

South West Division



Royal College of Psychiatrists

Message from the Chair

Dr Adrian James

In July 2008, I will have completed my first year as Chair of the South West Division of the Royal College of Psychiatrists. This year has mainly involved looking forward and seeing what changes we can make to the running of the Division, so that the College objectives in the South West can be met.

We have had very good attendance at the Executive meetings. I am pleased to say that we now have comprehensive representation from faculties. I am also delighted that Dr Keith Dudleston will continue as Secretary and Vice-Chairman, Dr Peter Carpenter has been elected as Finance Officer, and we have three new elected members, Dr David Bickerton, Dr Kate Lovett and Dr Cameron Smith. My thanks go out to retiring members, Dr Brian Robinson, Dr Roger Bullock and Dr Leila Cooke for their sterling work.

We have arranged a Divisional Executive Away Day on the 20th June. At that day we hope to achieve three things. First, to get to know each other as a Divisional Execu-



Adrian James, Chair of South West Division

tive. Second, to see how we can branch out to key stakeholders and influential groups, in particular, Staff and Associate Specialist Doctors, trainees, users and carers and Commissioners and providers of mental health and learning disability services. The third main objective, is to establish what we really want to achieve in the next three years. If you have any comments on this, please let one of the Executive know.

In terms of branching out more broadly, we are pleased to have had one of the Associate Deans, Dr Laurence Mynors-Wallis talk to the Division Executive on the new arrangements for re-

validation and re-certification. Dr Denise Cope will be coming to the Division in September to talk about the Clinical Care Pathway Review in the South West related to Lord Darzi's work on reforming the Health Service. We are also delighted that the Chief Executive of NHS South West, Sir Ian Carruthers, will be coming to the Division in December to discuss future plans.

My thanks as always go to Pat McPhee and Angela Burge for their commitment and dedication in running the Divisional Office and South West Division Training, which is beginning to go from strength to strength under the leadership of Dr Rob McPherson.

Issue 1
Spring 2008

News from the Acting Finance Officer

Peter Carpenter

I have been Acting Finance Officer for the Division since October 2007, and have just become Finance Officer as I was the only person foolish enough to apply for election.

The role of Finance Officer is to supervise the finances of the Division and produce a financial business plan each year. I am fortunate in that Pat McPhee very capably manages the budgets on a day to day basis, keeping an eye on the approximately 120 budget code streams that each have to be accounted as correct.

Financially the Division has done well over the last few years, with a sustained surplus from the biannual meetings. We started 2007 with approximately £24,000 in our accounts. We are one of the few Divisions that are not routinely given money by the Central College funds. During 2007 SWOPT, the training scheme run from the University was taken over by the College to be managed by a subcommittee of the Division. This produced two

consequences: there was much reduced income last year, due to a lack of meetings; and there was a windfall of £23,600 from the University, reflecting the surpluses accumulated within SWOPT. All in all the year 2007 closed with £43,714 in the Division coffers (though all held at Belgrave Square)

Superficially this makes it appear that we are extremely well off. However there is a note of caution for this. Pharmaceutical sponsorship has reduced over the year, and we expect to be at higher risk of making a loss on conferences and training courses in future (the 4 courses last year meant that SWDT made a loss of £300 if it was not for the windfall). Fortunately the general operating costs of the executive committee meetings have reduced due to the change in location to Blagdon, despite the increased costs of paying for carers and service users to join the committee.

The committed have agreed to some new

costs this year

- We are organising some highly subsidised training in mentoring.
- The Executive Committee are meeting to have a strategy day.

We are holding a meal to welcome new Members and Fellows to the Division. Dependant on the success of this, this may become an annual event.

With all of these plans, and the work of the new SWDT, we budget to end up with £33,500 at the end of 2008.

The windfall from SWOPT will be mainly kept to fund the setting up of new training projects by SWDT. At present this is budgeted to break even this year over its 11 courses. However the new big financial risk it is considering taking on is organising the MRCPsych course.

I fear that I will not be at the annual meeting to present my report in person but am

News from the Secretary

Keith Dudleston

I was pleased to discover that all the vacancies on the Executive were filled. We hope this means that the Executive will continue with its current success.

