



in association with the International Union Against Cancer *Help Your Patient to Stop* explains why smoking is dangerous and why it is worth stopping, and advises doctors how to offer help. (A leading article was published last week, p 312.)

Copies are available from the BMA's public affairs division and from regional offices.

First chair of nuclear medicine

The University of London has recently established the first chair of nuclear medicine in the United Kingdom, tenable in the Department of Nuclear Medicine, University College and Middlesex School of Medicine. Dr P J Ell has been appointed to the chair from 1 October 1987.

COMING EVENTS

British Medical Association Mersey Regional Council—Open meeting, speaker Dr Ian McKim Thompson, 17 February, Liverpool Medical Institution. Details from BMA Mersey Regional Office, 22 Oxford Street, Liverpool L7 7BL. (Tel 051 709 5660.) Closing date for applications 10 February.

National Children's Bureau—Conference "Family fortunes. Adapting support services for children in changing families," 13-15 March, Peebles. Details from the conference office of the bureau, 8 Wakley Street, London EC1V 7QE.

British Association of Pharmaceutical Physicians—Symposium "Thalidomide: the aftermath," 15 March, London. Details from the administrator of the association, Mrs J Vase-Bailey, 1 Wimpole Street, London W1M 8AE. (Tel 01 491 8610.)

University of Bristol—Details of courses "Antibiotics and the resistance problem," 21-23 March, and "Introduction to basic techniques in molecular genetics," 11-15 April, Bristol, are available from Dr D J Hill, of the department of extramural studies of the university, Willis Memorial Building, Queen's Road, Bristol BS8 1HR. (Tel 0272 303612/303629.)

Balint Society—Demonstration group, 23 March, London. Details from Dr Peter Graham, 149 Altmore Avenue, East Ham, London E6 2BT. (Tel 01 472 4822/505 1520.)

University of Leeds—First international conference on "Philosophical ethics in reproductive medicine," 18-22 April, Leeds. Details from the director of continuing education in the department of adult and continuing medicine of the university, Leeds LS2 9JT.

Duphar Laboratories Limited Medical Relations Department—Non-promotional symposium "Sudden cardiac death: a cause for concern?" 22 April, London. Details from Dr J C Malkin of the department, Gaters Hill, West End, Southampton SO3 3JD. (Tel 0703 472281.)

Royal College of General Practitioners—Spring meeting "Conflict or cooperation, changing frontiers in family practice," 22-24 April, Cheltenham. Details from the registration secretary at the conference office, Little Eslington, Thirstaine Road, Cheltenham, Glos GL53 7AS. (Tel 0242 221757.) Study day on Asthma, 11 May, London. Details from the conference administrator of the college, Janet Hawkins, 14 Princes Gate, Hyde Park, London SW7 1PU. (Tel 01 581 3232 ext 258.)

New stock

The government has given approval to Trent Regional Health Authority's plans for the next major building project at Lincoln County Hospital, at a cost of £17.5m. The project will provide five adult wards, one children's ward, an intensive care unit, and operating theatres. There will be a new accident and emergency department and improved supporting diagnostic services.

People in the news

Sir John Batten has succeeded Sir Melville Arnott as president of the British Lung Foundation.

Professor V W M Drury has been elected president and Professor D J Pereira Gray has been elected chairman of the Royal College of General Practitioners.

Professor Donald Michie and Dr Anne McLaren have been awarded Pioneer Awards by the International Embryo Transfer Society.

Dr T J Evans of Cambridge University has been awarded the George Peter Baker prize for 1987.

Corrections

Latest figures on AIDS

In table II the numbers given for people testing positive for the HIV antibody refer to England, Wales, and Northern Ireland (23 January, p 296). The total for the United Kingdom to the end of 1987 was 8016.

Saying no to Alton

It was stated that in the two years before the introduction of the Abortion Act in 1967, 98 women died from criminal abortions (12 December, p 1570). The *Report on Confidential Enquiries into Maternal Deaths in England and Wales 1964-1966* from which this figure was taken covers three, not two years.

Royal South Hants Hospital—Advanced medicine course for consultants and registrars, 16-20 May, Southampton. Details from Dr J R E Dathan at the postgraduate medical centre of the hospital, Graham Road, Southampton, Hampshire SO9 4PE. (Tel 0703 634288 ext 2493.)

Royal College of Surgeons of England—Royal Academy Soirée, 16 June, London. Details from Mr R S Johnson-Gilbert at the college, 35-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PN.

Medical Society for the Study of Venereal Diseases—Spring meeting, 30 June-3 July, Cambridge. Details from the honorary secretary, Dr MA Waugh, Department of Genitourinary Medicine, General Infirmary, Leeds LS1 3EX.

SOCIETIES AND LECTURES

For attending lectures marked * a fee is charged or a ticket is required. Applications should be made first to the institutions concerned.

Monday 8 February

GREEN COLLEGE OXFORD—At Radcliffe Observatory, 6 pm, Sir Christopher Booth: The National Health Service, the universities, and the research councils: the future of academic medicine.*
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON—At Darwin Theatre, 5:30 pm, Freud Memorial lecture in psychoanalysis by Patrick Casamen: Some affects of theory on the psychoanalysis process.

Tuesday 9 February

CHARTER NIGHTINGALE HOSPITAL—At Conference Room, 7:30 pm, Professor G Russell: Treatment of anorexia and bulimia nervosa. (Preceded by buffet supper 7 pm.)
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD ICRF CANCER EPIDEMIOLOGY AND CLINICAL TRIALS UNIT—At Ida Green Seminar Room, Observer's House, Green College, 5 pm, Joan Austoker: Cancer control in Britain: lessons from history?

