

Dear Members,

The time has come for renewing your BGPert membership for 2010-2011.

Please see <http://bathgped.org/membership.htm> for further details, including a membership form should you need one.

Why Bath Education Trust?

BGPert has the largest membership of the Trusts in the Severn Deanery, currently running at 429. Members can also attend meetings arranged by Trusts in Bristol, Gloucestershire, Somerset and Swindon, and details can be found on Severn Deanery website at http://primarycare.severndeaney.org/cpd/local_education_trusts

This year we have offered 82 meetings (16 daytime and 66 evening.) whilst introducing more recurring core skills events such as Basic Skin Surgery, Resuscitation and Child Protection. We have also supported 8 events run by other organisations and accredited by BGPert. Much of this is made possible because of the unique support of our valued colleagues at the RUH and RNHRD who provide expert resources for most of our meetings.

Meetings which display the *Education Kitemark* (See the top of this newsletter.) in all Severn Trusts are Quality Assured, with emphasis on appropriate learning objectives, facility for reflection and evaluation, and using a combination of speaker and smaller group formats.

Responsive to your needs

Formal meetings evaluation identifies that the majority of events (over 70%) gain an *Excellent* score, with the majority of the remainder ranking sessions as *Good*. An impressive 97.5% of events meet your learning objectives!

We remain responsive to your needs. For example, many of you have requested an Ophthalmology session recently and so we have arranged a meeting in October. We are happy to look at your requests at any time - just email us or the team in our office at BGPert@birdbath.org.uk. Don't forget to look at the meetings page early, <http://www.bathgped.co.uk/meetings.htm>: we put events there as soon as they are booked.

We post as many presentations as possible on our website if you want to revisit a topic or have missed a meeting. Go to http://www.bathgped.co.uk/presentations_from_meetings.htm

Towards Appraisal and Revalidation

BGPert operates with Good Medical Practice in mind, working towards Appraisal and Revalidation and all three current Education Coordinators; Nicole Howse, Linda McHugh and Anya Leaver, are also GP Appraisers. They can help steer learning towards meeting your needs and, if needed, offer further suggestions following a meeting, encompassing the RCGP Credit system.

Sadly Ian Swan from Trowbridge and Diane Bungay from Frome are leaving us to focus on other areas, but we are always looking for opportunities for educational events in other areas of our BCAP patch. As it says on every page of the website, if you would like to set up an educational meeting in your area, we would be happy to help you. We are pleased to welcome local events in Paulton at Elm Hayes, which have started positively, as have meetings at Circle Bath.

The office team will provide you a summary of meetings you have attended for your appraisal folder -another reason to make sure you sign the register!

Combined Education

Our Educational Programme with GPs in training (STs) has been assessed and acknowledged positively in the Quality Assurance report for the local Department of General Practice Education, and our ST members appreciate learning with us. We aim to provide education in a seamless transition from ST, Sessional Dr, GP Partner as well as our near Retirement GPs.

Anya is particularly pleased to welcome Sessional Drs to her meetings and all the team welcome comments on possible future meetings. See http://bathgped.org/sessional_doctors.htm for further information on the support BGPert offers for Sessional Drs.

The PGMC Office

We now have Julie and Nicki working in our PGMC office and I am sure you have appreciated their artistic abilities. You may also have notice that we have tried tightening up on DNAs as sadly the numbers were making planning for meetings too difficult. You can contact our office 9-5pm Monday to Friday via BGPert@birdbath.org.uk or phone 01225 425 632 to let us know if you have an emergency which prevents you coming to a meeting for which you had reserved your place. We often run a waiting list and try to accommodate all.

We have been working on our GP database over the last 12 months. Please help us make sure we have your current contact details and your membership of your Educational Organisation is paid up to date.

Finance and Logistics

Your membership fees for this year will remain £150, the same as last year, and we hope you agree this represents real value for money. What you will notice is we are using new venues as pharmaceutical sponsorship has been significantly reduced, and because we have not been successful recruiting new education coordinators, especially in Wiltshire, events tend to be in and around Bath.

Wishing all our members our best wishes for the year. We hope you will stick with us and encourage your colleagues to do the same!

From Nicole Linda, Anya, Ali, Nicki, Julie and Fran

Dr Nicole Howse
GP & Programme Director BGPRT
23rd March 2010