I would like to report that we have now identified all the sub speciality representatives for all the faculties within the region. We are now hoping to identify the mechanism for user and carer representation on the committee.

I am sorry that I have yet to identify a Deputy Regional Representative for the peninsular deanery. Anyone interested could they please approach me.

I would urge you to regularly update your details on the College database. You can do this either by logging on to the members' area on line and changing the details yourself or by emailing poconnor@rcpsych.ac.uk We will who will be happy to change them for you. then be able to keep you up-to-date with both College and SWDT information. As we try to reduce the amount spent on paper and postage we will endeavour to use the email facility whenever possible but we lack an active address for many doctors on our database.



ACCEA Awards—New ranking procedure for SW Division

The Division plays an active role in the College Clinical Excellence Awards procedure and we have recently reviewed our system to ensure a fair, transparent and equitable process.

If you wish to have the support of the College for a Clinical Excellence Award then your electronic application form must be sent to Sue Duncan (sduncan@rcpsych.ac.uk) by Monday, 28th July. Any received after this date will not be considered. Please see the complete application process on the College website at

<http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/college/faculties/generalandcommunity/clinicalexcellenceawards.aspx>

By the end of September all the applications from members in the South West Division together with the ranked lists from Faculties and Sections will be forwarded to the Divisional office. These will then be circulated to all members of the South West Divisions Executive Committee for ranking. These will be accompanied by guidelines indicating that these are confidential documents and must only be used for the purpose of marking against the criteria laid out by ACCEA and the College and not shown to anyone.

Once the marks are collated a ranking list will be produced and this will be discussed by a sub Committee of the Executive prior to submission to the complete Committee. The sub Committee will consist of the Executive Committee Chair plus two members of the Committee, one who is an award holder and one who is not. The final ranking list will be forwarded to the College for consideration by the College Clinical Excellence Awards Committee. Candidates who are included on the College short list will be informed so that they can then submit their application on the 2009 form to ACCEA.

Our office in the SW

The local office is now well established in Coombe Lodge where Angela Burge and Pat McPhee share an office with an additional room for holding small meetings. One of the great advantages of being based in Coombe Lodge is the facilities that the organization has to offer with excellent course and small conference facilities which we have been able to use for both College and SWDT business dur-

ing the year. We have held some courses here as well and although it is not very convenient for public transport members who have come by road have found it easy to access with plenty of free parking. The food is of a good quality and the pleasant grounds and surrounding countryside make this a very relaxed and an enjoyable place to be.



Coombe Lodge

Are you a member of the College? Need a small room to hold a meeting

One of the bonuses of the office is the meetings room which is available to members, free of charge, to hold meetings. Although the room is very small and can only hold 4 comfortably (6 at a squeeze) it is an ideal place to meet people from different parts of the region. It has been particularly useful for appraisals.

For information or to book the room please contact either Pat McPhee or Angela Burge at

aburge@southwestdiv.rcpsych.ac.uk

pmpcpee@southwestdiv.rcpsych.ac.uk



The meetings room,
Coombe Lodge

User and Carer Representatives

Mike Metcalfe

One important aspect of the devolution process the College has been going through recently, is greater involvement of service users and carers in our meetings. With this in mind we are aiming to establish one user and carer representative at the Executive Committee of the South West Division. We have been working with CSIP/NIMHE South West, who have nurtured a network of user and carer groups around the Region. The

College has agreed to fund attendance of a user and a carer and we are now going through the process of selecting individuals from the existing representative groups. We hope this will add a new and useful perspective to our meetings from users and carers who already have experience in similar forums and who can consult with a 'constituency' in their existing groups.

“we are aiming to establish one user and carer representative at the Executive Committee”

SWDT

Mentoring Training Course (Consultants only)

2nd and 3rd June—Coombe Lodge, Blagdon, Somerset

Personal Development Course

12th June—Wonford House, Exeter

Conference on Chronic Fatigue Syndrome in Children and Young People

24th October—St Cuthbert's Conference Centre, Buckfastleigh

A Practical Introduction to Psychiatric Ethics

14th November—Coombe Lodge, Blagdon, Somerset

Effective Influence and leadership within multidisciplinary teams

13th February—venue to be confirmed

Contact Pat McPhee or Angela Burger for more information at:

pmcphee@southwestdiv.rcpsych.ac.uk

aburge@southwestdiv.rcpsych.ac.uk

Or look on our website at:

<http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/college/divisions/southwest/southwestdivisiontraining.aspx>

New Regional Advisors and Deputy Regional Advisor

The South West was the only area in the country with a Regional and Deputy Regional Advisor who covered two deaneries.

