



Honorary Secretary Report 2016 – Simon Turley

I have now reached the three quarter stage of my four year term of office as ASCN Honorary Secretary.

During the last year I have participated in a wide variety of different events and projects, on behalf of ASCN, utilizing the skills gained in the previous two years on the committee. The year has again been a very busy one, with the demands, experiences and responsibilities of the committee continuing to be many and varied. Along with committee colleagues, I have endeavoured to raise the profile of ASCN UK whenever representing the organization. My role as Honorary Secretary together with the committee work remains interesting, fascinating and exciting, ultimately experiencing and being involved within the uniquely diverse world of stoma care. The year has seen the continued development of the direction of ASCN UK, with a particular focus on education, building on the success of the re-vamped standards, hernia masterclass and development work of the ASCN UK guidelines. Further information on all these are available on the ASCN website www.ascnuk.com.

The committee have had three face to face meetings as well as regular monthly telephone conference calls in conjunction with our conference organisers, In Conference. Various committee colleagues have also attended the ASCN UK area representative (reps) meetings. The committee has been requested to provide comment and opinions on various documents and protocols. Maddie White and I represented ASCN UK at two meetings with the BHTA, looking at establishing a closer understanding and collaboration between the two organisations. ASCN undertook a mammoth teaching assignment in February, after being invited to provide theory and practical stoma care sessions at The London Nurse show held at Alexandra Palace. Over the two day event, nine one hour sessions were delivered entitled 'Key Principles of Stoma Care', with a collaborative approach undertaken by The Committee and area reps Gill Skipper, Katy Timms, Carolyn Swash, Jo Pragnell, Jo Sica and Michaela Parker. The sessions were well attended and evaluated by delegates.

We have held two very successful ASCN UK area reps meetings in February and July, both in Birmingham, with another meeting planned for November. Each meeting has been well attended, with the area reps enthusiastic and passionate regarding ASCN UK, eager to participate in the continued development of the organization and represent you the members. These meetings have built on the success of the ASCN UK area reps meetings held in 2014 and 2015. The main focus of this year's meetings has been updating their role description, conference and masterclass ideas, views regarding educational direction and the continued development of the ASCN Clinical Guidelines. I hope that you have received a copy of the guidelines for your department. The guidelines cover a range of different topic areas, acting as a clinical resource for all stoma nurses. Wendy Osborne ASCN Educational Officer has led on this project, therefore more information can be obtained within Wendy's report.

The Area representatives and I have continued working on the project updating the ASCN UK stoma nurse membership directory. The project is making good progress and we hope to have the final version finalized soon, which will be available on the ASCN UK website. As part of this work, there have been some changes in a number of the regional areas, partly to enable a more even distribution of the areas and numbers of hospitals contained within, but also due to locality of each of the regional reps. This project has been far from easy, hence the length of time to completion. I would like to take this opportunity to express and extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to the area reps for their hard



work in collecting the information and contributing to this major update. Also to Stacy & Claire at In Conference for their assistance and contribution in finalising details.

Two of the area reps have changed. With Maddie White becoming Shadow Chair, Nicola Payton has taken over as rep for Area 7 West Midlands. Also, Kate Howlett has decided to stand down as joint rep for Area 8 East Midlands due to work commitments, however Michaela Parker will continue as rep. Additionally, as announced at last year's conference, the organization has created the new area of the Republic of Ireland. I am delighted to inform that Mary Quigley and Aine Kennedy have volunteered to represent their Irish colleagues. I would like to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to the new reps, and many thanks to Kate for her involvement and contribution. An updated list of the area reps can be found on the website www.ascnuk.com.

As you will be aware Gilly Tomsett (Vice Chair) and Rebecca Davenport (Treasurer) finish their four year terms at the end of the year. At the time of writing, nominations have been received for the respective positions, with results of the successful candidates being announced during the AGM at conference. The end of 2017 will see my four year term as Honorary Secretary complete. Therefore prior to next year's conference, nominations will be invited for those wishing to stand for this position. If anyone is interested and/or considering taking this role, and wishes to find out more information, then please do contact me at simon.turley@ascnuk.com to enable further discussion. Role job description can be found on the ASCN UK website at www.ascnuk.com.

Conference planning and organising has been undertaken to ensure the deliverance of another wonderful event, succeeding on from the momentous conference in Birmingham last year. The committee and In Conference have endeavoured to construct a conference and programme which enables development, enhancement and furtherance of specialist knowledge, skills and experience within the sphere of stoma care. Whilst together enabling networking with other stoma nurses and our industry colleagues. I hope everyone's efforts are appreciated by all delegates attending.

Gilly Tomsett and I had the honour of representing the committee and ASCN UK at the British Journal of Nursing Nurse of The Year awards in March, held at Shakespeare's Underglobe at the Globe Theatre London. All the nominees from the various categories underpinned the dedication, hard work and commitment of many within the nursing profession. Maddie White and I had the honour of representing the committee and ASCN UK at the Purple Wings Charity Ball in August held in Birmingham, where we learnt more regarding this fairly new organisation whom help sufferers of IBD with an ostomy regain confidence and self-esteem, providing 'time for me grants'. The Urostomy Association Members Event 2016 occurred on 17th September at the Radisson Blu Hotel, East Midlands Airport. This year ASCN UK was represented by Michaela Parker, East Midland's area rep.

ASCN UK membership continues to rise with new members joining and existing members renewing their registration. I would like to welcome all the new members to the Association and thank those of you who have renewed their membership. I would urge non members to consider joining the association, enabling you to enjoy the many benefits of membership, and that you would see ASCN UK as a valuable asset and resource. Those wishing to join ASCN can visit the website at www.ascnuk.com and follow the link within the membership section, where details of the benefits of membership can also be found. If you are attending conference you can also join at the conference registration desk.



I look forward to meeting many of you at the Bournemouth International Centre, wishing you an enjoyable and informative conference, and continued networking with many of you during my tenure as ASCN UK Honorary Secretary.

Finally, I would like to thank team colleagues in Oxford for their continued support and understanding during my third year as ASCN Secretary.

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