

BMUS

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NEWS

British Medical Ultrasound Society



NEWS FROM THE
(very far and sunny)
North-South

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Moor News – Greetings from Dartmoor



Simon and Carmel at the races

At the time of writing this column I have been BMUS President for either five or twenty eight days (nobody seems quite sure). I look forward to the next two years with great excitement, under my leadership I hope we can continue to improve, meet the needs of our members and respond to the changing health service.

My first and most important task is to thank Dr Carmel Moran for her tireless work on behalf of BMUS over many years, but particularly during the past two years as President. Under her watch BMUS has become more financially stable, developed a new and much improved website, achieved PubMed Central listing for the journal and started to see a growth in membership for the first time in many years (among many other achievements that are too numerable to list). Never flustered and with an unshakably optimistic outlook Carmel will continue to represent BMUS on European matters, but can now return to her ultrahigh frequency transducers and zebra fish in the knowledge that she leaves the Society in a far stronger position than when she started.

Those of you who attended the Annual Scientific Meeting in York in December will know that BMUS enjoyed another outstanding meeting. I left the racecourse feeling invigorated and a little more jovial in spirit I hope you did too. Thanks go to Professor Adrian Lim and his team for producing such a diverse and high-quality programme. As an old and (previously) grumpy consultant, the Young Investigator Session was a particular highlight of the meeting for me demonstrating the inspiring research into ultrasound originating in the UK. All the presentations in this session were excellent and congratulations go to Maria Theodorou who was awarded BMUS Young Investigator prize and who will present her work on behalf of BMUS at the 2017 Euroson meeting in Ljubljana later this year. Work has already started on the programme for the ASM in Cheltenham next year and my colleague Mr Peter Cantin will lead the scientific organising team for this meeting; please

consider an early study leave application to ensure that you can attend in December.

I was fortunate to be able to attend this year's Euroson meeting in Leipzig, Germany in October. Held in a magnificent conference centre on the outskirts of the city the meeting attracted approximately 2,000 registrations and had a varied and interesting scientific programme although the number of sessions conducted in German limited choice for non-German speakers. EFSUMB can now claim to have more than 20,000 members and past BMUS President, Professor Paul Sidhu, will be the next EFSUMB President. EFSUMB is in the process of developing a new student committee and all members Societies (including BMUS) may propose members for this committee.

Dominating the health news in the UK is the overwhelming pressure facing the NHS this winter. Key performance targets are now being regularly missed, including those of direct relevance to ultrasound departments such as the six week wait for diagnostic tests, four hour target to treatment or discharge from emergency departments and sixty two day target for cancer treatment. This is combined with a massive predicted financial overspend and record numbers of delayed hospital discharges due to a lack of social care provision, resulting in what has been described as the "perfect storm". All of you will have felt the impact of these challenges in one way or another and there is no doubt that this can have a damaging effect on morale. It is sometimes important to take time to reflect on the reasons why we have chosen to pursue a career in ultrasound, and separate the enjoyment and reward that comes from an expertly performed and interpreted ultrasound study from the stresses of our working environment. BMUS is frequently asked to provide input to inform policy decisions and we will continue to argue for improved standards and quality in ultrasound in the face of constant pressures to minimise cost and reduce scan times. We also aim to be your first port of call for ultrasound education and professional guidance. Attendance at BMUS educational events will not only improve your ultrasound practice but also provide the opportunity to share your successes and difficulties with others. I hope that you will feel able to recommend BMUS to your colleagues who are not currently members.

With a largely new office team, led by Joy Whyte, supporting a number of enthusiastic and capable committees, council members and officers, BMUS can look forward to this year with optimism. I would like to wish you all a very happy and prosperous 2017 and thank you for continuing to support BMUS.

Simon Freeman

President

Professional Standards Group 2016 progress

It's been a busy year for the BMUS Professional Standards Group (PSG), following the publication in 2015 of the Justification of Referrals for Primary Care tool and Guidelines for Professional Ultrasound Practice. The PSG has been reviewing and monitoring the impact of these two documents.

Justification of Referrals for Primary Care – Revision 1 available NOW!

