



Annual Report *2017*

ABN ANNUAL REPORT 2017

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Date of publication
May 2018

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President's Introduction

This introduction serves to review the activities of the Association in 2017–18.

In recent years this report has used the 2013 ABN Strategy as the framework for review whilst focusing on the issues from the last year.

During 2017, informed by input from members, the ABN council conducted a review of the Association's strategic objectives. As noted in the 2016 Annual Report, these were found to be very much fit for purpose reflecting the care taken in their original definition. They are further developed in the 2018 Strategy with the three main objectives, covering services, education and research, enhanced by the crosscutting themes of leadership, international role and sound financial management. They are therefore retained in the 2018 document which was approved by council in January 2018 and is presented for ratification by the ABN members at their Annual General Meeting on 10 May.

To improve clinical neurological services

The ABN Advisory Groups have continued to provide responses to consultations from a wide variety of sources, in particular NICE, NHS England and the Department of Health. They also provide ABN representatives on the editorial board of Practical Neurology, on EAN Scientific Committees, and as NHS Choices contributors. Following a rigorous review process, at the end of the 2015-17 term of office, we were delighted to confirm 120 members in 12 advisory groups to serve a revised 3 year term until early 2021.

We are grateful to all advisory group members, old and new, for the substantial support they provide. The ABN continues to work closely with the Neuroscience Clinical Reference Group (CRG) and the National Neurology Advisory Group (NNAG), both chaired by Adrian Williams. We were delighted to learn that Geraint Fuller, ABN President 2013-15, had been appointed Clinical Lead for Neurology in the NHSE GIRFT (Getting it Right First Time) programme which aims to bring about higher-quality care in hospitals, by reducing unwarranted variations in outcomes, services and practices across the country. Following publication of the ABN 2017 Acute Neurology survey our Services committee, in partnership with ABN Trainee members, has developed a series of projects to look more closely at specific aspects of service delivery. In collaboration with the ABN, GIRFT will be shortly conducting a National Census of Neurological Services which aims to provide a snapshot of the variations in neurological services available in each Trust and across the country. The ABN is also represented on the team developing the Neurological Alliance's biennial Patient Experience Survey.

The ABN has contributed to a number of Invited Service Reviews in cooperation with the RCP. These have proved to be of great value and the experience of the ABN members involved is now being used to guide future reviews.

To champion outstanding training and education in neurology

The Annual Meeting in Liverpool was attended by a record 756 delegates and received excellent feedback. The Autumn Meeting, held at the Holiday Inn Bloomsbury, also broke attendance records with over 220 delegates. We gave 57 bursaries, each of up to £100, to junior presenters to attend the meeting in Liverpool. This is now a regular feature of the ABN conference and has been repeated for Birmingham 2018. Following the popularity of our 2016 and 2017 student educational days held in London the day before the autumn meeting, we have decided to take the meeting around the country and the 2018 event will be held in Manchester later this year in cooperation with the student group NANSIG (Neurology and Neurosurgery Interest Group).

The Shape of Training required significant work during 2017 and we are grateful to Tom Hughes, Chair of Neurosciences SAC, for his leadership in taking this forward as SAC neurology chair.

The new style self-assessment questionnaire comprising 100 single-best answer questions, was made available free of charge via eBrain in April 2017 and attracted a good level of interest and support. The organising team built upon the lessons learned during the 2017 exercise and launched a further questionnaire in April 2018 for a five week period.

To promote world class research in clinical neurosciences

The ABN Clinical Research Fellowship scheme appointed another 5 fellows in 2018 in partnership with the Guarantors of Brain, the Patrick Berthoud Charitable Trust, the Stroke Association, the Dunhill Medical Trust and the Sobell Foundation. We are grateful to our members, our industry and charitable partners, and interested friends for their support.

The ABN Clinical Research training fellowship fund continues to benefit from voluntary donations made with annual subscriptions payments from Ordinary and Associate/Affiliate members. Our exhibition in Birmingham features posters from our twelve 2015-2017 fellows and information about our five newly appointed 2018 fellows.

