We are delighted to announce that the BUPA Health at Work award for excellence in occupational medicine was won by Dr AK Burton, Dr NAS Kendall, Dr BG Pearce, Dr LC Bainbridge and the Faculty Registrar, Dr Lisa Birrell.

The award was made for a study into upper limb disorders (ULD) which affect 50 percent of people of working age. The following link gives further information:

http://www.bupafoundation.com/asp/awards/08_awards/health_at_work_award.asp.

NICE Guidelines

The Faculty regularly contributes to NICE consultations and we are pleased to advise two sets of guidelines have just been published.

- 1) NICE's Public Health Programme Guidance on "Management of long-term sickness and incapacity for work".

The link to the Quick Reference Guidance (QRG) to this guidance can be found at <http://www.nice.org.uk/Guidance/PH19/QuickRefGuide/pdf/English>.

The full guidance and background papers, are available at the following link: <http://www.nice.org.uk/Guidance/PH19>

- 2) NICE's Public Health Programme Guidance on "Critical illness rehabilitation".

The link to the published documents can be found at:

<http://www.nice.org.uk/Guidance/CG83>

and the stakeholder comments/developers responses can be found at:

<http://www.nice.org.uk/nicemedia/pdf/CriticalIllnessRehabCommentsTable.pdf>

Rehabilitation document available on line

Professors Waddell and Burton's publication, *Concepts of rehabilitation for the management of common health problems* is now available on line, along with related material such as advice leaflets for workplace healthcare. For further information go to:

www.workingforhealth.gov.uk/Resources/Downloads-and-tools/#2

FACULTY INFORMATION

Retaining Faculty membership following 'voluntary erasure'

Members are reminded that at the AGM on 14th May, the membership will be asked to approve a proposal about retired members. This would allow members who have retired and who opt to take 'voluntary erasure' from the GMC register, to retain their Faculty membership. As we are approaching the time for the renewal of Faculty subscriptions, we thought it would be helpful to remind members of this. Any members who are considering voluntary erasure might therefore wish to delay any decision about not renewing their Faculty membership until after the AGM.

FOOTNOTE

The Faculty has recently been working as part of an expert group which has been focusing on the health of NHS staff. A full report on this work will be in the next newsletter. Future newsletters will also include updates on other Faculty projects, including the creation of Standards for Occupational Health Services and further developments on health and work educational material for GPs.

We welcome your comments on any items in the newsletter – and on any other matter of Faculty business.

I hope you have an enjoyable and restful Easter break.

With best wishes



Nicky Coates
Chief Executive

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