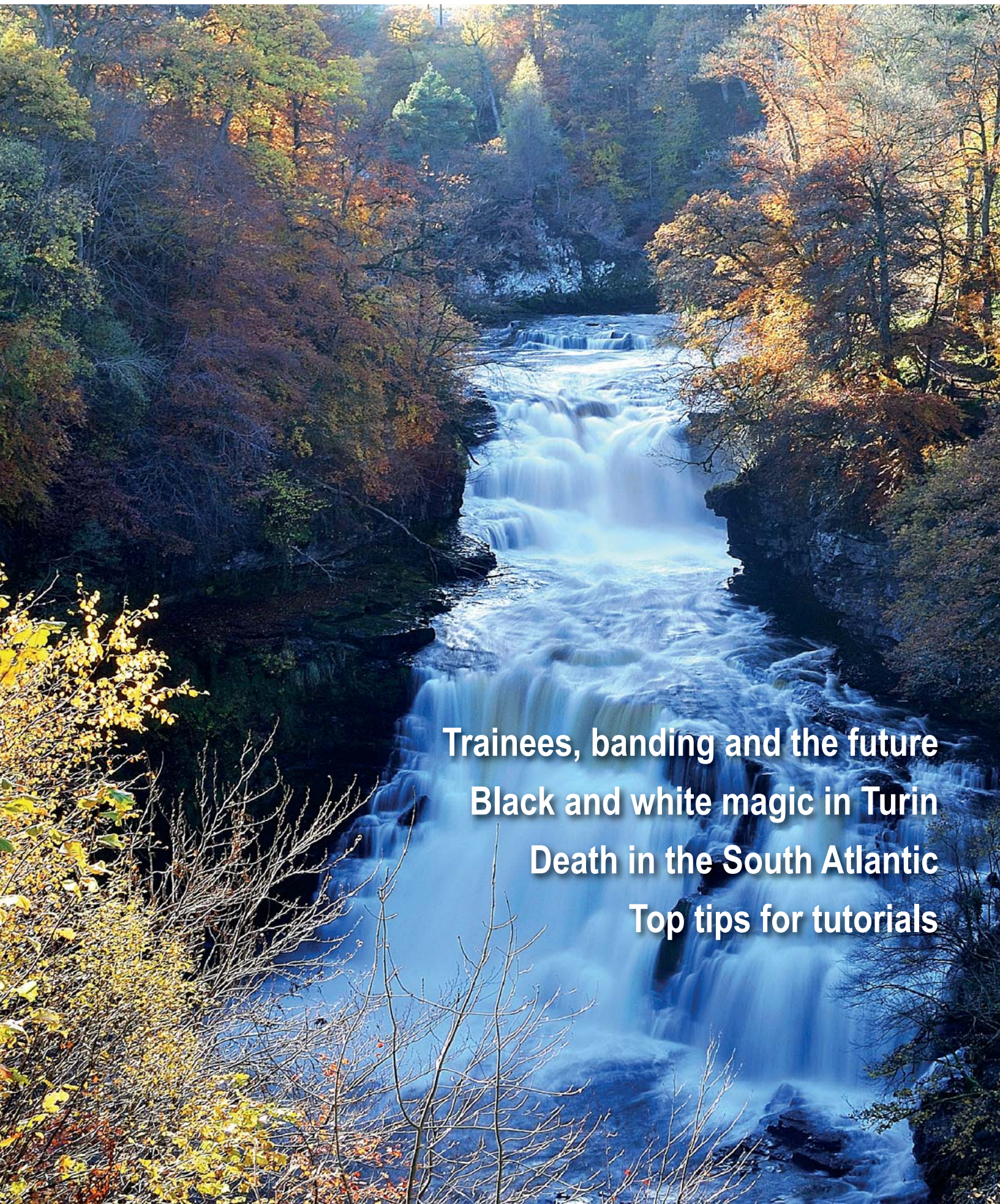


ACP news



Trainees, banding and the future
Black and white magic in Turin
Death in the South Atlantic
Top tips for tutorials

Association of Clinical Pathologists

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Calendar of Forthcoming Meetings

DIARY DATES FOR 2011

Date 2011 & Organisation	Title	Venue	Contact Details
28 – 30 September Association of Clinical Pathologists	25 th ACP Management Course	Hardwick Hall Hotel Sedgefield	01273 775700 info@pathologists.org.uk www.pathologists.org.uk
4 October Association of Clinical Pathologists	Basic Management Course One day basic level Management Course	Burton upon Trent	Alison Martin 01273 775700 alison@pathologists.org.uk www.pathologists.org.uk
1 November East Pennine Cytology Training Centre	One day update course in Gynaecological Cytology “Pitfalls and problems in Cervical Cytology – Glandular lesions”	Raynham House Capitol Park West Leeds	Dr J H F Smith 0113 2466330 kathryn.hawke@nhs.net
2 November East Pennine Cytology Training Centre	One day update course in Gynaecological Cytology “Borderline high-grade lesions and the use of triage and test of cure”	Raynham House Capitol Park West Leeds	Dr J H F Smith 0113 2466330 kathryn.hawke@nhs.net
22 November East Pennine Cytology Training Centre	One day masterclass “Histopathology of the cervix”	Raynham House Capitol Park West Leeds	Dr J H F Smith 0113 2466330 kathryn.hawke@nhs.net

