

# Devon Local Medical Committees

Newsletter Issue No 23

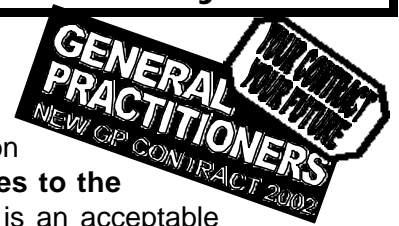
July 2002



## Chief Officer's Corner

### BALLOTS, IT'S ALL BALLOTS!!

Today, Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July, the results came in by email! In the ballot on the new proposed new GMS contract, **75.8 per cent of GPs voted yes to the question:** "Do you believe that the new GMS contractual framework is an acceptable basis on which to proceed to the next stage of detailed negotiations and the preparation of a priced contract on which the profession will be balloted?" **24.2 per cent voted no.**



Some 500 came to Dawlish in May to hear Dr Tony Calland from the GPC and it is evident that the majority left determined to give the GPC the all clear to go to the next stage of negotiations. LMC Conference in June gave firm instruction as to what would not be acceptable in future particularly around pensions and made it clear that there were specific areas to be tidied up and that, at all costs, the price must be right! I believe the GPC heard and Dr John Chisholm, chairman of the BMA's General Practitioners Committee has said: *"This significant 'yes' vote leaves no doubt that GPs want the new contract framework taken forward to further detailed negotiations and pricing. When this is done, a second ballot of the profession will be held to see if the final package is acceptable to family doctors."* We will wait and see what comes down the line – I hope it will be better than the train service to the South West!!

### ALL PRAISE – APPRAISAL COMETH!!

This subject has taken up far too much time for everybody who has been remotely involved in it. Why on Earth could it not have been properly funded with ring-fenced funds available up front and the timing left locally so that it is not a damp squib that helps nobody. Be that as it may some of the PCTs are either ready or very nearly ready to go, with both the funds pulled out from somewhere and sufficient trained and appropriate GPs who are happy to take on the task. In Exeter Nick Bradley and the LMC have agreed to launch the process and I commend the commonsense of agreeing that if appraisal is appraisee centred that an appraisee should be able to choose their approved appraiser. This will allay many of the very real fears that some GPs have about the process. It must be genuinely supportive, formative and educative and I have faith that throughout Devon it will be. Several models will be needed because of differing circumstances but with goodwill on all sides it will work as it should to make positive contributions to the working lives of GPs and improve patient care.

### MOVING TIMES

Whilst I was away in France at the end of June staying at Mike Anderson's cottage in Chinon (highly recommended and advertised in past copies of purple pages!) the Secretariat team moved the office successfully to Deer Park Business Centre in Kennford. The offices are part of an ex nursing home and are newly converted.

Indeed the work to finish continues as I type! We have the LPCs with us and space to expand services in the future. It is probable that we will be able to offer a quiet haven to practices wanting time away from the surgery to think and plan and for occasional educational purposes. The move was forced by the end of our old lease but will prove a boon for the future.

## IN THIS ISSUE:

New GP Contract.....	1
LMC Secretariat "Move".....	1
Financial News for GPs .....	2
Sexual Abuse Helpline.....	2
Royal Medical Foundation.....	2
New Hospital for Newton Abbot .....	3
North Devon LMC Chair – Dr Mark Wood.....	3
Sir James Cameron Award – Local Winner .....	3
Vacancies.....	4
Tender for Provision of PMS.....	6
Passport Acceptable Countersignatures.....	8

Devon LMC NEWS

## Financial News for GPs

The GPC were pleased to inform us on 15 July that John Hutton had announced the following after negotiation with them:

- ❖ Implementation of the golden goodbye (now called delayed retirement) scheme. This is a little different from the proposal outlined last year. Now GPs in England aged between 60 and 65 years of age will receive £2,000 for each year they remain in post up until the age of 65 years. [Please note that the GPC have put the case that this money should be extended beyond 65 years of age.] This will be backdated to 1 October 2001 and so those who were aged 60 to 65 on that date will still benefit.
- ❖ An extension of the GP retainer fee so that it is now payable when a GP retainer is on sick, maternity or annual leave.
- ❖ An amendment to the seniority payment rules. This removes the qualifying period previously imposed on those who have taken a career break of six months or more.