To bring us in line with the rest of the country the College asked that we split the region into deaneries and appoint a Regional Advisor and Deputy for each.

Dr Adrian James, having been Regional Advisor for the whole area took this opportunity to make way for two new appointments. He has done sterling work over the past four years and members are grateful for his commitment of both time and energy into this post particularly during the changes in training with MMC.



Shamin Dinani
Regional Advisor
Severn Deanery

Severn Deanery

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Shamim Dinani as Regional Advisor of the Peninsula Deanery.

Shamim was Deputy Regional Advisor for the SW Region for a number years prior to her appointment.

We offer our congratulations on her new appointment.

Guy Undrill has been appointed as Deputy Regional Advisor working with Shamim in the Severn Deanery.



Keith Dudleston
Regional Advisor
Peninsular Deanery

Peninsula Deanery

Keith Dudleston has filled the new post as

Regional Advisor for the Peninsular Deanery.

Our congratulations go to him on his new post.

As he is carrying out this new role on his own he would very much welcome applications from doctors interested in taking on the role of Deputy Regional Advisor to support him (please see advert).

Executive Committee

You can find a list of all the Executive Committee members on our website at:

<http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/college/divisions/southwest/aboutthedivision.aspx>



Biannual Meetings

Spring 2007

The meeting, entitled 'The power of belief: placebo, treatment and the therapeutic relationship', involved internationally well known experts approaching this field from different angles, supplemented with well received workshops. This meeting was well attended and feedback was excellent. It had been a thought provoking day and delegates went back to base with lots to think about and some said that the day had impacted how they viewed their services.

Richard Laugharne leads the team for the Spring Biannual Meetings and as usual

came up with a day to be remembered.

Autumn 2007

Having outgrown Redwood Lodge we felt it was time to find a new venue for our Autumn Biannual Meetings and for the first time held it at the Bristol Marriott Royal Hotel. Although it is in the centre of Bristol as it has its own car park and there are plenty of park and ride facilities this was a great success and worked extremely well and the food was excellent.

David Nutt headed up the team and as usual provided us with an superb programme on the future face of psychiatric treatment.

"New venue for our Autumn Biannual Meeting"

Innovation Prize 2007

Dr Hayley Richards was our winner for the Innovation Prize in 2007 with her submission on 'The Remedial Placement'. This was about a two week course that Hayley has developed with Liz Anderson, Teaching Fellow at the University of Bristol, for students which addressed professionalism.

Her submission was printed in the Programme and Abstracts booklet for the Autumn Biannual meeting and she gave

an excellent presentation to delegates on the day.

We offer her our congratulations on an excellent project and for winning the prize

Trainees Prize

The Trainees Prize is an annual event and takes the form of a competition where trainees in the South West Division are invited to write an essay on a topic chosen by the Committee and usually relating to the Spring Biannual Meeting. We have had excellent submissions over the years on a number of interesting subjects and the winning essay is printed in the Biannual Meeting Programme and Abstracts Booklet. The standard is high and we would encourage all trainees to think

about submitting an essay next spring. The reward for winning is £250 which is tax free!

The winner this spring is James Eldred who submitted an excellent essay on 'How should we prepare Trainee Psychiatrists to be Consultants of the future' and I would encourage you to read it.



The prize for 2008 goes to Dr James Eldred for his essay on How should we prepare Trainee Psychiatrists to be Consultants of the future

Poster Presentation Prizes

These prizes are awarded biannually on the occasion of the biannual meetings. At the moment the competition is open to Specialist Registrars around the region. An abstract for each poster is produced in the Programme and Abstracts Booklet issued at the biannual meetings and the prizes awarded are first, £250 second, £100 and an innovation prize of £250.

