



WINTER NEWSLETTER 2018/19

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Cycling back from Mumbles to Uplands along the seafront overlooking Swansea Bay (some say it matches Naples in its splendour but the glories of the steelworks in Port Talbot at the eastern side of the bay probably gives Naples the edge).

An easy early Saturday morning ride back home today, training done; dry with a westerly breeze and no work awaits - good thinking time. Thoughts are: approaching deadline, newsletter piece, and my new role as President. My jumble of thoughts need sorting, writing and submitting. The sea breeze is welcome in trying to apply some logic to the ideas bouncing around within my head.



"President", it does sound a daunting title. Apparently (I looked it up on my way back on the train home, after the brilliant Manchester Annual Scientific Meeting), the word stems from Middle English via an old French/Latin term "praesident" which means "sitting before". Not sure about sitting before, I was thinking more along the lines of a representative/leader/head etc., but what does it mean in the context of BMUS? My answer is to look at the excellent and outstanding work that my predecessor, Dr Simon Freeman has carried out on behalf of our society during his term as President. This will be a tough act to follow. The challenges facing BMUS and the practice of ultrasound in the near and more distant future remain significant.

If we look at the issue of statutory regulation of sonographers as an example of how the society has been led by Simon and his fellow officers - this gives a window into the complexities and interactions required to represent and support our members. Simon (with me in a minor supporting role) successfully lobbied the Royal College of Radiologists and gained their endorsement and help in trying to steer and support the case

for legislation. In his dialogue with the Society and College of Radiographers (SCoR) and Health Education England, he has lobbied successfully on behalf of BMUS as a multi-professional society. Health Education England's role in reviewing sonographer education and the associated career pathway has seen BMUS being heavily involved (here we are also greatly indebted to Mrs Pam Parker acting in her previous role as Development Officer and Chair of the Professional Standards Group) in the ongoing revision and design of a more appropriate training pathway for sonographers. There is no doubt that this is a tent that BMUS need to be in and not standing outside. The issues of undergraduate sonographer education, apprenticeship models, preceptorships, delegation etc are wide and complex and there are many viewpoints and interests at play. BMUS under Simon's leadership and Pam's steerage have contributed significantly to the project and will continue to do so. Hopefully I can continue to build on Simon and Pam's work in this regard and continue the drive to allow the vision to bear fruit in the near future.

My understanding of CASE was

enhanced (I am not alone amongst radiologists in asking what does CASE actually mean- the (Consortium for the Accreditation of Sonographic Education) through involvement in meetings during my time as President-elect. There is no doubt that BMUS through its involvement in CASE as a leading constituent member of the consortium, needs to be primarily involved in overseeing and the accreditation of sonographer training. Sonographers should input into the training of sonographers and have significant input into sonographer training. Sonographers should train sonographers. From my standpoint, CASE in its current format doesn't represent a sustainable business model, it relies heavily (as do most professional societies) on goodwill to function. A more sustainable model will undoubtedly evolve and BMUS will continue to support CASE in its increasing role as the accrediting body for sonographer training. However this will represent a significant challenge to all.

To match the success of our outgoing President in his leadership skills and negotiating powers will undoubtedly be difficult, he's set the bar at a high level. However,

A VIEW FROM MY BIKE

this is where the role of President as leader and front man comes in, because sitting behind me (maybe this is where the Latin definition comes from?) are a fantastic group of hard-working committed professionals: members of the Education Group, Physics and Safety Group, Editorial Group, Professional Standards Group. All represent professionals working within the sphere of ultrasound who in addition to their normal busy day jobs, devote their free time and effort into organising study days, Annual Scientific Meetings, producing our journal, safety guidelines, etc. etc. Underpinning this is our excellent office and administration staff, who run and facilitate the processes of BMUS (and are very good at chasing me and reminding me of deadlines!).

Our fundamental aim is to ensure that we educate and advise as a Society with a view to enhancing and developing ultrasound practice to an ever-improving standard for our patients. As President, I am simply a representative for my colleagues and their output and also to you the members of BMUS. It's an honour for me to represent BMUS; let's hope that I can continue the exemplary work of Simon and represent BMUS successfully.