## Sexual Abuse Helpline



The LMC would like to thank Ann James, Chief Executive of Plymouth PCT, for passing on advice about the new service for Devon patients. The Sexual Abuse Line, which in part replaces the service, lost with the closure of the Exeter Rape and Sexual Abuse Service approximately two years ago. The Sexual Abuse Line started operating on 28 May this year and if you have any patients who may benefit from this service they can contact the Line Freephone on 0800 800 0188 between 7.00pm and 10.00pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. This Service is available for people who are over the age of 16 and also for partners, families and friends who may need help and support. The Service can also be contacted through their Manager, Ms Veronica Beckett, Sexual Abuse Line, PO Box 325, Exeter EX1 1WQ. Telephone: 01392 254575. I am sure Ms Beckett will be happy to discuss the service with GPs or Nurses who wish further information.

## The Royal Medical Foundation

The Foundation was founded in 1851 by Dr John Propert to help medical practitioners and their dependants who find themselves in financial hardship.

We give practical assistance in three forms:

- ❖ Regular payments to doctors and their families
- ❖ The payment of grants when emergencies arise in a wide variety of circumstances such as illness, death, separation and divorce
- ❖ Assisting the education of children (to maintain educational stability at times of crisis in the family) through part payment of school fees

The Foundation Administrator, Epsom College, Epsom, Surrey KT17 4JQ. Tel: 01372 821011. Fax: 01372 821013. Email: [rmf@epsomcollege.org.uk](mailto:rmf@epsomcollege.org.uk)

## The New Hospital in Newton Abbot

I am sure most of our readers in the Teignbridge area will be aware that an alternative site has been found for the rebuild of Newton Abbot Hospital and, as a cricketer, I am delighted that the central Cricketfield site is no longer at risk. Of course to close down a sports field wouldn't help in achieving some of the other targets of the Trust so I would like to congratulate them on finding an alternative site. This will be in the Jetty Marsh area of Newton Abbot and it will be some 4 years perhaps before the hospital will be ready to open to business.



### Comings and Goings May – July 2002

Welcome to:	Goodbye to:
<p><b>Dr George Baxter</b>, Redfern HC, Salcombe  <b>Dr Ann Saunders</b>, Honiton Surgery  <b>Dr Sarah Hanrott</b>, Old Farm Surgery, Paignton  <b>Dr Tracey O'Leary</b>, Friary House Surgery, Plymouth  <b>Dr Richard Pidsley</b>, Bishop's Place Surgery, Paignton  <b>Dr Jane Pitman</b>, Ridgeway Practice, Plympton  <b>Dr Robert Whitehead</b>, Richmond House Surgery, Teignmouth  <b>Dr Ian Morris</b>, Leatside Surgery, Totnes  <b>Dr Gerard T' Hart</b>, Pathfields Practice, Plympton</p>	<p><b>Dr Jeremy Gibson</b>, Honiton Surgery  <b>Dr George Wander</b>, Bishop's Place Surgery, Paignton  <b>Dr Ramanath Pai</b>, Sutherland Road Surgery, Plymouth  <b>Dr Erica Watts</b>, Chatto Road Surgery, Torquay  <b>Dr Clive Long</b>, Channel View Surgery, Teignmouth</p>
	<p><b>Dr Nigel Scott</b> has changed the name of his surgery to  <b>THE NOVA SURGERY</b>,            Estover HC, Leypark Walk, Plymouth</p>

## Dr Mark Wood's Introduction as North Devon LMC Chair

In April I took over the Chairmanship of the North Devon Subcommittee of the Devon LMC. The job was previously done by Dr Nigel Brennan of the Queens Medical Centre in Barnstaple, and a huge debt of thanks is owed to him for his long service to the LMC. I served for seven years on the North & East Devon LMC alongside Nigel, for whom I have great respect.

