

Commentary

President's Page: Organizational meeting of British branch of IAOM

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Organizational Meeting Of British Branch Of IAOM

The IAOM London Conference was a great success. Nearly 100 persons responded to Dr. John Mew's publicity efforts and about 50 attended the organizational meeting at the British Dental Association Headquarters in London on May 14.

A report on the meeting would be incomplete without telling you something of the organizer who put it all together. Dr. John Mew is a most remarkable man. In addition to being a great family man, he is a "incorrigible" sportsman: a skier, a sailer, a hang-glider (he nearly succeeded in breaking the British endurance record a couple of years ago), a race car driver, an inventor, a farmer, a large land owner—all this, besides being a very skilled Orthodontist with the largest practice of functional orthodontics in England. (See his article in the August 1979 American Journal of Orthodontics on The Bioblock Appliance Concept).

John has spent several hundreds of dollars of his own money publicizing the meeting, posters, brochures, direct mailings, space in all the major dental journals, etc.

The two-part meeting consisted of an open business meeting at which I acted as chairman. I gave a brief history of IAOM, our ideals and concepts, and invited those in attendance to join us. After considerable discussion, and exchange of views, a formal motion to organize a British branch was presented and carried. A steering committee of 4



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persons to effect the organization was then presented to and accepted by the "membership."

The business portion was followed by an excellent slide presentation and panel discussion by two orthodontists and two speech therapists, with yours truly acting as moderator. We obtained a lot of information and input about the conference attenders through questionnaires.

Dr. Mew's staff is now assembling that information, and I hope to have a report for you later on about the profile on those who attended the "Inaugural" meeting of the British branch of the IOAM.

Both Dr. Mew and I felt very rewarded for his and our efforts in this initial venture into being a truly *International* organization.

—Logan