The Justification of Referrals for Primary Care tool assists ultrasound providers with vetting *primary care* referrals for ultrasound. This has been produced to support departments in making the best use of their resources and to help ensure only appropriate referrals are accepted.

The original document has been reviewed and edited following feedback and practical use within hospital trusts. The revised version has clarified some issues related to

upper abdominal requests and the use of CT as a more appropriate test.

In one pilot site, an 11% reduction in referrals has been identified. With increasing pressures on scarce ultrasound staff this is having a positive and beneficial effect on service. Resources can be redirected to more appropriate imaging. This document has been implemented at the pilot site with full support from the local CCG's.

The BMUS Justification for Referrals Guidance document tool is available free of charge for all BMUS members and can be found on the BMUS website, in the Member's Section.

Guidelines for Professional Ultrasound Practice – Revision 1

In December 2015 BMUS and the Society and College of Radiographers (SCoR) launched the Guidelines for Professional Ultrasound Practice. Over the last 12 months or so the

PSG and SCoR have been listening to feedback and reviewing the document, in December 2016 Revision 1 was launched.

Both organisations strongly believe that professionals should work to recommended standards and that the public are entitled to know what these standards are. Therefore, revision 1 of the Guidelines is now available in the public domain of the SCoR and BMUS websites. Certain clinical and profession specific guidelines have been maintained within the members only aspects of the websites of both organisations.

The PSG will continue to work hard in 2017. The published guidelines and standards will continue to be reviewed and updated. In addition the group are beginning work on providing images and cases to support benchmarked standards as described in the audit tool and framework published in 2014. Look out for details in future newsletters and Ultrapost.

News from the (very far and sunny) North-South

One of the highlights of being BMUS president was to be invited to speak at the 46th annual scientific meeting of the Australasian Society for Ultrasound in Medicine (ASUM). In 2016, the meeting was held at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre from 28th - 30th October. The meeting itself was very similar to our own annual scientific meeting not only in size but also in the diverse range of highly skilled practitioners who attended and the range of workshops providing a good balance of academic and practical sessions.

The exhibition boasted the full range of high-end ultrasound manufacturers, and, unlike the BMUS meeting, a significant number of independent companies providing ultrasound teaching and training courses. Giving four invited talks did not provide too much time to attend other sessions but Professor Basky Thilaganathan,

Professor of Foetal Medicine at St George's, University of London was also an invited speaker and during the plenary session gave an excellent overview of foetal growth restriction. The gala dinner and the award of the ASUM Awards of Excellence was held at the The Gabba (Brisbane Cricket Ground) in Woolloongabba – a highlight for many of the Australians and provided a relaxing end to the conference.

Dr Carmel Moran
Past President of BMUS



2016 prize winners and awards

Best Oral paper

Sandra Morrissey, for her presentation 'Sonographer Workforce Survey'

The runner-up - Pamela Parker, for her presentation 'Comparative study of shear wave elastography systems on two ultrasound units in patients with known or suspected liver disease'



BMUS President Dr Carmel Moran and Poster Prize winner Chelsea Bullock

Best Posters at Ultrasound 2016

Winner - Compliance with image recording standards at the 20 week anomaly scan, Chelsea Bullock, Derriford Hospital, Plymouth



Carmel Moran and poster runner-up Colin Griffin

Runner-up - Overview of Ultrasound appearances of Lymph Nodes, Colin Griffin, Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospitals NHS Trust



Maria Theodorou Young Investigator winner and Dr Carmel Moran

Young Investigator

Permelastography: Quantitative poroelastic property imaging by combining shear wave and strain elastography with a force sensor, M Theodorou, Cancer Research UK Cancer Imaging Centre, Sutton, London, UK



Professor Steve Robson receives the Peter Twinning Medal



Jean Wilson presented with the Donald MacVicar Brown Lecture 2016 award

For the best article published in *Ultrasound* in 2016 by a postgraduate student.

Winner -

Value of ultrasound shear wave elastography in the diagnosis of adenomyosis, Saida Acar¹, E Millar¹, M Mitkova² and V Mitkov² ¹Diagnostic Imaging Department, Milton Keynes University Hospital, UK; ²Ultrasound Diagnostics Department, Russian Medical Academy of Postgraduate Education, Russia.