Prize winners for Spring 2007 were:

First Prize—Dr A Kaul

Second Prize—Dr S Srivastava

Innovation Prize—Dr Henry Cameron

Prizes for Autumn 2007 were:

First Prize—Dr Julia Hardy

Second Prize—Dr Carla Figueiredo

Innovation Prize—Dr Lynn Brown

Prizes 2008

Don't forget to watch out for all the announcements for prizes for the remainder of the year. Early summer, the Innovation Prize details will be circulated and about the same time the call for poster presentations for the Autumn Biannual meeting will be announced. This could be your opportunity to win a prize!!

“This could be your opportunity to win a prize!”

News from the Public Policy Committee

Martin Elphick

The amount of policy documentation, as everyone will have noticed, has grown at an alarming rate in recent years. The College now has a Central Coordinating Policy Committee and separate structures for each country, like the English Policy Committee that has representatives from each Division. Since April the College also has a staffed Policy Unit based at Belgrave Square and led by Rowena Daw. That should help us not only to keep abreast of the mountain of legislation,

advisory reports, guidelines, and other learned documents that comprise mental health policy, but also to introduce a better system for writing and maintaining our own College Reports, and most important of all to mount policy campaigns.

The forthcoming Fair Deal campaign is in the final stages of planning. Other prominent policy concerns at the moment surround funding mechanisms, outcome and quality measures, relationships with the pharmaceutical industry, and much much

more..... there is now an EPC webpage in the member's section of the College website.

News from around the region

West Hub Mental Health Research Network (MHRN)

The last three years have been an exciting time for the West Hub of the Mental Health Research Network with an expanding team and portfolio. Covering Avon, Wiltshire, Devon and Cornwall, with a linked clinical site in Southampton, the team now includes nine Clinical Studies Officers who work closely with clinical teams and wards helping to recruit participants into research projects. This work is vital to help us work towards our aim of embedding research within the NHS. The Hub now has 30 projects within

its portfolio covering a wide range of topics including schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, depression, first episode psychosis and other areas.

2007 saw our second research day "Mental Health Research in the South West 2007" with more than 70 delegates attending to hear an exciting set of talks about mental health and social care research. Professor Stefan Priebe gave a fascinating keynote session on initial findings from the Involve project (Outcomes of Involuntary Hospital Admissions in England) to a mixed audience of researchers, service users and health care

professionals. This project ran very successfully within the AWP region and is one of the first MHRN projects to be completed and so to hear about the findings was most rewarding.

West Hub of the UK Mental Health Research Network (MHRN) provides the NHS infrastructure to support both non-commercial and commercial research in mental health, including clinical trials. If you are interested in finding out more please contact Clair Dunbavand, Hub administrator on 0117 3310921 or clair.dunbavand@bristol.ac.uk

Peninsula Medical School

The Mental Health Research Group has expanded and has several current external research grants totalling approximately £700,000. With this group and DDREG now well established, the medium term future of mental health research in the Peninsula is assured. The other positive development is the appointment of Dr Tamsin Ford, the first university academic appointment at the PMS. She is a Consultant in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.



The South West Mentoring Scheme

Dr Charles Montgomery

Roll up, roll up the SW Mentoring Scheme has been re-launched and is looking to recruit members who've been in substantive consultant posts for a minimum of five years! Like to travel the world, stay in luxury hotels, wining and dining with stimulating company? Then this is (possibly) not for you. Like to offer a supportive relationship to a newly appointed colleague, meet up once a month to mull over the pitfalls and opportunities that the consultant role has to offer? Then mentoring could just be the interesting career development that you are looking for.

What better way to find out more than by attending the first annual residential mentoring training workshop to be held at **Coombe Lodge** on the 2nd and 3rd June.

Dr Alan Swann and Dr Nancy Redfern both from Newcastle are experienced trainers in mentoring skills and we're delighted that they're able to bring their workshop to the SW. Please contact Pat McPhee for a registration form.

Please do make yourself known to one of your local mentoring coordinators (below) if you would like more information and think you might be interested in joining the scheme:

Hayley Richards, A&W Partnership

Julie Parker A&W Partnership

Andrew Clark, A&W Partnership

Leilia Cooke, Bath & NE Somerset

Paul Winterbottom, Gloucester Partnership

Fiona Murphy, Plymouth PCT

Sara Cunningham, Plymouth PCT

Glenn Roberts, Devon Partnership
Waqar Ahmed, Somerset Partnership
Mike Metcalfe, Cornwall Partnership
Giles Richards, Cornwall Partnership

(Actually we do have travel, well Somerset. Luxury, Coombe Lodge for those of you who have not been is a beautiful and relaxing venue. And there will be wining and dining with undoubtedly stimulating company!)

