



BSHM Newsletter

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A date for your diary

Wednesday 12th October 2016

The Society will hold its main 2016 events at the Wellcome Building Conference Centre, 183 Euston Road, London.

The Officers and Society Representatives will meet at 3:30 pm. For all members the afternoon starts with a short AGM at 4:30 pm and all members are invited to attend. This is followed at 5:15 pm by a drinks reception courtesy of the Wellcome Trust.

The Poynter Lecture will be delivered at 6:00pm

The lecture is named after **Dr Noël Poynter (1908-1979)**, Director of the Wellcome Museum and Library, who did so much to advance the cause of the history of medicine in Britain and abroad. In addition to his role as the driving force behind the founding of the Faculty of the History of Medicine at the Apothecaries, he was a very active and influential president of the BSHM.



The Poynter lecture will be given by **Dr Sam Alberti**, Director of Museums and Archives at the Royal College of Surgeons of England.

Sam has a longstanding interest in medical museums, and especially the paths travelled by the objects within



them - which he explored in - *Morbid Curiosities: Medical Museums in Nineteenth-Century Britain* (OUP, 2011). These collections are currently enjoying a resurgence, with increasing visits and exciting capital developments across the UK and beyond. In this lecture Sam will discuss some of the reasons behind this revival, and focus in particular on what medical collections can tell us about the lives and experiences of those who were treated. To connect to their audiences and to present a rounded history of medicine, he will argue, museums must find these patients.

BSHM Congress 2017, Edinburgh

The Society's 27th Congress will be held in Edinburgh, from 13-16 September 2017. The venue will be the conference facilities on the campus of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh which is located close to the city centre. There are hotels of all price ranges within easy walking distance.

All members of affiliated societies are automatically BSHM members

The themes of the Congress include:

- Women in Medicine
- Scotland's contribution and influence
- Apothecaries and their successors
- Art and photography in Medicine

These themes are not exclusive and papers and posters on any aspect of the history of medicine are also welcome.

Meet the Office Bearers

Iain Macintyre – President

Iain was a general surgeon in Edinburgh. He was Vice-President of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh during its 500th anniversary celebration,

and was surgeon to the Queen in Scotland until he retired in 2004. Since retiring he has been involved in the history of medicine and his books



include: *Surgeons Lives, Scottish Medicine - an Illustrated History* (joint author). He has published on a variety of history of medicine topics. Having recently retired as treasurer of the SSHM he is currently Secretary of the John Blair Trust.

Christopher Derrett – Vice President

Chris is a former general practitioner and medical educator in Hackney. He has recently retired from clinical practice but continues to teach medical students the history of medicine and act as an examiner for the DHMSA. Chris has a special interest in the social and medical history of Victorian east London.



Michael Collins – Treasurer

Mike is Consultant Radiologist Emeritus in Sheffield. He is a member of the Yorkshire Medical and Dental History Society, the Aesculapian Society of Sheffield and Osler Club of London. His interests in medical history include WW1, Sir William Wilde and Samuel Pepys. He is due to deliver the Osler Lecture at the Society of Apothecaries in London in February 2016.



Martyn Thomas – Secretary

Martyn retired from General Practice in Cambridgeshire in 2014. His interest in the History of Medicine has developed since. He recently undertook the DHMSA. He has been researching aspects of the history of health care in the Fens.



BSHM Information

The aim of the BSHM is to promote the study, teaching and research of medical history in the UK.

Recent requests from colleagues seeking information have included:

- where it might be possible to obtain orthopaedic artefacts used for spina bifida patients.
- a Colombian doctor asking where to find information about doctors from 17th and 18th century England.
- a doctor requesting information from the BSHM archives relating to a poster submitted as a student in 2009.



**Best Wishes for Christmas and the
New Year from the BSHM**