So, short recovery ride over, piece is done in my head - breakfast awaits! Could be a full Swansea breakfast-bacon, eggs cockles, laverbread-and a mug of builders tea... lovely?!

Rhodri M Evans
President

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HONORARY SECRETARY'S 2018 SUMMARY REPORT



It is with great pleasure and an honour that I take over from Emma Chung as Honorary Secretary. I hope I can do half as good a job as Emma and on behalf of BMUS would like to thank her for all her hard work and dedication over the years. Luckily, she remains an active member whose advice will continue to be invaluable to us all.

HONORARY SECRETARY'S 2018 SUMMARY REPORT

A lot in this first newsletter of 2019 is owed to Joy and her excellent team and of course all the BMUS members who have made 2018 another successful year. The society continues to improve its financial stability with a slight rise in membership. There have been numerous well attended study days, the indexing of our journal "Ultrasound" in PubMed Central and the end of year culminating in a successful Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) held in Manchester. This year BMUS has also continued to play a particularly important role in talks with Health Education England (HEE) towards shaping the future of sonography education.

Here are some of the highlights of the last year:

Membership

BMUS membership currently stands at 1626 members (as of December 2018); a slight increase of 36 members compared to last year. BMUS membership fees will be increasing by 3.2% from the 1st of January 2019 in line with retail price indexing and a mandatory direct debit will take effect for all new members. As always, please encourage new members to join BMUS, and existing members to stay, by promoting the benefits of BMUS membership. It is truly a multidisciplinary society for all users of ultrasound.

BMUS Administration

The BMUS office team continues to be ably managed by our Executive Officer, Joy Whyte. Many thanks to Joy and her team for all their hard work over the last year.

Annual Scientific Meeting 2018

The 50th Annual Scientific Meeting, Ultrasound 2018, organised by Gerry Johnson was another successful event. It was held at Emirates Old Trafford, Manchester from the 4th – 6th December 2018. The keynote, Donald MacVicar Brown lecture was delivered by Professor Paul Sidhu from Kings College London. A very Happy 50th Birthday to BMUS!

STUDY DAYS

During 2018 the BMUS Education Group held eight study days attracting a total of 513 delegates.

April 2018 – Gynaecological Study Day – 88 delegates

May 2018 – MSK Study Weekend – 30 delegates

June 2018 – MSK Cadaveric Study Day – 32 delegates

September 2018 – Obstetric Study Day – 52 delegates

September 2018 – General Medical Study Day – 52 delegates

September 2018 – Paediatric Study Day – 41 delegates

October 2018 – Prostate Cancer Study Day – 14 delegates

October 2018 – UCD Dublin Study Day – 204 delegates

The joint BMUS / UCD Study Day in Dublin was particularly successful, attracting a large number of delegates.

In addition to these eight days the Events Team also supported 2 external events – a 3 day Hepatology Course at the Royal Free Hospital in London and a 2 day CEUS Course run by Kings College London.

Materials and resources from study days are accessible to BMUS members via the members' area of the website.

A total of 8 study days are planned for 2019 and are available to view on the BMUS website.

Professional Standards

The Professional Standards Group (PSG) now being led by our new Development Officer, Catherine Kirkpatrick, continues to work alongside CASE (the Consortium for the Accreditation of Sonographic Education) to negotiate a new framework for sonographer training with Health Education England (HEE). We are indebted to the previous chair of this group, Pam Parker, for the huge amount of work over the past 4 years representing BMUS at these very important meetings for the profession in her role as Development Officer.

Physics and Safety

The remit of the Safety group has been expanded to cover 'Physics and Safety', with the former Science and Education group now focussing predominantly on ultrasound Education as well as organisation of study days and the ASM. Peter Hoskins, as Curator of the BMUS Historical Collection, has moved forward on the digitisation of relevant slides, photos and other documents held in the collection and has been in discussion with the Science Museum on the removal of the hardware from the collection. The ultimate aim is to have a 'virtual' collection on the BMUS website.

