



AFMS NEWS

Summer 2007

AFMS
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Manchester Meeting 18th May 2007



A pleasant and mild Manchester was the backdrop for the 12th northern meeting of the AFMS. We have been able to re-establish our relationship with the Alliance Française as they had moved to larger premises and were once again able to accommodate us.

The meeting began with registration and the normal introductions to new friends and old acquaintances. There were five presentations, all in French; the first from Jean-Luc Petitou, a doctor working for the international company *Servier Laboratoires*.

He talked us through the facts and figures of the development of new drugs and the challenges faced by companies in the modern world. This was a great insight into what some regard as the *dark side* delivered in a professional and entertaining manner that engendered a host of questions.

We then moved on to 4 presentations by medical students from Manchester and Liverpool Universities; , Jennie Brown, Salaira Kalique, Anisa Nasir and Naomi Tan. All were fascinating and eloquently delivered; the standard of French language was outstanding and clearly presentation skills are being taught rather better at University than in my day! We hope to have copies of these on the Website soon.

The evening rounded off with a (large) buffet supplied by *Le Mange Tout* and several bottles of wine supplied by our "*ancien secretaire*" Mark Cottrill.

We are grateful for financial support from *Servier Laboratoires*.

Dr Mark Savage

AFMS Subscriptions Due

The annual subscriptions are due on July 1st 2007. If you do not already pay by standing order, please forward your payment as soon as possible to the administrative secretary:

Tony Ridge, 9 Babbacombe Road, Childwall, Liverpool, L16 9JN, Merseyside.

The annual subscription is £15 (£5 for students) and cheques should be made payable to the "Anglo French Medical Society." It would be appreciated if you could send your payment promptly. If you wish to pay by standing order then please request the appropriate form.

NEW AFMS NEWS

Welcome to the fourth edition of the new look AFMS news!!!

Please let us have your feedback on this new look or if there is anything you would like to be included in further editions.

Please send an email to Tony Ridge at

tonyridge72@yahoo.co.uk

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• Meetings and Events

• September 2007

Scientific Meeting. Mont St Michel.

September 26th to 29th.

• November 2007

Le weekend francais

9-11 November.

• November 2007

Advanced French
Conversation Nov 24th.
Details to follow.

• February 2008

Chamonix Winter Meeting
Jan 31st to Feb 3rd 2008.

AFMS NEWS



The **AFMS** conference will take place from **September 26th to September 29th 2007** at **Mont St Michel, France**. Along with an extensive scientific programme, superb social activities have been put together. There has been a great demand for places so please complete the application form enclosed as soon as possible if you wish to attend.

Please also contact **Tony Ridge (Administrative Secretary)** if you are interested in giving a talk; it can be on any medically related topic (and need not be in French).

The long history of **Mont Saint-Michel** is thought to date back to 708, when **Aubert, Bishop of Avranches** had a sanctuary built on **Mont-Tombe** in honour of the **Archangel**. The **Mount** soon became a major focus of pilgrimage. In the 10th century, the **Benedictines** settled in the **Abbey**, while a village grew up below its walls. By the 14th century, it extended as far as the foot of the rock. An impregnable stronghold during the **Hundred Years War**, **Mont Saint-Michel** is also an example of military architecture. Following the dissolution of the religious community during the revolution and until 1863, the **Abbey** was used as a prison. Classified as a historic monument in 1874, it underwent major restoration work. **Mont Saint-Michel** has been listed as a **World Heritage site** by **UNESCO** since 1979.

Delegates are going to stay very near **Mont Saint Michel** (at 2 km from the site) and 50 kms from **St Malo**.

The Hotel

Rooms have been booked at the **Hotel Mercure** which is situated at the end of the causeway leading to **Mont Saint-Michel**. More information about the hotel can be found on www.hotelmercure-montsaintmichel.com. However in the event of high demand for places alternative accommodation may be offered nearby.

How to get there

It is easy to reach **Mont Saint Michel** by car from **St Malo**, but also from other ports from **England**. There is a highway along the coast of **Northern France** to the west of **Brittany** called "**route des Estuaires**". So delegates can go from any of the **Channel ports** and easily drive to the venue. If you decide to fly, you could travel to **Paris** and take the train. You could get to **Rennes** by **TGV** and then to get a bus or a taxi to **Mont Saint Michel**. Taxis are quite expensive in **France** but a small group could share the taxi.

You can even fly to **Jersey** and take a ferry to **St Malo**.

More closer are airports at **Dinard** (55 km from **le Mont Saint Michel**) or at **Rennes**. A lot of the low cost companies use these airports. It is of course possible to rent a car to get to **Mont St Michel** from the airport with easy access by main road to the venue. For people who are not coming by car, nor train, you could cross by ferry to **Saint Malo** and then find a taxi. **Brittany Ferries** have regular ferries from **Portsmouth**. More information can be obtained on 0870 9081259 or visit their website on www.brittanyferries.com.

