

Celebrating our Diamond Jubilee

EST 1962

President's newsletter – July 2022



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President's Message

Government

We are keeping a close eye on the ministerial changes at the top of Government.

Steve Barclay MP has been appointed as Health Secretary, and we have welcomed him in his new role. James Morris MP takes up post as Parliamentary Under Secretary of State.

We will monitor the situation and continue to work with the government and parliamentarians to advocate for pathology and pathologists.

Celebrating our 60th Anniversary

I was delighted to welcome College Fellow and former Deputy Chief Medical Officer of England, Professor Sir Jonathan Van-Tam, who delivered our Foundation lecture for our 60th Anniversary.

Professor Sir Jonathan Van-Tam's lecture, *Lessons learnt during the COVID-19 pandemic and his contribution to the UK Vaccines Taskforce and the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation*, was a fascinating and illuminating overview of what it was like to be at centre of one of the biggest health crises to face the NHS.

Despite moving the lecture online at short notice, there were over 200 attendees ensuring a lively and engaging question and answer session.

I would also like to thank [Aiforia](#), the sponsor of our Named College Lecture Series, which included our Foundation lecture. The lecture is [available on the College website](#).

College Diamond Jubilee – regional events

To mark the College Jubilee, the College's [Wales Regional Council](#) led by Dr Jonathan Kell, Chair, organised [a walk along the Wales Coastal Path](#).

Walks took place all around the coast with the South Wales walk starting at Barry Island, via Sully and Penarth Pier and finishing at the Welsh parliament, the Senedd. We were delighted that the Mayor of Penarth, Cllr Laura Rochefort, joined us between Penarth and Cardiff Bay to celebrate our Diamond Jubilee. Thank you to all the walkers on different stretches of the Welsh Coastal Path including Dr James Davies MP (Conservative, Vale of Clwyd), who joined the walk from Prestatyn to Rhyl with a group from the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board.

The Council also hosted a lecture at the Senedd with Dr Meena Upadhyaya OBE on Tuesday 14 June. Meena gave a talk on the challenges she has faced in her career, coming from a minority background. Meena also described the advances made in the fields of genetics during her career. We were especially thankful to Senedd Member, Vaughan Gething, who sponsored and attended the lecture.

The events provide a great template to promote pathology not only in Wales but for the UK as a whole.

We will also be working with Meena to develop our work on diversity and inclusion. We are also keen to hear from others and develop ideas and suggestions around this important work programme.

Your College needs you!

Last month I highlighted the welcome news that the Department of Health and Social Care, with the devolved nation health bodies, has [written to all NHS/HSC organisations calling for the release of medical staff](#) to undertake work on behalf of medical royal colleges, regulators and other professional bodies.

We have a number of roles that offer members the opportunity to contribute at a national level to the development of pathology services and to the good governance of the College.

We are looking for members to take up key roles at on the College's Trustee board as [Treasurer](#) and [Wales Regional Council Chair](#).

Five Clinical Directors

Our Clinical Directors play a vital role in giving strategic pathology support to our Professionalism, Learning and Communications Directorates. We have vacancies in each directorate that offer College Fellows the opportunity to get involved in a number of exciting areas of work. To apply see [visit the College website](#).

On the agenda

Engaging parliamentarians and stakeholders

I was delighted to attend the [All-Party Parliamentary Group on Cancer](#) meeting at the House of Commons where I joined other key organisations and parliamentarians to discuss the 10 year cancer plan.

It was a very productive meeting involving politicians, other royal colleges, cancer patients and charities. We discussed how we could improve cancer care, the cancer pathway and treatment for cancer patients. I highlighted the importance and role of pathology and pathologists of all specialties in cancer diagnosis and treatment which was very well received. I also highlighted the importance of cancer care and how all those involved at every step of a cancer patient's journey need to work better together and support each other to promote, support and develop better cancer care.

