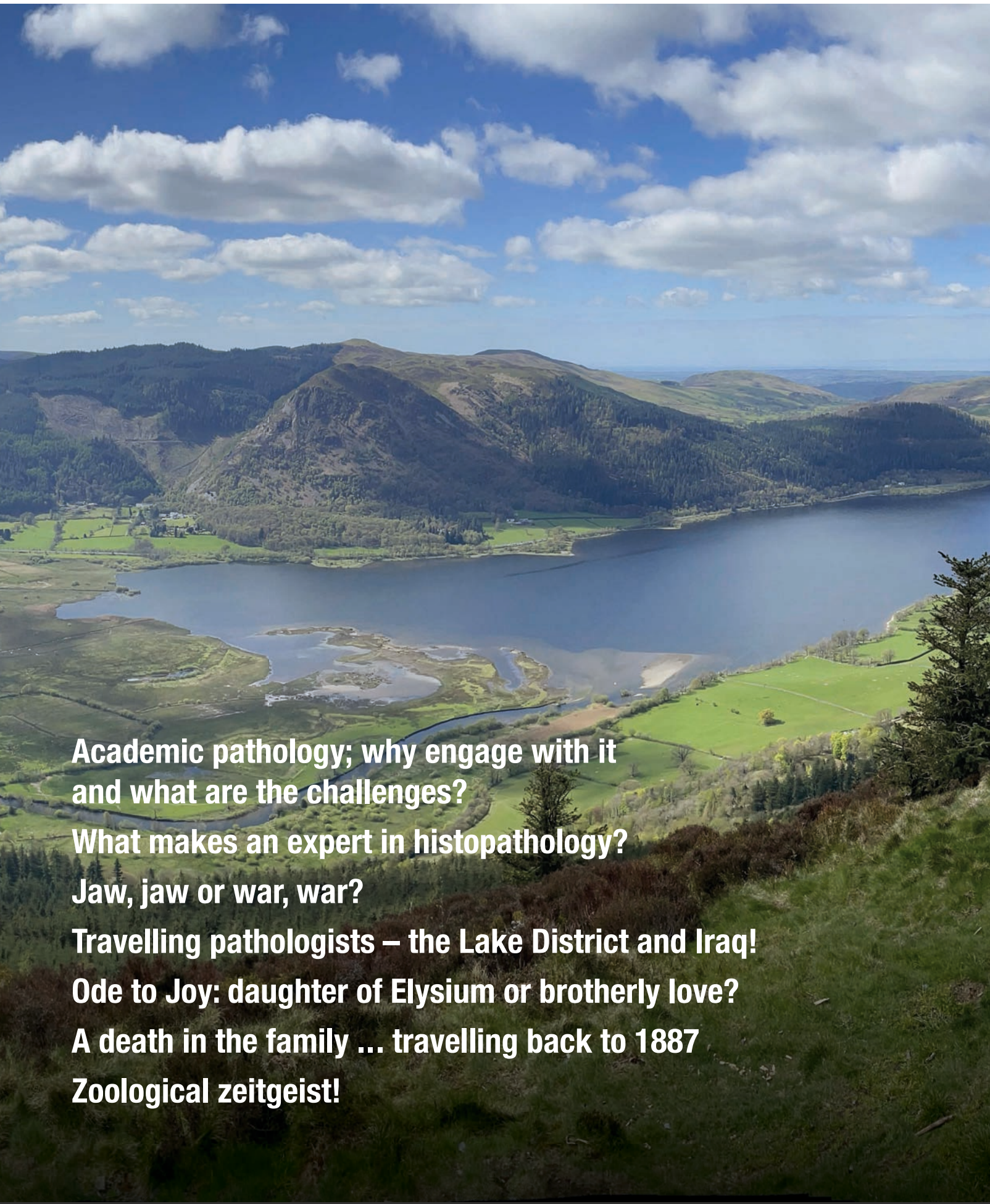


ACP news



**Academic pathology; why engage with it
and what are the challenges?**

What makes an expert in histopathology?

Jaw, jaw or war, war?

Travelling pathologists – the Lake District and Iraq!

Ode to Joy: daughter of Elysium or brotherly love?

A death in the family ... travelling back to 1887

Zoological zeitgeist!

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Calendar of Forthcoming Meetings & Courses DIARY DATES FOR 2024

Date	Title	Venue	Contact Details
Jan 2024 to December 2024	Chemical Pathology Webinar Series	Virtual	www.pathologists.org.uk
July 2024 TBC	Autopsy Case Presentation Webinar	Virtual	www.pathologists.org.uk
September 2024 25 to 27 three days	Advanced Leadership & Management Course	Chilworth Manor, Southampton	www.pathologists.org.uk
November TBC	Autopsy Update Day	Chilworth Manor Southampton	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.

ACP news

Summer 2024

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After finishing my final exam, and suffering a sleepless night of reliving the cases, I was at Plymouth train station sitting alone on the platform, waiting for my train to arrive. A young man, who must have been about 18 years old, came and asked if he could sit with me, to which I replied he was very welcome to. To begin with, I was surprised he had chosen to sit here, particularly as the platform had so many other seats that were free. He then began to tell me that he was on his way to London to join the armed forces, and told me very openly how nervous he was as he had not left home before. I tried to comfort him and offered some reassuring words from my own similar experiences of when I left home, and we began to chat some more. He was an extremely impressive young man, who came from a family where others had served in the armed forces, but he also coached a local rugby team for disabled players, amongst many other

things. He had been preparing for this army recruitment event for some time and was very passionate about what he was about to embark on, with the role he intended to take already planned. I told him how proud he should be of what he was doing, an emotion that I was sure was mirrored by his family; the smile in response to this said it all. He asked why I was in Plymouth, and after telling him of my exam experiences, he said “don’t worry, if you haven’t passed, you can just do it again”. The simplest of statements, but it made me feel so much better. As the train arrived, we shook hands and wished each other well, and parted ways. This interaction with him, someone so full of positivity and encouragement, but also vulnerability, helped me to face my own challenges over the coming weeks and made the train ride home more bearable. The cover photo for the summer edition was taken at Dodd Summit, 1,612 feet high, after a lovely uphill and at times quite steep walk in the Lake District, in pursuit of the elusive ospreys. I spent quite a bit of time sitting here, eating a picnic and enjoying the scenery, which this photo hopefully shows. We all face challenges at different times of our lives, which can feel like a constant uphill struggle, and some can feel very steep or even insurmountable. But we can find our way to the top or a better route to our goals, either with a helping hand, facing the challenge at a different time when better prepared or equipped, with a different way of thinking, or by following a map carefully laid out by others who may have trodden the same paths. Sometimes, it could be by a chance encounter with a stranger at a train station. At the end, we can then enjoy the positive feelings of that success or enjoy the view, as in this case.



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