The ABN had for some years funded two £5000 awards per annum for undergraduate intercalated degrees. In 2017 a review of past award holders showed that very few continued into a career in neurology. Council therefore agreed to invest the funds into enhancing the ABN student neurology teaching days and in the provision of bursaries to facilitate early career researchers attendance at ABN meetings.

To provide leadership in neurology

Following a successful meeting with Welsh Health leaders in 2016, the ABN council hosted an evening event for Scottish Health leaders in September 2017. This proved to be a timely event ahead of the announcement of Scotland's first national action plan on neurological conditions. Although disappointed that we did not succeed in our bid to host the 2021 World Congress of Neurology in London, we were encouraged by the strong support received from other UK and Irish Neuroscience associations. We have recently submitted a bid to host the 2023 European Academy of Neurology Congress. We are looking forward to our joint meeting with the Society of British Neurological Surgeons which will take place in London this autumn.

Our Special Interest Groups again conducted their own well supported sessions during the 2017 Annual Meeting. The 2018 meeting will host 7 groups in two separate sessions to allow delegates the chance to attend multiple sessions.

To represent and promote the aims of the Association internationally

The ABN also reviewed its commitment to provide travel bursaries to members making educational and research visits to developing countries. The number of applications had declined in recent years as members avail of alternative funding sources and, following the launch of a World Federation of Neurology programme to train African neurologists in Africa, the ABN agreed that funds previously used for travel bursaries should be invested in supporting a joint ABN / WFN fellow.

The ABN has provided speakers for the Association of Sri Lankan Neurologists meetings, and through the ABN Australasian Fellowship has provided the opportunity for registrars to spend time training in the southern hemisphere.

Financial management

In recognition of the importance of maintaining a sound financial basis, the ABN intends to introduce a financial committee, comprising the Honorary Treasurer, President, President Elect, Research Chair, Lay Trustee and Executive Director to review investments, administer fellowship funds and approve staff remuneration.

Other issues

The ABN continues to benefit from its Practical Neurology co-publishing agreement with the BMJ which has again resulted in a net profit to ABN once Practical Neurology subscription fees had been deducted. Paper copies are posted to ordinary/ associate/affiliate members and online access to both Practical Neurology and JNNP is available free of charge to all members via the membership section of the association's website. We will continue to work with the BMJ to identify opportunities to extend the journal's geographic and intellectual reach. The page of ABN news in each issue of Practical Neurology allows wider dissemination of ABN issues to readership in UK and beyond.

Phil Smith, President 2015-17, leaves the ABN council at the 2018 AGM having served the Association as council member, Honorary Secretary and President. His insight, experience and commitment will be greatly missed at Executive committee and council meetings. We are delighted that he is to assume the role of President of the UK Joint Neurosciences Council from November this year.

Ralph Gregory also demitted from council in July 2017 after many years' valuable service as Honorary Secretary and, latterly, Chair of the Services and Standards Committee. We welcomed Cath Mummery and Chris Kipps to the ABN council as the Chairs of the renamed Services Committee and newly created Quality Committee. There have been elections to all the ABN committees and we have been encouraged by the quality and commitment demonstrated by new and existing members.

The Speciality Certificate Examination in neurology, a project jointly with the Federation of the Royal Colleges of Physicians, continues to grow and in 2017 generated a £7500 profit for the ABN.

Despite the increasing competitiveness of the ACCEA (Advisory Committee for Clinical Excellence Awards) awards for England and Wales, the ABN are pleased that 6 of our 14 ABN-nominated candidates received new awards in 2017 (about 33% of all ACCEA applications are successful).

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff of the ABN office, Dawn Moore, Fardousa Musa, Jessica Holdgate, and particularly Joanne Lawrence, whose tireless work, dedication and enthusiasm for the Association is a critical ingredient of our ongoing success. They have enabled the growth of activities we as an association have been able to engage in.

