

# BMJ

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INTERNATIONAL

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## EDITOR'S CHOICE

# BMJ

The *BMJ* may be smaller than it was but the autumn books feature still covers the traditional large variety of topics (pp 994-1001). Where did Margaret Cooter find the time not only to read all those detective stories but also to remember their plots? Who has heard of the "bed-bath-bus" syndrome as an explanation of inspiration? What did 70 Aberdonians aged 60 and over think about illness, dying, and bereavement? And which weekly medical journal referred to the entry of women into the profession

as the charge of the parasols (no, it wasn't the *BMJ*)? More seriously, the strain on the local medical services that a single incident of carbon monoxide poisoning gave rise to is recorded (p 977), while two correspondents from Cardiff Royal Infirmary argue that legislation may be needed to increase the number of (life saving) smoke detectors in the community (p 982). And over 100 Britons will now die each year of AIDS acquired while travelling compared with about 10 of malaria and one of typhoid (p 984).