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Royal  
Pharmaceutical  
Society  
of Great Britain

## Local pharmacist leaders get results, pilot programme finds

Developing the leadership skills of pharmacists can have a major impact on progressing local issues, according to the evaluation of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's leadership pilot programme.

The pilot programme, launched in England last year (*PJ*, 11 June 2005, p715), was set up to help pharmacists within local networks develop their leadership skills and enable them to work across organisational boundaries in new and effective ways.

The main findings in the evaluation were as follows:

- 78 per cent of participants said that the leadership programme helped them to make significant or major progress on a local "live work issue"
- 67 per cent of the respondents said that they had noticed a significant or major development in how they communicated and worked together to get things done
- 44 per cent said that they felt pharmacy was better integrated into the working of the NHS as a result of participating in the programme and a further 50 per cent felt that it now had the potential to be

Programme participant Helen Bianchi, a GP practice pharmacist, said: "We have gained a tremendous amount from the programme both personally and as a group. This has been

an unique opportunity to work with other pharmacists in order to solve some of the practical problems at a local level."

The President of the Society, Hemant Patel, said: "I am keen to ensure that we develop effective leaders from our profession to influence and guide change at national and local levels. At a time of unprecedented change broad leadership skills are essential across the NHS as it changes shape and encourages new ways of working. Community pharmacy too needs leaders at all levels. This will become increasingly important as pharmacy moves towards the future in Pharmacy 20:20. The aim of this programme is to develop and support local pharmacists to become more competent and professional leaders.

"Most of the feedback we received from the pharmacists involved indicates that the programme was extremely effective, with many respondents saying that more people are listening to them and they are getting things done more effectively than ever before.

"Following the success of the programme the Society is now exploring how we can develop local leadership across further networks so that both pharmacists and patients can enjoy a better health service through leaders that are in a better position to lead change, empower others and deliver results."

This week

### Local leaders

Developing the leadership skills of pharmacists can have a major impact on progressing local issues, according to the evaluation of the Society's leadership pilot programme (p85).

### Welsh AGM

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society's Welsh Executive has held its 30th — and almost certainly its last — annual general meeting for members of the Society resident in Wales (p86).

## Library catalogue provides links to free online journals

As part of its policy of making information searching increasingly seamless, the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's library in London is now including links to a number of freely accessible electronic journals in its web-based catalogue ([olib.rpsgb.org](http://olib.rpsgb.org)).

When carrying out searches on the catalogue, users can see electronic journals that are relevant to their search and then link straight through to them from the title record.

Currently the catalogue includes 28 journal titles that are accessible to anyone. The library intends to add further titles to the catalogue and would welcome suggestions of journals that members have found useful to their work or their continuing professional development and that are freely accessible on the internet.

## New information sheet from museum looks at dosing aids for liquids

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society's museum has launched a new information sheet, "Taking the medicine", that looks at the history of aids to the administration of liquid medicines.

It explains how the challenge of taking an accurate dose of a liquid medicine has been met over time. In addition to providing an explanation of pre-metric medicinal dosages, it also gives information about two specialised measuring devices, the Gibson spoon and the Seidlitz measure.

Briony Hudson, keeper of the museum collections, said: "The latest addition to our popular series of information sheets provides



A Gibson spoon from the Society's museum collection

the historical background to the practical issues surrounding taking medicines. An instruction to take 'as much powder as would cover a farthing' seems a million miles away from today's accurate dosages!"

"Taking the medicine" is the 20th information sheet in the series, "Objects in

the history of pharmacy". In addition the museum has produced six information sheets on aspects of the history of the pharmacy profession.

All the information sheets are illustrated, mainly with images drawn from the Society's museum. Many of these images are also available to purchase from the museum as postcards.

The information sheets are all available to download as PDF files from the information resources section of the Society's website ([www.rpsgb.org/informationresources](http://www.rpsgb.org/informationresources)). Copies can also be requested from the museum office (tel 020 7572 2210; e-mail [museum@rpsgb.org](mailto:museum@rpsgb.org)).

# Executive holds its last AGM for members in Wales

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society's Welsh Executive has held its 30th — and almost certainly its last — annual general meeting for members of the Society resident in Wales.

By this time next year the executive is expected to have been replaced by the new Welsh Pharmacy Board. The Society's Council is currently consulting on regulations establishing national boards before seeking the approval of the Privy Council (*PJ*, 10 June, p689 and p703).

