

25th Anniversary of the North West Society of Sexual Medicine and Family Planning

Founded in 1974, when the FPA gave up its clinic role, the North West Society of Sexual Medicine and family Planning (NWSSMFP) has been a forum for doctors in hospital, general practice and community medicine to meet, socialise and update their knowledge in sexual medicine.

Started by 35 doctors, who first met at the Wirral Postgraduate Centre, it was set up just prior to the National Association of Family Planning Association Doctors, to which it soon became affiliated. Initially it was called the North West Society for the Study of Sexual Medicine, but within a year the words 'and Family Planning' were added to promote the interests and scope of the Society.

There were four meetings a year, one of which was on a Sunday to enable GP's to attend, and the annual subscription was £1.00.

By 1982, the Society had a constitution and concentrated on two academic meetings per year, Clatterbridge in the Spring and Wigan in the Autumn. Wyeth, Schering, Organon and Ortho gave considerable support. The meetings were organised by a committee of 16, and always aimed to invite leading British specialists in their chosen field.

Today there are 250 members, and over 100 attend the twice yearly Saturday meetings. The increased administration has necessitated a Meetings' Organiser. The annual subscription is only £10.00.

Throughout the first 25 years the officers of the Society have tried to maintain a high standard of commitment to

encourage and keep doctors informed about sexual medicine and family planning.

For more information about this Society please contact: Mavis L Barnard, 7 Regent Road, Chorley, PR7 2DH, UK; Tel: 01257 267657.

Photograph: Founding and present day Committee Members celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Society (Dr Noreen Khan, Dr Nichola Carter, Dr Menna Rees, Dr Katy Kidd, Dr Linda Egdell, Dr Pippa Brough, Dr Jane Brocki, Dr Phillida Shipp, Dr Jonathan Rhodes, Dr Isabelle Hughes, Dr Maureen Brocklebank, Dr Diana Manning, Dr Glenda Searby, Dr Ruth Wilson, Dr Moira Carmody, Dr Fleur Fischer, Dr Lesley Batchelor, Professor Max Elstein, Dr Jean Parry).

