

symposium examined the mechanisms of neurodegeneration with stimulating presentations from Profs. Shaw, Lovestone, Perry and Brooks.

The evening symposium on Movement Disorders chaired by Prof Quinn and Dr K.R. Chaudhuri comprised an overview on restless legs syndrome, an update on dystonia eruditely delivered by Prof Bhatia and a series of video cases of unusual movement disorders. After an inspiring first day, delegates then repaired to the welcome reception for a restorative glass or so of wine and what seemed like an endless supply of canapés.

The following day the Epilepsy and Multiple Sclerosis scientific session told us of a functional MRI paradigm that may help predict the degree of memory loss after epilepsy surgery (Dr Powell) and an update in the use of Campath 1-h (Dr Hirst) and natalizumab (Dr Giovannoni) in MS. We then moved into the 'Top Scoring Papers' session which comprised an outstanding series of presentations, including a discussion of the syndrome of transient epileptic amnesia (see also ACNR 2006;6(4):13-14), an update on the Scottish Neurological Symptoms Study from Dr Stone and an outline of the clinical features of dysferlinopathy. Prof Wiles gave us data on the outcome of MiniCEX and DOPS assessments for trainees in neurology emphasising the importance of multiple assessments carried out by multiple assessors and highlighting the value of observation and feedback in improving the evaluation of a trainee's performance.

Dr Tengah provided feedback from the pilot Knowledge-Based Neurology Exam and revealed the uncomfortable news for consultants that they had not quite matched the 100% pass rate achieved by the year 5 SpRs. The value of protecting the integrity of consultants' supporting professional activity sessions therefore seems proven!

One of the highlights of the meeting was the presentation of the ABN medal to Professor



Above: Meeting in progress in the Wolfson Lecture Theatre, and below: our President, Professor David Chadwick at the dinner in Middle Temple.



Richard Hughes for his prolific work on peripheral neuropathy, including a citation by Dr Michael O' Brien. Prof Hughes gave a comprehensive and stimulating outline of our previous and current knowledge of diseases of peripheral nerves and a glimpse into the future about where we might be in 2037.

The meeting continued with a lecture from Prof Wessely on Gulf War Syndrome and as always the clinicopathological conference was well attended and stimulating. The conference dinner at Middle Temple was outstanding but led to a few fatigued faces on the final day of the con-

ference. The closing sessions were an eclectic mix of interesting case presentations, (with the presentation prize passing to Dr MS Jones for an unusual case of rat lungworm meningitis), followed by a discussion of what the future holds for the world of neurology in terms of medical politics, imaging and an increased knowledge of the genome. The meeting concluded with a debate in which 'This house believes that common and chronic neurological conditions are best managed by general practitioners' which perhaps unsurprisingly was overwhelmingly voted against by the ABN both before and after the debate. Encouragingly, however, most felt that way forward was increased collaborative working between primary and secondary care.

The organisers of the Autumn meeting, Prof Christopher Shaw and Dr Robert Weeks, are to be congratulated on an outstanding achievement. As always the ABN meeting was a superb mix of high quality scientific papers, outstanding lectures from keynote speakers, the opportunity for discussion at the CPC and debate, the chance to conduct some of the business of neurology with the ABNT and Programme Directors meetings, interaction with our colleagues in the pharmaceutical industry and importantly to socialise with old and new friends within our field. It was also heartening to see so many new consultants and trainee neurologists attending (including senior house officers) showing their enthusiasm for what has to be the most fascinating of medical specialities. The support of our junior colleagues is crucial to the ongoing survival of the Association of which we are all so justly proud and we look forward to welcoming more of them at future meetings.

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## Events Diary

To list your event in this diary, email brief details to Patricia McDonnell at [patriciamcdonnell@btinternet.com](mailto:patriciamcdonnell@btinternet.com) by November 22nd, 2006

### 2006

#### November

##### Birmingham Neuro-Ophthalmology Conference

1 November, 2006; Birmingham, UK  
Hilary Baggott  
T. 0121 507 6785

##### Neuro-Ophthalmology Seminar

1 November, 2006; London, UK  
Nicky Briggs  
T. 0207 935 0702  
E. Events@Rcophth.Ac.UK

##### West of England Seminar in Advanced Neurology

2-3 November, 2006; Devon, UK  
E. cgardnerthorpe@doctors.org.uk

##### 10th MS Trust Annual Conference

2-4 November, 2006; Bournemouth, UK  
T. 01462 744045  
W. [www.mstrust.org.uk/conference](http://www.mstrust.org.uk/conference)

