

# Dowling Club Update



As the nights draw in, it is hard to think that only a few weeks ago we were enjoying the autumn sunshine in the beautiful city of York! Beginning what we hope will be another exciting year of Dowling Club events, our joint meeting with the British Society of Cutaneous Allergy was filled with practical updates in contact dermatitis, fascinating insights into the legal mind and a nut-and-bolts guide to appearing in court as an expert witness. Dr Calum Lyon's key note lecture on the problems of stumps, prostheses and stomas and Dr Mike Beck's words of wisdom after thirty years in practice displayed a depth of experience that novices such as myself can only wonder at!

While the intellectual material provided much food for thought, the evening reception was food of a more conventional, tasty sort. Dr Ian Coulson's update on hand eczema, punctuated by a rare insight into his locality's sense of humour, had to be seen to be believed – a very pun-y take on an interesting subject! Commiserations to the dedicated souls who headed home to carry on with revising for the SCE exam and missed out on some truly delicious sticky-toffee pudding – I hope it paid off for all of you.

More recently, the post-RSM dinner at the Royal Automobile Club fortuitously coincided with their 007-Bond night. The tuxedos and the Aston Martin in the lobby drew many admiring glances on the way to a lovely dinner in grand surroundings. Dr Stephanie Munn's African Quiz was enlightening both geographically and dermatologically and paves the way for a future Dowling Club trip to Ethiopia in 2013 – watch this space!

We are hoping for another wonderful evening in the splendid surroundings of the Garrick Club on the 16th of December and expect great things from the foreign trip to Germany & Poland in 2011. Subsidised places are available for trainees and it promises to be a varied itinerary taking in Wroclaw, Dresden and Berlin with delights of cabaret, opera and bierkellers guaranteed (details available in the Dowling Club section of the BAD website).



A very enjoyable weekend in York with the Dowling Club & the British Society of Cutaneous Allergy in historic St William's College

On a more local note, our joint meeting with the North of England Dermatology Society on 13th-15th of May 2011 will include 'Cosmetic Dermatology for the Uninitiated' – a chance to look at the hows, whys and whens of cosmetic procedures and put questions to expert practitioners. We are also offering another opportunity to attend the Dermatology Business Skills course organised by Dr Julia Schofield. We are very lucky to be able to offer this very popular event for a second year and suggest early booking to avoid disappointment. Finally, plans for the Dowling Oration are well underway and will definitely feature Dr Chris Lovell, dinner, plants and dermatology in an, as yet uncertain, order. Details should be

available early next year so keep an eye on the website.

As a relative new-comer to the Dowling Club, I hope I get the opportunity to meet lots of you during my year as Honorary Secretary. Before taking on this role, I had little experience of Dowling Club events, but I'm on a steep learning curve! In common with many 'provincial' trainees dwelling outside the bright lights of London, I was not aware of however varied and enjoyable the activities of the Dowling Club could be.... I am rapidly discovering my mistake. For anyone who is not a Dowling Club member, maybe some of our upcoming events for 2010-11 will be the stimulus for change and a sufficient temptation to come along and give it a go!

## Dowling Club Events 2010-11

See Dowling Club section on [www.bad.org.uk](http://www.bad.org.uk)

16th December 2010	Post-RSM dinner at the Garrick Club with our seasonal Christmas Quiz
5th February 2011	AAD reunion, 18:30 Compass Room of the Hyatt Regency, New Orleans
4th – 17th April 2011	Foreign Trip to Wroclaw, Dresden and Berlin (subsidised places available for trainees)
13th – 15th May 2011	Joint weekend with the North of England Dermatology Society. Clinical meeting, 'Cosmetic Dermatology for the Uninitiated', Dermatology Business Skills and more!

*Still to come... details of the Dowling Oration and further dinner dates for 2011*