I would also like to particularly thank members of the Executive and Council for their hard work, generous time commitment and invaluable support. It has been a personal eye opener for me how hard members of the executive and council work and how willing they are to urgently deal with demanding issues often with very challenging timelines. Phil Smith and David Burn have generously offered advice and guidance on many issues and David Nicholl and Jon Sussman have delivered timely consultations and topical ABN meeting programmes respectively as well as engaging enthusiastically in all ABN projects. Tom Warner and Martin Turner have brought exciting new ideas to the education and research committees respectively and the new committee chairs Cath Mummery (services) and Chris Kipps (new Quality committee) are broadening their committee remit with a range of transformative innovations.

I am also very grateful to all the work the committee members do to make these committees work. All of the above is underpinned by the wisdom and guidance of our honorary treasurer, Trevor Pickersgill. It is some time since Martin Rossor introduced the ABN advisory groups and all Presidents since then (myself included) are very grateful for this innovation and recognise the incredible value in having over 120 members of the ABN actively engaged in offering help with consultations and with a wide range of service, education and research issues across the whole of neurology. I want to especially mention Tom Hughes, who sits on Council as SAC neurology chair. Tom works extraordinarily hard and we are all indebted to him for his ongoing work to deliver the best curriculum for neurology within Shape of Training.

The flagship ABN fellowship scheme is growing in size and success yearly and a major contributor to this success is Dafydd Thomas, chair of the ABN Fundraising Committee, who has been instrumental in securing new funds and partnerships for our Fellowship Scheme. Finally I would like to thank and acknowledge our lay trustees, Elisabeth Baltay and Stanley Fink, not only for their helpful advice and ongoing support for the Association but also for the time they freely give to us from very busy schedules. Their expertise has been invaluable over the past year.

All of us in the ABN Executive, council and office will work hard to ensure 2018 is another successful year for the ABN.

Prof Mary M Reilly
President 2017-2019

ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH NEUROLOGISTS

Annual General Meeting

Company No 3816842 Registered Charity No 1077893
to be held in accordance with the Companies Act
Thursday 10 May 2018 at 1145hrs
ICC Birmingham

AGENDA

- 1 President's Report
ABN Strategy for Development
- 2 Election of Honorary Assistant Secretary 2019-21, Honorary Secretary 2021-23
Election of Honorary Treasurer Elect 2018-19, Honorary Treasurer 2019-2023
- 2 Officers of Council for 2018-19

President	Professor MM Reilly	2017-19
President Elect	Professor D Burn	2017-19
Honorary Secretary	Dr D Nicholl	2017-20
Honorary Assistant Secretary	Dr J Sussman	2018-20
Honorary Treasurer	Dr T Pickersgill	2015-19
Honorary Treasurer Elect	Professor N Robertson	2018-19
Chair, Services Committee	Dr C Mummery	2017-20
Chair, Quality Committee	Dr C Kipps	2017-20
Chair, Education Committee	Professor T Warner	2016-19
Chair, Research Committee	Professor M Turner	2016-19
- 3 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, Wednesday 4 May 2017, Liverpool
Matters Arising
Shape of training
- 4 Nominations for Membership of the Association
- 5 Treasurer's Report
To consider and adopt Annual Accounts
To re-appoint Griffin Stone Moscrop & Co as auditors
To authorise the Directors to agree auditors' remuneration for forthcoming year
- 7 Association Rules
To discuss and vote upon proposed amendments to the Rules
- 9 Date of the next Annual General Meeting:
22 May 2019, Edinburgh

ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH NEUROLOGISTS
Annual General Meeting
ACC Liverpool on Thursday 4 May 2017 at 1100hrs
Minutes (unconfirmed)

AGENDA

**1 Election of President Elect 2017-19, President 2019-21
Election of 2 councillors 2017-2021**

2 Officers of Council for 2017-18

President	Professor MM Reilly	2017-19
Immediate Past President	Professor PEM Smith	2017-18
President Elect	Professor D Burn	2017-19
Honorary Secretary	Dr David Nicholl	2017-20
Honorary Assistant Secretary	to be confirmed	2017-18
Honorary Treasurer	Dr T Pickersgill	2015-19
Chair, Services and Standards Committee	Dr RP Gregory	2014-17
Chair, Training and Education Committee	Professor T Warner	2016-19
Chair, Clinical Research & Academic Committee	Professor M Turner	2016-19

2 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, Wednesday 18 May, Brighton

The minutes were accepted as an accurate account of the meeting. There were no matters arising.

