

IFOMPT REPORT FOR MACP - DR CHRISTINE COMER

In July I was lucky enough to spend two stimulating days undertaking some world-class professional development, and what an inspiring way to do it! Thanks to an MACP bursary, I was able to experience my first IFOMPT conference, attending two information-packed days out of the full week's conference (one day self-funded and a second day funded by the MACP).

Even with the IFOMPT 'app' to help with planning, it was a challenge to decide which of the many sessions in the varied programme to attend. My choices in the end ranged from a light-hearted but well-informed debate on the place of manual therapy in today's resource-challenged health services to an in-depth lecture on current research on bio-plasticity; from a thorough overview of greater trochanteric pain syndrome delivered by four different researchers, to an enthusiastic talk on MWM's including patient demonstrations by the great Mr Mulligan himself; and from a constructive presentation on independent prescribing in the physiotherapy profession, to a thought-provoking interactive session on updating the IFOMPT framework for risk assessment and manual therapy in Cervical Arterial Disease.

The well organised conference provided plenty of opportunity to rub shoulders with some of the great names from the world of manual therapy and research as well as time for personal networking; I met former work colleagues, and was able to hold an evening meeting with a future research collaborator incorporating a Skype meeting with another potential collaborator in Canada. And then there were the delights of Glasgow itself, with some wonderful sights including the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre on the edge of the river Clyde which was a fantastic venue for the conference, and of course the chance to discover some great places for a drink and dining out.

Feeling thoroughly inspired, I am now reading up on some of the presenters' research work in more detail and preparing a feedback session for my work colleagues in Leeds.