I was very pleased to be able to catch up with MPs from all parties, including my constituency MP, Ellie Reeves, at the '[Parliamentary Links Day](#)', organised by the Royal Society of Biology in Parliament. Ellie has helped us highlight pathology and healthcare issues, especially around workforce and investment and we are very grateful for the support given by Ellie and her team.

College influence

Along with our colleagues at the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges, we supported the International Federation of Gynaecology and Obstetrics' [statement](#) condemning the US Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe v. Wade.

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A PDF version of this e-newsletter is available at
[RCPATH newsletters](#)

National Pathology Week – 20–26 June

We celebrated National Pathology Week with a series of College-led events. The highlights included our book club series featuring Stuck with [Professor Heidi Larson](#).

We also discussed the past, present and future of pathology, learned how to make pathology-inspired origami with Dr Lizzie Burns and ran two pathology pub quizzes for medical, biomedical and veterinary undergraduates. We'd love to hear how you celebrated NPW – please share any stories or events from your NPW activities with us.

Diamond Jubilee – Celebrating 60 years of the College

College's 60th anniversary

[2022 is the College's Diamond Jubilee year](#). The College was founded on 21 June 1962 to develop and support the evolving specialties of pathology. We are now over half-way through the year and celebrations continue with events and activities across the UK. Visit the College website to [find out what's happening in your region](#).

Melissa Bus

The first [Melissa Bus](#) event took place at Cockermouth School, in the NE England on 1 July.

This event is a partnership between RCPATH, Melissa Bus and the [Social Mobility Foundation](#) to give young people a chance to develop their curiosity and passion for science subjects and consider a career in pathology.

RCPATH Open Day

RCPATH Open Day public engagement activities with secondary school students, including the Living Autopsy lecture by Dr Suzy Lishman CBE, is now taking place on 8 September at Alie Street. More details to follow.

[RCPATH/Specialist Society Medical Elective small grant scheme](#)

The College is delighted to announce a new RCPATH/Specialist Society Medical Elective small grant scheme, launched to mark the College's Diamond Jubilee.

The scheme is jointly funded by the College and partner societies and will offer grants of up to £1,000. The grants will help to support undergraduate medical and veterinary students who wish to undertake electives in pathology disciplines.

Electives may be clinical or research-based and may be undertaken in any part of the world.

A minimum of £500 must be used for student travel and subsistence with the remaining amount being spent flexibly for project-related costs such as consumables, or for student costs, as appropriate for the project. [Applications for this year are now open](#). The closing date is Friday 9 September 2022. Successful candidates will be informed in October 2022.

Devolved nations regional council – Diamond Jubilee events

RCPATH Scotland 60th Anniversary Symposium: What has pathology ever done for us?

25 November 2022 (Save the date)

Further information will follow.

Working for members

Nominations open for two Trustee Board roles

Nominations for election of two of the College's trustees opened on 1 June.

All eligible Fellows have been sent information direct by [Civica](#), who are managing the process on behalf of the College.

Information on the roles can be found on the following links:

[Treasurer](#)

[Wales Regional Council Chair](#)

Nominations will be accepted up to midday on 5 August 2022.

Submit a patient safety case study and claim CPD credits

Would you like to share your knowledge and experiences with colleagues and earn CPD credits?

We are looking for case studies on experiences that have, or may have, impacted on patient safety. The case study should describe what went well or less well, and why.

We would also like to hear: how the situation was approached and resolved; what was learnt; and how this was shared. This constitutes high-quality learning and you can claim 1 CPD credit per

case study you send us in your online CPD portfolio.

For an example of a published case study, please see [SHOT](#). For more information, please email cpd@rcpath.org

College Assessors – CPD points

The College greatly values the work of College Assessors on Advisory Appointment Committees (AACs or interview panels).

In recognition of this highly important and valued work, the College's Professional Standards department will now allocate two CPD credits for each AAC attended by College Assessors.

If you would like to become an Assessor for us, please fill in the nomination form – [Get involved at the College](#).

Visiting the Royal College of Physicians Medicinal Garden

The Royal College of Physicians' garden contains over 1,100 plants, all with links to medicine. The plants come from diverse cultures, different countries with living examples of the history of medicine from the era of the pyramids of Egypt to today's life-saving prescription drugs.