Runners up -

Prospective comparison of use of contrast-enhanced ultrasound and contrast-enhanced computed tomography in the Bosniak classification of complex renal cysts, Matthew Ragel, Anbu Nedumaran and Jolanta Makowska-Webb Radiology Department, Aintree University Hospital, Longmoor Lane, Liverpool, UK

Contrast-enhanced ultrasound in the evaluation of parotid gland lesions: an update of the literature

E David^{1,2}, V Cantisani¹, M De Vincentiis³, PS Sidhu⁴, A Greco³, M Tombolini³, FM Drudi¹, D Messineo¹, S Gigli¹, A Rubini¹, D Fresilli¹, D Ferrari¹, F Flammia¹ and F D'Ambrosio¹. ¹Department of Radiology, Anatomic-pathology and Oncology, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy; ²Department of Biomedical Sciences and Morphologic and Functional Imaging, Policlinico "G. Martino", University of Messina, Italy; ³Department of Sensory Organs, ENT Section, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy - Department of Surgical Sciences, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy; ⁴Department of Radiology, King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, London, UK.

The Paul Allan Prize for the best paper published in *Ultrasound* 2016

The clinical use of contrast enhanced ultrasound in the kidney, Sean Tenant and Catherine Gutteridge Radiology Department, Derriford Hospital, Plymouth, UK.



The Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony in the National Rail Museum, York

BMUS Honorary Membership

Dr Kevin Martin, University Hospitals Leicester and **Dr Trish Chudleigh**, Cambridge University Hospitals have been awarded life-long BMUS Honorary Membership for their outstanding service to ultrasound.



Dr Kevin Martin
Kevin has always been passionate about ultrasound education. He is a co-author of 'Diagnostic Ultrasound: Physics and Equipment', a key ultrasound physics text for trainee Clinical Scientists and Sonographers. His enthusiasm for ultrasound physics and instrumentation has inspired numerous Clinical Scientist trainees to specialise in ultrasound. For many years, he was heavily involved in the training of NHS Clinical Scientists, spending time as Chief Examiner for the Institute of Physics and Engineering in Medicine (IPEM) Clinical Scientist training scheme.

Kevin joined BMUS Council in 1998 and has supported the Society in a variety of roles, including President of the Society from 2006-2008 and Editor in Chief of *Ultrasound*, the BMUS journal, from 2012-2016.

Honorary membership is awarded in recognition of his longstanding services to BMUS, and ongoing contributions to ultrasound research and education.

Dr Kevin Martin - Kevin trained as an Electronic Engineer in the 1970s, gaining a BSc and PhD from Bangor University (formerly known as the 'University College of North Wales'). He joined the Ultrasonics section of the Medical Physics Department at Newcastle General Hospital in 1978. Kevin then moved to Leicester in 1991, retiring as Head of Instrumentation of the University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust Medical Physics Department in 2012.



Dr Trisha Chudleigh & Dr Carmel Moran

Dr Trish Chudleigh - Trish graduated from Liverpool university with a zoology degree and began her career in ultrasound as a medical physics technician before joining King's college London as part of Stuart Campbell's research team. She was awarded a PhD by the faculty of Medicine at King's College London in 2000. She has inspired many sonographers through both her academic and clinical teaching, most notably by co-authoring the highly regarded book 'Obstetric Ultrasound - How, why and when', which is now in its fourth edition and remains a key text for all ultrasound students.

Trish is committed to improving obstetric ultrasound practice and has contributed significantly to the national Fetal Anomaly Screening Programme.

Since 2006 Trish has worked as Lead Sonographer at Rosie Hospital, Cambridge where she has continued to promote excellence in ultrasound. She now combines this with that of Education Consultant to the International Society of Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

Trish remains an active member of BMUS, has given numerous presentations at Society meetings and is a regular contributor to the BMUS journal.

Honorary membership is awarded in recognition of Trish's longstanding services to BMUS, and ongoing contributions to ultrasound research and education.



