Welcome to the 5th edition of the RCOT Wales Region e-Newsletter.

The RCOT Wales Region Committee is here to support activities across our Region, and help you to boost the profile of our profession. If you have anything that would be of interest to others to be included in future e-Newsletters, send your stories, events, or pictures to RCOT.Wales@rcot.co.uk

SPOTLIGHT

Reflecting on what happened in Wales for occupational therapists in 2018:

RCOT Annual Review Meeting 2018:

As part of the national RCOT Strategic Intentions - "make a pledge and support us" the members who attended the annual review meeting in October shared their pledges with each other. You can still share your pledge with RCOT here: https://www.rcot.co.uk/about-us/governance/ipledgedo

Welcome to Dai Davies, Policy Officer, Wales:
In 2018 we welcomed Dai into his role as Policy Officer, Wales. He has been busy representing RCOT members at the Welsh Assembly. He has also attended a number of RCOT events. We wish Dai a great 2019! To see what Dai is up to follow him on twitter @RCOTPolicyWales.

**CPD EVENTS**

**RCOT Roadshow 2018/19 "Occupational Therapy: Enabling Productive Lives"**:

Date: 8th May 2019
Time: 1.30 – 6.30pm (registration from 1pm)
Venue: Elephant and Castle Hotel, Broad Street, Newtown SY16 2BQ
Cost: FREE

RCOT Roadshows are annual events hosted by RCOT regions for all occupational therapists, occupational therapy staff and occupational therapy students designed to give an overview of relevant policy developments, tools to support practice and current RCOT activity.

Booking details below in Local Activities and Sharing Knowledge.

**RCOT Annual Conference 17th -18th June 2019, Birmingham:**

Nominate a colleague to receive a FREE place!!

Do you have an inspirational ‘rising star’ in your team? If so, nominate them for a free place at Conference where they could network and get their ideas heard! Nominations need to be no longer that 280-characters (about 20 words) letting us why the nominated person should win! Either tweet or email us: @RCOTWalesRegion or RCOT.Wales@rcot.co.uk

Be sure to include their name and why they are your team's 'rising star'!! Nominated person must be a RCOT Wales member.

**LOCAL ACTIVITIES AND SHARING KNOWLEDGE**

**RCOT Wales Region Committee Vacancies:**

- Regional Communications Lead
- Member Activities Lead

Do you want to join our Committee and support your colleagues regionally enabling us to communicate with the 1772 members in Wales? Commitment would include attending quarterly meetings (in person or via video link) as well as doing as much or as little as you can manage in the respective roles. Get in touch with our Chair, Abbe Harvey, via email on RCOT.wales@rcot.co.uk

**RCOT Wales Local Group Updates:**

- North East Wales Local Group - look out for events via twitter @NEWalesRCOT.
- North West Wales Local Group - upcoming on March 26th - an evening with Sarah Lawson from Glyndwr University who will be giving talks on The Career Development Framework and TRAMmCPD. Look out for events via twitter @RCOTwales or search facebook ‘Royal College of Occupational Therapists - North West Wales Local Group’.
- Central North Wales Local Group - July 2018 saw the first of this local group's event in Clwyd where Sara Thelwell discussed ‘Assistive Technology’. If you would like more information please contact the organising members directly: rcoutcentralgroup@outlook.co.uk
- South Wales Local Group - On November 15th 2018 members in the area attended a workshop on "Self Management Tool to support Therapists and Patients in Setting and Achieving their Goals". Look out for the next event by following on twitter @SouthWales_OT
- West Wales Local Group - not currently active. Seeking enthusiastic members in West Wales to arrange a few socials/networking events in your area. Support from the...
Committee will be offered! Search for updates on facebook. Search ‘rcot wales - west wales local group’.

- Following the Roadshow the Mid Wales Local Group launch will take place. We invite members to stay and find out ways to engage locally, take part in CPD and networking in the Mid Wales area. Please note the launch of the Mid Wales local group is an RCOT member only event.

To book for the RCOT Roadshow (above) and the Mid Wales Local Group launch, please visit: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/rcot-roadshow-201819-occupational-therapy-enabling-productive-lives-and-mid-wales-local-group-launch-tickets-57709693246

To all organising members of the local groups – please keep us updated by tweeting @RCOTWalesRegion or sharing on the main facebook page ‘RCOT Wales Region’ so we can let all the members in Wales know what you are up too!!