The 30th Welsh AGM took place at the Wales Millennium Centre in Cardiff on 5 July, with an attendance of more than 70.

Opening the AGM with his report for 2005, the chairman of the Welsh Executive, Peter Jones, commented: "The pharmacy profession in Wales looked very different by the end of 2005 than it did at the beginning. This progress has come about through substantial drive, effort and commitment from many people in many organisations, and the Welsh Executive has taken a key role in many of these areas of development."

He went on to outline some of the achievements of 2005 and confirmed that "communicating" had been high on the agenda of the Welsh Executive. He advised the audience that both communicating the pharmacy message to the outside world and communicating with pharmacists in Wales had been key objectives.

Because of the planned establishment of the national boards, the AGM agenda this year did not include the announcement of the result of an election to the executive. The Council has asked the existing executive



**Welsh Executive chairman Peter Jones, left, with guest speaker Phil Routledge**



**Welsh Executive secretariat staff, past and present: left to right, Cath O'Brien, Erica Barrie, Christine Gray and Syd Southwell**

members to continue to serve until the new board is formed.

The AGM was followed by the annual lecture for 2006, presented by Phil Routledge,

director of clinical pharmacology at the College of Medicine, Cardiff University. Professor Routledge gave a presentation on "Medical murders".

Bringing the evening to a close, the chairman commented: "This evening has been a fitting tribute to those members of the Welsh Executive who have given their time and expertise in supporting the profession in Wales during the past 30 years. We can now look forward to the establishment of the national board for Wales and ensure that we progress the role of the Society in Wales to the next level".

The evening was also a celebration of 30 years of the Welsh Executive. A display depicted the history of the executive from its inception in 1976 to the present day.

Former secretaries to the Welsh Executive were among those present at the AGM. The earliest was Sydney Southwell, who held the post for 15 years until his retirement from the Society's headquarters staff in 1994. Also present was Christine Gray, whose role at the Society's HQ between 1994 and 1998 included Welsh Executive secretariat work on behalf of Philip Green, who combined the Welsh secretary's role with his duties as deputy secretary of the Society. (Mr Green was not able to be present.) Finally, the attendance included Erica Barrie, who was the first Welsh Executive secretary to be based in Wales. Appointed in 1999, she worked three days a week at first but then increased to full-time. The Society's current director for Wales, Cath O'Brien, took over as secretary in 2002.

## Cardiff branch presentation marks member's 70 years on the Register

A presentation took place during the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's annual general meeting in Wales to mark the achievement of 70 years on the Register by a member of the Cardiff and the Vale branch, Deryck Howell.

Mr Howell, a past chairman of the branch and a life vice-president of the Cardiff and District Pharmacists Association, was presented with an engraved decanter by Terry Turner, also a past branch chairman and life vice-president of the association.

In return, Mr Howell presented the Society's President, Hemant Patel, with a signed copy of his book, "Target Mussolini", for the Society's library. The book describes some of his exploits during a distinguished army career. Mr Howell was half of a two-man team from the "Ghost Regiment", who were ordered to infiltrate German-held territory disguised as peasants and embark on a marathon trek to Milan, where Mussolini was known to be in residence, along with the contents of the Italian Treasury.

Mr Howell qualified as a pharmacist from the Welsh School of Pharmacy in 1936 and worked in his father's Cardiff pharmacy before joining the army. Later, he and his brother Brian, now deceased, opened five pharmacies in South Wales with additional wholesaling and manufacturing activity. His two sons now run the family business.



**Deryck Howell (second right) presents his book to the President, while Welsh Executive chairman Peter Jones holds the decanter presented to Mr Howell by Terry Turner (left)**