The BMUS Journal

The BMUS journal, Ultrasound, is published quarterly by SAGE Publications and is received by all BMUS members. In 2018, the journal published 28 articles on various

aspects of ultrasound, with a special issue on 'Obstetrics'. A special issue on 'Echocardiography and Vascular ultrasound' is planned for May 2019. Ultrasound is receiving a healthy number of submissions and currently has a circulation of approximately 7,500 readers. The increasing citations in 2018 over previous year (80 in Scopus and 93 in web of science) is a testament to the improved quality of articles received and published.

The current Editor-in-Chief, Mr Bid Kumar, is a Consultant Obstetrician and Gynecologist from Wrexham Maelor Hospital. Bid will be supported in 2019 by Deputy Editors: Sean Cournane, Cheng Fang, Colin Griffin, David Oxborough, Trudy Sevens, and International Editor Tim Canavan. The Editorial Group meets biannually in conjunction with the Education and Physics a Safety SIG's under the auspices of the reformed Science and Education Committee. This enables collaborative working amongst the various groups.

BMUS Website

This year saw continued expansion of the members' area of the website to incorporate online access to educational materials from study days, audit tools, online CPD, and exclusive access to the journal and consultative documents regarding sonographer professional development and best practice guidelines. In 2018, the task of editing the website passed from Borsha Sarker to Alison Hall.

BMUS Newsletter

In addition to the journal, all BMUS members receive a weekly e-Newsletter, Ultrapost and a quarterly BMUS newsletter giving information about the Society's meetings, committees, activities and diary dates. Production of the newsletter has been further streamlined this year. Many thanks to Emma Tucker from the BMUS office, and all of the contributors, for making the newsletter an attractive, informative and enjoyable read.

Summary and Future Plans

In 2019, there are continuing plans for NHS sonographer training and BMUS will continue to work towards the professional recognition of Sonographers. These developments present new challenges and opportunities. It is therefore important to continue to raise the profile of BMUS and develop membership benefits for all professional groups. Next year's Annual Scientific Meeting will be held in Harrogate, and will be organised by Catherine Kirkpatrick, the newly elected BMUS Development Officer.

BMUS continues to be an influential, active, and vibrant society. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed to the success of 2018 especially to those who have given their time freely.

Prof Adrian Lim
Honorary Secretary

ULTRASOUND 2018 PRIZEWINNERS



This year Prof Paul Sidhu gave the prestigious DMB lecture. This lecture honours the 1958 publication in the British journal 'The Lancet' of Ian Donald, John MacVicar and Tom Brown's paper, 'Investigation of Abdominal Masses by pulsed Ultrasound'. This lecture has been a fixture of the meeting for over 20 years and this year Prof Sidhu's lecture on 'Paediatric Contract Enhanced Ultrasound – A No Brainer?' did not disappoint!

JOURNAL PRIZES

Paul Allan Award

Winner: David Scott et al (Bristol Dental School) for 'Risk of infection following semi-invasive ultrasound procedures in Scotland, 2010 to 2016: A retrospective cohort study using linked national datasets'

Post Graduate Prize

Winner: Shubhra Agarwal et al for 'Fetal adrenal gland biometry and cervical elastography as predictors of preterm birth: A comparative study'. (Teerthanker Mahaveer University, Moradabad, India)

Runner Up: Yaw Wiafe et al 'Sonographic parameters for diagnosing fetal head engagement during labour'. (University of Derby)

Co-author Heather Venables, receiving the Post Graduate journal runner-up prize on behalf of Yaw Wiafe



Second Runner Up: Helen Liversedge et al for 'Assessing the accuracy of ultrasound estimation of gestational age during routine antenatal care in in vitro fertilization (IVF) pregnancies'. (Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust)

CONFERENCE PRIZES

Best Student Presentation

Winner: Hamdi Mohamed, Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, Ultrasound Guided procedures: What are the barriers surrounding interventional practice for sonographers