Keynote address from Professor Anil Ahuja



2017-2018 Officers, L-R Pam Parker, Rhodri Evans, Simon Freeman, Catherine Kirkpatrick and Emma Chung



Adrian Lim, 2016 Scientific Organising Chair



Thanks to our volunteers from Teeside and Leeds Universities



Delegate engagement



Our thanks go to the Hitachi team for their sponsorship of this year's Gala Dinner at the National Railway Museum in York



Gala Fun!



The crowd is buzzing around the exhibition stands



Dr Carmel Moran and Jean Wilson



Gala Magic



One of the many packed lecture sessions



Selfie fun at the gala



Showing the latest cutting edge technology



BMUS drink reception

Honorary Secretary's Report summary 2016

I am delighted to report another very positive year, signalled by continued financial stability, a successful Annual Scientific Meeting held in Cardiff in 2015, and several well attended study days. The number of members increased this year to just over 1500 members and the journal, *Ultrasound*, was accepted for indexing on Pubmed Central and Web of Science. Overall, the Society has succeeded in delivering its core charitable aims and objectives in the advancement of science and education relating to medical ultrasound and maintaining high standards in ultrasound practice. We continue to play a key role in guiding national policy towards improving professional standards and shaping the future sonography workforce.

BMUS office:

The BMUS administration team continues under the leadership of Joy Whyte, supported by three new team members; Tracey Clarke (Office Administrator) Emma Tucker (Development Manager) and Amanda Cove (Events and Marketing Co-ordinator). To reflect Joy's greater managerial responsibilities her title has changed from General Secretary to Executive Officer. I am sure you will all join me in thanking Joy and welcoming our new office team members.

Strategy day

Following a Strategy Day attended by Council members in 2016, we have made a number of changes to the Society's structure to facilitate better communication and networking between the various Committees and Special Interest Groups (SIGs). These include:

- A broader Science and Education (S&E) Committee, chaired by the President Elect. S&E and Special Interest Groups (SIGs) will meet on the same day to facilitate exchange of information. The Journal Editor will also attend S&E meetings to establish links with study day organisers and ASM stream leads to aid commissioning of articles.
- The number of S&E meetings each year will be reduced from 3 to 2. The spring meeting will focus on organisation of the Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM). The autumn meeting will focus on the organisation of Study Days.
- A Website Editor will be appointed annually from Council to oversee BMUS website development.
- Increased use of virtual meetings and teleconferencing.
- Reinstate the BMUS pump priming Award (with maximum award of £3k). Four applications were received in 2016.

As Honorary Secretary, I have also ensured there are up-to-date Job Descriptions for all Society officials and new Terms of Reference for each Committee. I have also proposed amendments to the BMUS Articles of Association to reflect our new structure, improve clarity, and to ensure the constitution reflects current procedures, such as use of email, the website, virtual meetings and online polls. All Job Descriptions and Terms of Reference are available on the BMUS website and suggested amendments to the BMUS constitution will be circulated in advance of the next Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Annual Scientific Meeting 2016:

The 48th meeting of the British Medical Ultrasound Society, organised by Adrian Lim, was held at York Racecourse from the 7th-9th December 2016. As always, the meeting includes an educational program supporting a wide range of specialist areas of ultrasound practice. As trialed for the first time at Cardiff, a conference 'app' was used to stream details of sessions and for delegates to give real-time feedback (in return for CPD points). The main scientific streams were complemented by practical workshops, debates, a scientific poster session, manufacturer's exhibition, and satellite meetings on Therapy and Translational Ultrasound. The highlight of the social programme was the conference's gala dinner and award ceremony held in the spectacular setting of the National Railway Museum, York (surrounded by vintage trains). The proceedings of the 2016 BMUS ASM will be published as an online only supplement to the May 2017 issue of the BMUS journal.

