

Devon Local Medical Committees

Newsletter Issue No 25

September/October 2002



Chief Officer's Corner

Devon LMC News

THE IDES OF OCTOBER!

On 15th October the newly reformed Devon LMC has its first meeting and will chose its officers and set its agenda for the future. We have some new members and some old faces stay with us to give the backbone of experience that all organisations need. Having held our first, and with luck, our last "General Election" in the summer we have a significant number of vacancies with some areas weaker than others. We will probably be filling immediate "holes" with co-optees but more may well be needed particularly in Exeter, Mid-Devon and Plymouth. Give me a ring or drop me line or email me if you just wonder if you could be interested!! A full list of members will be included within this year's Annual Report which will soon hit the presses.

The PCTs are now where the "buck stops" for more issues than just a few days ago, and we are well on the way to finding the right people to join the LMC team to work with them even more proactively than we do now. What with this morning's report of a BBC survey of "senior NHS managers" stating that the majority of managers find it hard to achieve many of the nationally driven objectives and also feel unable to speak out when faced by the occasional absurdity it is even more important that the LMC is free to speak out when the Emperor has no clothes! Our new LMC will attempt to keep its eyes open and its views well known!

PMS 5th Wave – Waving not Drowning?



While the profession wait with bated breath for the second stage of the new GMS contract negotiations and pricing to be reported on, the government led push for PMS continues with a 5th wave. John Baker has posted details of guidance and so on, on the website as usual at www.devonlmc.org and if there are any practices who wish to consider PMS whilst awaiting the new GMS contract it is worth you having a look there and discussing your plans with us here at the LMC.

I hope that if the profession get the new GMS contract right that the potential for a dangerous split of the profession into PMS and GMS can be averted. Happily here, in Devon, the two forms of general practitioner continue to work amicably together and we believe that will continue to be the case! (Ever the optimist – Editor)

NHS LIFT in Plymouth

You might think that an NHS LIFT is a way of getting to the higher floors of a hospital, but this particular one is a Local Improvement Finance Trust and Plymouth PCT have been accepted in the 3rd wave of LIFT schemes.

The basic idea is to create a local partnership between the NHS and private sector funders, which will help build and refurbish primary care premises and community facilities. It is another means of general practitioners gaining access to the funds to do new builds and renovations

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where ultimately the accommodation will not be owned by the GPs but leased to them. The LMC and Plymouth PCT have agreed to undertake a survey of all GP premises in Plymouth to see where there are opportunities to improve and modernise and the LMC has agreed to assist the PCT in funding this process through partial use of GMS underspend.

If you have questions about LIFT you can of course come to the LMC, or for a local view from the PCT please contact your LCG manager.

Child Protection – follow up correspondence

Dear Jane

I meant to write earlier in support of Peter Moore's letter but regarding a different aspect. I have had a very unpleasant child sexual abuse case, which exposed so many of the flaws of Devon's system.

1. Child protection meetings are held sequentially at times and locations, which do not take into account the availability of key professionals. Why? I have been told that this is because the lack of funded time for chairs of these meetings requires them to run as many as possible in one day.
2. The police are frequently not present at child protection meetings even when they are heavily involved. They have not liased with health professionals at all in some cases. I have been told that this is because of the level of resourcing of child protection officers.
3. When children are removed from the register conditionally upon something else happening there may be no checks on whether those conditions are met once the child is off the register.
4. Devon openly admits that some children on the register with active problems may not have a social worker allocated to them.
5. There is a clear pressure to remove children from the Child Protection Register if possible.



I can quote cases to support all but point 5 (which would always be a matter of opinion). I would be happy for my comments to appear in the purple pages if you wish.

Phil



Starlight Children's Foundation

We have had notice of an urgent Appeal from the Starlight Children's Foundation, which is effectively a specialised "Jim'll Fix It" type organisation specifically aimed at seriously ill and terminally ill children.

Essentially the Foundation attempt to make the "Starlight Wish" of the sick child come true to help lift their spirits during treatment. They believe this helps the recovery of a number of the children they help and brings some light and joy to the lives of those who

will not recover. If you wish to see more details, try logging on to www.starlight.org.uk for a further view.

Contributions can be sent to Starlight Children's Foundation, Room D2 Macmillan House, Paddington Station, FREEPOST LON16475, London, W2 1ZX.

