

2016 AIO Conference details released

New Feature announced for The Vale 9th and 10th October

The Association for Independent Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians (AIO) confirmed today that its 2016 Conference will be held at the superb Vale Resort in Cardiff on 9th and 10th October 2016. The Conference this year is anticipated to be the biggest and best yet and a new feature has been added which is expected to generate a lot of interest.

Alongside the main lecture programme, and CET break-out sessions, a separate event will be staged for people who aspire to move into Independent practice either through acquisition or as a start up operation. The programme for this event will include all aspects of setting up or acquiring a business, marketing, finance, acquiring equipment and insurance amongst other important subjects. Delegates will also be able to hear first-hand the experiences of people that have recently taken the plunge!

Keith Pearce, AIO Vice Chairman and Organiser of this year's Conference said '2016 will mark a number of firsts for our Annual Conference. We will be visiting Wales for the first time and we will have more than 200 delegates in attendance for the first time. We will also hold a new and unique event for those who aspire to work in the Independent Sector. We know that there are many people working in the multiple sector, and people who are newly qualified, that would dearly love to own and run their own practice, but don't know how to go about it. Our job as the only professional not for profit body that exclusively represents Independents is to provide help and support and create a roadmap that shows the move is not as daunting as some may think.'

The 2016 Conference will feature the usual excellent array of speakers and will cover clinical and practical subjects with an array of CET feature lectures and workshops. In keeping with its origins, the Conference will provide a great networking opportunity for like minded people and there will be some fun social activities to go alongside the informal Saturday night dinner before the Conference on 8th October and the formal Gala Dinner on Sunday 9th October.

'We had excellent feedback from our Conference at Eastwood Hall in 2015, and we are determined to build on that success in 2016' Keith added.

Bookings for the Conference will be open from early March, but anyone who has an interest in attending the event is invited to pre-register at admin.aiovision.org

Potential sponsors can contact mike@aiovision.org