



Honorary Chair Report 2018 – Maddie White

This is my second year as Chair and it has passed so quickly, it's only when you stop to summarise, you realise what has been achieved!

Following a very successful conference in Glasgow in 2017, we are now well underway with planning for this year's conference in Birmingham. You will see a revised and amended Constitution which incorporates all of the ASCN UK activities and commitments. This is available on the website for members to review.

Financially, we remain solvent and have even had a rebate from the VAT office!

The Committee have met regularly for strategy and conference planning meetings throughout the year as well as regular telephone conferences every month. We welcome Jackie McPhail as Secretary this year and wish her an enjoyable term of office. ASCN Area representative positions are mostly filled and regular meetings have taken place for planning for the future in the hope that this will help to raise the profile of ASCN UK and encourage future committee members.

In our aim to raise the profile of the Association and stoma care nursing, ASCN have been represented at the GIN conference this year as well as attending UA, IA and Colostomy Association open days. Purple Wings Charity also kindly invited ASCN to their annual open day and gala dinner. We have also actively supported the BJN awards in recognising outstanding contributions stoma care nurses have made to our specialism. We continue to work with the Mark Allen group in supporting stoma care with the production of 3 BJN supplements a year, free to all ASCN UK members. We have actively engaged with them also to support our Masterclasses and wish to develop this support further within the coming months.

Wendy Osborne – Education Officer has continued to push ahead with Phase 2 of the guidelines which will be available at conference 2018 and planning for an online ASCN Stoma Care Course, due to commence Autumn 2018. These are exciting times in terms of education. Clinical competencies have been written for SCNs to aid them whilst supporting more junior or new members for the team and these will be available at conference this year and online.

The biggest issue to affect our members has been the introduction of the Eucomed guidelines which has an impact on the relationship we as nurses have with industry in terms of educational support. I am delighted that so many of you have engaged with this process and hope you have found the website support valuable. Please remember; an option of applications to the Jean Preston Educational Fund is available to all ASCN members for financial assistance for stoma related educational activities (please see www.ascnuk.co.uk)

Wendy, Angie and I had the good fortune to attend WCET 2018 in Kuala Lumpur in April and engage with their committee to successfully negotiate a joint conference meeting in Glasgow for 2020. This is an exciting opportunity to bring the organisations together, share our knowledge and expertise and develop future relationships to strengthen the bond. I wish everyone an enjoyable conference in Birmingham this year and look forward to meeting as many of you as possible.

Maddie White Chair ASCN UK