



## Association of Ophthalmologists (UK)

### **Open Letter to All Ophthalmologists**

Dear colleague,

We are living in frustrating times, whether as a doctor in training wondering if there will be posts available for you; an SAS doctor waiting for the new contract and seeing increasing workload; or a consultant having to deal with endless new government initiatives, more strident management, and intrusive private medical insurers.

All ophthalmologists at all levels feel concerns about their lives as doctors. Our College can and does much to deal with many of these issues particularly those related to training and education. However, as you know, there are many issues that the College is not able to concern itself with because of its charter and its charitable status. It is because of this that the Association of Ophthalmologists was originally formed. Whatever the stage in our careers, we all need an organisation to be representative and be heard by those who determine the course of our professional lives. This organisation needs to be inclusive and represent all ophthalmologists .

Accordingly the board of the AOO have decided to make all ophthalmologists members unless they choose not to be included There will be no membership fees and the Association will be funded by selling advertising space on our website and also charging an appropriate fee for attending the meetings.

At the bottom of this letter is a form that we would like you to complete and return either by post or preferably email with your contact details to confirm your free membership of the AOO. Our next event will be on the evening of the 3<sup>rd</sup> of February 2009 in London when Anne Milton, Shadow Minister of State for Health, will speak and answer questions. This meeting will incorporate our

AGM and election of officers for the next two years. Put this date in your diaries, more details will be sent to you shortly.

I look forward to a very positive response to this initiative.

With all good wishes for the upcoming festive season and 2009.

Yours sincerely,

**Richard Packard**  
**Chairman, Association of Ophthalmologists**

I accept membership of the AOO	Yes/no
Name	
Position	
Address	
email	