Welcome to Oxford and to Ox-eye, the flower of the week: your very own conference newsletter.

Mission statement
Events will be recorded as they happen. Those events recorded before they happen will be re-recorded after the event, where necessary.

Call for contributions
This is your newsletter [see above] so we hope you'll help to write it. Contributions, serious or otherwise, should be submitted to the editor, via the registration desk, or Mavee O'Connor, whichever you bump into first. We'd like news about the sessions, news about the participants (gossip, too), and useful information of any kind.

Call for contributions

A salutary word of welcome
In his opening remarks Sir David Weatherall warned delegates that on the whole publishers and editors were not his favourite people. He described his part in the long and painful process of producing the Oxford Textbook of Medicine. It became apparent why he might have cause to distrust those concerned with book production.

Galleys in Greek, upside-down pelvises and final deadlines exceeded by two years would have been enough to put most people off. Sir David, however, seemed undeterred by such problems and said a third edition was planned.

Moving to his own subject, Sir David said he felt that although there were outside pressures to treat molecular medicine as a specialty in its own right, it was a part of general medicine. It seemed to him inappropriate to publish specialist journals in this "field", although he had been approached to join the editorial boards of several fledgling journals.

The Keble story
Before we actually get to the Keble story, it's important to find Keble College. One delegate, who was seriously considering pitching her tent in the Department of Engineering Science, decided to take one last sounding from a friendly native, "No bother", he said, "up to the end of the road and it's the building that looks like a sleeping dinosaur wearing a Fair Isle sweater". So now you know what to look for when lost!

Keble College was founded in 1870 in memory of John Keble, a leading spirit in the Oxford Movement dedicated to preserving the Anglican tradition in the university. The founders' ideal was "to enable men to come up to Oxford who could not otherwise afford it" (Clarendon Guide). Women now attend, of course.

The architect William Butterfield is responsible for Keble's distinctive appearance, with red bricks, interspersed with yellow and blue bricks, forming patterns among the stone dressings. The older parts have rooms strung out along corridors (for easier supervision?) but the new rooms behind the modern bar are built on the more traditional staircase system.

The college is well known for its chapel, full of coloured mosaics and Gothic arcading. Holman Hunt's picture, The Light of the World, is in a side-chapel on the right of the main altar - throw light on the Light by pressing the red switch on the wall below the window.

The Clarendon Guide describes the modern part of Keble as having a "massive but unpretentious beauty". Is that how you would describe it? Write to our correspondence editor soon. Anyway, under all that glass, visible from the Junior Common Room, there's a large bar. Have you found it yet? It opens in the evenings, from 6.30 to 11.00 p.m., in case one or two of you would like to know.

Miscellaneous jottings
The organizers would like your comments on EASE activities in general and this conference in particular. Instead of giving you an evaluation sheet they'd like you to collect a yellow suggestions slip from the registration desk and return it there when you've had your say.

The college porters suggest that you lock your rooms carefully for the next couple of days. Who knows who will be attending the St Giles Fair nearby. If it weren't for the competing attractions of the EASE conference you could of course join in at the Fair yourself.
Who's who who isn't in the list of participants: EASE in Oxford, 9/9/91

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Victor Inzani
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STOP PRESS

Professor Povl Riis has been prevented by illness from attending the meeting and giving his talk in the first plenary session. The second plenary session, on Pressures to Publish: What and Why?, will now start at 09.00 at the St Cross Building. The plenary session on Ethical Problems Including Fraud will now start at 11.00 and will take the form of a panel discussion, chaired by Dr John W Glen. Those on the panel will include Dr Iain Chalmers, Dr Bruce Dancik and Dr Andrew Herzheimer. Others may join in too, and much audience participation is expected. Andrew Herzheimer will chair parallel session A1 at 14.00 in Povl Riis’s place.

Daisy’s Diary

The ink was hardly dry on his registration form before Arly Allen was overheard explaining his recent importation of a quantity of tequila — how much, Arly, and where is/was the party? The editor would like it to be known that members of the Ox-eye staff expect press passes to all parties, with the possible exception of those involving fewer than three people. And what did Lord Saye and Sele say to Beth in the garden at Broughton Castle on a hot Sunday afternoon... ?

World weather

London: quite nice
New York: stifling
Paris: fairly hot

Moscow: quite cold
Berlin: not quite so cold
Beijing: even warmer

Ulan Bator: changeable
Oxford: simply superb

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CANCELLATIONS

We’re sorry to hear that the following cannot be with us:
Dr Brian Caddy
Professor Povl Riis
Mrs Valerie Willecocks