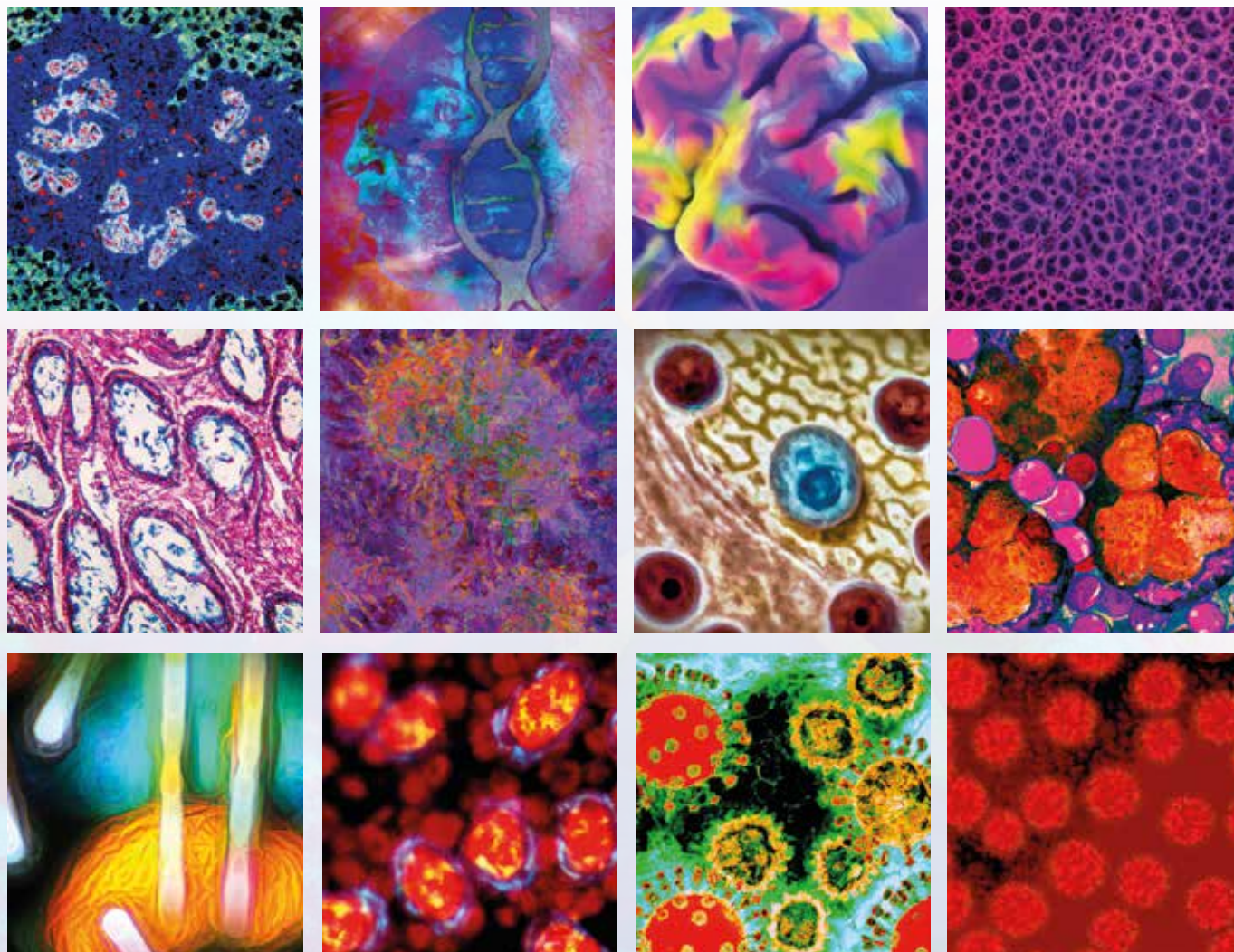


ACP news



Are bots hitting the spot?

The future of artificial intelligence in diagnostics

Continuous CPD in the era of AI

A miscellaneous pathology of witchcraft!

Beethoven's hair

Fatal dog attacks: when friends turn foe

Improving performance and safety through improved hospital boards

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Calendar of Forthcoming Meetings & Courses

DIARY DATES FOR 2023

Date	Title	Venue	Contact Details
Jan 2023 to December 2023	Chemical Pathology Webinar Series	Virtual	www.pathologists.org.uk
November Friday 17 All Day	Autopsy Update Day	Virtual	www.pathologists.org.uk
For further information please see the website: www.pathologists.org.uk			

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.