The Royal Medical Foundation

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

They 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

Addicted Physicians Programme Sick Doctors Trust

You may remember that we mentioned the Sick Doctors Trust to you before and I am passing on information that their website www.sick-doctors-trust.co.uk gives more details of their work, including how to access them if you or any of your colleagues, friends or family might require assistance. The Trust of course receives no statutory funding and gathers all its funds from donations, which can be sent to Sick Doctors Trust, 126 Weybourne Road, Farnham, Surrey GU9 9HD 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.

Medical Secretary – Dr John Dean

The Peninsula Medical School is now with us and we wish its students and staff every success for the future. Several practices in Devon and Cornwall are already involved in providing community placements for undergraduates and it is good to know that students will have first-hand experience of how primary care works within weeks of starting their course.

Community placements will involve four pairs of students being present on the practice premises for a two-hour session for a maximum of twenty weeks a year, one pair on Tuesday morning, one Tuesday afternoon, one Friday morning and one Friday afternoon. When the pairs of students are present, they are there to observe and to perhaps meet one or two patients, on their own, to discuss issues pertinent to their learning objectives. This might involve talking to a patient about contraception, for instance. It is not expected that a GP or practice nurse will formally teach them, or that they will sit in on consultations. Sometimes, the session might involve a GP or practice-employed team member for some of the time and on other occasions it will not. It is estimated that, on average, each session will not require more than 30 minutes of GP or practice-employed team member time. It will inevitably have some impact on workload and service delivery but not to the point that a team member will miss a session's work to cover it. In return for this, practices are offered £4000 per annum. This payment will be reviewed in the light of the experience of practices during the first year.

If practices are interested in participating in this programme at some point in the future, they should contact PMS.

Appraisal is now with us. It should be a wonderful opportunity for general practitioners to enhance their professional learning, leading to improvements in their knowledge and skills, which, in turn, should lead to better patient care and increased professional satisfaction for GPs. Not everyone

will have such a rosy view of appraisal and many of us might find it rather threatening, as well as challenging. Understandably, many GPs feel that we already have more than enough to do. However, if it is managed by medical educators, for the sole purpose of promoting professional learning and development, there is little justification for feeling threatened. From my own experience of running a similar learning programme for GPs in Plymouth, I know that it takes time to acquire the skills in the "management of learning" before one can effect change in our "professional learning", related to the job we do as GPs. For most people involved in the Plymouth scheme, the first year was spent in honing these learning management skills, with appraisal only becoming a valuable experience once a reasonable degree of skill was attained. Some GPs found this easier than others but, with time and patience, most were successful and found the experience worthwhile.

Some PCTs have now written to GPs explaining the implementation of the appraisal process in their areas. There are a few important principles that we hope will be observed

1. All GPs should have access to training in the management of professional learning, to include learning need assessment, objective setting, evaluation techniques and information about different learning methods (range, appropriateness for objective, evaluation, etc.)
2. All GPs should be able to select their appraiser from a panel of trained appraisers
3. Appraisers will maintain strict confidentiality regarding all identifiable information for each learner.
4. Appraisers should be properly trained, supported and be accountable.
5. Appraisal must be introduced at a manageable pace.

Most PCTs are realistic about the difficulties faced by both GPs and appraisers in the first year (now 7 months) of appraisal. The LMC will be monitoring the impact of appraisal on general practice in Devon over the months ahead and will shortly be conducting a survey of practices.

Like it or not, appraisal is now a reality. However, if you have any major concerns about the process or are unhappy about the way your appraisal is being managed, please contact me by e-mail, at john@dean.eu.com



Plymouth Vocational Training Scheme

INVITES YOU TO
THIS AUTUMN'S TRAINERS CONFERENCE
"SPIRIT OF DISCOVERY"
TO BE HELD AT SAUNTON SANDS HOTEL
ON 21ST AND 22ND NOVEMBER 2002

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS TO INCLUDE:

DR JEREMY HOLMES
ROBIN HANBURY-TENISON & THE BARBICAN THEATRE COMPANY

*Further information from: Mandy Hall, GP Training Practice Co-ordinator, Academic Centre,
Frenchay Hospital, Frenchay Park Road, BRISTOL, BS16 1LE.*

mandy.hall@swndeanery.swest.nhs.uk

Comings and Goings September 2002

Welcome to:	Goodbye to:
Dr Ian Hodgins, Collings Park Medical Centre, Plymouth Dr William Sherlock, Chumleigh Health Centre Dr Pia Quinsey, Leatside Surgery, Totnes Dr Andrew Kay, Topsham Surgery, Exeter Dr Nigel Johnston, Claremont Medical Practice, Exmouth Dr Ross Ganner, Claremont Medical Practice, Exmouth Dr Peter Acheson, Claremont Medical Practice, Exmouth	Dr Maggie Ross, St Leonards Medical Practice, Exeter Dr Lorraine Loveden, Caen Medical Centre, Braunton Dr Anne Soul, Knowle House Surgery, Plymouth Dr Robert Treharne-Jones, Walnut Lodge Surgery, Torquay
Dr Robert Gardner will be leaving Lifton Surgery on 30 September and taking over the Saltash Practice on the retirement of Dr Moore on 1 October.	