Wanted

Deputy Regional Advisor

Peninsula Deanery

Applications are invited for the above position.

A job description and further details can be obtained from Pat McPhee. Applications are by CV and a 200 word statement indicating your five priorities for the position.

Applications should be sent to Pat McPhee at the Division office
 Dr Keith Dudleston is the Regional Advisor for the Peninsula Deanery.

Images of Psychiatry

Angela Rouncefield

Congratulations to Dr Clare Short (Bristol) whose submission was successful.

A 25 minute play to educate school children about self harm has been commissioned and written.

The Myrtle Theatre Company in Bristol give the first full performance to all the PERSONAL HEALTH AND SOCIAL EDUCATION OFFICERS IN BRISTON THE TH 27TH JUNE 2008. It will be followed by a workshop to enable them to support children as they see the play. The play will then be taken round schools in Bristol. It will be possible for the process to be repeated so that children in other countries can benefit.

YOU CAN HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR A TASTER AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IN LONDON ON THE 3RD JULY 2008.

Retired Doctors Peer Groups

Angela Rouncefield

Are you a retired working doctor finding difficulty joining a peer group? A number of groups have been set up around the region so if you would like to join one please contact Pat McPhee who will put you in touch with me. Together we should be able to find something suitable for you.



“Can we help you find a peer group?”

Retired Doctors (working and not working) Autumn Event

Angela Rouncefield

Once a year a reunion is held for retired doctors (and their wives, husbands, partners, friends, etc) in the south west and this year will be our 8th get together. It is good to meet up with old colleagues, share lunch and hear news from around the region. One of the highlights of the day is when short presentations are given on anything other than medicine. These have been entertaining, interesting, informative and lively.

Our reunion this year will be at the Mount

Pleasant Inn in Dawlish Warren as usual where the fare is good and the sea air refreshing. The date is Saturday, 11th October so please put this in your diary with a view to joining up with colleagues and friends from around the division.

Further information will be circulated in the summer together with an application form. Bed and breakfast is available at the Inn and there is further accommodation within the grounds (details with the flyer).



Mount Pleasant Inn, Dawlish

Medical Education News

Robin Arnold

We are in a period of transition affecting all grades from medical school to continuing professional development and even into retirement. At the centre of these changes are our regulatory bodies; the GMC and the Postgraduate Medical Education and Training Board (PMETB). There is presently a redefining of the doctor's role and of professionalism which is reflected in the structures of the NHS, New Ways of Working, attitudes of the public and of medical training and licensing. Increasing rigour is expected not only in how we practice but also how we train and develop future and present doctors. Medical school curricula have been profoundly rewritten, the foundation two-year programme is in place (and seems unlikely to be abolished), specialist training is in the process of change and revalidation is being developed and will soon be introduced. Soon we will have to prove our competence regularly in order to be allowed to continue to practice.

The imposition of PMETB by the government has profoundly changed the relationship between Trusts, the Royal Colleges, the NHS (including SHAs and Deaneries) and government. It is now planned that it be amalgamated with the General Medical Council. This will achieve a unified regulatory body covering the whole of medical training. After initially being cut out of the picture by PMETB the colleges are now being asked to play a significant role in the recertification of doctors as well as setting the curricula and playing their part in the quality assurance of medical education. Strate-

gic Health Authorities govern and fund the Regional Deaneries and Schools have been set up in each medical speciality in each deanery. The schools of psychiatry in the southwest have substantial input from members of the college and from the trusts. They will be responsible for postgraduate psychiatric training and its quality assurance.

The core curriculum has been substantially rewritten by the College using the CanMed layout which is much better than the duties of a doctor previously used. It will be smaller and simpler than the previous one therefore less precise. It will concentrate much more on observable behaviours, attitudes and knowledge. It will be expected that training posts will demonstrate what curriculum they deliver and how they do this. Its publication is imminent.

