



Royal Cymdeithas
Pharmaceutical Fferyllol
Society Frenhinol
of Great Britain Prydain Fawr

Welsh Pharmacy Board Bwrdd Fferylliaeth Cymru

WELSH PHARMACY BOARD SUMMER 2009

PHARMACYMRU

VOTE YES FOR YOUR PROFESSIONAL FUTURE

A message from the Chairman

"I have enjoyed my first year as Chairman of the Welsh Board in this time of great change for the profession, and have listened carefully to what members in Wales want from their new professional body.



You have told us that a successful professional leadership body is important to you, and have also told us you want an influential body which actively supports, advocates and represents pharmacists and the profession. A body that is committed to helping you with your CPD so you keep up-to-date and provide a quality service for your patients and one that will speak with a strong voice to build a better profession.

You now have a chance to secure this future, by voting 'yes' to the changes to the Society's Royal Charter when the ballot opens on 22 June.

The Charter amendments are designed to deliver a new body for the profession that will be governed in an entirely new way. Three national boards in Wales, Scotland and England will do the bulk of the work, with a connecting Assembly to provide strategic direction. This Assembly, which will consist mainly of elected Board members, will take a hands-off approach and set GB-wide strategy at the highest level whilst leaving Boards free to interpret and implement it to suit their respective countries.

I strongly urge all pharmacists in Wales to vote yes, and create a body that will empower pharmacists in Wales to have a greater say in how the profession develops, ensuring that you benefit from services that support your own professional practice.

It is very pleasing for me to see all the activity and work currently being undertaken to engage with members to develop the new professional body. The Society is a hive of work streams and projects designed to cover different services and support functions that the new body will offer to meet the needs of its members and the profession.

Members of the Welsh Pharmacy Board are aligned to each of the work streams with Peter Jones, our vice chairman, representing the Board on the main Transitional Working Group (TWG). I am now calling for your help to get the Welsh members' perspective. The task need not be onerous as you can input as much or as little as you want, but your opinion is important to getting the right professional body services and function you need. If you want to receive updates from the workstream or to test products and services as they are developed, then you can register your interest on the website, www.pharmacyplb.com

Make sure your voice is heard - your vote counts. Vote "Yes" for your professional future.

My colleagues on the Board are playing a vital role in supporting the building of the new professional leadership body by becoming "Pioneers".

Pioneers are members who want to be at the forefront of development of the new body and who can spare some time to get involved. They will experience and test new products and services ahead of others, and provide the Society with valuable feedback. I am calling for as many Welsh members as possible to become pioneers and offer your insight, support and commitment to help shape a unified, positive and energised professional body. You can register your interest at www.pharmacyplb.com

If you don't think becoming a pioneer is for you, then you can still get involved by keeping yourself up to date with what happens by registering for the PLB e-newsletter on the website.

This is a great opportunity for pharmacists in Wales to get involved and shape their new professional leadership body which is planned to come into being early next year.

I urge you to vote 'yes' for the new professional body and the great advantages it will bring Welsh pharmacists, and encourage you to get involved in its development at this important time."

Commitment to Pharmacy



Last month the Society launched the 'commitment to pharmacy' campaign to encourage involvement and visibility of the new professional leadership body amongst

pharmacists. The campaign aims to demonstrate the new body's commitment to the profession of pharmacy and the need for commitment by pharmacists to the development of the new body. With less than a year to go to the demerger, development of the new professional leadership body is gaining pace and members are being called upon to help shape membership products and services. Look out for this logo and get involved in the development of your new professional leadership body. More information is available at www.pharmacyplb.org.

Dates for your Diary

Once again, the Welsh Pharmacy Board are getting out and about to meet members in Wales. Come and join them at one of the following regional awareness evenings and you will have an opportunity to learn about what is on the horizon that will effect the pharmacy profession in the future:

Mid & West Wales – Thursday, 1 October

South Wales – Thursday, 8 October

North Wales – Thursday, 22 October

Venues to be confirmed.

Look out for further information on our website: www.rpsgb.org/wales/

What have the Board been doing?

Changes to NHS Structure in Wales

The Welsh Pharmacy Board has welcomed proposals that will bring changes to the NHS structure in Wales. The proposals will see seven integrated NHS bodies established to help remove barriers between services, improve quality of care across the care pathway and improve the use of NHS resources. In its response to the consultation exercise by the Welsh Assembly Government, the Board reiterated the significant role pharmacists play within the NHS in Wales. It called for greater opportunities for pharmacists to be fully integrated in multi-disciplinary models of care under the proposed changes, and for clear processes to be put in place allowing the voice of the pharmacy profession to be heard at all strategic levels. The Welsh Pharmacy Board will continue to lobby for pharmacy as the reorganisation takes shape over the next few months.