Taxi Share

A few delegates have already expressed an interest in sharing taxis from some of the local airports in **mont St Michel**. If this is of interest to you please contact **Tony Ridge** in the first instance.

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AFMS Student Competition

The James Tudor Prize

The AFMS would like to announce a competition it is running for student members.



It is called the James Tudor Prize. There will be four winners who will be invited to attend and give a presentation at the next AFMS conference in Mont St Michel near St Malo France from 26th September to the 29th September 29th 2007.

Hotel, meals, evening entertainment will all be paid for the four winners. Also £50 will be given to each student to help with travel costs - a return flight from Manchester to Rennes (near the venue) currently costs about £100 return. Cheaper routes may be available.

How to enter

Students must prepare a 15 minute presentation on any medical related topic (Clinical preferred but others considered.) The 15 minutes is to include any questions.

Students cannot choose a presentation based just on an elective report but it may be a case presentation or study.

Presentations can in either language but visuals should be in opposing language. Entries to be sent by email attachment to tonyridge72@yahoo.co.uk by 31st July 2007

All entries by email are to be in word only and also in English to help facilitate judging. Pictures are to be removed at this stage because of the size of file but obviously are to be included in the final presentation.

Judging will take place in early August and the winners will be notified as soon as possible.

If any of the winners wish to bring a partner to the conference then this will have to be funded by themselves.

Additional Prize

The James Tudor competition is in two parts – the first to be able to go to MSM and give a presentation and compete with a maximum of three other students for an additional prize.

This will be for a fully expensed trip to the 2008 AFMS meeting in Plymouth with a friend. The selection of the students to go to Mont St Michel will be done by a judging panel, but the winner for the Plymouth prize will be judged by the delegates at Mont St Michel.



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Chamonix

January 31st - Feb 3rd 2008

The Society has chosen a new hotel for the tenth winter conference. The 3 star hotel is located 2 miles south of Chamonix town centre at Bossons and enjoys marvellous views over the glacier of the same name, the largest glacier in Europe. Ski areas and the town can be accessed by the frequent (and free) bus service. The hotel is a "Bib Hôtel" in the Michelin Guide (2007) representing good accommodation at moderate prices. The entry in the Guide is as follows ;

"Des fresques à la mode tyrolienne égayent l'extérieur de cet hôtel bâti en 1908.

Chambres diversement meublées, bons équipements de loisirs et parc face au glacier des Bossons. Restaurant en rotonde, jolie terrasse côté jardin, plats traditionnels et savoyards".

The evening meal is a 5-course dinner with wine included (1/4 bottle pp) as well as water and coffee. Information on the hotel (including a map) can be found on their website - www.hotel-aiguilledumidi.com.

We have secured 16 (of 40) rooms and, being a very popular choice, early booking is recommended. Please complete the booking form enclosed in the newsletter.

The Conference

Delegates arrive on Thursday 31st January for a welcome evening.

The Scientific Session will take place in the hotel's conference room on Friday February 1st from 6 – 8pm followed by a meal in the hotel. On Saturday evening we plan to join our colleagues from Annemasse for a further scientific session followed by a meal in a local hotel or restaurant. The conference ends after breakfast on Sunday morning, but delegates will be able to book extra nights before or after the conference if they wish to extend their stay.

Delegates are encouraged to give a short presentation at the meeting on Friday evening; powerpoint facilities will probably be available. Each presentation should be of approximately twenty minutes duration, allowing another ten minutes for questions and discussion. Please contact Tony Ridge (Administrative Secretary) if you are interested in giving a talk; it can be on any medically related topic (and need not be in French).

Chamonix is approximately 80km from Geneva airport which is served by many budget airlines; early booking is recommended for the cheapest fares. There is an hourly bus service from the airport to Chamonix; the hotel is a short taxi ride away. Apart from raquetting (walking with snow shoes), cross country and downhill skiing are widely available; parapenting can also be arranged from the centre of the town. A train journey to the Glace de Mer or a trip on the téléphérique to the Aiguille du Midi (with superb views of Mont Blanc as well as the whole Chamonix valley) as well as coach trips to Annecy and Italy are options for those who prefer the gentler approach to seeing the local sights.



Committee

Dr Andrew Hassan

(President)

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Robyn Hughes

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Dr Mark Savage

Dr Nicola Strickland

Dr Mark Cottrill

(co-opted member)

Dr Colin Mumford

Dr Helen Mackay

Dr Rex Melville

Dr Emma Reynish

Dr Andrew Leitch

Student Representatives

Laurie Hanna

Petites Annonces

Two members of the AFMS have accommodation available for hire near Mont St Michel. The first is in Dinan, close to St Malo and can sleep up to 8 people. The second is at Huisnes sur Mer and has six double rooms. If any one is interested in these types of accommodation please contact Tony Ridge for more information in the first instance.

Administrative Secretary

Please send details of any change of address, incorrect addresses, subscriptions and changes in email to

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