Study days:

The S&E committee organised the following study days in 2016, all of which were well attended with positive delegate feedback. Once again, the Dublin study day was particularly popular, attracting 192 delegates. A further two day Dublin summer school is planned for 2017

April 2016 – Gynaecology Study Day, York – **31 delegates**

April 2016 – New Technologies Study Day, London – **25 delegates**

May 2016 – Head & Neck Study Day, Hull – **30 delegates**

May 2016 – MSK Study Weekend, Stafford – **27 delegates**

June 2016 – Summer School, Leeds – **24 delegates**

September 16 – Leeds Paediatric Study Day – **30 delegates**

October 16 – Renal Tract Study Day, Dublin – **192 delegates**

Professional development and standards:

The Professional Standards Group (PSG), led by Pam Parker, Development Officer, aims to develop professional standards to support safe, and best, practice in medical ultrasound. This year, Pam and her team continue to be engaged in complex and challenging sonographer workforce discussions with Health Education England (HEE). BMUS has a vital role to play in this review, not only representing ultrasound practitioners who are members of the Society, but also through our key involvement with CASE (the Consortium for the Accreditation of Sonographic Education). Further details of the PSGs work can be found in Pam's article on page 3.

The BMUS Journal:

The BMUS journal, *Ultrasound*, is published quarterly by Sage Publications and is received by all BMUS members. This year sees the retirement of Dr Kevin Martin, who will be replaced as Editor-in-Chief by Mr Bid Kumar, a Consultant Obstetrician and Gynecologist from Wrexham Maelor Hospital. Bid will be assisted by Deputy Editors; Marcus Nicholls, Gill Harrison, Sean Cournane, Colin Griffin and David Oxborough.

Following successful quality and technical assessments for indexing in the free full text archive PubMed Central (PMC), *Ultrasound* was given its own page in PMC in August this year. This can be accessed at:

www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/journals/2889/.

Titles and abstracts of articles are searchable immediately after publication, and the full text of each article will become freely available after one year. In 2016 the journal was also indexed by the Web of Science (WoS) Emerging Sources Citation Index. These developments should greatly enhance the visibility of *Ultrasound* content, making our journal more attractive to authors and increasing citations.

In 2016, the journal published 28 articles on various aspects of ultrasound, including a special issue on 'Non-hepatic applications of contrast-enhanced ultrasound (CEUS)' published in February 2016. There were 9 entries for the 2016 postgraduate prize sponsored by SAGE Publications. The February 2017 issue of the journal will be a special issue on 'Safe Practice'. New additions to the journal's online professional development and training resources include three BMUS Physics and Technology CPD modules, which have been endorsed by the European Federation of Societies for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (EFSUMB) as meeting internationally recognised training requirements.

An annual Editorial Board meeting occurs at each BMUS ASM to discuss matters concerning the journal and receive an update from Sage Publications. *Ultrasound* currently has over 400 institutional subscribers and can be accessed by almost 5000 institutions worldwide via developing world initiatives. Between January and October 2016 an impressive 32,767 full-text articles were downloaded from the journal's website. In addition to the journal, all BMUS members receive this quarterly BMUS newsletter providing information about the Society's meetings, committees, activities and diary dates.

Website:

This year we continued to expand the members' area of the website to incorporate online access to educational materials from our hugely popular study days, audit tools, online CPD, and exclusive access to the journal and resources provided by EFSUMB. A Website Editor will be appointed in 2017 to oversee further development of the website for the benefit of members. BMUS members are also able to access consultative documents regarding sonographer professional development, best practice guidelines, and exclusive movies, presentations and training materials.

Future plans:

Priorities in 2017 will be to continue to raise the profile of the Society and benefits to members, and to encourage trainees to become more involved in Society activities.

Many thanks to the BMUS office staff for their dedication and hard work during the last year, as well as everyone who has contributed to the various BMUS committees, study days, journal articles, consultation documents, and organisation of the ASM. Special thanks and recognition goes to Joy in the BMUS Office, our Development Officer Pam Parker, ASM Chair Adrian Lim, Treasurer Rhodri Evans and President-Elect Simon Freeman who have all made an immense and sustained contribution to the Society in 2016. Finally, our outgoing BMUS President, Dr Carmel Moran, has been an inspirational President. Thank you Carmel!

Dr Emma Chung

BMUS Honorary Secretary

BMUS

Grumpy Old US consultant

Are you in the habit of carefully adding anatomical labels to your static US images? Really! Why??

Or rather; stop it at once it is ridiculous!!

How long would it take to report a CT or MR scan if this practice were applied in the world of serious imaging?

