This edition of the BSM Newsletter has been timed to arrive with you to include a brief report of the recent ISHAM Congress in Barcelona and the latest information on our one day meeting on Molecular Mycology in London the BSM Annual Meeting in Oxford next April and the joint meeting between the BSM and the Scandinavian mycology societies in Gothenburg. The format of the Newsletter will remain basically the same for the time being but any suggestions for changes in style or content would be welcomed by the new editor, Dr. Malcolm Richardson.

We would like to include general news items from all our members in our newsletter - all gossip gratefully received. So please let us have any information about happenings and events in the medical mycology world. We are glad to have items of general interest from members for inclusion.

NEW VENTURE – BSM ONE-DAY MEETING MOLECULAR MYCOLOGY

Firm details of the forthcoming one-day meeting on Molecular Mycology at St. Thomas's on 4 November 1988 are now available - details are enclosed with this newsletter. Please try and support this event. The programme includes two guest lectures and eight slots for members papers. Posters may also be displayed. Make sure you enter the date in you diary and let the organiser, Professor Bill Noble, know as soon as possible that you are planning to attend. Ideas for further one-day events are also welcome.
OUR NEW PRESIDENT - DR. ROLAND DAVIES

Following wartime service with the RAF, Dr. Roland Davies (M.Sc., Ph.D., D.Sc.) attended University College Swansea where he was appointed to his first University post. At a time when grants and research opportunities were few he was invited to the post of research demonstrator subject to his graduating with a good honours degree. Wishing to take a higher degree in another University, he gained an appointment as Junior Lecturer in biology at St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School in 1952. When there he met Dr. G.C. Ainsworth whose "Introduction to Medical Mycology" had been recently published and through whose kind offices he was privileged to attend the first of the MRC Committee Meetings for Paper Reading in Medical Mycology as a "student observer". At that meeting the late Dr. Kate Maunsell of Kings College Hospital appealed for mycological assistance in the investigation of moulds as allergens and her enthusiastic collaboration led to his developing a sustained interest in allergy and clinical immunology. His Ph.D on "Moulds in Dust and Air" was supervised by Professor C.T. Ingold of Birkbeck College. Following a short period at the Commonwealth Mycological Institute he was appointed to the post of Mycologist at the Wright Fleming Institute of Microbiology. His letter of appointment required that he undertook aerobiology for the Department of Allergy, developed a diagnostic mycology service for the hospital and engaged in collaborative research with the clinical departments.

He was promoted Senior Lecturer and then University of London Reader in Medical Mycology at St. Mary's Hospital Medical School, and has held an honorary appointment as mycologist to the Paddington and North Kensington District of the NHS (now Parkside) since 1967.

Dr. Davies's publications fall into the fields of experimental mycology and aerobiology, medical fungi and antifungal drugs, immunity and fungal infection. His recent and current research interest include the "Airspora of Baghdad", in vitro studies of PMN chemotaxis towards fungi and the use ofazole antifungals in AIDS. Over many years he was a regular contributor to the paper reading meetings of the Society. For more than two decades he has been responsible for the grass pollen bulletins issued by a national charity, the Asthma Research Council. A former president of St. Mary's Association of University Teachers, following nomination by the TUC he was invited and then re-invited by Secretaries of State to serve as a representative employee in the Advisory Committee for Dangerous Pathogens. A former secretary, he is an honorary member of this Society and of the Society of Chiropodists for his work on occupational allergens in Chiropodial practice.

ANNUAL MEETING - OXFORD

The Society's next Annual Meeting will be held in New College, University of Oxford on 3 - 5 April, 1989. The local organiser is Nigel Blatchford of Janssen Pharmaceutical Ltd. Residential accommodation is available for a maximum number of 120 people. Some rooms consist of a bedroom and a sitting-room and there are also some suites consisting of two bedrooms and a sitting room. Although there are no 'double rooms', suitable arrangements can apparently be made for a few married couples. Most meals will be served in the College and a bar in the Beer Cellar will be made available. Delegates are welcome to use the College gardens. Owing to shortage of car park space it is regretted that only six cars will be allowed to park within the college gates. Arrangements will be made to provide suitable parking elsewhere. This may be a meeting where the car is left at home and greater use is made of British Rails conference discount fares.

The recent tradition of a welcome break from the Annual Meeting venue in the form of a civic reception or a visit to a castle or stately home will continue in 1989 with a visit to Hell-Fire Caves in West Wycome. The caves were originally developed to provide road building materials and are a quarter of a mile long. At their deepest, the passages in the Caves go 300 feet under the surface of the ground.

Further details of the Oxford meeting will appear in forthcoming Newsletters and in the first notice of the meeting later on this year. Having presented a foretaste of our next Annual Meeting we do hope that you are planning to attend.
ANNUAL MEETING - GLASGOW 88

The Annual Meeting of the Society was held in Queen Margaret Hall, University of Glasgow 28 - 30 March this year and attended by 122 members and their guests. As usual for this high point in the Society's year there was a varied and interesting scientific programme with papers on many aspects of medical mycology and a symposium on fungal infections in AIDS. Both the content and standard of presentation of the oral communications and posters was most impressive. A stimulating Ian Murray Memorial Lecture was given by Dr. David Soll from the University of Iowa on the phenotypic diversity seen in Candida albicans and implications for pathogenicity. There was a great deal of informal discussion based on the content of his talk.

A reception for the Society's meeting has become a tradition and a welcome break from the conference venue. This year we were fortunate to attend such an event at the Burrell Collection hosted by the City of Glasgow.

