



Chair Report 2017 – Maddie White

This has been a very productive year in terms of development of ASCN and the momentum to carry forward key projects has grown. This is my first year as Chair and it has passed so quickly, it's only when you stop to summarise, you realise what has been achieved!

We have liaised extensively with the Charities commission this year and amended and revised our Constitution. This is available on the website for members to review.

Financially, we are solvent after some renegotiation around VAT issues which are now resolved.

The Committee is complete with new positions taken by Angie Perrin – Vice Chair and Gill Little – Treasurer. We welcome them and wish them an enjoyable term of office. The Secretary post has become available this Autumn and filled after several nominations and a vote (to be announced at ASCN 2017). We thank Simon Turley for his commitment and diligence to his role over the last 4 years as Secretary and wish him well for the future.

ASCN Area representative positions are all filled and regular meetings organised for planning for the future. Simon has been instrumental in developing this group who are actively involved in conference planning as well as connecting with their local ASCN members.

In our aim to raise the profile of the Association and stoma care nursing, ASCN have been represented at The London Nurse Show and GIN conferences 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

Wendy Osborne – Education Officer has continued to push ahead with new guidelines which will be available at conference 2017 and planning for an ASCN Stoma Care Course. More information will be available at ASCN 2017 in Glasgow.

The biggest issue to affect our members in the coming months will be the introduction of the Eucomed guidelines which will have an impact on the relationship we as nurses have with industry in terms of educational support. No longer will companies be able to book your travel and conference attendance but this will be the nurses' sole responsibility. Accessing monies for education will require nurses to negotiate with their Nurse managers and Finance managers. 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) We will update you with more information from BHTA (British Health Trades Association) at conference and as the situation develops. The companies will all help to provide you with answers to your questions as well as committee members from ASCN.

We welcome guests from several countries to conference this year, it is a pleasure to see that our reputation is growing and extending across the waters!!

I wish everyone an enjoyable conference in Glasgow this year and look forward to meeting as many of you as possible.

Maddie White
Chair ASCN UK