My time with the LMC began as a new junior principal, when my senior partner went on sabbatical and asked if I would like to step into his LMC shoes while he was away, and I have been doing it ever since! I never for one moment imagined that I would become involved in medical politics. The mere words are enough to cure an insomniac, but I soon found that working through the LMC offers a real opportunity to improve the working lives of ordinary honest GPs. There are times when these efforts are not apparent to those who benefit, but to work with an organisation that is run by GPs for GPs is a huge honour.

In a world of such flux in which we are surrounded by so many potential threats, the steady support of the LMC is an ultimate constant that is so appreciated by our members. My aim over the coming weeks and months is to find ways of involving grass roots doctors (principals and non-principals) by disseminating information and garnering opinion, mainly through electronic communications. It is also important to raise the profile of the LMC particularly in view of our forthcoming elections.

So if you are reading this and thinking that medical politics is about as interesting as a wet Thursday in Scunthorpe then think again. Why not stand for election and help to improve the lives of countless colleagues? You might just be surprised.



### Sir James Cameron Award

Congratulations to Dr Nicola Toynton of Yealmpton on being the joint winner of the 2002 Award! It is good to note that the articles over the years in Purple Pages encouraging readers to put forward their colleagues has borne fruit for Nicola!

PRACTICE	VACANCIES
<p><b>Drs. Beer, Bowman, Brown, Wielink &amp; Burke</b>  <b>Chulmleigh Health Centre</b>  <b>Three Crossways</b>  <b>Chulmleigh</b>  <b>Devon</b>  <b>EX18 7AA</b>  <b>Tel: 01769 580269</b></p>	<p><b>Partner (½ time) - Chulmleigh</b></p> <p>We are seeking to recruit a half-time Partner to join our existing team of 5 Partners (4 W.T.E.)</p> <p>We are an exciting, innovative, dispensing practice in the heart of rural Devon, serving a population of approx. 6,000 patients. Our main site is due to move to new, purpose-built premises in Spring 2003 and we also have dedicated, recently refurbished premises at our branch surgery 8 miles away. Both sites are fully computerised (EMIS) and we are a paper-light practice.</p> <p>We are fully supported by an excellent multi-disciplinary team and strong network of administrative staff. Specialist services/clinics offered include asthma/COPD, diabetes, coronary heart disease, teenage health and advice, child health, antenatal, well woman/man.</p> <p><b>Closing date: Noon, Friday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2002</b>  Please apply in writing enclosing CV to:  Mrs Denise Pugsley, Practice Manager.</p>
<p><b>Walnut Lodge Surgery</b>  <b>Walnut Road</b>  <b>Chelston</b>  <b>Torquay</b>  <b>TQ2 6HP</b>  <b>Tel: 01803 605359.</b></p>	<p><b>Full or Three-Quarter-Time Replacement Partner - Torquay (Job share considered) 1 October 2002</b></p> <p>Required, due to retirement, to join existing team of three in an innovative training practice working from purpose converted premises on the English Riviera serving a list of about 5,000 patients.</p> <p>We are a young, friendly team in a fully computerised paperless practice and higher targets are reached. The successful candidate will be an enthusiast with a good sense of fun, excellent communication skills and is likely to hold the MRCGP or equivalent.</p> <p>Please send CV together with a handwritten covering letter to Jean Waring, Practice Manager.</p>
<p><b>Dr Palin &amp; Partners</b>  <b>St Budeaux Health Centre</b>  <b>Stirling Road</b>  <b>Plymouth</b>  <b>PL5 1PL</b>  <b>Tel: 01752 361010</b></p>	<p><b>Salaried GP</b></p> <p>We are a long established 6-doctor practice in the west of Plymouth.</p> <p>On 1 April 2002 we became a PMS Practice and are now looking for a salaried GP (full-time/part-time) to commence 1 October 2002.</p> <p><b>£55,000 per annum</b></p> <p>Hours and conditions are negotiable as we are prepared to be flexible and will be discussed at interview.</p> <p>The practice has a full primary care team.</p> <p>We are in the process of redevelopment to a new build in partnership with Plymouth PCT.</p> <p>The incoming GP would be expected to cover minor ops. CHS and obstetrics.</p> <p>The practice uses the 'Vision' computer system.</p> <p>Further details from: Dr Jo Butcher or Mrs Rose Davies or apply in writing with CV to Rose Davies</p>

