**Somerset goes to Harrogate**

An initiative by Somerset LMC and backed by Somerset CCG saw three intrepid travellers make their way to The North last week, when Jill Hellens, LMC Director, Stuart Revell, practice manager Wells City practice, and Lisa Horman, GP from Blackbrook & Victoria Gate, set off to run a stand at the RCGP Annual Conference. This was the latest iteration of the GPinSomerset social media campaign, and follows a stand at the Severn Careers Fair earlier this year which generated interest from Bristol based trainees in venturing south to work.

There is of course much to attract GPs to Somerset - quality of life, cost of living, good schools, not to mention innovative working practices and better working relationships between the health organisations than much of the country experiences. As well as the local produce - and we were delighted to take a hamper of goodies donated by Sheppey’s' cider, Pynes of Somerset and Mr Miles, and purchases of other morsels including Torsy Moorsy Glastonbury fruit cake, with which to entice in the 1600+ GPs, trainees and medical students at the conference.

We took with us flyers and information about SPQS, Symphony, GP+ networking and the Somerset GP training scheme. There was interest from prospective trainees from all parts of the UK (and Malta!) so we hope to welcome some of these to train here in the future. We also gave out 60 sets of information about GP vacancies in the county - far more than we anticipated. We very much hope that those practices have some enquiries soon.

The buzz and enthusiasm at the stand was very much helped by the number of Somerset and South West delegates who stopped by to say hello and add their enthusiastic endorsement to the message we were giving out. It was particularly interesting that two senior RCGP members spent half an hour quizzing us about all the county has to offer, and seemed impressed with what they heard.

Anyone up for Liverpool next year?!

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