Royal Pharmaceutical Society

## British Pharmaceutical Conference 2006

- **Dates:** Monday 4 September to Wednesday 6 September.
- **Venue:** Manchester International Convention Centre, central Manchester.
- **Theme:** Personalised medicine in health care.
- **Programme:** The conference begins on the Monday with a plenary symposium setting the scene in personalised medicine. Other plenary sessions spread through the conference include addresses on Monday afternoon by the health minister with responsibility for pharmacy, Andy Burnham, and the President of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society, Hemant Patel. Tuesday's programme begins with addresses by the conference science chairman and conference practice chairman and on Wednesday the day will start with the conference science award lecture and practice award lecture. Each day, after an opening plenary session, the programme divides into three separate programmes on the themes of science, practice and "science into practice". The "science into practice" programme includes five further symposia on aspects of personalised medicine. The programme for pharmaceutical scientists has up to five sessions running in parallel each morning and afternoon. It also includes the first Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences plenary lecture, given by Nobel laureate Sir James Black, plus a debate and three award lectures. There will also be sessions for short talks on research in the pharmaceutical sciences plus daily poster sessions for science research abstracts. The practice programme also offers up to five parallel symposia each morning and afternoon, plus a debate, two lectures and sessions for research posters.
- **Exhibition:** An exhibition will run alongside the conference and will take place in G-MEX, the large exhibition hall adjacent to the MICC. It will demonstrate innovation and science, technology and pharmacy practice. Information about booking exhibition space is available from Chris Hanney on 0121 248 3399 (e-mail [channey@health-links.co.uk](mailto:channey@health-links.co.uk)).
- **Student day:** A special student day will allow a limited number of pharmacy undergraduates and preregistration trainees to experience the conference for only £5. The special fee has been offered to third- and final-year MPharm students and preregistration trainees, with the allocation of tickets made on a first come, first served basis. The student day will be on the Wednesday, when students will be able to visit the conference science and practice sessions during the morning and attend a special student programme in the afternoon.
- **Social events:** All participants will be able to attend a welcome reception on the Sunday evening from 7.30 to 9pm. There will be a conference dinner at the Radisson Edwardian Hotel on the Monday, with dancing to a local band (tickets £56 + VAT; dance only, £5 + VAT). On the Sunday, Monday and Tuesday nights an informal "conference club" will be held. A Spanish restaurant night is also being arranged for the Tuesday night (tickets £25 + VAT). A black-tie dinner will take



- place on the Tuesday for members of the Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences. Members of the academy wishing to attend should contact Bob Seager (tel 0116 269 2299; e-mail [apsqb@associationhq.org.uk](mailto:apsqb@associationhq.org.uk)).
- **Fees:** Members of the Society (and certain other organisations) and presenters can take advantage of a special rate of £495 + VAT for the full conference or £170 + VAT for a single day if they book by 31 July. Undergraduate, full-time students pay £125 + VAT full fee or £47 + VAT per day. After 31 July the fees rise to £585, £210, £165 and £60, plus VAT, respectively. The fee includes coffee, tea and a daily packed lunch. Online booking is available at [www.bpc2006.org](http://www.bpc2006.org).
  - **Accommodation:** Hotel accommodation with a wide range of prices has been arranged by the conference organisers but participants are responsible for booking their own accommodation. This can be done through BPC 2006's accommodation agency, Procon ([website.proconbooking.co.uk/BPC/sept06](http://website.proconbooking.co.uk/BPC/sept06); tel 01423 564488; e-mail [patn@procon-conferences.co.uk](mailto:patn@procon-conferences.co.uk)).
  - **Further information:** Health Links, Third Floor, Windsor House, 11A High Street, Birmingham B14 7BB (tel 0121 248 3399; fax 0121 248 3390; e-mail [alyons@health-links.co.uk](mailto:alyons@health-links.co.uk)). Full conference details and updates can be found online at [www.bpc2006.org](http://www.bpc2006.org).

## LIBRARY ADDITIONS

The following are among recent additions to the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's library in London. Books available for loan can be borrowed by members and by preregistration trainees and pharmacy students who have registered with the library. The loan period is 28 days. A loan may be renewed if the item is not required by another user. Details of all titles added to the library since 1991 can be found in the library's searchable online catalogue of publications ([olib.rpsgb.org.uk](http://olib.rpsgb.org.uk))

### Drug delivery and targeting

- Polymeric drug delivery systems. Kwon GS. (Drugs and the Pharmaceutical Sciences; 148). Boca Raton, FL: Taylor Francis; 2005.
- Injectable dispersed systems, formulation, processing and performance. Burgess DJ. (Drugs and the Pharmaceutical Sciences; 149). Boca Raton, FL: Taylor Francis; 2005.
- Percutaneous absorption, drugs, cosmetics, mechanism, methodology. Bronaugh RL,

Mailbach HI. 4th ed. Boca Raton, FL: Taylor Francis; 2005.

