



# AFMS NEWS

Spring 2016

AFMS  
[www.anglofrenchmedical.org](http://www.anglofrenchmedical.org)

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## AFMS Conference

### Windsor 21st to the 24th September 2016.

The next AFMS conference will take place in Windsor from the 21st to the 24th September 2016.

As part of our social programme we will be visiting the Castle. Windsor Castle is the oldest and largest inhabited castle in the world. It has been the family home of British kings and queens for almost 1,000 years.

Other social activities include a River Thames boat trip and a visit to Savill Garden, a tranquil place to discover rare plants from around the world, arranged in stunning displays.

Our gala dinner will take place at Eton Rowing Club and for those staying on the Saturday, there will be a trip to Hampton Court Palace, the home of Henry VIII, and to Runnymede, where the Magna Carta was signed. The hotel is the Harte and Garter Hotel in Windsor High Street which overlooks the castle.

If you would like to give a talk at the meeting please can you contact our administrative secretary with details. If you would like to attend the conference please complete the booking form enclosed. We are also pleased to announce that a 5% reduction will be offered if full payment for the conference is received by the 30th June 2016. Also, reduced fees are available to students and recently qualified doctors. Please see the booking form for more details or contact the administrative secretary for more information.

## AFMS Website

Please visit us at  
[www.anglofrenchmedical.com](http://www.anglofrenchmedical.com)

We are also updating our mailing list and need up to date emails for all members. Please send your current email to  
[info@anglofrenchmedical.com](mailto:info@anglofrenchmedical.com)

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## Meetings and Events

### • September 2016

Scientific Conference  
Windsor  
21st September to the  
24th September

### • April 2017

AFMS Medical French  
weekend in  
Warwick.

## AFMS NEWS

### **Social Programme for The Anglo-French Medical Society, Windsor Meeting;**

**September 21<sup>st</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup> 2016.**

**Venue: Harte and Garter Hotel,  
Windsor High Street.**

#### **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September**

**16:00 Arrive and look around Windsor.**

**Registration**

**19.00 Reception in the hotel followed by a buffet and entertainment.**

#### **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September**

**09.30 Tour of Windsor ( TBC)**

**12.30 Lunch at the hotel**

**13.30 Visit to Windsor Castle, the world's oldest and largest inhabited castle, home of our Monarch.**

**Informal evening at leisure in Windsor.**

#### **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September**

**09.30 Visit to Savill Garden. Open from 10am.**

**A Royal Garden, considered by some as the finest ornamental garden in the United Kingdom.**

**12.30 Lunch at the hotel.**

**14.00 All the conference delegates join us in the afternoon for a tour by boat on the River Thames.**

**18.30 Transport by coach to the gala dinner at Eton Rowing Lake.**

**23.00-23.30 Transport back to the hotel.**

#### **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September**

**Morning free for shopping, sight seeing etc,**

**12.30 Lunch.**

**13.30 For those remaining:**

**Coach departs for visit to  
Hampton Court ( right picture) and Run-**

**nymede and the Magna Carta.**

**Accommodation on Saturday for those who  
have pre-booked.**



## **AFMS Meeting: Chamonix January 2016**



It's possible to have a reasonable command of a language and still to make schoolboy errors. So when the author was asked "Vous êtes doux?" by a very French lady on a chairlift in Les Houches, and gave the reply "Oui, je l'ai entendu." It took a moment or two of mutual bewilderment before he realised that the question was in fact "Vous êtes d'ou?" Homophones have a lot to answer for.

It was one of many lighter moments during this year's winter meeting in Chamonix. Once again, the "accueil chaleureux" at the Hotel Aiguille du Midi was second to none. We enjoyed wonderful accommodation, superb dining, and, of course, first class company provided by fellow members of the AFMS. It was great to meet old friends, and also to meet new members, who were venturing into our regular base in Les Bossons for the first time.

The academic component of the meeting was – as usual – highly interactive, with much group discussion, surrounding the three talks which embraced imaging of the lumbar spine, the problem of minor head injuries in rugby players, and a very stimulating comparison of the UK health system with those of other European nations. All good and relevant subjects for continuing professional development.

The skiing was fine too. We seemed to benefit from a break in the weather between a paucity of snow before Christmas, and torrential rain showers, which appeared after we left. A couple of days were really splendid, with a large group of members enjoying skiing 'en masse' at Brévent-Flégère. Pity however that nobody wanted to chance their arm (literally) on the long black run back to Chamonix town centre because of "enneigement faible". But so be it, the ride down in the télécabine was a safer option.

Lunchtime raclettes, vins chauds, and of course, numerous Leffe beers in the Agile Rabbit added to the sense of occasion. It's already in the diary for next year. If you haven't been before, then do come and join us!

**Dr Colin Mumford**





## Back Page Notes

### **24<sup>th</sup> Medical French Course 1-3 April 2016**

There was no April fooling on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April as the delegates dashed to Warwick University for the start of the 24<sup>th</sup> Medical French residential weekend course. Participants hailed from all over the UK, from Dundee to Dorset. The Universities were well represented with students from Cardiff, Glasgow, Nottingham, Sheffield, Keele, London, to name but a few. The course continues to attract doctor delegates from a broad range of specialties. The excellent group of experienced tutors covered emergency medicine, paediatrics, respiratory, cardiovascular, endocrinology, obstetrics and gynaecology, locomotor and psychiatry, in small groups of 7-8.

Dr Elena Hazelgrove –Planel gave an excellent talk on her experience working in a French interne post, including her adventures in gaining the post by doing the French Examen Classante Nationale or 'E.C.N'. Dr Una McNelis gave an honest and inspiring talk on her work in Nancy in a consultant anaesthetist post. Our pulses rose as she described her first night on call with the sound of the helicopter arriving on the hospital roof. Saturday's gala dinner was enjoyed by all, with votes of thanks for tutors, organisers and delegates alike. Sunday when we encouraged "entièrement en français," saw the Medical French hat being passed around as a playful reminder to anyone daring to be Anglophone. Click on the photo gallery which is now available on the website.

<http://anglofrenchmedical.com/medical-french-course-2016/>

The day rounded off with a choice of workshops including a SKYPE session with French colleagues, practical advice on working as a GP in France, French hospital medicine and life as a junior doctor plus a workshop for students wishing to use medical French as a research topic. The extensive course handbook has just been revised with new chapters in paediatrics and general practice. The course continues to be highly rated both by doctors and students both in terms of content, intensity, networking opportunities and value for money. Come and join us for our silver anniversary in 2016.

**Dr Zara Bieler Course Organiser.**



### **Committee**

#### **Committee**

Dr Andrew Hassan  
( President )  
Dr Martin Punter  
( Treasurer )  
Dr John Altrip  
( Hon Secretary )  
Dr Helen Sykes  
( Membership Secretary )  
Dr Zara Bieler  
( Webmaster )  
Dr Mark Cottrill  
Dr Colin Mumford  
Dr Rex Melville  
Dr Carol Barton  
Dr Paul Ward  
Dr David Bell  
Dr Mick Mc Carthy  
Dr James Mc Donald



### **AFMS Members**

The AFMS would like to congratulate Nicola Strickland, our past president, who has just been elected to the Presidency of the Royal College of Radiologists.

### **AND**

Congratulations to Helen MacKay who has been appointed as Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon at Southport and Ormskirk NHS Hospital Trust.