Royal College exams are now accepted back in the fold. The new exams structure is in place with three written and the Clinical Assessment of Skills and Competencies exams. New criteria are being developed for eligibility for the exams which will place less emphasis on Training posts completed but will be more restrictive on overall timescale within which the exam will have to be completed. There is a belief that endless repeating of the exam is not a road to improved quality. There are to be annual appraisals based on the well established RITAs which will determine whether and how the trainee will progress.

All this represents a significant swing back to an acceptance of the need for

time in training and away from a simplistic belief that training and the definition of completion of training could be defined solely by a set of competences.

Continuing professional development will be brought into sharp relief as revalidation begins to be introduced from the end of this year. It is to be viewed as two outcomes from one process. The GMC will give everybody a license to practise this winter which will then need to be renewed. Colleges will be in charge of recertification (on the specialist register). This will include a 360° appraisal and other mechanisms still to be developed. The GMC will dictate their core for relicensure. At present the debate is how to make it valid but not onerous. Whether it should pick out bad apples or focus on the development of all. Whether they should be a pass/fail elements versus remediation. Each of these different concepts interrelate. Issues that are bound to prove controversial is the GMC's proposal that appraisal should become more summative than formative (assessment rather than developmental) and whether to include examinations.

Appointed to Fellowship

Congratulations to the following members who have been awarded Fellowship of the College:

Dr Chris Fear

Dr Kate Lovett

Dr Laurence Mynors-Wallis

Fellowship

The closing date for nomination to

Fellowship is the 30th September and further details together with a nomination form can be obtained from

<http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/training/postgraduateeducation/collegefellowship.aspx>

MRCPsych exam passes

Congratulations to the following doctors who achieved their MRCPsych recently

Dr D M Brunskill

Dr V M Immadisetty

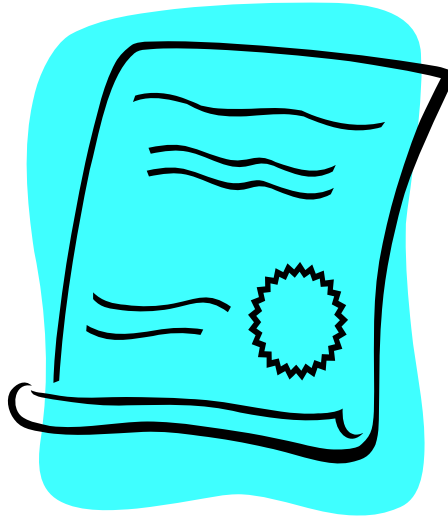
Dr E K Kelson

Dr O S Khan

Dr T V Newlove

Dr L I Sinclair

Dr K Thyarappa Praveen



Annual dinner for new Fellows and Members of the SW Division

A new initiative for 2008 is the introduction of the South West Division Annual Dinner. This is an opportunity to invite and acknowledge the achievement of those members in our region who have achieved Fellowship. We will also be taking this opportunity to welcome new members to our Division and those who have achieved their MRCPsych.



There will be some spaces available for existing members to attend and anyone interested can obtain details from Pat or Angela at the division office. All applications will be dealt with on a first come first served basis.

*Annual dinner on Friday, 20th
June at Coombe Lodge,
Blagdon, North Somerset.*

Obituaries

It is with regret that we advise members that the following people have passed away over the last year.

Dr T Siva Raja Singham – Retired Affiliate

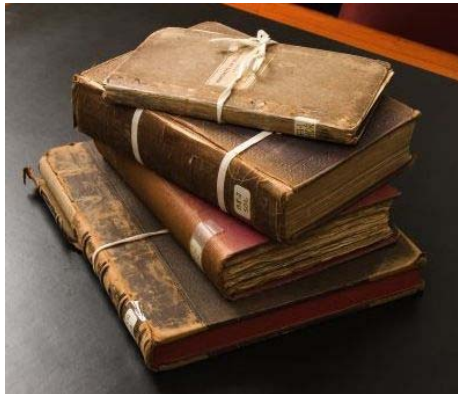
Dr Douglas Paine – Retired Member

Dr Kenneth Weeks – Retired Fellow

Adopt a book

An opportunity to contribute towards the history of psychiatry and the College.