Pharmacist appointed Chairman to new LHB



Following recent NHS reorganisation announcements, Mr Chris Martin, former Chairman of the Hywel Dda NHS Trust has been appointed to act as Chair Designate of Hywel Dda LHB.

Previously Chris has had a successful career owning his own chain of pharmacy businesses in the West Country and in Pembrokeshire and as a pharmacist undertaking locum and consultancy work. We wish him well in his new role where it is very inspiring to see a pharmacist in such a prominent position within the new NHS structure.

Challenge Madeline - Health Editor quits smoking

Cardiff pharmacists Andrew Maloney and Anna Asprou have been receiving high praise from Western Mail journalist, Madeleine Brindley, in her attempt to quit smoking. The Welsh Pharmacy Board who write a monthly article "Ask the Expert" in the weekly Health supplement of the Western Mail, have encouraged the journalist to give up smoking through support available from her local pharmacy. Readers can follow the health editors progress via her blog <http://blogs.walesonline.co.uk/kickingthehabit/>.

Board Elections

In May 2009 four unreserved places for elected pharmacists became vacant on the Welsh Pharmacy Board. The election process for these vacancies has now been completed and we are pleased to announce that Marc Donovan, Phil Parry, Peter Jones and Carwyn Jones were re-elected as members of the Welsh Pharmacy Board.



The Welsh Pharmacy Board 2009 (not all members are in this photo)

Call for applicants for 2009/2010 Leadership Programme

The Welsh Pharmacy Leadership Programme received such wide acclaim from last year's participants that a second programme will now take place. The programme is a collaborative venture between the RPSGB Welsh Pharmacy Board, the Welsh Assembly Government through the Welsh Committee for the Professional Development of Pharmacy, together with the National Leadership and Innovations Agency for Healthcare. Applications are now invited for the 2009/2010 Pharmacy Leadership Programme, the deadline for receipt of applications is 4.00pm on **Monday, 6th July 2009**. Further information and application forms for the 2009 programme are now available from the office, please contact wales@rsgb.org or **029 2073 0310**.

Responsible Pharmacist

One of the key ways of working for the PLB will be to increase the engagement of members in its work. We have been successful in piloting this new approach in the development of the RP toolkit. The Welsh Pharmacy Board wanted a toolkit that provided essential information for members, such as practical guidance and resources that are ready to use in day-to-day practice. To achieve this we brought together a group of "grass roots" pharmacists to give us their opinion on the material and test the toolkit. Thanks to all those involved.

All practising pharmacists and pre registration students should have received a personal copy of the toolkit, which will have raised many questions and possible scenarios. To help with this the Board members and staff are all available to give presentations or workshops at your request. The Board will also be out on the road again meeting members in the autumn and will be discussing RP on these evenings.

Rural Health

The Welsh Pharmacy Board has welcomed the publication of the Welsh Assembly Government's Rural Health Plan. The Board has played a vital part in providing information on the services that pharmacy can deliver across Wales, ensuring that the Rural Health Steering Group has recognised that pharmacies can play a central role in providing health services in rural communities. The plan recognises pharmacies as a vital element of rural health services provision and sets out proposals to make fuller use of community pharmacies by providing services such as treating minor ailments, diagnostic testing and healthy lifestyle support.

Anyone wishing to comment on the plan can forward their comments to the office for inclusion in the Welsh Pharmacy Board response which will be submitted before the 21 August.

Pandemic Flu - Keeping up to date

As the number of confirmed cases of swine flu steadily increases across Great Britain, we are committed to keeping pharmacists informed on what is happening in Wales.

In May, a letter was sent from Welsh Assembly Government to Welsh pharmacists outlining the situation (the letter can be found on our website www.rpsgb.org/flu), however, as the disease progresses it is important to check our website for any updates.

If you have any queries you can contact the Society's Information Pharmacists (020 7572 2302) or the Legal and Ethical Advisory Service (020 7572 2308) or alternatively email the Society at pandemicflu@rpsgb.org or visit our www.rpsgb.org/flu.

What's happening in Wales?

Decriminalisation of Dispensing Errors

The Welsh Pharmacy Board is urging members to join the campaign to change the law to stop the unfair criminalisation of single dispensing errors.

