

BIR Wessex branch meeting is popular

Ever-increasing time and financial constraints are making it harder for medical imaging professionals to attend off-site training and events. The British Institute of Radiology has recognised these difficulties and is now holding events around the country through its regional branches network.

Regional branches have been formed in Scotland, the North of England, Wales, South West and the Wessex region.

The Wessex branch held its Spring Scientific Meeting at The North Hampshire Hospital, Basingstoke. It consisted of an afternoon of short lectures, including a fascinating and entertaining insight from Dr Andrew Bishop, medical director and consultant cardiologist of Basingstoke and North Hampshire Foundation Trust, on "Innovation and Regulation."

The meeting was attended by more than 50 delegates, with a range of medical professionals present.

Branch co-ordinator Chloe Scragg remarked: "The BIR Wessex branch is enthusiastically supported locally and the free spring and autumn half-day scientific meetings are always informative and enjoyable.

"It is a great series of meetings available to all medical professionals in imaging to attend and offers fantastic opportunities for trainees to present work."

Last year, branch events hosted in Salisbury, Swansea, Liverpool and Southampton were attended by professionals from across the spectrum of the radiological community, reflecting the multidisciplinary nature of the institute.

The BIR is continuing this regional expansion in 2009. Meetings and workshops are planned for Wrexham, Liverpool, Southampton, Glasgow and York on a wide selection of topics ranging from emergency radiology to lung cancer staging.

Regional BIR events include workshops, scientific meetings, opportunities for trainees to present work and social events.