##### Current Trends in Epilepsy: An International Symposium by AIIMS

3-5 November, 2006; New Delhi, India  
W. [www.aiims.edu/aiims/events/Neurology/currenttrends.htm](http://www.aiims.edu/aiims/events/Neurology/currenttrends.htm)

##### 3rd International Symposium on Microneurosurgical Anatomy (3rd ISMA)

5-8 November, 2006; Kemer, Antalya-Turkey  
Prof. Erdener Timurkaynak MD  
E. [etimurkaynak@yahoo.com](mailto:etimurkaynak@yahoo.com)  
W. [www.isma2006.org](http://www.isma2006.org)

##### BSRM Winter Meeting & AGM

6-7 November, 2006; Loughborough, UK  
Sandy Weatherhead  
T. 01992 638865  
E. 01992 638905

##### Neurology Symposium

9 November, 2006; Edinburgh, UK  
T. 0131 247 3636  
E. [m.farquhar@rcpe.ac.uk](mailto:m.farquhar@rcpe.ac.uk)  
W. [www.rcpe.ac.uk/education/events/index.php](http://www.rcpe.ac.uk/education/events/index.php)

##### International Psychogeriatric Association Latin American Regional Meeting

16-18 November, 2006; Mexico City, Mexico  
E. 2006mexico@ipa-online.org

##### ESNA Conference

22-24 November, 2006; Solihull, UK  
Sally Collins E. [SallyAnn.Collins@rothgen.nhs.uk](mailto:SallyAnn.Collins@rothgen.nhs.uk)

##### Joint World Congress on Stroke

22-25 November, 2006; Cape Town, South Africa  
T. +41 22 9080488  
E. [stroke2006@kenes.com](mailto:stroke2006@kenes.com)

#### NEW

##### 10th International Congress of Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders

26-29 November, 2006; Kyoto, Japan  
E. [info@movementdisorders.org](mailto:info@movementdisorders.org)  
W. [www.movementdisorders.org](http://www.movementdisorders.org)

##### XVI Meeting of the International Neuro-ophthalmology Society

29 November - 2 December, 2006; Tokyo, Japan  
Info: <http://www.inos2006.jp/>

##### 5th International Congress on Autoimmunity

29 November - 3 December, 2006; Sorrento, Italy  
W. [www.kenes.com/autoim2006/](http://www.kenes.com/autoim2006/)

#### NEW

##### 17th International Symposium on Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis/Motor Neurone Disease

30 November - 2 December, 2006; Yokohama, Japan  
E. [symposium@mndassociation.org](mailto:symposium@mndassociation.org)  
W. [www.mndassociation.org](http://www.mndassociation.org)

#### December

##### BISWG Brain Injury and Mental Health -UK Study Day

1 December, 2006; Edinburgh, UK  
Fen Parry  
T. 0131 537 6853  
E. [fen.parry@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:fen.parry@edinburgh.gov.uk) or [mhairi.campbell@pct.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:mhairi.campbell@pct.scot.nhs.uk)

##### MS Trust General Study Days

5 December, 2006; Lincolnshire, UK  
T. 01462 476704

W. [www.mstrust.org.uk/education.jsp](http://www.mstrust.org.uk/education.jsp)

##### Cochrane Systematic Reviews in Practice: Stroke

5-6 December, 2006; Perugia, Italy  
E. [cochrane.neuronet@unimi.it](mailto:cochrane.neuronet@unimi.it)

#### NEW

##### 1st UK Stoke Forum Conference

7-8 December, 2006; London, UK  
W. [www.ukstrokeforum.org](http://www.ukstrokeforum.org)

##### Attention and Driving: a cognitive neuropsychological approach

8-9 December, 2006; Wurzburg, Germany  
W. [www.koenigundmueller.de/pdf/kurs/FB061208A.pdf](http://www.koenigundmueller.de/pdf/kurs/FB061208A.pdf)

##### Advanced cognitive rehabilitation workshop: Attention and Information Processing, following brain injury

8-9 December, 2006; London, UK  
W. [www.brainretraining.co.uk](http://www.brainretraining.co.uk)  
E. [enquiries@brainretraining.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@brainretraining.co.uk)

##### RSM Bench to Bedside- Neuroprotection, Regeneration and Restoration of Function in the Nervous System

12 December, 2006; London, UK  
Tina Lanzara

T. +44(0)20 7290 3844

F. +44(0)20 7290 2977

E. [tina.lanzara@rsm.ac.uk](mailto:tina.lanzara@rsm.ac.uk)

W. [www.rsm.ac.uk/academ/c10-nprot.htm](http://www.rsm.ac.uk/academ/c10-nprot.htm)