Best Scientific Poster Prize

Winner: Simone Ambrogio et al, Sheffield Teaching Hospital, A Novel Complex Flow Phantom for Doppler Ultrasound

Best Case Report Poster

Winner: Richard Brindley, New Cross Hospital, Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust, Coarctation diagnosis from renal ultrasound

Best Oral Presentation

Winner: Michelle Bonfield, Vascular Science University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust, Outcomes after deep vein thrombosis: resolution, recurrence, reflux and pts

Runner up: Samantha Thomas, University of Sydney, Challenges to professional autonomy: Australian sonographers' experiences in communicating adverse outcomes to pregnant patients



Nour Alsafi, Young Investigator 2018 with BMUS President Dr Simon Freeman

Young Investigator 2018 – to represent the UK at Euroson 2019 in Granada, Spain in May 2019

Winner: Nour Alsafi, Ali Alsafi, Hillingdon Hospital, Imperial College Healthcare Trust, 'UltrasoundEd

Best Clinical Poster

Winner: Sophie McGlade et al, Peninsula Radiology Academy, University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust, Making use of the mastoid fontanelle: Additional views in neonatal intracranial ultrasound imaging

Co-author Peter Cantin, receiving the Best Clinical Poster prize on behalf of Sophie McGlade





Gerry Johnson and Dr Simon Freeman chairing

Hands on education



President Prof Rhodri Evans



Gala dinner fun



Relaxing with Bowen Therapy



2019 PRIZE WINNERS AND AWARDS



Learning with Phantoms



Listening to lectures



The drinks reception



Technical exhibition



The Juke-Box Band at the Gala Dinner



Experiencing the latest technology



The drinks reception



Gala fun



Trish Chudleigh meets a Sequoia at the drinks reception



Jazz Solo at Gala



Networking at the Gala Dinner



Glad rags at gala dinner



Toasting BMUS at Gala



Poster Exhibition



HONORARY TREASURER'S SUMMARY



My name is Peter Cantin. I am a sonographer, have been qualified since 1995 and currently work in Plymouth as a consultant sonographer. I have been a member of BMUS since my early days of ultrasound training where my mentors and teachers explained the value of BMUS as both a professional and educational organisation. I have been a member of BMUS Council since 2016 and have great admiration for the dedication shown by the BMUS staff, volunteers and members in their promotion of ultrasound as the fantastic diagnostic tool that we all know it to be.



BMUS is the only organisation in the UK that represents professional ultrasound users from all professional backgrounds and disciplines. This diversity means that BMUS has a unique insight and oversight of professional, clinical, educational and research issues relating to diagnostic ultrasound in the UK. It is therefore very well-placed to advise government bodies and other organisations on clinical and professional issues around diagnostic ultrasound. It is also a well-respected organisation in the European ultrasound community.

We are very fortunate that BMUS finds itself on a reasonably sound financial footing after some difficult years, largely due to pro-active action from the BMUS office team and former members of Council. However, we should not be complacent. We know that a large proportion of the BMUS income is derived from the Annual Scientific Meeting so its continued success is vital to the future financial health of the Society. It would be good to increase our membership ensuring that BMUS remains the vibrant and diverse organisation that it has

“I have taken on the role of Treasurer for the next 2 years. In this role I am responsible for the continuing financial health of BMUS. I hope during this time to continue to strengthen the financial stability of the Society.”

become, this will help alleviate the reliance on the Annual Scientific Meeting. However BMUS is aware of the financial restraints that individuals have found themselves over the last few years, and this is very much a factor when setting membership fees.

Of course, the work of BMUS does incur significant costs. However, fortunately much of BMUS' professional and educational activities are undertaken by a dedicated team of volunteers, passionate about the safe and effective use of ultrasound in clinical and research settings, assisted by the BMUS office team.

Given the educational and professional work that BMUS undertakes, we are always looking to increase our membership. I would ask all our members to please encourage their colleagues to join BMUS. BMUS is the organisation that represents all ultrasound practitioners from all professional backgrounds, both at home and abroad. A solid membership is vital to ensure that BMUS remains the pre-eminent organisation in the practice of ultrasound.