COME AND WORK FOR PLYMOUTH PRIMARY CARE TRUST, DELIVERING PRIMARY CARE TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

This is an exciting opportunity for a GP to work within this ambitious 2nd Wave Personal Medical Services pilot at Ernesettle Green Surgery

We wish to employ a part-time GP for up to 5 sessions per week to work alongside the existing salaried GPs

We are looking for a GP who will help us to address the health and social needs of the population and therefore, it would be useful if your experience and skills complemented that of the existing team.

You will need to be forward thinking and flexible, as the practice is committed to continual improvement in patient care

You will be part of a friendly and innovative Primary Health Care Team and have access to training and development opportunities

This post is initially offered as a 1-year fixed term contract

Salary: £52,640 per annum, pro-rata

For an informal discussion, please contact Linda Trebilcock,
Team Manager on (01752) 314958

Plymouth Primary Care Trust is an Equal Opportunities Employer and welcomes applications from all sections of the community. We operate a No Smoking Policy. Job share(s) considered

For an application form and job description please contact:

Theresa Duggan - Medical Staffing Officer

Glenbourne Unit

Morlaix Drive

Derriford

Plymouth PL6 5AF

Telephone 01752 763117 - E-mail address: Theresa.Duggan@pcs-tr.swest.nhs.uk

The closing date for receipt of completed application forms is

Wednesday 31 October 2002

PRACTICE	VACANCIES
<p>Drs Helliar, Thorne, Clarey and Hopkins Mount Pleasant Health Centre Mount Pleasant Road Exeter EX4 5BW Tel: 01392 430132 E-mail: chris.gallienne@gp-L83066.nhs.uk</p>	<p>Salaried GP/ Partnership vacancy March/April 2003</p> <p>Part-time 4 sessions per week in a progressive, committed, innovative, well-organised and friendly Exeter Practice involved with GPR training and the Peninsula Medical School. Fully computerized. Excellent purpose-built premises.</p> <p>For an information pack with job description and further details please contact: Mr Chris Gallienne, Health Centre Manager</p> <p>Closing date for applications Wednesday 30 October 2002</p>
<p>Drs Helliar, Thorne, Clarey and Hopkins Mount Pleasant Health Centre Mount Pleasant Road Exeter EX4 5BW Tel: 01392 430132 E-mail: chris.gallienne@gp-L83066.nhs.uk</p>	<p>GP Retainer – May 2003</p> <p>Up to 4 sessions weekly in a progressive, committed, innovative, well organised and friend Exeter Practice involved with GPR training and the Peninsula Medical School. Fully computerised. Excellent in-house educational programme/support.</p> <p>For further details and/or informal discussion please contact Drs Clare Clarey or Chris Thorne. Email: clare.clarey@gp-L83033.nhs.uk or chris.thorne@gp-L83033.nhs.uk</p>
<p>South Molton Health Centre 9/10 East Street South Molton North Devon EX36 3BZ Tel: 01769 573101 E-mail: brenda.mccamley@gp-L831317.nhs.uk</p>	<p>Full-time Partner required</p> <p>Due to retirement we have a vacancy for a full-time partner. We are a friendly, democratic 3-partner, semi-rural practice situated in a pretty market town on the edge of Exmoor. Paper light (Medical system 6000), community hospital, out-of-hours cooperative, entering 4th wave PMS.</p> <p>We are committed to working as a team to provide high quality holistic care for our list of 4,800 patients. Information enquiries welcome.</p> <p>Practice profile available. Application letter with CV to: Brenda McCamley, Practice Manager. Closing date Friday 8 November 2002</p>
<p>Devon Doctors on Call Ltd Andrea Kelly Unit 10 Manaton Court Manaton Close Matford Business Park Exeter EX2 8PF Tel: 01392 823636</p>	<p>GP Practice Doctor(s) Required c. £80k</p> <p>To work for Plymdoc overnight Four shifts per week 23.30 - 08.00 Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and Thursday For 46 weeks per annum - Contract period 1 December 2002 - 31 March 2004 Informal enquires to: Dr. Chris Wilson: chris@wchris.fsnet.co.uk OR Chris Wright: chris.wright@devondoctors.co.uk</p>

