



Editorials

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Exploiting the ticcy witticisms and witty ticcisms

1516 **Hospital twinning in Europe** Tessa Richards
Britain could offer more to central and east European countries

1517 **Can animals teach us medicine?** Paul Newton, Nathan Wolfe
Over the counter and into the forest

1518 **Ghosts, visions, and voices** Frances Klemperer
Sometimes simply perceptual mistakes

1519 **Geoffrey Rose's big idea** A Hofman, J P Vandenbroucke
Changing the population distribution of a risk factor is better than targeting people at high risk

1520 **The ups and down of bungee jumping** Mark Harries
Check the rope; forget the intravenous line

People of Consequence

1521 **Sir Austin Bradford Hill and the progress of medical science** Richard Doll
Career and influence of the greatest medical statistician of the twentieth century

1527 **Sir Wilfred Grenfell: an athletic missionary** Stanley R Sims
Establishing medical care in Labrador in the face of geography, poverty, ignorance, and vested interests

1529 **The Amazons within: women in the BMA 100 years ago** Tara Lamont
For 19 years Elizabeth Garrett Anderson was the sole woman member of the BMA

1532 **Princess Vera Gedroits: military surgeon, poet, and author** J D C Bennett
From revolutionary to army surgeon with imperial influence—a poet who became a professor of surgery

1534 **Themistocles Gluck: an unrecognised genius** N J Eynon-Lewis, D Ferry, M F Pearce
Pioneering work in joint replacement, cut short by feuding in the German medical establishment

1536 **Doctors differ** Pierce A Grace
Should crown prince Frederick William of Hohenzollern have had his throat cut?

With Paint and Pen

1539 **Sitting for your portrait** John M Stronge
Planning—and patience—are important when having your portrait painted

1540 **Dickens and doctors: vignettes of Victorian medicine** J E Cosnett
Observant, critical, and socially conscious, Dickens included some 27 doctors in his fiction

1543 **The ward round** Rachel Armstrong
Caricatures to help nervous students

1544 **The Physicians' Duel** Sheila Canby
Persian court painting shows rivalry between doctors

Surgeons' Delight

1545 **A surgeon in Yugoslavia in the second world war** J I P James
An earlier war presaged the miseries of present day Yugoslavia

1546 **Two nineteenth century surgeons** Peter F Jones
Aberdeen Royal Infirmary before and after Lister's teachings were applied

1548 **Learning surgery in Paris** Ian Fraser
Thick rubber gloves, callous practices—and a generous supply of cadavers

1549 **Paintings of a nineteenth century operating theatre** Denis Gibbs, Jonathan Evans
Now demolished, the London Hospital's operating theatre has been recorded on canvas

Mortality

1551 **Why Londoners have low death rates from ischaemic heart disease and stroke**
 D J P Barker, C Osmond, B Pannett
Immigration of healthy women at the turn of the century may explain why Londoners have high mortality from most common disorders but lower mortality from cardiovascular disease

1554 **Socioeconomic differentials in mortality: evidence from Glasgow graveyards**
 George Davey Smith, Douglas Carroll, Sandra Rankin, David Rowan
The height of Glaswegian gravestones correlates with longevity between 1801 and 1920

1557 **The transformation of maternal mortality** Irvine Loudon
Why, when maternal mortality was so different in the United States, England and Wales, and the Netherlands in the early part of the century, did it come together in 1935?

1560 **Christmas competition**

Hearing Music

1561 **Noise and the classical musician** David McBride, Frank Gill, David Proops, Malcolm Harrington, Kerry Gardiner, Cynthia Attwell
High sound levels may be found in symphony orchestras—is musicians' hearing at risk?

1563 **Mozart's scatological disorder** Benjamin Simkin
Scatology in Mozart's letters may have originated in Mozart's affliction with Tourette's syndrome

1567 **Music making** R L Kneebone
The frustrations of building a harpsichord from a kit pale into insignificance beside the problems of getting to grips with harpsichord technique

1568 **Medicine—the hearing profession** Mark J Clemons, Kate R Clemons, Rod Skinner
Severe deafness is compatible with a career in medicine

1569 **The practical physics of hearing aids** N D N Belham
How hearing aids, and the conditions for their use, can be improved

Cleanliness and Danger

1571 **Does earwax lose its pathogens on your auriscope overnight?** Alison Overend, William W Hall, Paul G R Godwin
A microbiological survey found that almost a third of earpieces were contaminated by pathogenic bacteria

1573 **Stethoscopes as possible vectors of infection by staphylococci** Aodhan S Breathnach, David R Jenkins, Stephen J Pedler
Organisms were found on 90% of stethoscopes—19% of these were Staphylococcus aureus

1574 **O little wolves of Leeuwenhoek** Susannah Kahtan, Morris Greenberg
Great medical insights may come from non-medical people

Strange but True

1575 **Could mannequins menstruate?** Minna Rintala, Pertti Mustajoki
Display figures have become thinner

1576 **How to gain weight by looking up** A J Newens, S N Jarvis, R George
Rounding of birth weight and a change of look up table may account for a fall in low birthweight babies

1577 **An unusual case of neuropathic ulceration** Keith Tayton
Walking shoeless over rough country should not be undertaken after celebrating the results of sporting fixtures

1578 **Holy spirit? An unusual cause of pseudomonal infection in a multiply injured patient** Ian Greaves, K M Porter
Spiritual intervention may be unexpectedly dangerous

1578 **A piscatorial epistle** A J Trevett, D G Laloo, I H Kevau
Two cases—from Papua New Guinea—of respiratory obstruction due to swallowing live fish

1579 **That sinking feeling** N T Brewster, C R Howie
Knee replacement makes swimming difficult—unless ankle bands are worn

1580 **Convulsions at Christmas** Stephen Kirker
What caused a butcher to fit on Christmas Eve in five consecutive years?

1580 **Word perfect** David Maxwell
Test yourself on uncommon vocabulary

Potpourri

1581 **A father's worst nightmare** A J Crisp
This harrowing personal account may help other doctors who deal with disasters

1582 **To children with love** Karen Trollope Kumar
Children interest every Indian; without a child life loses its colour and joy

1583 **Medicinal plants: another man's poison** Fiona Godlee
The loss of millions of plant species may mean the loss of thousands of potential treatments

1585 **Confessions of a Benedictine drinker** Selwyn Taylor
A teetotal father initiated his son's inordinate and at times compelling pleasure in drinking wine

Photo Finish

1587 **Bungee runner's buttock · Struck by lightning · Sympathetic pregnancy · Infection in an elbow arthroplasty · Intercontinental flying and the legs · Cupping · Bubble sight**

Cover

Montage by Oliver Burston

A BMJ t-shirt (see p 1560) is offered to the reader who can spot—or make—the most associations of items on the cover with articles in this issue. Entries to the editor by 15 January, please. Editor's decision is final