



NEWSLETTER
January 2010

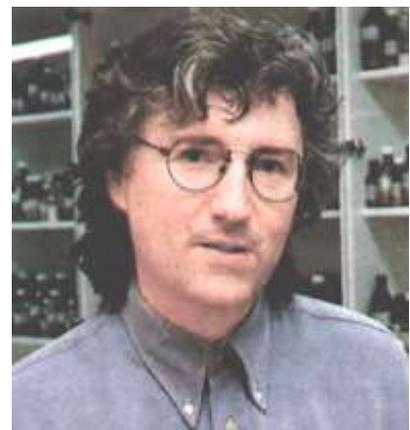
Happy New Year to all Conference delegates and friends. Only eight months away from Conference 2010 and we are happy to announce the details as follows:

23rd/24th/25th September
Macdonald Holyrood Hotel
Edinburgh

We are celebrating our 21st Conference so look out for some additional items over the two days and a bigger and better fringe night with entertainment.

We are delighted to announce that Professor Sir Kenneth Calman and Dr David Reilly (pictured below) will be our keynote speakers and along with fantastic workshop leaders will make this 21st Conference our best ever.

Get the date in your diary now and look out for further details and application forms in the next few months. Keep an eye on the web site for updates.





Professor Sir Kenneth Calman

Professor Sir Kenneth Calman was born Christmas Day 1941. He began his medical training at the University of Glasgow in 1959 then spent two years as the Medical Research Council Clinical Research Fellow in London. He returned to the University of Glasgow in 1974 as Professor of Oncology and held a series of senior posts. Sir Kenneth was Chief Medical Officer at the Scottish Office Home and Health Department from 1989 and then Chief Medical Officer in London. He also served for many years as a prominent clinical professor and he is an author on the treatment and care of cancer patients. Currently he is Chancellor of the University of Glasgow.

He is the founder of Tak Tent and in his book Medical Education says:

'On a personal note the most powerful learning experience for the author of this book was in setting up a series of support groups for cancer patients (Tak Tent groups after the old Scots phrase for take care). As a high quality cancer oncology unit (or so we thought), it was salutary to meet patients in an informal setting, get to know them and realise that their experience was worth much more than mine. They had so much to give if they were allowed to contribute and be involved. They taught me what it was like to suffer from cancer and how I could help them and others in a more effective way. I have always been grateful for that privilege.'

Dr David Reilly

Dr David Reilly is a Consultant Physician in the Centre for Integrative Care, Glasgow Homeopathic Hospital. He became a doctor to *'combine my intellect and my heart in helping people'*. He trained as a physician and GP and evaluated aspects of complementary medicine and mind-body medicine. He looked at better ways of approaching medicine and human caring which emphasises the innate healing capacity in people and explored more integrative models of care and patient centred ways of measuring outcomes. His focus is on patients and his skill in helping them..... *'they taught me all I know and together we discovered a far greater potential for change'*.

The SCCSG Committee cannot think of any two keynote speakers more fitting to address our 21st Conference.

Macdonald Holyrood Hotel, Edinburgh

This modern hotel has a lovely location next to the Scottish Parliament, facing Dynamic Earth and the Salisbury Crags. Holyrood Park is on the door step for fresh air. The High Street shops are a minute away and Waverly train station just a few minutes by taxi. It is a great location and not only has a self contained conference floor but also a swimming pool and therapy rooms - all of which we intend to use for the benefit of delegates.





Highlights of Conference 2009:

Extract from the Convenor's report:

'This year's theme is "Partnership" with a varied, interesting and busy programme ahead. As delegates are probably aware, the number of people diagnosed with cancer in Scotland is likely to rise to nearly 35,000 per annum between 2016 and 2020. This compares to a number of around 30,000 between 2006 and 2010. Goodness know what the total would be when you add the affected family members, friends and carers to the 35,000, but whatever way you look at it, there is and will be a tremendous amount of people needing care and support. This conference brings together people from all over Scotland and from different types of support organisations. Our individual organisations cannot support everyone who needs help, but by working together, helping each other, encouraging each other, we can hopefully reach out to more of those in need. Being here together, we are partners in trying to help others, so let's use the time available today and tomorrow to look at how we can use our collective resources to help those in need.'

A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Macmillan Cancer Support and accepted by Alan Gow for their continued support of this Conference in terms of sponsorship and delegate grants which have enabled approximately 700 delegates in the last 7 years to benefit from attending conference, not only by listening to speakers and attending the workshops but from the mutual support, camaraderie and friendship.

The two keynote speakers of 2009 did us proud. Both Dr Marianne Nicholson and Mike Grisenthwaite spoke with warmth and humour, sharing their stories and their wisdom to a very appreciative audience and we are so grateful for their willingness to join us and make this a very special event.

Finance

The last two years have seen rises in our costs which we know will continue. We are looking for external funding for this year and if anyone knows of grant funding bodies or trusts we could approach please let Clare know. Currently we have an application in to Awards 4 All (Big Lottery) and CRUK. Committee members will also be holding fundraising events between now and conference and we would be delighted if support groups might also be able to do this to help protect the future of our conference. Please keep in touch with any ideas.

Website

We will be expanding the web site with the hope that we can add services to it that will enable support groups to keep in touch with one another and discuss any issues. Great contacts are made during conference and if we can expand the website it would make it easier to continue the networking for the rest of the year.

www.sccsg.org





SCOTTISH CONFERENCE OF CANCER SUPPORT GROUPS

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And registered charity in Scotland No SC019940

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2010 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

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As an organisation that holds information, we are required by law to ask those who are on our mailing list if they still wish to receive mailings from us. Should you wish not to remain on our mailing list or if the information we hold on you is incorrect, please contact us immediately by calling Clare on 01224-647000 or emailing her at: claredavidson@btinternet.com