Wednesday 10 February

INSTITUTE OF ORTHOPAEDICS—At Courtauld Lecture Theatre, Middlesex Hospital, 6 pm, Mr R Birch: Peripheral nerve injuries.

acute and neglected. 7 pm, Mr T McSweeney: Fractures of the cervical spine.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND—5 pm, Wood Jones lecture by Professor R E M Bowden: Anatomy, science, and servant of medicine.

ROYAL POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL SCHOOL—At Stamp Lecture Theatre, 10:15 am, medical staff round.

WELLCOME INSTITUTE FOR THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE—At Seminar Room, 5:30 pm, Dr Robert Miller: The prevention of water related disease in the ancient near East. (Tea and sandwiches available from 5:15 pm.)

Thursday 11 February

ONCOLOGY CLUB—At Lower Ground Floor Lecture Theatre, Chester Beatty Research Institute, 6:30 pm, Dr Mike Richards: NMR a magnet for oncologists?

QUEEN CHARLOTTE'S MATERNITY HOSPITAL—At first floor Pathology Lecture Theatre, Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, 12:15 for 12:30 pm, paediatric seminar, Dr Alison Elliman: Follow up of low birth weight babies.

Friday 12 February

BROMPTON HOSPITAL MEDICAL UNIT STAFF ROUND—At Lecture Theatre, Cardiothoracic Institute, 8 am, Professor Ann Tattersfield: Bronchial hyper-reactivity in the community. (Preceded by coffee and rolls, 7:30 am.)

NUFFIELD DEPARTMENT OF ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY, OXFORD—6:30 pm, Dr M Doherty: The heterogeneity of osteoarthritis.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF EDINBURGH—5 pm, Mr Bruce Torrance: Surgical management of chronic pancreatitis.

Saturday 13 February

NUFFIELD DEPARTMENT OF ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY, OXFORD—8:30 am, Dr M Doherty: Mechanisms of joint damage and repair in osteoarthritis. 9:30 am, Mr C M Fergusson: Genetics of osteoarthritis.

BMA NOTICES

Division meetings

Members proposing to attend meetings marked * are asked to notify in advance the honorary secretary concerned.

Dewsbury—At front entrance hall of Fox's Biscuits, Batley, Tuesday 9 February, 8 pm, tour of factory.*

East Dorset—At Poole Arts Centre, Friday 12 February, 7:30 for 8 pm, BMA/Law Society combined meeting and dinner, speaker Mr Sherriff Payne.*

Eastern—At North Lecture Theatre, Medical Biology Centre, 97 Lisburn Road, Thursday 11 February, 8 pm, Dr J S Logan: "The nature of the fevers of Belfast in the early 19th century and some physicians of the time."

East Yorkshire—At Grange Park Hotel, Willerby, Wednesday 10 February, 8 for 8:30 pm, dinner.*

Huddersfield—At George Hotel, Friday 12 February, 7:30 for 8 pm, annual dinner, speaker Mr David Bolt: "Whatever is happening in the NHS."* (Guests welcome.)

Lambeth and Southwark—At Robens Suite, Guy's Hospital, Tuesday 9 February, 7:30 pm, Dr Ignac Fogelman: "Osteoporosis past, present, and future."* (Followed by buffet supper.)*

Leicester—At Leicester Royal Infirmary Clinical Sciences Building, Wednesday 10 February, 6 pm, joint meeting with Leicester Medical Society, speaker Dr I McKim Thompson: "Some everyday ethical dilemmas."

Liverpool—At Liverpool Medical Institution, Thursday 11 February, 8 pm, joint symposium with the institution "Medical litigation."* (Preceded by buffet 7 pm.)*

Maidstone—At TVS Studios, Wednesday 10 February, 5:45 pm, tour of studios.*

Perth and Kinross—At Board Room, Perth Royal Infirmary, Wednesday 10 February, 7:30 pm, business meeting.

Scarborough—At Postgraduate Medical Centre, Scarborough General Hospital, Thursday 11 February, 7:45 for 8:30 pm, Dr Michael A Green: "A day in the life of a forensic pathologist." (Buffet supper. Guests welcome.)

Southern—At Banbridge Hospital, Tuesday 9 February, 8 pm, clinical pathological conference.

Waltham Forest—At Medical Education Centre, Whipps Cross Hospital, Thursday 11 February, 8:30 pm, combined BMA/MEC meeting, speaker Dr M Keir: "The sun, sunbeds, and the skin." (Preceded by buffet supper 7:30 pm.)*

Regional meetings

North West Thames Regional Hospital Junior Staff Committee—At Doctors' Mess, Northwick Park Hospital, Tuesday 9 February, 7 for 7:30 pm.

Trent South Hospital Junior Staff Committee—In Seminar Room Postgraduate Medical Education Centre, Derbyshire Royal Infirmary, Thursday 11 February, 7:30 pm.

Wessex Community Medicine, Community Health Craft Committee—At Lecture Theatre B, Postgraduate Medical Centre, Southampton General Hospital, Thursday 11 February, 2:15 pm, extraordinary meeting to discuss the *Report of the Committee of Inquiry into the Future Development of the Public Health Function*. (Acheson report). All doctors practising community medicine and community health in the region invited.

Yorkshire Regional Hospital Junior Staff Committee—At Senior Staff Dining Room, Leeds General Infirmary, Tuesday 9 February, 8 pm.

© British Medical Journal 1988

All Rights Reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission, in writing, of the *British Medical Journal*.