

Irish Society of Homeopaths Newsletter February 2012

Conference 2012

Thanks to last year's conference organising committee, and to all the speakers, stall holders, attendees, hotel staff, massage therapists, Dianne and Phil in the office and everyone else who made the first ISH conference such a success.

This year's committee consisting of Breda O'Connor (for the second year), Sarah-Jane Hewitt, Carolina Pollock, Emma Matthews and Abbas Ghadimi is hard at work designing this year's conference to be held at the Castletroy Hotel, Limerick on the 23-24 June 2012. The theme of the conference is 'Homeopathy in the Modern World', and the confirmed speakers so far are as follows:

Roger Dyson 'Maintaining Causes'
Nuala Eisling 'A New Proving'
Hilery Dorrian 'Effects of Fluoride, and ADHD'
Nimisha Parekh 'Narayani Remedies'
Fergus Morrison 'Colour Remedies'
Sheila Woolam 'Some Meditative Provings'

The cost will stay the same as last year: €150 for both days, €100 for 1 day. Students pay the discounted rate of €125 for both days, €75 for one. There is a further discount of €25 for Conference bookings made before April 30th. More information on confirmed speakers and accommodation rates in the 4 star Castletroy Hotel and on UL Campus (a 10 minute walk from the hotel), will be sent out soon to members. There will be a competition for a free place on the Society's Facebook page so look out for information there. And please get in touch with Breda if you would like to book a stand or to sell anything at the conference:

ishconference@gmail.com.

AGM 3 March 2012

The AGM, will be held on Saturday, 3rd March from 2:30pm til 4:30pm, in the Clarion Hotel, IFSC, Dublin, a few minutes walk from Connolly Station.

The primary purpose of the AGM is to present the year's accounts, and to elect/re-elect committee members to serve the Society. Elected members serve two years, and then have to be re-elected to serve a further two. Before being eligible to stand again, committee members must step down for a year.

This year's AGM will open with a welcome from our Chair, Fergus Morrison, followed by an introduction to the members of the committee and the working group members and reports from various officers on work carried out. There will be new members voted in, on the day, so anyone interested in the

position of Registrar or joining the Committee can contact any of the current members if they have questions about what it involves.

Irish Society of Homeopaths Committee 2011-2012:

Chair: Fergus Morrison (standing for re-election after two years)

Secretary: Karmen Kegl

Treasurer: Abbas Ghadimi (standing for re-election after two years)

Registrar: Tara Rafferty (stepping down after two years)

Members: Sue Prickett (stepping down after 4 years), Alastair Yarrow (stepping down after 4 years), Breda O'Connor, Liz Keegan, Joanne Breton, Rhóda Uí Chonaire.

SubCommittees/Representatives

Arbitrator: Anne Connolly (recently taken over from Máirín Begley)

European Council of Classical Homeopaths (ECCH) representative: Alastair Yarrow

Workshop organiser: Liz Keegan

Conference organising team: Breda O'Connor, Sarah-Jane Hewitt, Carolina Pollock, Emma Matthews, Abbas Ghadimi

Homeopathic Times editor: Rhóda Uí Chonaire, and team: Rita Garland, Eithne Monaghan, Pauline O'Reilly

Newsletter: Joanne Breton

Media team: Sue Prickett, Mary Barr, Grainne Adams, Sheelagh Behan, Orla Broderick, Ursula Lynch

Education Working Group: Gerry Murphy (chair), Tara Rafferty, Liz Keegan, Clódagh Sheehy

Facebook coordinator: Breda O'Connor

Office Staff: Dianne Simms, Fiona Farrel

There will be a short questionnaire at the AGM to find out members' opinions on a few issues including the registration program, workshops and CPD, the conference, the Homeopathic Times, the Committee and promoting homeopathy.

ISH Workshops 2012

Liz Keegan has put together a varied selection of workshops, but they can only go ahead when there are sufficient bookings received by the Monday preceding the workshop. Liz has rescheduled the Tissue Salts workshop for April, and anyone who had previously booked to attend this Cork workshop can now enjoy a €5 discount to attend in Dublin.

The upcoming workshops are;

11 February: Ali Welfare 'Sexual Abuse- working with sexual traumas, materia medica and case work' Dublin

10 March: Rachel Roberts 'Breast Cancer, an integrated approach' Dublin

28 April: Fergus Morrison 'The Use of the 12 Schussler's Biochemic Tissue Salts' Dublin

12 May: Kelly Johnson 'Treating Autism and the CEASE Method' Galway.

All the workshops are 10:30am-5:30pm and cost only €50 to members. More information on 01 8168830 or www.irishhomeopathy.ie

Media

Sue Prickett has made a complaint to the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland, about a remark associating the word 'homeopathist' with the word 'charlatan', made by Sean Montcrief, on a Newstalk FM programme, Movies and Booze on 27 January. Thanks are due to other members who respond to homeopathic issues in the media, Steven Blendell has been particularly active of late.