The ACP accepts no liability for errors or omissions in this calendar of meetings. Readers are reminded that advertised meetings may be cancelled. Those intending to attend are obliged to check the details on booking with the organiser in every instance. There will be a £25 administration fee per issue for entries in this table.



Dr Ed Carling is Assistant Editor of ACP news and Consultant Histopathologist at James Cook University Hospital



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ACP news

Summer 2011

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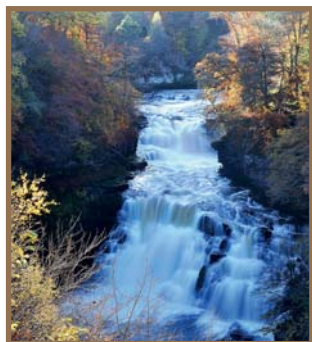


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Cover Story



This delightful autumnal scene allows the editor to play a visual pun on the American term for Autumn. It is Corra Linn – the largest waterfall in Britain by volume of water. Wordsworth wrote about it. Turner painted it. And now Dr Jonathan Watt, ST5 in Cardiology has photographed it with his Nikon D5000, f/14, 1 second at 35mm.

Invitation to Contributors

In addition to the constant flow of material from ACP Council, ACP committees and ACP branches, *ACP news* needs new material from you, the members of the ACP.

Pathology news items (1200-1500 words): Any items related to the ACP or the College, pathologists in general, or medical and management matters that may have an impact on pathologists.

Articles (1500-2000 words): These can be papers, reviews, essays, commentaries, critiques or polemics. Submitted articles are always very welcome, as well as suggestions for articles and/or details of people whom the editor may approach.

Reports (1000 words): These may be personal views and reports on interesting meetings, travel or anything else of interest to the readership. Travel reports are specifically for holders of ACP travel fellowships; however, other reports from abroad are welcomed.

Columns (600 words): Regular and irregular columnists exercise their thoughts. Please feel free to rant.

Pathological creative writing: All literary forms, including short stories, serials, surrealism and even poetry.

Appreciations (1000-1500 words): We prefer appreciations on retirement, rather than obituaries. Please discuss these with the editor before submission.

Photo-journalism: Favoured subjects include pathologists doing something interesting, or College and ACP officers doing anything at all. Interesting or artistic photographs are welcomed.

Cartoons: Suggestions are welcomed.

Curetings: Jokes and humorous titbits are always needed.

Debate: Letters to the editor are welcomed, but may be shortened for publication, or even converted into articles. Please try to refrain from writing unless you are prepared to be published. All criticisms of organisations or named individuals will entitle the parties to a right of reply. Please bear in mind the UK libel laws!

Trainees: Trainees are especially encouraged to submit material in any and all of the above categories. These will normally be placed in the trainees' section. Appointments committees in particular value publications in *ACP news*.

Editorial Policy: The editor would particularly encourage overseas contributors, material from trainees, material from nonhistopathologists, commentary on current affairs in pathology, occasional columnists, innovations in pathology, humorous writing on pathology-related topics, and anything downright cantankerous.

Format: The *ACP news* style guide is now available on line via the ACP website in PDF format at: http://www.pathologists.org.uk/allpagestuff/publications_frameset2.htm. The publication is a magazine, not an academic journal, and long lists of references are generally considered unnecessary. Where given, references should be in the Vancouver style and should be kept to a maximum of around six per article, unless absolutely necessary. Alternatively, authors may prefer to give a recommended reading list, or a list of relevant internet links. The editor prefers these as they take up less space.

All suggestions are welcome; however, the editor's decision is final.

ACP news is published quarterly. Regular publication dates are:

Issue	Publication month	Copy date
SPRING	February	5th December
SUMMER	May	5th March
AUTUMN	August	5th June
WINTER	November	5th September

Copy is best submitted by email, or on disc if the file size is large, in any version of Microsoft Word, although it should be possible to accommodate other formats. Submissions on paper by snail mail will also be accepted. Illustrations should be sent as JPEG digital images or hard copy prints. **Please do not embed images in your text. Send them as separate files.**

Please send email submissions direct to the editor at julianburton@doctors.org.uk

Hello dear reader. As I write this in mid-June the sun is shining, the flowers in the garden are coming into bloom and the birds are keeping schtum in fear of the prowling death that is Milly, our young cat. It seems odd to be writing for an Autumn issue when it is not officially quite Summer, especially as the issue will land on doormats in Summer rather than Autumn. Nevertheless, that's how it is and here we are, or rather there you are, for I will be off on my honeymoon when you receive this, which is of course terribly exciting (for me, if not for you).

