



## Honorary Secretary Report 2018 – Jackie McPhail

Firstly, I would like to thank Simon Turley for the very detailed hand over from him for the Honorary Secretary Role. As my tenure is just starting, I would like to thank all those who voted for me. I feel honoured and privileged to do this role. This is my first conference as Honorary Secretary. I am just beginning to realise the amount of emails and attention to detail needed for this role. I am working alongside very experienced and dedicated colleagues, who have collectively assisted me in understanding processes and the changes facing stoma care nurses today. I am very grateful for their support during the start of my term and welcoming me as Honorary Secretary. I look forward to meeting many of you at this year's conference.

This year saw the start of new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) which has meant an increased workload for In-Conference with data collection to ensure it is in line with the new regulations. In addition, we have seen the start of the new Medtech Europe Code, and for example, has meant changes for nurses requiring funding to attend ASCN Conference, as well as more scrutiny on items to be offered to nurses so that they are not seen as inducements or rewards.

The ASCN UK committee and Area Reps have endeavoured to raise the profile of ASCN by attending various events year to date. We have had face to face meetings as well as regular monthly teleconference calls in conjunction with our conference organisers, In-Conference. The committee have also been represented at ASCN Area Rep meetings. One took place in November, which Simon Chaired, in addition Area Rep Meetings were held in March and July 2018, these were chaired by myself. I would like to thank the Area Reps for welcoming me and for their enthusiasm and energy. The meetings have been productive and the Area Reps have been involved in providing feedback on each area, reviewing various documents, including the constitution. These Area Reps are passionate about their speciality and representing you. They have also kindly volunteered for opportunities such as poster and oral presentation voting, manning the ASCN stand along with a member of the ASCN Committee and helping with our roving mic, a big thank you to all of them. At the July Area Rep meeting held on the day that the NHS had its 70th birthday, we acknowledged and celebrated this with a 70th Anniversary cake and balloons!

We currently have two vacancies for Area Reps for Surrey and Northern Ireland due to Carol Katte and Mary Kane standing down. If anyone would like to take up these opportunities, please do feel free to speak with me whilst I am here at the conference. An updated list of the Area Reps is available on the website <http://ascnuk.com/area-representatives>. We also have a board at either registration or on the ASCN UK stand showing all the area representatives contact email and photo.

ASCN UK has continued to focus on Education and facilitated the successful Urology Masterclass held at the QE Hospital in Birmingham in July.

Planning and organising for this year's ASCN UK Conference has been ongoing throughout 2018, to ensure a professional and educational event, following the success of the conference in Glasgow in 2017. The committee and In-conference have strived to construct a conference and programme which enables revalidation, personal development and enhances further specialist knowledge. We trust that you enjoy this year's conference.

To ensure that your ASCN UK membership does not accidentally expire due to emails going into Junk mail in hospital systems or simply forgetting your expiry date, we are going to commence direct debits for membership. Any queries regarding this process should be addressed with In-Conference who will be setting this up, to commence April 2019. For those of you who are not members, I would like to encourage you to go to either visit In-Conference here at the Conference or go to the website at [www.ascnuk.com](http://www.ascnuk.com) and follow the link for the members section. Details of the benefits of membership can also be found there. We have recently sent you a questionnaire on the benefits to establish how much you value them and any other suggestions.

Finally I would very much like to thank Simon Turley for his support in commencing this role, also for his ongoing work with ASCN projects. I would also like to thank my colleagues at the Royal Marsden Hospital as I participate in the monthly teleconference call on a Monday afternoon, which you will all appreciate is a busy day of the week anyway for all of us. Also all my colleagues at Hollister for their support and understanding whilst undertaking Honorary Secretarial work for ASCN UK.