We have recently raised the issue with Edwina Hart the Welsh Health Minister and Andrew Davies the Conservative Health spokesperson, to gain their support and inform them of our concerns. Additionally, we plan to work with the Community Health Councils to ensure they are aware of campaign and the reasoning behind it.

Nationally the Society are engaging with senior figures in Westminster and Whitehall, putting forward the case for pharmacists and pointing out the possible consequences for those who make a single dispensing error.

How can you get involved?

Lobby your constituency MP to sign the Early Day Motion (EDM NUMBER1561) calling on the Government to amend the law that dictates such harsh treatment for pharmacists and replace it with a more proportionate response:

A draft letter can be found at:

<http://www.rpsgb.org/worldofpharmacy/currentdevelopmentsinpharmacy/parliamentaryactivity/#decrim>

You can find out who is your constituency MP at:

http://www.parliament.uk/mpslordsandoffices/mps_and_lords/alms.cfm

Type in your **home postcode**, click 'Search' and the MPs name will be revealed. Click on 'email (MPs NAME)' and a screen will appear that allows you to write to the MP.

Every email or letter to an MP increases our chances of influencing a change in the law, a substantial response from members will greatly enhance the chances of a speedy resolution.

Please help us fight for you by joining the many pharmacists who demand fair and equitable treatment under the law, in line with other health professions.

Pharmacist develops Medicine Management Training for Medics

Pharmacist Alwen Nicholson has drawn up schedules for pharmacy-led training to meet the curriculum needs of 4th and 5th year medical undergraduates through to their post graduate training. The Medicines Management programme provides relevant input to specific clinical undergraduate placements and post graduate medical education at North West Wales NHS Trust has now commenced and is proving to be very successful. In order to ensure



Some of the speakers and workshop leads from the event. From left to right: Alan Willson, Cath Savage, Jamie Hayes, Sue Thomas, Marc Donovan, Tina Donnelly.

Non Medical Prescribing Symposium

The first symposium of its kind on independent prescribing in Wales was jointly hosted by the Welsh Pharmacy Board and the Royal College of Nursing Wales (RCN) in April. The event, held at the headquarters of the RCN Wales in Cardiff, provided a unique opportunity for pharmacists and nurse prescribers to explore the development of their roles and identify challenges faced in their daily practise.

Full details are available on the website www.rpsgb.org/wales

Support for CPD

New professional standards and guidance for continuing professional development, published by the Society came into force in March 2009. Five new standards expand on the CPD requirement in the code of ethics that has been in place since 2005. They include the requirement that all pharmacists and pharmacy technicians must make a minimum of nine CPD entries per year. It also means following Society approved format for recording CPD, making entries that meet the published recording criteria, and ensuring that CPD reflects the context and scope of practice. Members will be called to submit their CPD record for review starting this summer but will not be expected to send in the full nine records until March 2010, when it will become a statutory requirement once the General Pharmaceutical Council comes into force.

The review will provide feedback on what has been submitted and offer any guidance needed on keeping CPD records. For advice **contact cpd@rpsgb.org**.

appropriate prescribing skills development, a Prescribing Competency Programme which comprises a competency framework with assessment criteria specifically for foundation year doctors FY1 is also being rolled out.

The Welsh Pharmacy Board offer their congratulations to Alwen Nicholson, who was recently made an Honorary Lecturer at the University of Bangor.

The Welsh Assembly Government fund IP Courses

The Welsh Assembly Government has agreed to fund a limited number of training places on courses provided by HEIs in Wales during 2009/10 to develop independent prescribing by pharmacists and nurses in Wales.

The courses will be provided at:

- University of Wales, Bangor
- Cardiff University, (Welsh School of Pharmacy joint course with the Cardiff School of Nursing & Midwifery Studies)
- University of Glamorgan, Pontypridd
- Glyndwr University, Wrexham
- University of Wales, Swansea

Pharmacists from community, primary and secondary healthcare sectors interested in attending a course must apply by completing the application form available upon request from the HEI. Each application must be supported by the LHB or NHS Trust, hence the application form must be returned to the LHB / NHS Trust for prioritisation; the LHB / NHS Trust will then forward the application forms to the HEI. Further information on each course is also available from the HEI.

Ward Dispensing



Glan Clwyd hospital has successfully introduced automated dispensing equipment on its Medical Admissions ward. The Omnicell is a ward-based automated storage system which has been operating in several hospitals in England in the last four years. The computer-controlled cabinet, securely holds a range of prescription drugs, and is accessed using a pin number, swipe card or finger print scan.