The Society's Annual Dinner was held in Queen Margaret Hall. Professor Rona Mackie of the Department of Dermatology, University of Glasgow and staff from the Medical Mycology Unit, University of Glasgow were the Society's guests.

Over the years the Annual Meeting has evolved to meet the needs of the delegates in terms of the format of the scientific meeting with a good mix of symposia presentations, oral papers and posters and an ever enlarging trade exhibition. Nevertheless, the style of our meetings is constantly under review so that future meetings can be even better. To achieve this the committee would welcome comments on the Annual Meeting, both good and bad, as soon as possible.

XTH ISHAM CONGRESS - BARCELONA

The Xth ISHAM Congress was held at the Palacio de Congressos in Barcelona, Spain from 27 June to 1 July. The meeting was a mixture of symposia, roundtables, oral communication sessions and poster displays. Many of the programmed events were run simultaneously making the choice of which session to attend difficult with many attractive topics being presented. Most aspects of medical mycology were covered. Some 33 of our members attended the Congress battling against flight delays due to the current air traffic problems throughout Europe. The BSM was well represented in an official capacity with members organising symposia and chairing roundtables and open papers sessions. Many of our members attending delivered papers in the symposia oral communication and poster sessions.

The overall number of delegates attending must have been a record - over 700 with most of the member countries of ISHAM represented.

BSM MEMBERS HOLD ISHAM POSTS

Congratulations go out to two of our members who have been honoured by being recently elected into office on the council of ISHAM: Professor D.W.R. Mackenzie as President and Dr. F.C. Odds as a Vice-President. The commendable efforts of Dr. Glyn Evans as Editor of the Journal of Human and Veterinary Mycology were recognised by the ISHAM Council who endorsed his continuation of this worthy post.

VENUES FOR FUTURE BSM ANNUAL MEETINGS

It has become increasingly apparent that venues for scientific meetings in university accommodation are being booked many years in advance. As a Society we are having to ensure that we have a meetings calendar organised into the mid 1990s. At the AGM in Glasgow the membership welcomed the invitation from Dr. David Warnock to host our Annual Meeting in 1991 at the University of Bath, 8-10 April, 1991. Miss Gillian Midgley will invite the Society at the AGM in Oxford to hold its meeting in 1992 on 13-15 April at Royal Holloway College. We thank all our local organisers for the enthusiasm and effort they put into making our meetings productive and memorable.

The Ian Murray Memorial Lecturer, Dr. David Soll receiving a memento of his visit to Glasgow at the BSM Dinner
JOINT BSM - SCANDINAVIAN
SOCIETIES MEETING

Preliminary details of our joint meeting with the Danish Society for Mycopathology and the Swedish Society for Clinical Mycology between Thursday, 14 to Saturday, 16 September 1989 are enclosed with the Newsletter. A number of our members will be contributing to the symposium sessions and there is plenty of opportunity for free papers and posters. Keeping within the tradition of our own Annual Meeting the registration costs have been kept low thanks to generous donations from the pharmaceutical industry. For those who register before 1 February 1989 the registration fee will be about £30. This will include some meals and social events. For postgraduate students who register before this date the registration will only cost about £10. Further details about the meeting will appear in the autumn of this year.

Typical costs (1988) for travel and accommodation are in the order of £153 for an APEX fare, London to Gotenburg and £28 for a single room in the Ramada Hotel. Longship Holidays advertise a combined package of two nights on a luxury ferry sailing from either Harwich or Newcastle and three nights hotel accommodation for between £120 and £250, depending on the hotel category.

FRS FOR IAN MURRAY MEMORIAL LECTURE

The Ian Murray Memorial Lecture at the BSM Annual Meeting in Oxford, 3-5 April 1989 will be given by Professor Harry Smith, FRS from the Department of Microbiology, University of Birmingham. He will talk on "The Increasing Knowledge of Fungal Determinants of Pathogenicity".

NEW MEMBERS

The Society welcomes the following new members and looks forward to seeing them at future meetings:

Miss Susan Howell
Miss Susan Dutton
Miss Louise Merson-Davies
Dr. R.O. Nicholas
Dr. C.J. Turver
Miss Christine Roche
Mrs Ann Raven
Miss Lorna McLaughlin
Dr. D.R. Soll

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TRAINING - CONTINUING SUCCESS
OF BSM DIAGNOSTIC COURSE

The latest BSM Course in Diagnostic Medical Mycology saw a record number of students (72) from all parts of the UK for a week in Leeds during the middle of April learning new laboratory skills in mycology. Many complements about the content of the course and its organisation were made by the students. Our thanks go to the organiser, Dr. Glyn Evans, and his hardworking team for all their efforts in maintaining its popularity and high standard. The Committee has welcomed the offer made by Dr. Evans to run another course on behalf of the Society at the University of Leeds, 2-6 April, 1990.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES
OF INTEREST TO BSM MEMBERS


24 - 28 April 1989. FEMS Symposium on Candida and Candida Mycosis. Contact: Dr. Emel Tumbay, Department of Microbiology, Faculty of Medicine, Ege University, Bornova, Izmir, Turkey.


CONGRES DE LA SOCIETE FRANCAISE
DE MYCOLOGIE MEDICALE

The annual summer meeting of the French society was held this year in Bordeaux (13-14 May). The first morning was devoted to the principal theme of the congress which was "The Lipophilic Yeasts" and the latest work on various aspects of these organisms was given in the invited communications. These were followed by free communications and subsequently an afternoon on laboratory and clinical studies of Candida and other yeasts with the second day covering topics on dermatophytes and a wide variety of filamentous fungal pathogens. On the social side, full advantage was taken of the locality of the meeting. Altogether it was a very enjoyable experience.

G. Midgley