@rcot.co.ukRCOT.Wales@rcot.co.uk

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**RCOT NEWS**

**RCOT 43rd Annual Conference: #RCOT 2019 Registration is now open**

**RCOT 2019 Annual Conference - 17th - 18th June:**

Venue: International Conference Centre, Birmingham

The Royal College of Occupational Therapists Annual Conference celebrates the success of occupational therapy and showcases the occupational therapy profession at its very best. The Conference is at the prestigious International Conference Centre, in the heart of Birmingham and will take place from 17th-18th June 2019.

Visit the RCOT Annual Conference website www.rcotannualconference.org.uk to get the latest information about the conference and to book your place. There is also information on how to make a business case to attend conference, and don't forget that there are special discounted rates of up to 70%* if you book before 3 May 2019.

**Justifying attending #RCOT2019:**

In these days of tightened budgets and reduced resources, you need to be able to make a compelling case for attending the RCOT annual conference. Whilst you recognise conference will strengthen your personal performance, you should make it clear to your employer that the organisation as a whole will directly benefit. After all the insights you gain will help your organisation anticipate and be responsive to new initiatives and developments within the health and social care sectors.

So you need to make a strong business case to attend. To help you we have produced a simple template that guides you to make a business case. Using the template you can link conference content with your organisation’s objectives and help demonstrate the organisational benefits and outcomes of attending conference. The template can be downloaded from the RCOT website.

https://rcotannualconference.org.uk/attending/making-a-business-case-to-attend/

Don’t forget if you book your place by 3rd May you can get up to 70% off the registration fee.
(Subject to registration criteria)

To register visit: https://rcotannualconference.org.uk

**Consultation on Occupational therapy in the prevention and management of falls in adults practice guideline – 2nd edition. Views welcomed by 11th March 2019:**

The RCOT practice guideline Occupational therapy in the prevention and management of falls in adults, published in 2015 is undergoing a review in line with the College’s NICE-accredited process.

The Guideline Review Group is now consulting with members on a draft of the 2nd edition, and would very much value and appreciate any comments you might wish to make on the updated document.
The consultation will be open from the 11th of February; please visit the College’s website to access and download the draft document for review and a consultation form: https://www.rcot.co.uk/news/consultation-occupational-therapy-prevention-and-management-falls-adults-practice-guideline

If you wish to contribute to the consultation, the deadline for comments to be returned to RCOT Research and Development Officer Angie Thompson (angie.thompson@rcot.co.uk) is 11th March 2019.

RCOT awarded funding to run occupational therapy-led vocational clinics in GP surgeries:

The Royal College of Occupational Therapists (RCOT) is delighted to announce that it has been successful in its bid for support from the Challenge Fund, to run occupational therapy led vocational clinics based in GP surgeries. The successful application was one of only 19 (out of 900 applications) chosen to receive the funding – run by the joint Department of Health and Social Care and Department for Work and Pensions, Work and Health Unit.

For more information see: https://www.rcot.co.uk/news/rcot-awarded-funding-run-occupational-therapy-led-vocational-clinics-gp-surgeries

RCOT Web Account:

Did you know you can update your details online in your RCOT web account? Simply log onto the website with your registered email address and password. If you have forgotten your details, please use the ‘Forgot email or password’ reminder on the same page.

Keeping your details current will ensure you receive regular and up to date information from RCOT.

If you have not used your online account since the launch of our new website in April 2017, your previous login details may not be valid. If this is the case, please select ‘register with us’ and continue to set up a new online web account. If you have any difficulty with your access, the web team will be happy to assist at Web.Team@rcot.co.uk or on 020 7450 2321.

RCOT New Publications:

Acting as an Expert Witness:

This guidance has been produced for occupational therapists working as expert witnesses and for occupational therapists who are considering undertaking this work. It provides a succinct overview of the UK legal system and gives detailed advice covering formal instruction, giving evidence in court, being and staying a competent occupational therapy expert witness. https://www.rcot.co.uk/acting-expert-witness

Occupational Therapy for People with Parkinson’s:

The last eight years have seen a rapid growth in the evidence base across a broad range of treatments for Parkinson’s, including evaluation of the impact of occupational therapy. This second edition of guidance for occupational therapists will help practitioners to deliver effective and evidence-based approaches. https://www.rcot.co.uk/occupational-therapy-people-parkinsons