Who is it for? Not the patient (OBVS). It is unlikely the requester has the time, interest or access. Other imagers possibly, but why would they need the labels? Unless they cannot read the images.

I suspect the practice predates independent sonographer reporting. Busy departments where sonographers churned out hard copy images to be reported by the Radiologist later.

I remember that many of the early medical practitioners of US took a rather snuffy view of acquiring images, preferring a more “mystic Meg” view of their ability to intuit the diagnosis on a mixture of medical know-how, a bit of clinical examination and a few “snow storm” thermal paper images “intended to give artistic verisimilitude to an otherwise bald and unconvincing narrative”.

Labels were doubtless helpful to such as these, assisting them to cast a critical gaze over the efforts of their little helpers. Similarly in times of yore, I have seen clinicians waving US paper in front of patients in a theatrical but authoritative fashion and labels may have had a critical role here also.

The requirement to label may then be seen as a kind of L-plate indicating the driver is a Learner. The habit carries over from training, when it is appropriate in reinforcing the anatomy in the mind of the student. If you are still mumbling “Mirror, Signal, Manoeuvre” as you drive, ten years after passing your driving test, you are excused the remainder of this rant.

Virtually every organ has asymmetric anatomy (e.g. renal hila are normally situated medially) and are asymmetrically surrounded by other recognisable structures (the right and left iliac fossa can be distinguished by the relations of the rectus and oblique muscles anteriorly).

Admittedly Right and Left labels have a place, sometimes. The most pressing need for a label is when the disease process has rendered the anatomical subject unrecognisable. As in “ Yes this echogenic walnut is the left kidney or rather what is left of it”.

Why does this matter? Primarily because of infantilism. This is a security blanket and it is time to move on and leave it behind. Secondly, because it takes time and brain space which would better be used in asking the patient relevant questions about their symptoms, recording additional clinical findings such as points of maximal tenderness, and thinking diagnostic thoughts (oh that liver texture isn't quite right, what else can be done to assess this concern further?). Finally because it encourages a view of Ultrasound as a cheap, safe, readily available imaging modality which is ideal for reassuring the worried well, whilst the sick go straight to CT or MRI.

By all means put detailed labels on the abnormal images, but leave the normal organs alone. Please.



¹Pooh-Bar, The Mikado. Gilbert & Sullivan 1885

Ultrasound Imaging of the Renal Tract

University College Dublin (UCD), October 2016

Following the hugely successful and popular gynaecology study day in 2015, the ultrasound team at UCD were delighted to welcome BMUS back to Dublin in October 2016. This was the second time BMUS held a study day in the Republic of Ireland and the day attracted 200 delegates from all over Ireland and the United Kingdom. Ms. Therese Herlihy who leads the MSc Ultrasound programme and Dr. Mary Moran who directs the obstetric ultrasound courses from UCD worked with the BMUS team to make this study day happen. Professionals from the UK and Ireland joined together to share their knowledge and expertise.

This year's study day topic focused on imaging the renal tract and aimed to cover imaging techniques, top tips and common pathologies pertinent to all patient groups. Renal tract referrals come from a range of sources and for a diverse group of patients; from neonates to the elderly, from our obstetric patients to the general population. The morning covered generic common topics related to imaging the renal tract. Mrs. Pamela Parker (Hull and East Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust), welcomed all delegates and faculty to UCD, informed delegates on how to use technology to enhance their ultrasound practice and spoke about acute kidney imaging. Mrs. Rosie Conlon (National Rehabilitation Hospital, Dun Laoghaire) delivered a talk on basic principles of renal tract imaging. Dr. Simon Freeman, the new president of BMUS (Plymouth Hospitals NHS Trust) provided his 'Top Tips on Renal Tract Imaging' and provided a very useful talk on imaging the scrotum in the afternoon sessions. Just before lunch Mrs. Terry Humphrey (Leeds

Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust) delivered a very informative talk on paediatric renal imaging.