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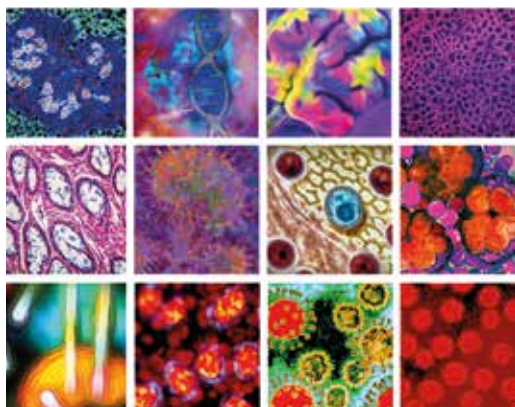
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We have focused on a theme of artificial intelligence in pathology for the autumn edition of *ACP news*. There are now a multitude of different AI programmes freely available that can be used for many different purposes, and the cover of this edition has been produced with the help of one of these. DALL-E (lab.openai.com) is an AI programme that a colleague recommended to me. It allows you to create art and images from descriptions given in natural language. The images you see have been made by asking the programme to produce an impressionist image of the different specialties of pathology. I started with one, then another, and before I knew it, I had the cover of the autumn edition! Can you work out which specialties are shown?! You can ask it to produce a whole range of different images using any descriptions or requests you want – a warning, it can become addictive but is a lot of fun!

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 non-histopathologists, 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	5 December
SUMMER	May	5 March
AUTUMN	August	5 June
WINTER	November	5 September

Copy is best submitted by email, 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 acpnews@pathologists.org.uk

In keeping with GDPR, please state if you wish your contact details to be published; they will appear in the print issue and will also be available as a PDF in the members' area of the website.

Dear readers,

I hope you are all keeping well. As we approach the end of the summer and enter the autumn season, I hope you have all been able to enjoy some form of break from the challenges of work during the summer period, or at least have one planned as we enter the later stages of 2023. Where has this year gone? The advancement of time continues at pace!

August has been a significant month for me as I have had my 40th birthday. I am not a big fan of my birthday; not because I have any particular issues with the inevitable ageing process, but because I am not a fan of the attention that comes with it. I had made requests that I just wanted to let it pass without any ceremony – and in fact was working and giving a talk at the RCPATH Summer School for it, too! However, I was taken by surprise a couple of weeks before this. My mother's side of the family are all based in Hampshire and I had arranged to visit and have lunch with two of my cousins, my aunt and uncle on one Saturday in late July. We are part of a farming family and so visiting their home is a trip down memory lane, to all the times and experiences that I have enjoyed down there whilst growing up – almost instant relaxation! When I pulled into the drive way, I was greeted by a surprise; firstly it was full of cars, and in the barn that is situated adjacent to the house, there was a huge volume of people, including my mum and dad! As it turns out, my cousins had secretly gathered all the family together and laid on a surprise 40th birthday party for myself and my other cousin, Emma, who was turning 40 a week before me! It was quite a shock, but a nice one! Pinned out around the barn were a series of photos of us as babies and toddlers, many of which I had not seen before. Unfortunately, the weather was



My family at the 40th birthday party

atrocious with persistent heavy rain and so we were all confined to the barn, but it was lovely to catch up with everyone, including my two brothers and my little nieces, Phoebe and Harlow. Having deliberately not planned anything, I was very touched that my cousins had gone to such trouble to get everyone together – I am very lucky to have them!

With regards to work, I am currently on placement at Great Ormond Street, working alongside the fantastic paediatric neuropathology team. I am really enjoying the post (although was reminded recently that I should perhaps be careful of using any words related to 'enjoyment' associated with a placement like this, given the nature of the work related to children who are unwell). But I am finding it interesting and challenging, and I am learning lots from a great team of people; I am grateful for the opportunity to be there, and in a hospital with such historical significance.

September is going to be a very busy month of travelling again. I am heading to Dublin for the European Congress of Pathology, where I am giving a talk in a history of pathology and autopsy session. Straight from Dublin, I am flying to Berlin for the International Congress of Neuropathology, where I am giving a talk and presenting a poster about my research. I am very excited to be going to Berlin! I have always wanted to go, given the significant history of the city, and so I am hoping there will be opportunities to explore – stay tuned for the next issue! Then following this, I am travelling to Rotterdam, again to give a talk and present a poster at the European Association of Neuro-oncology. After all this, and as I enter the 'business-end' of the training programme, there is going to be an increased focus on exam preparation – gulp! There are many bits of training I still need to complete before this, but



The beautiful countryside of Hampshire



Changing seasons; a red sky over Sutton at 6am on my journey into work

it is good to have this in sight and to plan accordingly, as it will be here before I know it.