<p><b>Dr J Collier, The Surgery</b>  <b>44 Sutherland Road</b>  <b>Mutley</b>  <b>Plymouth</b>  <b>PL14 6BN</b>  <b>Tel: 01752 662992</b></p>	<p><b>12-Month Fixed Term Part-time Partnerships (2) in the first instance (possibility of extension) to commence 1 October, negotiable</b></p> <p>Two half-time Partners required to join practice in Central Plymouth due to retirement of Dr Pai in June 2002.</p> <p>No outlay (initial or otherwise) for surgery premises, furnishings or equipment.</p> <p>This enables participation in continuous care in family practice with flexibility of time available for outside locums, domestic commitments, study or other interests, and time counting to seniority, superannuation with full PGEA available.</p> <p>At the end of 12 months free of all commitments unless extending. Further details available on request. Visits welcome. Applications with CV to: Mrs Shirley Carey, Practice Manager, by end of August.</p>
<p><b>Collings Park Medical Centre</b>  <b>57 Eggbuckland Road</b>  <b>Plymouth</b>  <b>PL3 5JR</b>  <b>Tel: 01752 771500</b></p>	<p><b>Part-time Practice Manager 2/3 days per week</b></p> <p>Required for a medium sized Practice in the pleasant Hartley suburbs of Plymouth.</p> <p>Salary to be agreed and dependant on experience. NHS &amp; GP management experience preferable but not essential.</p> <p>Small, friendly team + EMIS computer system.</p> <p>Duties involve co-ordinating Surgery workload as well as developing IT systems and monitoring Practice finances.</p> <p>Letter of application with CV to Dr John Hambly, Senior Partner.</p>
<p><b>Kingsteignton Medical Practice</b>  <b>Whiteway Road</b>  <b>Kingsteignton</b>  <b>Newton Abbot</b>  <b>TQ12 3HN</b>  <b>Tel: 01626 883300</b></p>	<p><b>Salaried Doctor in South Devon (2)</b>  <i>Salary £50k - £55k per annum, depending on experience</i>  <i>Initially posts are available until March 2004</i></p> <p>We are looking for two salaried Doctors, one as a replacement for an outgoing partner, the other resulting from a successful bid for PMS funding. We are seeking to employ two vocationally trained GPs. The posts are both full-time, 8 sessions per week with no on-call commitment. Sessions may be available in the local co-operative for extra income. The posts are available from 1st October 2002, to be reviewed in March 2004.</p> <p>We are a busy, third wave PMS, innovative, six doctor single site practice, fully computerised (Microtest) in recently redeveloped premises. We operate a full-time Nurse Practitioner led acute service as well as offering a range of GP led specialist clinics. The Practice is situated between Dartmoor and the coast with excellent local services and the opportunity to live in the popular South Devon area.</p> <p>For further information and an application pack please contact – Mr Shaun Alexander, Primary Care Manager. Applications must be received by 16th August. Interviews will take place on 9th September</p>
<p><b>Redfern Health Centre, Shadycome Road, Salcombe, Devon TQ8 8DJ</b>  <b>Tel: 01548 842284</b></p>	<p><b>Full-Time Locum</b></p> <p>Required for sabbatical leave for 3 months with effect from 1 January 2003.</p> <p>Please ring Mrs S Sharp, Practice Manager, for details.</p>
<p><b>The Surgery</b></p>	<p><b>Part-time Replacement Partner – Ashburton</b></p>