This scheme is aimed at raising funds for the conservation and repair of the College's antiquarian book collection. The collection consists of rare books with some dating as far back as the 15th century. Most of the books were donated to the Medico-Psychological Association, a predecessor body of the College in 1895 as gifts or bequests towards the development of the library. Donations mainly came from the libraries of Doctors Daniel Hack Tuke, J Lord, C Lockhart Robertson and J Whitwell. The collection also contains books written by notable authors such as John Charles Bucknill, Henry Maudsley, John Connolly, Sigmund Freud, and includes the first editions in both English and German of the complete works of Emil Kraepelin, as well as a collection of 18th century psychiatric dissertations on mental illnesses. It is an important source of informa-



tion on the history of psychiatry, mental illness and learning disability.

The appeal for donations is directed at members and fellows of the College, and anyone who is interested in restoring and conserving the collection to a condition suitable for its use by

researchers and historians, and in its preservation as part of our national heritage. We would like to thank all those who have generously donated to the scheme so far, and look forward to your continued support.

To obtain a full list of books to be adopted and a donation form, please go to www.rcpsych.ac.uk/college/archives/adopt-a-book or contact

Francis Maunze
The Archivist
Royal College of Psychiatrists
17 Belgrave Square
London SW1X 8PG
Tel: 020 7235 2351
Email: archives@rcpsych.ac.uk

Fair deal for mental health campaign update

Neil Balmer

We are delighted that the Minister for mental health, Ivan Lewis MP, will be officially launching the Fair Deal for mental health campaign on July 2nd at 1pm at the Annual Meeting, with the President, Professor Sheila Hollins and representatives from our service user and carers' forums.

Fair Deal will set out the College's policy priorities for mental health services in the United Kingdom which are:

- Funding
- Access to Service
- In-Patient Services
- Recovery and Rehabilitation
- Discrimination and Stigma
- Engagement with service users and carers
- Availability of psychological therapies
- Linking mental and physical therapies

and will engage with service users and carers, outside organisations, Parliamentarians and the media to work together towards achieving a fair deal for those with mental health problems.

We would welcome input from all interested members prior to the launch and throughout the three year campaign period, particularly to give Divisional perspective on each priority area. For more information on the campaign please contact Neil Balmer at nbalmer@rcpsych.ac.uk

New Specialist Associate Grade

The College is delighted to announce the launch of the new grade of Specialist Associateship and to invite applications at this time.

Specialist Associateship of the College is open to registered medical practitioners working in the United Kingdom and who meet the following criteria:

- At least 5 years experience in psychiatry.
- Specialist training which has been assessed in the United Kingdom as being at least equivalent to a full programme of specialist training in psychiatry in the United Kingdom.
- Support from two sponsors who are subscribing Members or Fellows of the Royal College of Psychiatrists.
- Support from the Chair of the College Division in which the applicant is working at the time of application (the College will submit completed forms to Divisional Chairs on behalf of applicants).

You can download information and application forms from <http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/members/aboutmembership.aspx#specialist>
The normal initial registration fee for 2008 (£165) will be waived for all applications processed during 2008



The Edge

Charles Montgomery

They emerge outside the hospital
Dazed by our day,
In dressing gown and slippers,
The pale ones,
Searching the sunlight
For something familiar:
The bright cars and brisk
Comings and goings of life.
Behind them doors slide,
Shadows shelve steeply
And shoes squeak on tiles
As the mundane criss-crosses
With something more fragile.
And no one knows quite

Where the edge begins,
This strange overlap,
But all through the day
They gather
At the buildings entrance:
Anonymous filed numbers,
To lean against warm walls
And breathe town air
And to stand blinking away
The minutes
Of wide blue spaces,
While the dust passes
Unnoticed,
In and out of light.



*Royal College of
Psychiatrists*

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***If you would like to submit
an article for the next issue
of the South West Division
Newsletter please send it to
Pat McPhee by the
30th September to***

pmcphee@southwestdiv.rcpsych.ac.uk

***The South West Division
Newsletter, keeping you in-
formed of what is going on in
your region***

Disclaimer—the opinions expressed in this Newsletter are those of individual authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Royal College of Psychiatrists.



We are on the web!
***[http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/college/
divisions/southwest.aspx](http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/college/divisions/southwest.aspx)***