### Health promotion

- Health promoting practice, the contribution of nurses and allied health professionals. Scriven A. Basingstoke; Palgrave MacMillan; 2005.

### Medicines use review

- Do you need a review of your medicines? St Albans: National Pharmacy Association; 2005.
- Medicines use review: example MUR form book. St Albans: National Pharmacy Association; 2005.
- Medicines use review: resource pack. St Albans: National Pharmacy Association; 2005.

### Nutrition

- Nutritional support for adults and children, a handbook for hospital practice. Bowling T. Abingdon: Radcliffe Medical; 2004.
- Therapeutic and nutritional supplements, useful information

for pharmacists. Mason PM. (Pharmacists: The scientists in the high street). London: Royal Pharmaceutical Society; 2005.

### NHS

- The quest for quality in the NHS, a chartbook on quality of care in the UK. Leatherman S, Sutherland K. London: Radcliffe Publishing; 2005.
- The NHS in England 2005/06: a pocket guide. Davies P. London: NHS Confederation; 2005.

### Palliative care

- Introducing palliative care. Twycross R. 4th ed. Abingdon: Radcliffe Medical; 2003.
- Handbook of palliative care. Faull C, Carter Y, Daniels L. 2nd ed. Oxford: Blackwell Publishing Ltd; 2005.

### Pharmacology

- Hardcore pharmacology. Saenz RE, Sears BW, Dabisch PA. Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott Williams Wilkins; 2006.

■ Pharmacology for health professionals. Roach SS, Lochhaas T. Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott Williams Wilkins; 2005.

### Toxicology

- Applications of LC-MS in toxicology. Poletti A. London: Pharmaceutical Press; 2006.
- Pharmaceutical toxicology, safety sciences of drugs. (ULLA postgraduate pharmacy series). Mulder GJ, Dencker L. London: Pharmaceutical Press; 2006.

### Travel health

- Vaccine requirements for travellers abroad. St Albans: National Pharmacy Association; 2006.
- International travel health guide 2006-2007. Rose SR, Keystone JS. 13th ed. Philadelphia: Mosby; 2006.
- Travel and tropical medicine: infectious disease clinics of North America. Bia FJ, Hill DR. Philadelphia: Saunders; 2005. (Infectious disease clinics of North America; 19:1: March 2005).

Royal Pharmaceutical Society and British Society for the History of Pharmacy

## Evening lecture: Women in the army medical services since the English civil war

- **Date and time:** 20 September, 5.30 for 6.30pm
- **Venue:** Royal Pharmaceutical Society headquarters, London
- **Title:** "Women in the army medical services since the English civil war".
- **Speaker:** Pete Starling (retired captain, Royal Army Medical Corps)
- **Fees:** No admission charge — all welcome
- **Further information:** British Society for the History of Pharmacy, 840 Melton Road, Thurmaston, Leicester LE4 8BN (tel 0116 264 0083; fax 0116 264 0141; e-mail bshp@associationhq.org.uk; website www.bshp.org).

### Society special interest groups

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society has established special interest groups for community pharmacists, for veterinary pharmacists, for industrial, regulatory and technical pharmacists, for hospital pharmacists and for pharmacy academic staff. The groups hold meetings to consider topics of interest within their own fields of practice and they provide a source of advice to the Society's Council on specialist matters.

Details of the groups can be obtained from the Society. Contact details are given below.

**Community Pharmacists Group** The Community Pharmacists Group, formed at the beginning of 1994, is open to all pharmacists engaged in the practice of community pharmacy. The group committee has the discretion to grant membership to pharmacists who are not engaged in community pharmacy practice but who have a direct involvement or demonstrable interest in that aspect of pharmacy.

Contact: Angela Canning, practice division (tel 020 7572 2412; e-mail angela.canning@rpsgb.org).

**Veterinary Pharmacists Group** The Veterinary Pharmacists Group is open to all pharmacists who are engaged in, or actively considering becoming engaged in, the preparation or supply of agricultural chemicals, veterinary medicines and allied products. Other pharmacists may be granted membership at the discretion of the group committee.

Contact: Lorraine Fearon, practice division (tel 020 7572 2409; e-mail lorraine.fearon@rpsgb.org).