**1 Eastern Road  
Ashburton  
TQ13 7AP  
Tel: 01364 652440**

Required for friendly, dispensing and training PMS practice in rural South Devon. Pro-rata share in all aspects of General Practice. Please apply with CV and covering letter to Richard Mitchell, Practice Manager.

**Expressions of interest to submit  
Tender for the provision of Personal Medical Services (PMS)  
in Exwick, Exeter, Devon**

Exeter Primary Care Trust was established in April 2001 and serves a population of approximately 131,000 providing a wide range of primary care and community services. There are 21 primary care practices in the Trust's area, with 82 GPs.

Exeter's population is predicted to grow by 2,000 a year until 2006 as a result of new housing developments and business relocation.

As a result, we seek to establish a new PMS practice serving the Exwick area of the city from April 2003, to enhance the delivery of our local medical services. The new service will complement the existing three medical centres in the area, and serve a population expected to rise to around 4,000 by October 2004.

The provision of appropriate premises is currently under investigation, and we are happy to offer our support and expertise in this area. Further discussions will take place at the pre-tender meeting to be arranged with each interested party

We seek tenders with 'innovative thinking' in the way services are provided. Applications seeking to achieve accreditation would also be welcome - a one-stop centre, for example.

The successful tender will need to prove that it will:

- ❖ Provide PMS services at least equivalent to the terms set out in the NHS (General Medical Services -GMS) Regulations 1992.
- ❖ Establish and achieve practice specific objectives in line with the national agenda, Primary Care Trust Health Improvement Plan and Primary Care Investment Plan.
- ❖ Achieve agreed objectives, reflecting the local agenda and specific needs of Exwick's population.

The tender pack includes the full service specification.

For further information, please contact primary care development manager, Paul Baker, not later than midday on August 30<sup>th</sup> 2002.

Exeter Primary Care Trust  
Dean Clarke House  
Southernhay East  
Exeter  
EX1 1PQ

Tel: 01392 687135  
Fax: 01392 494726  
Email: paul.baker@nedevoha.swest.nhs.uk

## Conferences, Courses and Information

### Exeter Medico-Legal Society Education Division

#### Start with the Basics – Get to the Top

**Medicine and Law for Doctors and Lawyers** – 6 hours CPD applied for  
1-Day Seminar – 27 September 2002 - 9.30 am – 5.30 pm  
Peter Chalk Centre, University of Exeter

Further details from Mr C Poole, Bond Pearce, Darwin House, Southernhay, Exeter EX1 1LA.  
Tel: 01392 211185.

### Gate House

#### *The Freedom of Information Act: How will it affect Mental Health Services?*

Conference – Wednesday 18 September 2002 Central London

Chair: Ray Rowden, Health policy analyst, author and Member,  
NHS Plan Taskforce on Service Equality.

Keynote address: Lord Hunt, Minister for Health with responsibility for Freedom of Information.  
Further details from Gate House, Halsbury House, 35 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1EL.  
Tel: 020 7347 3575.

### NHS Alliance Fifth Annual Conference and Exhibition

#### Vision into Practice – are we getting better?

17 - 18 October 2002 – Harrogate International Centre

This is the largest conference of the year for PCTs and NHS Alliance's view is that we need to be both supportive of PCTs but also ensure that professionals are properly empowered within them.