The Media Group is working on a couple of videos for the Society's Facebook page to explain homeopathy to the general public. It is still in consultation with the Advertising Standards Association of Ireland to formulate the wording that we can use in our advertising. (See below)

A Caution on Wording

Would members please read through the information below and amend your site and/or publicity material as necessary in order to avoid a complaint. These are suggestions until final copy advice is provided by the ASAI on a wider range of wording. This is intended as a guide in the meantime:

It has been drawn to our attention that some publicity material could be understood as asserting that homeopathy directly treats disease or disease symptoms. As far as possible we should ensure that our publicity material clearly reflects that homeopathy treats the person, not the disease: ...People treated with homeopathy have been shown* to experience an increased sense of well-being and an improvement in symptoms such as Asthma, Arthritis etc...

*Examples of studies can be cited and you could provide a link to particular studies. You will find study details on the ISH website if you wish to use them - look in "Health Topics\Scientific Proof".

Registration Update

In September 2011, 24 candidates enrolled on the ISH one-year Registration cycle. This programme is due to complete in June 2012. I would like to wish all candidates the best of luck with their final portfolios and site visits. The two-year Registration programme is due to complete its final cycle later this year. There are 7 candidates still to present their portfolios and again I wish them well. In other news, Máirín Begley has stepped down as ISH Arbitrator. On behalf of the Society, I would like to thank Máirín for all her hard work and commitment to this role. Anne Connolly has now kindly agreed to become the Society's Arbitrator.

Tara Rafferty (Registrar)

Education Working Group

The role of the Working Group is to work towards the development and implementation of the Education Policy of the Society. It will make recommendations and proposals as to how best to develop all aspects of this policy for the benefit of the Society, from the education of the general public to CPD for registered members. The EWG strives to improve the standard of education of Homeopathy in Ireland, for homeopathic students, practicing homeopaths and the public. It is also in place to identify areas of concern within the education of homeopathy and inform the ISH Committee with suggestions for improvement. The EWG is in communication with the IACP, the Irish Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy, with suggestions on a possible future programme with this society, to support our supervision process.

The Education Working Group proposes that the ISH should take the initiative and lead the way toward mutual recognition of qualifications of registered members from other ECCH member organizations. One of the main reasons is that many people travel to different countries to work and there have been instances of qualified homeopaths from other countries wanting to register here. In view of the fact that Ireland has a cohesive educational system from accreditation of courses through to a robust and transparent registration programme and ongoing CPD for registered members, we are in a very good position to begin such an initiative.

World Homeopathy Awareness Week

Jean Blake is coordinating the World Homeopathy Awareness Week in April and wants to hear about your plans. There are posters and leaflets available and traditionally, homeopaths represent homeopathy in their local health food shops, schools, libraries and media during this week. Let Jean know what your contribution will be at jeanblake@eircom.net
Please put WHAW in the subject line.

ECCH News

The ECCH is the voice of Homoeopathy in Europe. It is constantly vigilant in reporting both positive and negative activities/articles/programmes on Homoeopathy and provides useful suggestions/comments on how we can deflect any perceived attacks, especially by the media. In the European Parliament it continually lobbies MEPs and Irish MEPs - Pat the Cope Gallagher MEP and Marian Harkin MEP have both been very supportive of the CAM interest group. This group has the responsibility of looking at the creation of safeguards for CAM research and ensuring the provision of dedicated funding. Research is showing the great benefits of CAM (including Homoeopathy) in chronic and preventative care. This is of ever increasing significance as the economic crisis deepens across Europe.

The ECCH promoted the release of the Swiss federal report on 30 Nov 2011, which clearly states the benefits of Homoeopathy, offering a safe and cost-effective treatment. It organised the EU Antibiotic Awareness day (18Nov2011), The Media conference, and the production of the new International guidelines for Homoeopathic Education. And finally, as Croatia becomes a full member of the EU, the next AGM will be held in Zargreb this year, from 24-27 May. Check out the ECCH website for up to date research articles and more.

Office News

Phil Herbert has recently left the Society office and on behalf of all of us we would like to thank her for her hard work and wish her all the best in her future endeavours! Fiona Farrel is joining Dianne in the office as Assistant Office Administrator. Fiona comes with 17 years of administrative experience in The Civil Service. She has spent 3 years as an information officer and used her many skills in her role as deputy editor of their in-house magazine and other publications. We wish her every success in her new role!

The Homeopathic Times, Spring 2012

Like every other homeopath, whether of recent or of long standing, your experience is going to be particular to you, and to the patients who show up for you. Do you have cases you would like to share? Perhaps a remedy that worked remarkably well- to your great surprise?! Maybe you have come across a book you cannot do without - would you share that information with your colleagues? How do you learn Materia Medica? Do you have ways of remembering remedy information ? What has helped you in your practice? Have you learned something that you wished you knew when you started out? Have you insights that you can share with others? Is there an experienced homeopath living close to you whom you would love to interview? Do you have funny instances that only other homeopaths would appreciate? Tell us! Have you taken part in a proving that hasn't yet been published? Would you care to take the light out from under that bushel and put the information into words? Do you have something you would like to advertise?

We are waiting for your contribution to make the Homeopathic Times a great journal for Irish homeopaths. The next edition should be published in April 2012 - presuming we get your article of course! If you have an idea for an article or intend to make contribution please contact me at rhoda_ui@hotmail.com (putting HT in the subjectline).

Deadline for Spring issue: 29 February 2012.

*The Committee
February 2012*