

# Chair Review

## 2008 - 2009

### Committee

Chair Person	Mary Sinclair-Porter
Secretary	Caroline Froude
Committee	Steve Maybury
Committee	Jon Parker
Committee	Mike Taylor
Committee	Yunus Piperdy



### Foreword

This last season I hope you have continued to find our speakers interesting fun informative and of course educational, the committee work hard to ensure we cater to your requirements and pitch the talks at an appropriate level. The attendance for the last season was brilliant, which I believe reflects the quality of the speaker and relevant topic however it is only with our members' support that really makes these events successful, so thank you. We have canvassed for feedback and conducted a survey again during the year, you will know by now that this I regard as a gift - how can we get better if you don't tell us! The survey results still show a preference for Bristol, but a sentimental attachment to Cheltenham... our attendance figures also reflect this. So this last season we did a 50/50 split, for this season we will have only one event in Cheltenham, which obviously is tonight and we have a few treats in store.

### So a review of the last season's speakers

#### 9 October - Bristol - 90 attendees

One of our favoured, passionate and most eloquent speakers Dr Peter Groom, who is also S74's honorary medical advisor, launched the season with "much ado about nothing?" CKD, what it is and what it isn't, the focus was on chronic kidney disease and the truths and myths that surround it. For those that attended you will know that Peter ensures audience participation, creating a little squirming! However - always very educational and informative, always with the underwriter in mind.

#### 4 December - Cheltenham - 83 attendees

Now one of my personal highlights of the year and of course it was Christmas, so our thanks to SCOR - especially Steve Maybury for securing Dr Jeremy Hobart (academic neurologist) who spoke to us about simplifying neurology for CIC Claims, MS was heavily featured with some of its aggressive treatments, a small video clip was played of a clinical examination, which brought home the impact of this disease. Then I became distracted (I blame the bright blue socks) and did not pay a lot of attention to his presentation...you can however visit all past presentations on our website ([www.select74.org](http://www.select74.org)).

#### 26 February - Bristol - 110 attendees

This session we covered psychiatric disorders and introduced a new speaker, Dr Jonathan Evans, who talk was titled "from agoraphobia to Z\*\*philia" that raised a few eyebrows!!, this focused on the population impact of psychiatric disorders, he covered neurotic symptoms, yes ladies we are more neurotic than the boys, Common mental disorders (CMD), Depression and its severity. Dr Evans was very engaging and presented us with some thought provoking scenarios. I seem to remember being in the range most susceptible explains a lot!

## 21 May - and we are back in Cheltenham - 81 attendees

for our final talk of the season another big personality Professor Mansel Aylward , we were really lucky to secure Mansel's time, this man is in huge demand and performs talks all over the world, however he just can't say no to us!! Mansel's talk was on the "Health of the nation, with a special reference to obesity, type 2 diabetes. How does a recession/depression or the modern term credit crunch affect our health and what we can expect to see in the next 20 years.

The scary statistics he raised were 1m undiagnosed type 2 diabetics, our fat kids, our poor diets and huge lack of activity he almost put us off our dinner! He also despite its critics promoted the good ole NHS and the fact that they are by and large achieving the founding principles. A key message he left us with "accentuate the positive eliminate the negative there is no room for the in between"

## April 09 - LUCID... what a conference!

I can't finish without mentioning the lucid conference that S74 were involved with in-conjunction with the AMU/AMS & Health claims forum. The event has received very positive feedback, providing great speakers, some fabulous sessions, great networking at a lovely venue...well Stratford. The next LUCID is currently being discussed and initial thoughts are being put together, let us know if you have any ideas/topics you would liked covered, we would love to hear from you.

## And finally...

I look forward to this next season as Chair and the ongoing success of this club, please can I encourage you to visit the website - the past presentations are always worth reviewing again and again, a huge thanks to all for supporting the club and the fabulous committee for keeping it real.

Have a happy positive and healthy season.

Mary Sinclair-Porter

