THE ELIXIR OF ETERNAL YOUTH?
Many of us would wish to recapture our youth in some form or another, whether it might be those youthful good looks or the ability to remember where we put our car keys. A recent study in *Science* suggests that there might be good news around the corner, even if only for your pet mouse. Researchers found that injecting ageing mice with serum extracted from young mice stimulated vascular remodelling and neurogenesis in the older mice. Although this is clearly a very exciting finding, before you take a syringe to your children you should note that the study did not investigate whether this neurogenesis led to behavioural improvements.

*Science* 2014;344:630–4

DISPOSESSED
An ‘intervention’ is an orchestrated attempt by loved ones to help someone face their demons; primarily to seek professional help with addiction. Although featured in sit-coms as a narrative device and thought of as an American invention, James Joyce describes an intervention for alcoholism (of course) in *Dubliners*. Irmak, writing from a Turkish perspective, describes the broadly positive results of faith healers in dealing with people with psychosis in ‘Schizophrenia or Possession?’ A Fo Ben must admit that there have been times when faced with seemingly intractable functional illness that an attempt at exorcism (or the culturally appropriate alternative) has flitted across the mind....


NOTES FROM THE GRAVE
Cotard’s delusion is a rare psychosis where the patient believes himself or herself to be dead. While we may increasingly understand more about the underlying cause, it is almost unheard of to hear a first-hand account of what it feels like to suffer from the delusion. In a recent on-line piece, writer Esme Wang clearly recounts her experiences of living with the delusion. It is a fascinating and wonderfully written account of a profound psychotic episode that sheds light, and humanity, on a condition that can be difficult to understand, let alone to manage.

http://the-toast.net/2014/06/25/perdition-days-experiencing-psychosis/view-all/

CALL THE KNIT NURSE
What do you get for the spouse who has everything? If you are looking for a new hobby to occupy your time in those long winter evenings or want to create a unique Christmas present, then maybe this is the site for you. The Museum of Scientifically Accurate Fabric Brain Art may inspire you to translate your neuro-anatomical knowledge into a design for a cushion cover or tapestry (figure 1).

[http://harbaugh.uoregon.edu/Brain/](http://harbaugh.uoregon.edu/Brain/)

**Competing interests** None.