The garden has been beautifully designed and is a wonderfully calm space opposite Regent's Park in the centre of London.

We are delighted to have arranged specific dates for RCPATH members to attend garden tours during the College's Diamond Jubilee in 2022 as follows:

- Tuesday 26 July (11am to 12.30pm)
- Wednesday 24 August (2pm to 3.30pm)

There is no charge but spaces are limited. Please contact publicengagementnet@rcpath.org if you are interested in joining these tours by 18 July and 15 Aug respectively (family of College members are also welcome to join if spaces available).

Regional news

REGIONAL SYMPOSIA

REGIONAL SURGERIES IN ENGLAND

A series of 'surgeries' will be held over the next few months, where all members in the region are warmly invited to meet with their Regional Representative via a Microsoft Teams virtual session. This will be an open time for Regional Representatives to meet with you and hear of your work, areas of concern and points of interest that you wish to raise. These are planned to be held in the time before College Council meets to present the region's interests and concerns to this body. These surgeries are hopefully also an opportunity for you to meet via Teams with colleagues across your region.

The next round of regional surgeries will be held on the following dates:

Midlands and East of England surgery: date to be confirmed – led by Dr Laszlo Igali (laszlo.igali@rcpath.org), English Regional Representative to Council (Midlands and East of England)

North of England surgery: Friday 2 September 2022, 12.30pm–2pm – led by Dr Ali Robb (ali.robbs@rcpath.org), English Regional Representative to Council (North of England)

South of England surgery: date to be confirmed – led by Dr Negar Maghsoodi (negar.maghsoodi@rcpath.org), English Regional Representative to Council (South).

College conferences and symposia

[Not in the textbooks study day – Virtual Meeting](#)

Tuesday 27 September 2022

CPD credits: 6

The study day is a unique opportunity for trainees in all pathology disciplines, at all stages of training who want to gain more insight into important issues that they are likely to face in the future, that are not easily learnt, and that are not necessarily covered by the curriculum. A day to learn about topics which are routinely 'not in the textbooks.'

[RCPath Virology Study Day – Virtual Meeting](#)

Wednesday 28 September 2022

CPD Credits: 4

This day has been devised for those working or interested in infection specialties including virology, microbiology, and infectious diseases. The programme should be of interest to all levels and aims to give trainees the opportunity for consultant led, interactive teaching to equip them with knowledge and skills for specialist medical microbiology and virology practice.

[RCPATH workshop: CNS tumour WHO 2021 and methylation profiling – update recommendations](#)

Friday 30 September 2022

CPD Credits: 6

This one-day workshop will provide a detailed update on the changes in the CNS tumour WHO 2021 classification covering diagnostic aspects of adult and paediatric brain tumours. The workshop will also address the advances in methylation profiling of intrinsic tumours as well as meningiomas. The workshop will be complemented by an interactive practical session where participants will have the opportunity to discuss the diagnostic approaches using CNS WHO 2021 classification and methylation profiling. The cases included in the interactive session will be available to view in a digital format prior, during and after the workshop for registered participants.

The target audience for this workshop are neuropathologists, pathologists, neurooncologists, neurosurgeons, neuroscientists and other healthcare professionals involved in adult and paediatric brain tumour diagnostics, treatment, or research

Medical examiner training

The College is the [lead medical royal college for medical examiners](#) and provides training for any doctor wishing to work as a medical examiner. Participants will need to complete mandatory 26 e-learning modules and attend an entire face-to-face training day to receive a certificate of completion. The day includes short presentations, small group discussions of case scenarios and the opportunity to share experience. Medical examiner training is open only to

medically qualified individuals who work in England and Wales.

New medical examiners who successfully complete the training and the e-learning modules will be invited to join the College as members.

