



Skin Voice

Society news and views
Spring 2010

Brought to you by the Dermatology Continuing Professional Development Society

2009 Annual Meeting Review

The 2009 meeting went without a hitch - there were no rock bands sound-checking, no rugby players in the hotel distracting the audience, no airport protests and no severe weather warnings!



Helen Pugsley and her tutor posse

Held at the stunning Holland House Hotel in Cardiff the meeting kicked off with its usual DPD tutor meeting. It was great to see so many tutors in attendance and to get feedback on some of the new style assignments.

The theme of the Friday afternoon session was Non-Melanoma Skin Cancer. Dr Richard Turner (hailed as 'the new Tony Burns' by one attendee) from Oxford and Dr Gunther Hofbauer (surely the tallest man in dermatology?) from Zurich led the way with their talks on the management of SCCs and AKs.



Dr Richard Turner

The afternoon session concluded with our usual live surgery corner with Dr Vindy Ghura at the helm and Dr



Focus on SCCs with Dr Richard Turner

Morris performing the procedure assisted by Str. Sue Parks. Dr Morris demonstrated his skill in multitasking

as he expertly dealt with the problem of the seemingly never ending ooze from the wound edge as a result of warfarin (the lengths we go to to demonstrate pitfalls in surgery!) whilst making witty remarks aimed at Dr Ghura. Dr Ghura held his own and his rebuttals were equally ingenious - if these two ever tire of their day jobs, a career in showbiz is definitely for them! In between the friendly banter, the audience was imparted with the useful pearls of wisdom in dealing with cutaneous surgery.

As the session overran, Dr Ghura had to give an abridged version of his talk on Mistakes and Margins in the Management of BCCs which was much appreciated by the audience. The surgical session received rave reviews and we hope to have an even more exciting surgery session in 2010!

Friday night we celebrated 20 years of the DPD course with a dinner and dance in the Balmoral suite. Prof Andrew Finlay and his wife made an appearance and he gave a wonderful speech about the origin of the DPD.



Dr Maria Gonzalez with our DPD20 first prize winner

It was especially nice to have in attendance some past students who graduated from the very first DPD class. The speeches were complimented by a prize giveaway for some lucky attendees, some good food and even better dancing! Dr Hofbauer showed off his awesome salsa moves and put the rest of us to shame!



Dr Ru Gamanya with her dancing partner Gunther

Continued overleaf.

After a night of champagne and Welsh food, the Saturday morning breakout sessions were a bit too early for a minor few (I won't name names!), but those who attended thoroughly enjoyed them.

The usual dermoscopy session from our two favourite Italians, was another great success. Prof. Geppi Argenziano and Dr Iris Zalaudek once again had the audience engrossed.



Prof. Giuseppe Argenziano
& Dr Iris Zalaudek

This year's session was an advanced version of their previous dermoscopy sessions and presented the audience with an opportunity to update their knowledge. One attendee commented that these two enthusiasts present their subject "with such passion and knowledge it can do nothing else but stimulate you into learning more and more on the topic". The much anticipated quiz ended with an image of a pigmented lesion on the sole of the foot. Geppi asked for audience help as he and Iris had differing opinions in the management of this lesion. The audience voted to monitor the lesion instead of excising it, much to the relief of Geppi who then revealed that the image was of his own foot! He has promised us an update at his next session. Those of you who attended this session may be interested in taking part in the new Short Course in Dermoscopy launching this year (*see back page for details*).

The Occupational Dermatology breakout session was presented by three lovely ladies - Nurse Practitioner Jen Paterson, Dr Natalie Stone (both from



Jen Paterson, Dr Natalie Stone
& Dr Anne-Marie O'Donnell

Newport) and Dr Anne-Marie O'Donnell (Oxford). The session began after a minor technical hitch that was swiftly rectified. It was very informative to know the different allergens that are around in every day life.

Their session was full of practical tips which was very much appreciated by the participants and we look forward to having similar sessions in the future.

Dr Maria Gonzalez, debuted her much anticipated session on Botulinum Toxin A. The morning was divided between the use of Botox in the treatment of hyperhidrosis and its uses in aesthetic practice. By the sheer number



Dr Maria Gonzalez

of people wanting to attend this session and the excellent reviews, we may have to run this session again much sooner than originally thought!

After a hearty lunch and some networking with our sponsors, we finished off the day with the



The usual suspects

difficult cases segment - who ever thought that difficult cases could be so fascinating?

One of these riveting sessions was presented by Dr Naomi Kemp, a London-based GP and DPD graduate. We are looking for a speaker to fill this GP slot again at the next meeting so if you are interested, please get in touch.



Dr Naomi Kemp

The icing on the cake to this great weekend was Wales beating Argentina 33-16 in the rugby!

Hope to see you all again on November 19th & 20th 2010.

Date for your diary

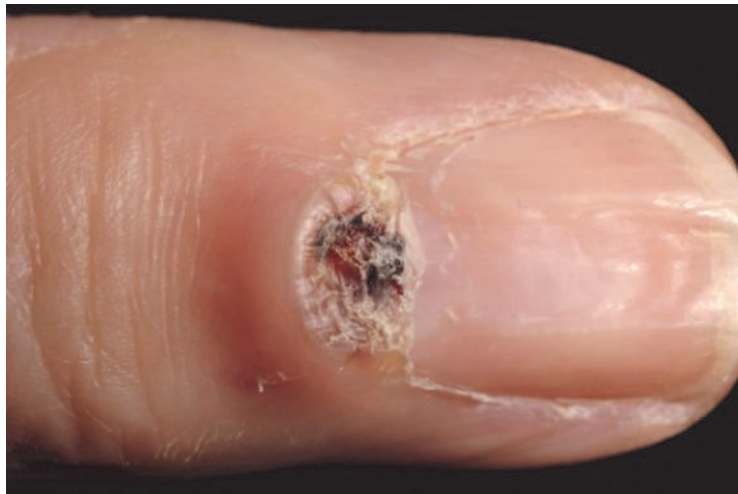
The next Annual Meeting will be taking place on **November 19th & 20th 2010 once again** at the Mercure Holland House Hotel in Cardiff.