The theme of the autumn edition has been artificial intelligence (AI) and there has been a very positive engagement from the membership in response to this – thank you very much for all of your efforts. AI has been in the news frequently over the last year, for a variety of different reasons, including experts expressing significant concerns about the potential threat to us, or other experts explaining how it can change our lives. We in pathology have all been aware of its impact on us for some time now. We have some great pieces from Dr Carl Gray and Dr Samar Betmouni, who set the scene for the current situation in pathology, and Dr Amelia Fisher, who provides her perspective on CPD in AI, something we should all be engaging with now. We also hear from an internationally renowned expert in AI, Dr G T Patch on the potential impact of AI in pathology, and the second part of our ‘an interview with ...’ series from Dr Sarah Ruane focuses on the AI perspective of Dr Pedro Oliveira, and there are a few other short pieces to highlight the use of AI in pathology for you to enjoy and reflect on. I think the message seems

to be that things are advancing and progressing, and that non-engagement is not going to be an option for the pathologist of today or the future. Look out for the hand-drawn cartoons that supplement some of these articles from the very talented Chris Mason!

I am sure all of the readership will have been struck by the tragic stories that have emerged from the Lucy Letby trial. It is hard to comprehend what those families have been through, and the lasting lifelong impact and damage of those experiences that have been so cruelly inflicted on them. During the course of the investigation and trial, staff at the hospital have spoken out to say that they made the management aware of their concerns. There have been calls for hospital management more generally to be regulated, just as doctors and other medical staff are. Former editor, Dr Eric Watts, provides his reflections on this, and how hospital boards can be further improved, in a submission for the autumn edition.

We have also seen significant change in the ACP Council. After a very successful term of office as Chair of Council, Professor Julian Burton has now stepped down and Dr Abbie Pugh has taken up the mantle. On behalf of all the members of the ACP, thank you so much to Julian for all he has done for the organisation over the years and in a variety of different roles, which you can read about in the article he has written for us. We also now welcome Dr Suzy Lishman as the new President of the ACP, having taken over from Dr Ian Frayling. A huge thank you to Ian for all he has done as President of the ACP. Welcome to both Abbie and Suzy, and I am sure everyone will continue to support them in their roles, just as you have done for Julian and Ian. We also have an update from Professor Vikram Deshpande, the new Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Clinical Pathology*, and what he hopes to achieve with his term of office for the journal. We have been informed of the passing of former ACP President, Professor Frederick David Lee; thank you very much to Alan Foulis for his touching tribute.

We have a strong emphasis on history in this issue; as we approach Halloween at the end of October, Dr Erin Whyte provides a fascinating article about the relationship between pathology and witchcraft through the ages. We hear from Dr Ivan Lee about how pathology impacted the life and career of one of the greatest composers, Beethoven. And I also describe the life and achievements of a significant man from medical history that has impacted me personally, after a visit to Madeira! We also welcome

the second part in the series from Professor Sebastian Lucas about his incredible career, and after the success of his previous article, based on the Titanic, we welcome an article from Dr Hugo Haller-Shannon about dog bites! There is much more to enjoy, too!

Thank you very much again to all who have contributed to this edition of *ACP news*. Your time and effort is, as ever, greatly appreciated, particularly given the ongoing clinical challenges that are ever-present. Also, a huge thank you to the editorial team

and Dr Elza Tjio (Deputy Editor) for supporting me in the role and for helping to put together another great issue.

As the evenings begin to draw in, I wish you all the very best for the autumn season. Thank you for all you are doing and continue to do. Looking forward to joining you again for the winter edition.

Dr Matt Clarke, Editor

Hastings, August 2023



NEXT ISSUE

As we approach the end of 2023, the theme of the winter issue will be 'achievement'. What have we achieved, either individually or as a specialty over the course of the year? Also, we want to hear about those in the profession who you admire and respect, or who are role models for you. Why do they stand out? Is there someone throughout history who you think should be given more appreciation for their achievements or what they stood up for, or who was not afraid to push the boundaries of convention? Are you someone who has taken an alternative career path to get to where you are now? Or have you faced challenges and obstacles related to issues surrounding the principles of equality, diversity and inclusion? Do get in touch!



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