Don Hughes, the Director of Pharmacy at North Wales NHS Trust Central Area, said "The system, which went live in December, is well accepted by nursing and medical staff and has been shown to reduce the average acquisition time to about 40 seconds. A major benefit of Omnicell is that replenishment is driven by the use of products and therefore clinical and patient need."

People News

Apprentice of the Year



A Monmouthshire pharmacy technician has been named 'Apprentice of the Year' at an award ceremony attended

by Vale of Glamorgan AM Jane Hutt. The Welsh Pharmacy Board would like to congratulate Christine Marshall (right), who is based at Nevill Hall Hospital in Abergavenny, for achieving the Welsh Centre of Pharmacy Professional Education award at a ceremony hosted by the Vale of Glamorgan Training Association.

Window dressing!



Rob Davies, a pharmacist who displayed banners in his shop window during the 2009 Six Nations campaign has earned himself a cult following on the internet. Rob Davies of Caerau Chemist, near Maesteg, marked every Welsh win with a cheeky banner and a black banner commiserating the loss to France. Mr Davies, who started the craze last year, painted the shop front with the score and a slogan. He has received national support on websites including Flickr and Facebook and has appeared on BBC Wales Today.

New Chairman at Community Pharmacy Wales



At the Community Pharmacy Wales Board meeting in May 2009, Ian Cowan, from Rowlands Pharmacies in North Wales was elected as Chair. The Welsh

Pharmacy Board would like to wish him well in his post.

All Change at the Welsh Office

The Welsh Pharmacy Board would like to offer their congratulations to Cath Savage on her appointment as Director of the Welsh Centre for Postgraduate Education (WCPPE). Cath will replace Lesley Morgan who has now retired. Board members and members in Wales wish Cath well in her new role and thank her for all her hard work and enthusiasm in her role as Director for Wales. Over the past 7 years Cath has shown relentless enthusiasm in representing the profession and developing the presence in Wales including securing our current home in Cardiff Gate.

The Welsh Pharmacy Board are delighted to announce that Paul Gimson has been appointed as the new Director for Wales. Paul brings with him a wealth of experience from his previous roles which will be essential at this time of important change as we continue to develop the Professional Leadership Body. His links across all sectors of the profession will ensure that the services the Board continue to develop meet the needs of members in Wales. The Board are looking forward to working with Paul in these exciting times ahead.

Honour for Professor



A Director of Research and Professor at the Welsh School of Pharmacy has been awarded a DSc from his alma mater, the University of Nottingham. Gary Baxter, is a professor of Pharmacology in the Welsh

School of Pharmacy and chair of the school's research committee.

Health Foundation Award for Cardiff Pharmacist

Congratulations to Cheryl Way, Pharmacy Manager at Llandough Hospital in Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust, and a part-time secondee to Informing Healthcare's Welsh NHS IT Programme, for her Leaders for Change award. During the 12-month award scheme, Cheryl will be working on a project to improve patient care by improving access to information about patients' medicines in hospitals.

International Student of the Year

The Welsh Pharmacy Board would like to congratulate Alex Leung, a student at the Welsh School of Pharmacy in Cardiff who was named International Student of the Year 2009 in the prestigious competition from the British Council. His inspirational accounts of student life in the UK secured him the top prize.

Branch News

Ceredigion Branch

Members of the Ceredigion branch of the RPSGB met in Aberaeron in February to discuss the impact on pharmacists ahead of the move to introduce a General Pharmaceutical Council and professional body for pharmacy in 2010. Margaret Allen, a member of the RPSGB council who has recently been appointed WCPPE tutor for Ceredigion, was the speaker for the evening.

Morgannwg Branch

Peter Jones, Vice Chairman of the Welsh Pharmacy Board, talked to members of the Morgannwg Branch on 2 June about the implications of the Responsible Pharmacist Regulations.

The Annual Botanical Browser will take place in late July, please contact Marilynd Davies on marilynd@hotmail.co.uk for further information.

Local Practice Forums

The Board is currently exploring how the Local Practice Forum concept will be delivered in Wales. The prospectus sets out a vision for those groups but we need to ensure that in Wales they suit our specific Welsh needs. Following some initial discussions with representatives of the branches and a number of other members we are now looking for people to get involved. The Board will be having fuller discussions at its meeting in June and we will keep members informed via our website.



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Pharmacymru – Your Newsletter!

This is your newsletter, so please let us know if you would like to include anything in future editions.

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