Time and money

It is hard not to notice how expensive everything is these days. I suppose things aren't helped by oil prices, house prices and the recession but crikey! And with university fees set to rise next year for many it's only going to get worse. Going back as far as I can, my genetic stock derives from North and South Yorkshire, and so I have adopted my native battle cry of "*HOW much?!*".

Until this year I had always thought that the stress people suffer organising a wedding must somehow be exaggerated. Now I know better. We wanted something small, simple and relaxed for our do. Well, we started planning thinking that it wouldn't take much time to organise and that it wouldn't be very expensive. We were wrong on both counts. Now that we're all done it has become fun again but I have been astonished at the details which needed sorting and dismayed at the cost of pretty much everything. People have asked how I know that the person I want to tie the knot with is "the one". I think that if you have a relationship which can survive wedding preparations, you're probably ready. Mostly we survived by agreeing to only consider wedding-related planning issues for a maximum of 15 minutes per night. This meant we dealt with everything in bite-sized chunks and I only had to inflict my battle cry once every evening.

My "groomzilla" moments are fading and so I move on to my point, and our lead article in this issue. As life becomes more expensive the sordid topic of performing tasks for money becomes more important. Now, the *Association of Clinical Pathologists*, like the Royal College doesn't play a role in banding negotiations but these are nevertheless of keen interest and importance for many of the ACP membership. It's a difficult topic, with strong views on both sides but pathology training posts are increasingly losing their banding. Some junior and senior pathologists doubtless think that pathology training should not receive a banded salary, while others will be equally firmly of the opinion that they should. I don't know the answer, but in this issue Mark Ong tackles the subject and considers the impact that the widespread loss



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of banding may have on recruitment into Pathology in the future.

Pathologists' travels

For many, this time of year is when we do most of our travelling. It seems appropriate, therefore, that there is a strong travel theme in this issue. Carl Gray has been visiting fruit in Turin. Stuart Hamilton and Sarah Saunders have been performing autopsies in the Falklands, which puts my ten-minute drive to the mortuary into perspective. It's perhaps worth noting that the Falklands' penguins do not look up and fall over backwards whenever a fighter jet flies overhead. With support from the ACP, Preeti Chaudhri visited Washington DC, Mark Heatley went to San Antonio and Orla O'Mahony went to Ghent. The ACP alumni got together in Morecambe. I always find it interesting to learn what other people have been getting up to on their travels, and I hope you find these articles of interest too.

Elsewhere in this issue

Sometimes the views and experiences of those new to the profession can give us pause to reflect on our own practice. The novice sees things which the more experienced, and perhaps more jaded eye may miss. In the first year of the MBChB programme in Sheffield students are sent on a two-week placement to see

medicine in action and discover the impact that disease has on patients. In pathology, our patients may arrive as endoscopic biopsies, surgical resections, bodily secretions, bodily fluids or cadavers. Interesting cases may be shown to colleagues, who ponder the material while you explain that "You will never see another one!" Mike Tonkins' experiences serve to remind us that there is a patient on the other side of the microscope.

I lose track of when examinations are happening. They seem to be a constant feature in my diary, albeit that they are for undergraduates. I don't doubt though that some of you will soon be faced with either writing or answering extended matching questions (EMQs). To many who grew up with multiple choice questions, EMQs seem somewhat alien. I present you therefore with my advice on how to

approach them, be you candidate or question writer. And in case you wonder why there is no mug-shot attached to that article, it is because I believe one reproduction of the editor's glorious visage is sufficient to uplift any issue.

Continuing with the educational theme, Alison Finall presents her top ten tips for improving your undergraduate tutorial teaching and Ed Carling describes how he made the transition from trainee to consultant.

All in all, lots to keep your interest, I hope. We also have a crop of book reviews, and of course our columnists have been keeping busy too. Enjoy! I had better sign off as I can hear Milly coming up the stairs and there is more chirping than normal, so a rapid intervention may be in order.

Printer's Apology

Despite our efforts towards perfect production of *ACP news* we are aware of four copies that were defective with missing pages in the last issue. Our machine operators were especially vigilant after a similar prior instance and did perform constant spot checks. The machines have many varied error detectors, to allow them to run at speeds up to

15,000 per hour, but in these instances both man and machine failed. After isolating any issue we do introduce additional preventive measures where possible. There is a new check we will introduce on the next issue to try and achieve 100% perfection.

Evolve is always happy to replace a defective copy.



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