

## 75th Congress European Orthodontic Society, Strasbourg

The city of Strasbourg, the centre of the European Parliament and its historic picturesque half timbered buildings, was the venue that our President, Charles Bolender and his wife Margaret, chose to host the 75th Congress of the EOS. The Cathedral dominates the skyline of the old city and is surrounded by water that in earlier days was part of the city's defences.

The Congress was opened by Professor Bolender on Wednesday morning and addresses were given by Mr Henry Scicluna, Head of the Health and Social Policy Division of the Council of Europe, Mr Roland Ries, the Mayor of Strasbourg, and Professor Jean-Yves Merindol, President of the Louis Pasteur University. After the welcome from the various dignitaries we were entertained by the young musicians of Strasbourg—The Ensemble Orchestral d'Alsace. It was a most moving concert that was enjoyed by everyone. The President then opened the trade exhibition situated just outside the main auditorium.

The Sheldon Friel Memorial lecture was given by Professor Birte Melsen on 'Tissue reaction to orthodontic tooth movement—a new paradigm'. Following this the Houston Research Essay Awards were given and the prize was won by Dr C. Verna for her paper 'Tissue reaction to orthodontic tooth movement in different metabolic conditions'. Three keynote speakers, Professors Moorrees, Sarver and Grubb opened the main topic of the meeting 'From the 2D facial analysis to the 3D reconstruction'.

In the evening we departed for the Mint in Molsheim where the President hosted his reception. The food and wine flowed and the dancing went on to the early hours of the morning. The building was founded in 1573 as a mint by the Bishop of Strasbourg, John IV Count of Manderscheid-Blankenheim. It was restored in 1972 having been used as a factory and a tobacco warehouse.

The following morning the main theme was continued with keynote lectures from Professors

Fuhrmann and Moss. There were a large number of excellent posters on a variety of topics that were manned during the lunch period. The Houston Research Poster Award was given to Dr N. Turnbull for his poster entitled 'Orthognathic surgery, pharyngeal airway dimensions and sleep quality'. In the afternoon the theme of implants and orthodontics was introduced by keynote lectures from Professors Thilander and Wehrbein.

The gala dinner was held at the beautiful Auberge du Kochersberg in the magnificent countryside with wild flowers and fields stretching into the distance. It has one of the best cellars in France and a 17th century dining room. The President and his lady led the dancing and soon the floor was crowded with dancers. The last bus left at 02.00, so it was surprising to see the lecture hall full for the keynote speakers, Professors Ghafari, King and Tulloch, who spoke on 'Interceptive orthodontics and randomized clinical trials'. Dr Schiel then gave his keynote lecture on '3D computer tomography'.



Charles and Margaret Bolender

At the business meeting of the Society Professor Bolender reported that there had been over 1000 registrations and he was delighted to welcome the Society to Strasbourg. The Honorary Officers gave their reports and Professor Birte Melsen was elected as President for the year 2004 to hold a meeting in Denmark. The President then handed the Presidential badge to Professor Adamidis of Greece who will hold his meeting in Crete in June 2000.

In the evening the Society was entertained by the Mayor of Strasbourg to a concert in the Cathedral. The organist, hautbuoy and trumpet players performed a large variety of pieces illustrating the versatility of the instruments. Following the concert we then went to various restaurants for a meal, once again making friends and renewing contacts.

Saturday was reserved for the outing and the Silver Mill competition. The morning dawned bright and sunny and we made our way through the beautiful French countryside to the Alsatian Natural Conservation Area where more than 50 buildings from the 12th to the 19th century have been rebuilt and now house various craftsmen who carry on their trade using the techniques of bygone years. The grounds were delightful and it was interesting to see the numbers of storks nesting on the chimneys. The majority of these are bred locally and no longer migrate to Africa where they were caught.

The Silver Mill competition was held during the lunch time. A local group of dancers performed various Alsatian dances and then demonstrated the 'Hat Dance'. The dance followed a set routine and the speed of the music dictated the rate at

which the hats were removed from the competitor's head to the head of the participant in front. The person who made a mistake dropped out. Teams from 30 different countries competed and the winning team from each heat then participated in the final. The Silver Mill competition for 1999 was won by Slovakia who were presented with their certificates by the President.

As a Society we are grateful to Professor and Madame Bolender for all the hard work that they put into the conference and also to Dr Yves Bolender, who was Chairman of the Scientific Committee.

We look forward to welcoming you to Crete next year so that you may enjoy the friendship and hospitality, which are hallmarks of the EOS Congresses.

J. P. Moss

My wife and I personally wish to express our gratitude to all those who contributed to the success of the scientific and social programme. We would particularly like to thank Dr Guy Bolender. We regret that a sudden illness deprived him of the pleasure of enjoying the meeting to which he contributed so much.

We are also grateful to our son, Dr Yves Bolender, for all his work with the organization and poster exhibition. Our thanks go also to all the keynote speakers who made the scientific contribution so fruitful.

Charles and Margaret Bolender