

Vice Chairpersons Report 2023

Angie Perrin

I think one of the most exciting things to happen this year was, at last the ASCN UK Stoma Care Specialist Nursing: A Guide for Clinical Practice was finally published in January of this year. Maddie (White) and myself are truly delighted to see all our months/years of hard work finally come to fruition. I would like to thank all the authors and contributors for all their hard work to this valuable asset. This book promises to be an excellent and significant resource for everyone working within the specialist sphere of stoma care.

This year I have represented ASCN UK attending Patient, Industry and Professionals (PIPs) Forum meetings, both in person and virtually. The PIPs forum continues to work collaboratively to ensure that the specialties of stoma care and continence continue to be well represented within the ever-changing NHS environment.

ASCN UK and WCET Collaborative conference 2024 is taking great shape, myself and others ASCN UK Committee members sit on both the Conference organising Committee and the educational committee. There is a great varied programme being pulled together with some inspiring speakers, as well as some fun evening activities such as a visit to the very interactive science museum for the opening night and then conference dinner in the old railway tunnels of Glasgow. Please do get the dates in your diary for this highly informative educational event 28th September – 1st October 2024

I continue to represent ASCN UK and work collaboratively with colleagues from the British Health and Trades Association (BHTA) on various issues, attending some of the BHTA's quarterly meetings offering a nursing voice & representing ASCN UK. ASCN UK also have a quarterly meeting with the Chairperson of the BHTA and Kevin Hodges (Membership Engagement Manager) to ensure good two-way communication between the 2 groups.

The ASCN UK Committee and area representatives had the pleasure of meeting David Lawson. David Lawson is the Director of MedTech Directorate in Department of Health and Social Care. David and his colleagues are continuing the work to review Part IV of drug tariff, AUR's, as well Sponsorship in Stoma Care. The initial consultation is expected to open at the end of September 2023. ASCN UK will strive to represent the views of our members and the patients we care for throughout this review. I would however encourage all specialist nurses to engage with audits and questionnaires as we will need to provide data and evidenced statements as this review moves forward. Thank you for all of those who completed the State of Nation questionnaire that went out recently.

Throughout the year, I have attended the ASCN UK quarterly area representative meetings, which offer a great insight as to what is happening in each of the areas throughout the UK. These meetings are both informative and enjoyable.

I have also reviewed ASCN UK Constitution on behalf of the ASCN UK Committee which will be voted upon later at the AGM. This year we have reflected upon the aims of our organisation, the original aims were adapted from WCET UK in 2013, so as patient care, nursing care and the NHS has evolved we felt it was necessary to amend the aims of the

association. In order to implement any changes to our “objects” it was necessary to seek approval from Charities Commission UK. This approval was granted by the Charities Commission earlier this month, so as an Association we are now able to vote at this year’s AGM on the proposed amendments.

ASCN UK continues to provide high quality, beneficial resources for its members and for our specialism. Sitting on the ASCN UK committee is rewarding, as well as at times a little challenging, but I think it does widen your vision and offers the opportunity to look at our specialism from many different perspectives – it’s an extremely worthwhile venture, so I would urge anyone to strongly consider applying for future committee roles.