Phil Smith (PS) congratulated David Burn on his election as President-elect. PS thanked Huw Morris and Richard Davenport for their contributions as sub-committee chairs; Alasdair Coles and Paul Worth for their contributions as Council members.

PS welcomed appointed committee chairs Martin Turner and Tom Warner and newly elected council members Lina Nashef and Lucy Kinton.

PS also introduced the 3 new fellows; Viorica Chelban, Robert Hurford and Stephen Keddie.

3 Nominations for Membership of the Association

PS referred members to the list of new members in the Annual Report, including some who have changed categories.

Members present stood for one minutes to remember those members deceased since the last AGM. PS mentioned in particular Marta Elian as she was the only member death reported to the ABN.

4 President's Report

PS thanked the Council and Executive committee for their tremendous support over the years, especially thanking Joanne Lawrence for all her assistance.

PS reported a meeting was held in January 2017 to refresh the 5 year ABN strategy. The ABN also published the Acute Neurology survey; a repeat of the 2014 survey but with more detailed and rigorously checked data. The survey was presented to the Royal Council of Physicians and also presented on Channel 4 News by David Nicholl.

PS reported that the first health leaders dinner was held in September 2016 in Cardiff with the aim to host the second of these regional meetings in Edinburgh this September.

PS noted the ABN's continued collaborations with Practical Neurology and stated that the ABN's international profile will be stepped up with the bid for the World Congress of Neurology 2021.

PS also noted and thanked Dafydd Thomas' efforts in the Fundraising committee, helping to secure further support and funding for the ABN fellowship scheme.

PS briefed the present members that the majority of the AGM would be dedicated to the Shape of Training. PS introduced Mary Reilly (MMR) as the new president of the ABN, handing over the presidential medal.

MMR thanked PS for his excellent work over the years as president.

5 Treasurer's Report

Honorary Treasurer, Trevor Pickersgill (TP) presented the 2016 accounts, referring members to the Annual Report for details of the full written report.

TP confirmed a reduction to the reserve funds from £976k to £913k as £200k was transferred to the fellowship account following the ABN's strategy to underwrite fellowships.

The Annual expenditure and income increased last year due to costs associated with the biggest annual meeting held to date. The ABN has an overall net surplus of £66k and an investment income of £71k. The fellowship funds are at £107k and unrestricted funds of £137k.

TP asked members to consider and adopt Annual Accounts, to re-appoint Griffin Stone Moscrop & Co as auditors and to authorise the Directors to agree auditors' remuneration for forthcoming year.

All proposals were accepted.

7 Association Rules

Honorary Secretary, David Burn (DB) presented proposed changes to the ABN rules.

Sub committees of council: simplify names; restructure current Audit and Revalidation committee.

BNSU: change name to reflect more accurately the unit's role.

ABN Advisory Groups: change length of service on each group from 2 years to 3 years

DB requested a show of hands for proposed rule changes. Members were all in favour and proposals were accepted.

8 ABN Strategy for Development

MMR stated that the originally strategy devised under Martin Rossor's presidency was reviewed in January 2017 with actions to refresh it. Most of what was discussed in the associations rule changes arose from discussions from the strategy meeting.