<p>Bideford Medical Centre Abbotsham Road Bideford North Devon EX39 3AF Tel: 01237 426332</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Additional Half-time Partner</p> <p>Required to join a well-established training practice from January 2003 in the fishing port of Bideford.</p> <p>We are a dynamic 9-partner (8.25wte) and fully computerised practice with purpose built accommodation. We achieved the RCGP's Practice Quality Award in 2001. We are members of the local Tarkadoc Cooperative. This is a perfect opportunity for a well-trained professional to join a large group practice committed to providing excellent care to their patients. North Devon offers a great quality of life in a beautiful locality.</p> <p>All enquiries to Mrs Olivia Bassett, Practice Manager and applications to Dr Mike Cracknell, Senior Partner by 31 October 2002</p>
<p>Litchdon Medical Centre Landkey Road Barnstaple North Devon EX32 9LL Tel: 01271 323443 Litchdon.MC@gp-L83035.nhs.uk Website: www.Litchdon.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Salaried GP for our PMS Pilot</p> <p>We are looking to appoint a GP for six sessions per week as soon as possible after 1st October 2002.</p> <p>We are a large (15,300 patients) and friendly training practice working from modern purpose built premises on the edge of the market town of Barnstaple, close to Exmoor and the North Devon coast. Out-of-hours is negotiable with cover provided by the local GP Co-op. The salary will be £55,000 pro rata and will include 6 weeks holiday plus six sessions paid study leave per year. The contract will be for a fixed-term, initially for 18 months. The practice is both dynamic and innovative, with a strong sense of teamwork, and has many of the extended PHCT working from the same building. We are looking for applicants who feel they would enjoy contributing to, and being part of this working environment.</p> <p>You can learn more about us by visiting our web site or phoning our Practice Manager, Mary Golden, for a more detailed practice profile.</p> <p>Please send your application and CV to our manager. Closing date 28th October 2002</p>
<p>Redfern Health Centre Shadycome Road, Salcombe Devon TQ8 8DJ Tel: 01548 842284</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Half-time Partner – 1 April 2003</p> <p>Required for a retirement vacancy to join 3 full-time partners in a friendly semi rural coastal practice. Purpose built premises. Efficient PHCT providing comprehensive services and meeting all higher targets. Computerised (EMIS).</p> <p>Cottage hospital with admitting rights. Local out-of-hours cooperative.</p> <p>For an informal discussion please contact Sue Sharp, Practice Manager or forward handwritten application with CV and 2 referees.</p>

<p>St. Leonard's Medical Practice 34 Denmark Road Exeter EX1 1SF Tel: 01392 201794</p>	<p>Replacement partner</p> <p>Replacement partner (7-sessions) to join a 5-doctor practice in central Exeter. Forward thinking practice with personal lists, 3rd wave PMS, fully computerised with a friendly and supportive team.</p> <p>An NHS R & D practice with Investors In People, local IscaDoc co-operative and close links with the Peninsula Medical School. MRCGP essential.</p> <p>To start 1st December 2002</p> <p>Please apply with CV and names of two referees to Mr. Tim Smith, Practice Manager.</p> <p><i>Informal visits or enquiries welcome</i></p> <p>Closing date: 25 October 2002</p>
<p>Barton Surgery Horn Lane Plymstock Plymouth PL9 9BR Tel: 01752 407129</p>	<p>Part-time Practice Manager</p> <p>Required as soon as possible for small, friendly practice. Approximately 15 hours per week, flexible hours by mutual agreement. Salary negotiable. NHS experience desirable.</p> <p>Applications in writing with CV to Dr J Mahony.</p> <p>Closing Date: 13 November 2002</p>
<p>Bideford Medical Centre Abbotsham Road Bideford North Devon EX39 3AF Tel: 01237 426332</p>	<p>Post 1: Health Care Assistant (12 hours per week) Post 2: Medical Receptionist (24 hours per week)</p> <p>We are looking for two enthusiastic and motivated persons. Computer, customer care and team skills and ability to work under pressure are essential. Previous health service experience is an advantage.</p> <p>For Post 1 applicants must have phlebotomy skill. The working hours are flexible and negotiable. For Post 2 the working hours are from 2pm to 6.45pm daily plus 1 in 3 Saturday morning.</p> <p>Both posts are permanent and subject to 3-month probation. Both post-holders are required to cover for holiday and sickness absences. Expected start date is November 2002.</p> <p>Job description and application form is available at Bideford Medical Centre and Bideford Job Centre. For enquiry please contact Mrs Olivia Bassett, Practice Manager at 01237 426332.</p> <p>Please send your application together with a CV to the Practice Manager, Bideford Medical Centre, Abbotsham Road, Bideford EX39 3AF by Friday 25 October 2002. If you do not hear from us by mid November please assume your application is unsuccessful. We thank you for your interest.</p>