**Industrial Pharmacists Group** The Industrial Pharmacists Group is for pharmacists who are engaged in industrial practice, those who act as consultants to the pharmaceutical industry, those whose work is concerned substantially with questions of industrial pharmaceutical practice and those whose work concerns, or who have a particular interest in, industrial, regulatory or technical matters affecting pharmacy.

Contact: Angela Canning, practice division (tel 020 7572 2412; e-mail angela.canning@rpsgb.org).

**Hospital Pharmacists Group** The Hospital Pharmacists Group is for pharmacists who work in NHS, private or armed forces hospitals and those employed by, or acting as consultants to, NHS health authorities, health boards and trusts. Also eligible are pharmacists working in the prison service, community pharmacists seconded to provide a service within a private hospital and other pharmacists whose work is significantly concerned with matters relating to the practice of hospital pharmacy.

Contact: Lorraine Fearon, practice division (tel 020 7572 2409; e-mail lorraine.fearon@rpsgb.org).

**Academic Pharmacy Group** The Academic Pharmacy Group is open to academic pharmacists and other academic staff who make a significant contribution to pharmacy teaching and research in a UK school of pharmacy or a recognised pharmacy academic practice unit.

Contact: Damian Day, education and registration directorate (tel 020 7572 2215; e-mail damian.day@rpsgb.org).

## DEATHS

**Evans** On 26 April, Deric Clifford Evans, FRPharmS, aged 80, of 47 Alexandra Road, Malvern, Worcestershire WR14 1HE. Mr Evans registered in 1947 and retired from the Register in 2005. He ran his family's business in East London for more than 50 years and was actively involved in committees of the Pharmaceutical Society and the NHS. He was designated a fellow of the Society in 1991 for distinction in the profession of pharmacy.

## TRIBUTES

**Slattery** In a tribute to the late Geoffrey Slattery (*PJ*, 8 July, p62), ROY LANE writes: Having been apprenticed to his father James, and having studied at Manchester University, Geoffrey registered as a pharmacist in 1945. After national service in the Royal Navy he joined his father at the family pharmacy, which had a history of over 100 years. In 1949 he also qualified as an ophthalmic optician.

After the family pharmacy was demolished for redevelopment,

Geoffrey practised optics until he retired in 1996 but still kept in touch with pharmaceutical matters.

Geoff, as we all knew him, served as chairman of the Rochdale branch of the Pharmaceutical Society during the 1960s. In his capacity as social secretary, he also organised the 50th anniversary celebrations of the branch.

He was pleased recently when he received a letter congratulating him on having been a member of this branch for 60 years.

He also served for many years on the local pharmaceutical committee.

## DIARY

### Headquarters meetings

The following meetings take place at the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's London headquarters

#### Thursday 20 July

Hospital Pharmacists Group Committee. 10.30am.

#### Friday 21 July

Adjudicating Committee. 10am.



## Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain

### London headquarters

Switchboard 020 7735 9141; direct dialling, see 'Medicines, ethics and practice'; fax 020 7735 7629; e-mail enquiries@rpsgb.org; website www.rpsgb.org

### Scottish Department

Headquarters of the Society in Scotland (including library and information service) 0131 556 4386 (see also 'MEP' guide); fax 0131 558 8850; e-mail info@rpsis.com

### Welsh Executive

Headquarters of the Society's Welsh Executive 029 2041 2800; fax 029 2041 2810; e-mail wales@rpsgb.org

### Information centre

Book loans and information Library (loans, photocopies) 020 7572 2300; e-mail library@rpsgb.org Technical information, 020 7572 2302; fax 020 7572 2499; e-mail techinfo@rpsgb.org

### Pharmacists' advisory service

Information on legal and ethical matters relating to pharmacy practice, 020 7572 2308; fax 020 7572 2510, e-mail ftp@rpsgb.org

### Pharmaceutics information

Information, advice and problem-solving in pharmaceutics 020 7572 2302; fax 020 7572 2499; e-mail pharmaceutics@rpsgb.org

### Benevolent fund

Financial help for pharmacists and their dependants and information about convalescence 01327 264739 or 01323 890135

### Pharmacists' health support programme

Confidential help and support for pharmacists who experience problems with alcohol and other drugs of addiction 01327 264531

### Listening friends scheme

Help from pharmacists trained in dealing with stress 020 7572 2442

### Pharmaceutical press

Purchase of books and subscriptions to journals 01767 604971; fax 01767 601640; custserv@turpin-distribution.com; website www.pharmpress.com