More details to be announced shortly.

What's this?

A 54 year old female patient presents with a solitary asymptomatic dome-shaped lesion on the proximal nail fold of the right index finger. This occasionally discharges clear fluid. She's otherwise fit and well.

If you have an interesting case you'd like to share, email it to williamsrm@cardiff.ac.uk



Awards Update

Following on from the success at the June 2009 Times Higher Education Leadership and Management Awards (THELMA's), the department decided to try for another award at the November Times Higher Awards.

Unfortunately, we didn't win but it was a great honour to once again be shortlisted.

Cardiff University were also shortlisted for the Serendipity Award.

This is a benign ganglion cyst of uncertain aetiology typically located at the distal interphalangeal joint or proximal nail fold. They commonly occur in the fifth to seventh decades and are usually asymptomatic hence do not require treatment. Longitudinal grooving or depression of the nail occurs when the cyst involves the posterior nail fold. Intermittent spontaneous discharge of viscous, gelatinous fluid may occur. If painful, treatment with needling, steroid injections, cryotherapy, surgery or CO2 laser can be applied.

Diagnosis: Digital myxoid cyst

Answer to "What's this?"

Competitions

In the last issue of *Skin Voice* we ran a poetry competition to celebrate twenty years of the

DPD₂₀

Diploma in Practical Dermatology course. Competition was fierce but unfortunately there can only be one winner. The winning entry is below and the prize is in the post!

Poetry Competition

And the winner is... **Dr Denis Bartrum** from Queensland in Australia.

Finlay's Syndrome

Have you heard of Finlay's syndrome?

I see you look askance

Is it cancer of the blood or bone?

Is it like St Vitus' dance?

No, none of these the quick reply

It's caught by some physicians

Who stay inside and read and sigh!

D...P....D.....ACQUISITION!

Well done to all those who entered and look out for more competitions in future editions of *Skin Voice*.

MSc in Clinical Dermatology

In November 2009, fourteen students graduated from the full-time MSc in Clinical Dermatology course, with two of those students achieving a distinction grade. The end of the course was marked with a post-viva buffet held in the department in Cardiff.

Congratulations to all the MSc graduates and good luck for the future!

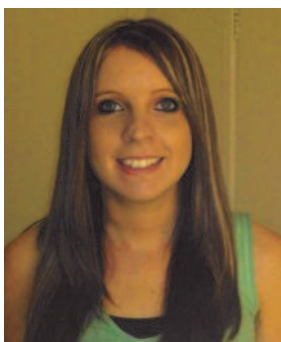


The graduating class with the Cardiff DCD team

Meet the Cardiff Admin Team

Kay Wilkes

Kay Wilkes joined the department in September 2009 as a Postgraduate Courses Coordinator. Kay's primary role in the department is the coordinator for international students studying on the DPD course.



Born in Burton-on-Trent in the Midlands (the home of the Bass/Coors Brewery), Kay moved to Cardiff in 2000 to attend Cardiff University as a student. She graduated in 2004 with a BA in Education.

Kay's hobbies include painting, and reading and watching crime thrillers.

Abrar Ullah

Abrar has been working as Programmer/Server Administrator in the Postgraduate Deanery since August 2008 and joined the department part time in February 2010 to cover Sonia Maurer's maternity leave.



He was born in Peshawar in Pakistan and completed a BSc in Physics and Computer Science in 1997 and an MSc in Computer Science in 2000.

Amongst other things, Abrar has worked as a Computer Programmer and System Analyst in the Khyber Teaching Hospital Peshawar Pakistan and as a Search Engine Optimization Analyst & Developer for a Retail Company in London.

Short Course in Dermoscopy

We are very pleased to announce that the Short Course in Dermoscopy has launched successfully in March 2010 with a full intake.



This 12-week online course is designed specifically for physicians who are involved in the care of dermatology patients with skin lesions, who are interested in the management of benign and malignant skin lesions, or who wish to learn about dermoscopy to improve their skill in the diagnosis of melanoma.

Geppi and Iris, alongside other international experts, will be making significant contributions to this course so you can be certain of the standard of teaching you can expect.



Prof. Giuseppe Argenziano
& Dr Iris Zalaudek

You don't need to have completed the DPD or DCD/DDSc to be eligible for this course, just a physician interested in the subject, so please tell your friends and colleagues!

Intakes scheduled for:

September 2010 - 50 places available

March 2011 - 50 places available

September 2011 - 50 places available

Information correct at time of going to press.

To download the prospectus or to apply online go to www.dermatology.org.uk

And finally...

If you would like to share any DPD stories, memories or anecdotes from the past 20 years (or any other news, articles or important dates), please send them to the editor:

Ruth Williams, Department of Dermatology, Cardiff University, 3rd Floor Glamorgan House, Heath Park, Cardiff, CF14 4XN (williamsrm@cf.ac.uk)

Submissions for the next issue should reach the department no later than April 30th 2010.



**DEPARTMENT OF
DERMATOLOGY**
CARDIFF UNIVERSITY