<p>College Surgery College Road Cullompton Devon EX15 1TG</p>	<p>Experienced Practice Nurse Required for large forward thinking practice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be competent in full range of treatment room duties. • 20 Hours per week • Needs to be good team player, also able to work unsupervised • Rate of pay dependent on experience <p>For information/enquiries please contact: Practice Nurses between 1.00 – 2.00pm on 01884 831319 Applications in writing with CV to Dr D Jenner. Closing Date: 16 October 2002</p>
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NOTE: When sending adverts please give a closing date and if you should fill the vacancy before the newsletter is published please inform the LMC Office 01392 834020

Conferences, Courses and Information

Bournemouth University

Nurse Practitioner Course – Bicton College, East Devon

Following a very successful first course, our second intake starts March 2003. Early application is strongly advised. The course is suitable for both primary and secondary care nurses who wish to develop nurse practitioner roles. It is taught by clinical staff; nurse practitioners, doctors and others and supported by lecturer nurse practitioners.

Mainly day release – Phase 1 Wednesdays, Phase 2 Tuesdays.

Phase 1 (March to August 2003) completion awards a certificate

Phase 2 (September 2003 to July 2004) awards degree: BSc(hons) Nurse Practitioner and the Royal College of Nursing Nurse Practitioner Diploma

Further information please initially contact Annie Hutchings, Programmes Administrator Tel: 01202 504146.

South West Informatics Learning Network

Evidence Based Healthcare

Wednesday 16 October 2002 9.00am – 4.30pm

The Holiday Inn, Taunton.

PGEA Approved

A study day designed to give delegates an overview and understanding of evidence based healthcare, and an opportunity to look at some of the clinical decisions support tools to health professionals in primary and secondary care.

Further details from Daniel McCarthy, Health Informatics Policy Unit, Dean Clarke House,

Southernhay East, Exeter EX1 1PG. Tel: 01392 207304. Website: www.ecommunity.nhs.uk

East Devon Education Week

25 – 29 November 2002

Salston Manor Hotel

Ottery St Mary

The week is open to GPs, non-principals, all members of the Practices and the East Devon PCT as well as other GPs in Devon, West Dorset and South Somerset. **PGEA applied for**

Subjects include:

Sports medicine and soft tissue injections

Confidentiality in Practice

Minor Injury Skills Day

Diabetes Workshop

Terminal Care Workshop

HRT Workshop

HRT in the 21st Century

Feedback from your patients

Cardiology Workshop

Echocardiography update

Further details and application form from: Penny Jolley, Beacon Associates, Beacon House, Beacon, Ilminster, Somerset TA19 9AH. Tel/Fax: 01460 52699. Email: pljolley@btinternet.com

Gatehouse

The Wanless Review of the NHS

“Is more money the answer to our problems?”

Tuesday 3 December 2002

Central London

Keynote Speaker – Derek Wanless (author of *Securing our Future Health: Taking a Long Term View*)

Finding and Keeping: Promoting Best Practice in NHS Recruitment, Retention and Return

Tuesday 10 December 2002

Central London

Conference Chair: Ray Rowden, Health Policy Analyst, author and Member, NHS Plan Taskforce on Service Quality

Keynote Address: David Amos, Deputy Director of Human Resources (Policy Delivery), DoH.

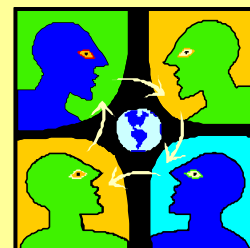
Further details of the above courses from Gatehouse Tel: 020 7347 3575.

E-mail: gatehouse@butterworths.com

Third Occupational Health Conference “Creating and Sharing Solutions”

St Mellion Hotel, Golf & Country Club, Cornwall

Thursday 28 November 2002



Details have been sent to each surgery so don't forget to book your place early