

In the limelight, out of the sun

Monica Hicks

'Oh, what a lovely day!' is a phrase that has been ejaculated frequently and with fervour and felicity during the recent heatwave. The meteorological phase began the day members of the Contact Lens Society joined the holidaying hordes at the south-coast resort of Brighton, on Friday, June 6.

The venue for the Contact Lens Society's Summer Clinical Conference was the Metropole Hotel which faces the sea-front in between the two world-famous piers. Seldom do speakers at scientific conferences in the UK have to face such seductive competition—a hot beach one minute's walk away. Their task was further hampered by the features of the lecture hall, a subterranean, window-less, poorly lit room (thankfully air-conditioned, though).

The interest and quality of the papers given throughout the two-day event were of such high standard as to illustrate what the objectives of a clinical conference are. Each lecture was well-attended. Each lecture was acclaimed as stimulating and well-prepared and original. Not one delegate was even rumoured to have been seen from a hotel window paddling, let alone bathing (either type). The conference had its lighter moments on the Saturday evening when

delegates, guests and speakers joined together to enjoy a cocktail party which was followed by a sumptuous buffet supper.

Friday

The Contact Lens Clinic of the Royal Sussex Eye Hospital, Brighton, was 'at home' to members of the Contact Lens Society who had managed to travel down in time. Dr Paul Jenner had collected a group of his more unusual and interesting patients and provided brief case histories to facilitate their examination. Janet Stone, Andrew Gasson, Philip Cordrey, and Bernard Kemp were among the group who studied a succession of fitted lenses. The patients' ages ranged from 12 to 84, and all seemed pleased to co-operate with repeated slit-lamp examination as a gesture of gratitude for Dr Jenner's work.

Saturday

The conference was officially opened by Mr A. Harden, consultant ophthalmologist at the Sussex Eye Hospital. He was



Mr A. Harden

deputising for Mr G. Gilkes who had to go to Scotland as examiner in final exams.

Morning chairman: Andrew Gasson

Mr N. Dallas, Bristol Eye Hospital, gave the first paper entitled 'Intra-ocular lenses. He briefly traced the pioneer work of Ridley and Choyce illustrating how current surgery was refining their basic techniques'

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Above: Dr Jenner (in the white coat) talks to some CLS members who visited his clinic at the Sussex Eye Hospital on Friday evening

Right: a research student of Aston University, Nizar Hirji, examines Mrs Rose Cook who has an enucleated right eye and had glaucoma followed by bullous keratopathy in the left eye. The right eye causes pain and after various soft lenses is most comfortable with the 85 per cent Sauflon permanent lens which she has worn since early March