Specific streams were delivered in the afternoon with one stream covering the very pertinent topics of the fetal renal tract (Dr. Peter McParland, National Maternity Hospital, Dublin), neonatal renal imaging (Dr. Eoghan Laffan, Temple Street Children's University Hospital, Dublin) and renal imaging in the obstetric patient (Dr. Tony Geoghegan, Mater Misericordiae University Hospital, Dublin). The other stream had a more general focus with Mrs. Cathy Sharp (Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust) speaking about stone disease and lithotripsy, and Mr. Peter Cantin (Plymouth Hospitals NHS Trust) discussing the role of ultrasound in imaging and managing haematuria.

Feedback from the study day was excellent from both faculty and delegates. The day sold out and highlighted a high demand for continuing ultrasound education. The 200 delegates were a mixture of radiographer sonographers, midwife sonographers, nephrologists, emergency medicine physicians and radiologists.

UCD and BMUS brought a renowned faculty of experts from the UK and Ireland to Dublin to provide this educational and inspiring packed programme and hopefully this wonderful sharing of knowledge and expertise will continue with a Summer school planned for June 2017 in Dublin.

BMUS 2017 ASM

The 2016 Annual Scientific Meeting was a huge success but plans are already underway for BMUS 2017. I am delighted that the Annual Scientific Meeting will be coming to the South-West this year. We have retained the sporting theme from the past few years, with this year's meeting taking place at Cheltenham Racecourse.

Cheltenham has a number of famous children including Edward Jenner ('the father of immunology') and Eddie 'The Eagle' Edwards, the UK's only Olympic ski-jumper. It is fitting that the Cheltenham motto is 'Salubritas et Erudito' ("Health and Education"), a theme that fits perfectly with the ethos of the Annual Scientific Meeting and with BMUS as an organisation.

The BMUS ASM remains one of the friendliest scientific meetings around, a real opportunity to catch up with old friends and make new ones. It provides a great environment for new speakers to present their work in a supportive and interested atmosphere and this is something that we are particularly keen to encourage this year.

There will be the usual opportunities to view, discuss (and covet) the latest kit, applications and gizmos from our manufacturer and

commercial partners in the exhibition hall. Translation of these new technologies and techniques into clinical practice is a subject that we are keen to promote.

The hands-on workshops remain enormously popular and more of these are planned, particularly for MSK, vascular and abdominal applications.

As well as clinical lectures covering a wide range of ultrasound applications, there will be professional issues sessions looking at non-clinical areas of ultrasound (particularly service delivery and education) which provide a forum to share problems, solutions, ideas and experiences with like-minded colleagues. In addition, the BMUS debate always provides the opportunity for lively exchange of views on contentious subjects relating to ultrasound.

The ASM organising committee look forward to welcoming you to Cheltenham in December.

Our 2017 study day programme is now complete and bookings for the first few are open. Over the next 6 months we will be hosting a Gynaecological day in April, a MSK study weekend in May and a Head and Neck day, with live scanning in June.



Once again we will be working in partnership with Kings College London with the Paediatric CEUS Course in June with key speakers from the international ultrasound community.

Also in June we will be visiting Dublin and working with University College London to deliver two full days of ultrasound education. Look out for further details on our website for this course and all our others.

In the later part of the year we will be running study days on Abdominal, Paediatric and Obstetric scanning, full details of these will become available a little later in the year.

This year I am especially proud of our study day programme and feel there is something for everyone on it.

BMUS Study Days 2017

Each year, BMUS runs a varied programme of study days and events throughout the year. These are spread across the country and differ from year to year.

This year too, we will be running a number of study days that cover core areas such as Gynaecology, MSK and Head and Neck as well as popular areas such as Paediatrics and Abdominal.

All these courses carry BMUS CPD points.

For programme and registration, visit www.bmus.org

April

Gynaecology

27th April 2017, London

Liver Hepatology

29th & 30th April 2017, London

May

MSK Study Weekend

20th & 21st May 2017, Stafford

June

Head and Neck

6th June 2017

Kings CEUS Paediatric Course

19th & 20th June 2017, London

Dublin Summer School

23rd & 24th June 2017, Dublin

September

Abdominal

5th September 2017, Manchester

Paediatrics

29th September 2017, Leeds

October

Obstetrics

13th October 2017

December

Ultrasound 2017

49th Annual Scientific Meeting

6th - 8th December 2017,

Cheltenham