9 Shape of Training

MMR noted that most of the AGM would be dedicated to Shape of Training discussions and invited Dr Tom Hughes, SAC Chair; Dr Anthony Pereira, SAC deputy; Dr Alasdair Miller, Deputy Medical Director of Joint Royal Colleague of Physicians Training Board (JRCPBT); Dr Andrew Godard, Registrar of Royal College of Physicians.

MMR stated that various negotiations have been made and the response from the Shape of Training board was that neurology would do internal medicine, dually accredited with the reasoning behind this being to allow unselected take.

MMR introduced Dr Tom Hughes (TH) to provide a short presentation on Shape of Training.

TH described how the ABN had arrived to the current outcome from the Shape of Training Steering Group. Highlighting the proposed structure for neurology training would be 2 years of foundation training, 3 years of internal medicine, 4 years of specialty training of which 1 year worth would be more internal medicine.

TH showed slides used at the Shape of Training meeting held on 31 January 2017. He stated that the ABN's proposal was rejected with a final report being sent to ministers. The Shape of Training committee preference was for 2 groups of physicians (group 1- those involved with in patient care and group 3 – those not involved with in patient care).

TH reported that the next steps for the ABN would be to go back to renegotiate, starting with the JRCPTB. TH then went on to introduce Dr Alastair Miller (AM) to the stage.

AM provided members with an overview of the JRCPTB structure and tasks. AM highlighted the current training in medicine and discussed the drivers for Shape of Training. He stressed that the main focus was about training and not service delivery. Stating that the idea behind the suggested pathways was to increase peoples exposures to different specialities; increase use of simulation and support people more in their third year when they become more independent medical registrars.

AM concluded with a timeline for the proposed changes, highlighting that implementation of stage 1 of internal medicine would take place in August 2018 and Stage 2 in 2021. AM stated that the new neurological curriculum would not be ready until 2020-21, allowing time for further negotiations to take place.

MMR opened the floor to questions which were addressed by the ABN council and invited guests.

Date of the next Annual General Meeting:

10 May 2018, Birmingham

Membership New and Changes - AGM Birmingham 10 May 2018

ORDINARY

Dr	V	Vaclav	Dostal	Consultant	NHNN, London
Dr	R	Rubesh	Gooriah	Consultant	Hull Royal Infirmary
Dr	C	Christopher	Kipps	Consultant	Wessex Neurological Centre
Dr	T	Tim	Lavin	Consultant	Salford Royal Hospital
Dr	M	Mohamed	Mahdi-Rogers	Consultant	King's College Hospital
Dr	W	Wojciech	Pietkiewicz	Consultant	The Walton Centre
Dr	M	Maria	Tuna	Consultant	Stoke Mandeville Hospital