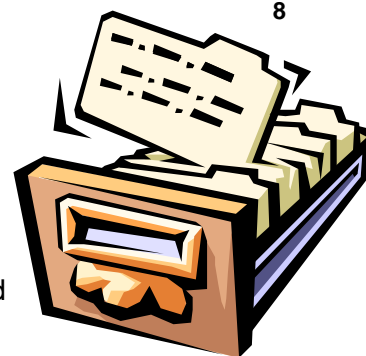
"PCTs are supposed to be "Doctors and nurses in the driving seat" and NHS Alliance intends to ensure that they are just that. The evidence suggests that GPs both in PCTs and at the frontline do not yet feel sufficiently involved and one of the aims of the conference will be to redress the balance. Speakers include Alan Milburn, Nigel Crisp, Liam Donaldson, Michael Rawlins, George Alberti, David Colin Thome, David Haslam, The Czars and a wide range of GPs involved in Primary Care Trusts. There are many reductions to be had for those applying before 31 July. Ask your PCT to support you to attend the conference and show that it values your professional input and is truly committed to the concept of GP empowerment and partnership within PCTs."

For further details contact: Health Links, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Windsor House, 11A High Street, Kings Heath, Birmingham B14 7BB. Tel: 0121 248 3399.

Email: [yhunter@health-links.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:yhunter@health-links.fsnet.co.uk) or Dr Mike Dixon, Chair NHS Alliance

## Automatically Back Up Your Device Drivers

As part of an ongoing series of items on useful and fun pieces of software, I have come across another interesting item. **WinDriver Expert** is FREEWARE, it provides you with an easy and fast detection and backup of the entire hardware device drivers currently on your system. Just one or two mouse button clicks and you will have all your hardware devices traced and backed up to any folder or location you want.



The software is most applicable to those who have lost one or more Driver Disks or Driver CD-ROMs for certain hardware, as long as the hardware device functions correctly on your current system. It is also great for those who like to experiment with their operating systems and then experience major problems getting it all to work again!!! Download the software from - <http://ln.skycn.net/down/DtempWinDrvExpert.zip>

## Passports Acceptable Countersignatures

Some GPs may decide that they do not wish personal details of theirs to appear on the passport applications of others and that therefore they will no longer sign passports for their patients. In that event it could be helpful and prevent unhappiness if they point out where else this work can be done. It would appear that there are a large number of acceptable countersignatures that sign passport photos and they include:

- Accountant
- Articled Clerk of a Limited Company
- Assurance Agent of Recognised Company
- Bank/Building Society Official
- Barrister
- Broker
- Chairman/Director of Limited Company
- Chemist
- Chiropodist
- Christian Science Practitioner
- Commissioner of Oaths
- Councillor: Local or County
- Civil Servant (permanent)
- Dentist
- Engineer (with professional Qualifications)
- Fire Service Official
- Funeral Director
- Insurance agent (full time) of a recognised Company
- Journalist
- Justice of the Peace
- Legal Secretary (members and fellows of the Institute of legal secretaries)
- Local Government Officer Manager/Personnel Officer (of Limited Company)
- Member of Parliament
- Merchant Navy Officer
- Minister of a recognised religion
- Nurse (SRN and SEN)
- Officer of the armed services (Active or Retired)
- Optician
- Person with Honours (eg OBE MBE etc)
- Person with recognised qualification (eg BSc, PhD etc)
- Photographer (Professional)
- Police Officer
- Post Office Official
- President/Secretary of a recognised organisation
- Salvation Army Officer
- Social Worker
- Solicitor
- Surveyor
- Teacher, Lecturer
- Trade Union Officer
- Travel Agency (Qualified)
- Valuers and auctioneers (fellow and associate members of the incorporated society)
- Warrant officers and Chief Petty Officers



Or persons of similar standing to the above, working or retired, are acceptable as counter signatories. More information can be obtained from - [http://www.ukpa.gov.uk/\\_2\\_howtoapply/2\\_completing.htm](http://www.ukpa.gov.uk/_2_howtoapply/2_completing.htm)

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

Please ensure that all future correspondence is sent to our new address at the bottom of this newsletter. The email addresses remain the same but the telephone/fax numbers have changed.