I have taken on the role of Treasurer for the next 2 years. In this role I am responsible for the continuing financial health of BMUS. I hope during this time to continue to strengthen the financial stability of the Society.

Dr Peter Cantin
Honorary Treasurer



A VIEW FROM THE CATHEDRAL



2019 brings change of personnel to the BMUS Officers roles and BMUS Council members. As part of this re-election process, I have taken up the role of Professional Development Officer. Firstly, I would like to take the opportunity to thank Pamela Parker for her outstanding contribution to the role of Development Officer and Chair of the Professional Standards Group. Her leadership in this role has ensured that standards of clinical excellence in ultrasound have been continually driven forward making great leaps and bounds in her tenure.



What a hard act to follow! Pam will still be on hand to as she takes on new challenges in her role as President Elect of BMUS and will continue to provide leadership in work with Health Education England as we venture into exciting times in our profession.

The aims of the Professional Standards Group for 2019 will be to continue to build and update the existing documents and professional guidance – ultrasound is a fast moving world! In addition, we will hope to provide new guidance looking particularly at standard templates for common Patient Group Directions (PGDs) in ultrasound, an image bank for benchmarking purposes and much more. Good governance and standardisation where possible should form the cornerstone of ultrasound departments. Projects such as Getting It Right First Time (GIRFT), which is a national programme designed to 'improve medical care by within the NHS by reducing unwarranted variations' highlight the importance the type of work the professional standards group undertake in addressing guidelines and standards. So please ensure you keep updated of new developments via 'Ultrapost'!

Just a word on the BMUS study days calendar, which is looking superb. One of the main objectives of BMUS is to provide outstanding and progressive ultrasound education via a study day programme with expert faculty. This year we are venturing (very) northwards with a Glasgow bound General Medical day. The MSK Cadaveric study day was a particular highlight of last year's calendar with incredible feedback from delegates, so it features again this year where surgeons will perform detailed fresh cadaveric dissections of the lower limb and relate it to MSK ultrasound practice. Of course gynaecology, head and neck and paediatrics etc. will also feature throughout the year, so ensure you book early.

What a success the Manchester Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) 2018 was! Thanks must go to Gerry Johnson (ASM Chair 2018) and the stream leads for ensuring the programme was brimming with informative and often thought provoking presentations. The inaugural student stream appears to have been a great success and hopefully we can continue to inspire the next generation of Sonographers. 'Question Time' produced some excellent debate



and highlighted educational needs BMUS can take forward and speaking of which... Planning is also well underway for the 2019 ASM in Harrogate – and it's taking shape in a very exciting way – I'm not going to say too much now but 'progressive education' is certainly not a term that will be out of place at this year's meeting so watch this space for updates!

Any finally... If you have any ideas or views why not join the BMUS Sounding Board? This project has been set up to encourage wider engagement with BMUS members and to create a forum to ensure BMUS is seeking and considering the views of all members.

Email emma@bmus.org for more information.

So for now, the ultrasound horizon from the 'View from the Cathedral' in Lincoln is looking busy and exciting with enlightening educational times to lie ahead.

Catherine Kirkpatrick
Development Officer



Study Days 2019

March

BMUS General Medical Ultrasound Study Day

22nd March, Glasgow, Scotland

BMUS Medico-legal & Insurance Issues for Sonographers Study Day

23rd March, Maidenhead

April

BMUS Gynaecology Ultrasound Study Day

4th April, Manchester

May

BMUS MSK Study Weekend

11th - 12th May, Keele University

BMUS Contrast Enhanced Ultrasound Study Day with Bracco

17th May, Hull

June

International Hepatology Ultrasound Course

14th - 16th June, London

EUROSON School 5th International Paediatric CEUS Course

24th - 25th June

For all of 2019's programmes and to register, please visit www.bmus.org

Each year, BMUS runs a varied programme of educational study days and courses across the country. All courses carry BMUS CPD Points.