Medical examiner training session – Virtual Training

Wednesday 31 August 2022

CPD credits: 6

Medical examiner training session – In Person

Thursday 27 October 2022

To be held at the Royal College of Pathologists, 6 Alie Street, London, E1 8QT

CPD credits: 6

Medical examiner training session – Virtual Training

Wednesday 7 December 2022

CPD credits: 6

Medical examiner officer training

The College also leads on the training of [medical examiner officers](#) (MEOs).

MEOs work closely with medical examiners and undertake tasks such as coordinating the completion of death certificates and referrals to the coroner, and speaking to clinicians and bereaved families.

MEOs may come from a wide range of backgrounds. For example, nurses, healthcare scientists or bereavement officers although this list is not exhaustive. More information, including a [model job description](#), is on the [College website](#).

The face-to-face training day is the second part of MEO training. Everyone attending the course must have completed the 26 mandatory core e-learning modules before the date of the course to get the most out of the training day. The e-learning modules [can be accessed here](#). (Registration with e-Learning for Healthcare is required.)

Medical examiner officer training session – Virtual Training

Friday 23 September 2022

CPD credits: 6

For further information, please contact the RCPATH Conference team at meetings@rcpath.org or on 020 7451 6700.

News from external organisations

Supporting medical colleagues in Ukraine – One-day symposium – 13 August

The German Division of the International Academy of Pathology has organised a one-day symposium to raise funds to support medical colleagues in Ukraine. All participation fees from the event will be used for medical care and diagnostics. College members who would like to attend the conference on Saturday 13 August can see the programme and register via the [College website](#) and can self-accredit for the full 6 CPD credits.

Polio – UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA)

The UKHSA, working with the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), has found poliovirus in sewage samples collected from the London Beckton Sewage Treatment Works. Wastewater surveillance is being expanded to assess the extent of transmission and identify local areas for targeted action.

Healthcare professionals have been alerted by the UKHSA to these findings so they can promptly investigate and report anyone presenting with symptoms that could be polio, such as paralysis. For more information visit: [UKHSA website](#).

New National Cancer Data from National Disease Registration Service available for pathologists to use

The Get Data Out programme from the National Disease Registration Service released new data on Thursday 28 April.

This includes new detailed statistics on Routes to Diagnosis and survival for cancer patients diagnosed between 2013 and 2018, for all 14 of current GDO cancer sites, plus a new GDO cancer site 'Skin tumours'.

2013–2019 incidence data will also be released for the new GDO cancer site 'Skin tumours'. Data available [here](#).

Please address any queries re the Skin tumours Get Data Out release to Dr Paul Craig, Chair of the RCPATH Dermatopathology Subcommittee at paul.craig2@nhs.net, and queries about other cancer sites to Charlotte Eversfield, Senior Cancer Intelligence Analyst, NHS Digital at charlotte.eversfield@nhs.net

NCRI Colorectal Group strategy survey

The [NCRI](#) Colorectal Group is running a survey to gather information on what the cancer community identifies as the challenges, opportunities and gaps in this area, as well as the most pressing unanswered questions. Visit [NCRI Survey](#). Deadline 1 August 2022.

Other external events of interest

05 September 2022

[Histopathology of the Bone Marrow](#)

16 September 2022

[St Mark's GI Histopathology workshop](#)

22–26 September 2022

[FIS/HIS International Conference 2022](#)

26 September–17 October 2022

[Virtual Lymphoma Management Course 2022](#)

27–28 September 2022

[Infection 360](#)

29–30 September 2022

[The 18th BAUP Advanced Prostate Pathology Course](#)

30 September 2022

[5th Cardiac Marker Dialogues meeting | Troponin in the Real World](#)

07 October 2022

[The Wessex & Gloucestershire Gastrointestinal Pathology Course](#)

20 October 2022

[An introduction to guideline development](#)

04 November 2022

[Birmingham Breast Pathology Update Course - Virtual course](#)

25 November 2022

Consultant Pathologist AP Update Course - For more information, please contact:
m.madigan1@nhs.net

05–08 December 2022

[British Society for Immunology Congress 2022](#)

RCPATH CPD-accredited online resources can be found at the following [link](#).