ASSOCIATE

Dr	E	Eiman	Abdelgadir	Specialist Registrar	Derriford Hospital
Dr	O	Omar	Abdel-Mannan	Specialist Registrar	Great Ormond Street Hospital
Dr	C	Christopher	Allen	Specialist Registrar	Queen's Medical Centre
Dr	TF	Talal	Al-Mayhani	Specialist Registrar	NHNN, London
Dr	D	Dilan	Athauda	Specialist Registrar	NHNN, London
Dr	L	Laura	Azzopardi	Specialist Registrar	Queens Hospital, Romford
Dr	V	Viraj	Bharambe	Specialist Registrar	The Walton Centre
Dr	S	Sanjay	Budhdeo	Specialist Registrar	Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital
Dr	P	Philip	Campbell	Clinical Research Fellow	Royal Free Hospital
Dr	D	Deepthi	Changaradil	Specialist Registrar	Morrison Hospital
Dr	V	Viorica	Chelban	Clinical Research Fellow	NHNN, London
Dr	J	Joyutpal	Das	Specialist Registrar	Royal Hallamshire Hospital
Dr	H	Hugo	de Oliveira	Specialist Registrar	Royal Victoria Infirmary
Dr	S	Saikat	Dhar	Specialist Registrar	Royal Stoke University Hospital
Dr	A	Amy	Eskander	Specialist Registrar	King's College Hospital
Dr	S	Sanad	Esmail	Specialist Registrar	Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital
Dr	L	Linford	Fernandes	Specialist Registrar	Leeds General Infirmary
Dr	N	Natasha	Gibson	Specialist Registrar	St George's Hospital
Dr	S	Srishti	Gupta	Specialist Registrar	Queen's Medical Centre
Dr	V	Vivien	Hui Yun Li	Specialist Registrar	NHNN, London
Dr	M	Mahjabin	Islam	Specialist Registrar	Leicester Hospital
Dr	M	Mahima	Kapoor	Specialist Registrar	NHNN, London
Dr	L	Lewis	Kass-Iliyya	Specialist Registrar	Royal Hallamshire Hospital
Dr	K	Kushan	Krunaratne	Specialist Registrar	Chelsea & Westminster Hospital
Dr	JJ	James	McDonald	Specialist Registrar	Ninewells Hospital
Dr	M	Menai	McDonald	Specialist Registrar	Queen Elizabeth Univeristy Hospital
Dr	TF	Thomas	Minton	Specialist Registrar	Queen's Medical Centre
Dr	F	Farhat	Mirza	Specialist Registrar	Salford Royal Hospital
Dr	W	Waleed	Mohamed	Specialist Registrar	Princess Royal Hospital
Dr	K	Kinan	Muhammed	Specialist Registrar	St Mary's Hospital
Dr	A	Antoinette	O'Connor	Specialist Registrar	Dementia Research Centre, UCL
Dr	S	Srinivasa	Paluri	Specialist Registrar	City Hospital, Birmingham
Dr	D	Dharmini	Patel	Specialist Registrar	Southampton General Hospital
Dr	M	Michael	Patrick	Specialist Registrar	Royal Hallamshire Hospital
Dr	MH	Mathilde	Pauls	Specialist Registrar	Queens Hospital, Romford
Dr	SN	Sankara	Ramachandran	Clinical Research Fellow	Queen Elizabeth Univeristy Hospital
Dr	E	Elisabeth	Rounis	Clinical Lecturer	John Radcliffe Hospital
Dr	N	Nitin	Sahi	Specialist Registrar	Queen Elizabeth Hospital
Dr	A	Adrain	Salari	Specialist Registrar	Wexham Park Hospital

Dr	N	Natalia	Salari	Specialist Registrar	Wexham Park Hospital
Dr	K	Kirsten	Scott	Specialist Registrar	Addenbrooke's Hospital
Dr	M	Mark	Thaller	Specialist Registrar	Royal Stoke University Hospital
Dr	E	Ekawat	Vichayanrat	Clinical Fellow	Hospital for Neurology & Neurosurgery
Dr	J	Javier	Vicini	Specialist Registrar	Hope Hospital
Dr	V	Vinojini	Vivekanandam	Specialist Registrar	Hospital for Neurology & Neurosurgery
Dr	D	David	Whiteside	Specialist Registrar	Northwick Park Hospital
Dr	B	Barbara	Wysota	Specialist Registrar	Queen Elizabeth Hospital

AFFILIATE

Dr	S	Saadia	Afzal	Junior CT2	Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham
Dr	S	Stephen	Auger	FY2	Royal London Hospital
Dr	W	Wallace	Brownlee	Locum Consultant	NHNN, London
Dr	N	Nicola	Cooper	Consultant Acute Neurology	Royal Derby Hospital
Dr	SJ	Stephen	Cotton	General Practitioner	Wrexham Maelor Hospital
Dr	J	Josephine	Mayer	Clinical Teaching Fellow Honorary Lecturer	St George's Hospital
Dr	LA	Lucia	Palacios	Consultant Med Advisor	Sanofi (Guildford)
Dr	MK	Manoj	Sundarka	General Practitioner	Medway Community Healthcare

JUNIOR

Dr	V	Veena	Aggarwal	FY2	Gloucestershire Royal Hospital
Dr	J	James	Allen	FY1	John Radcliffe Hospital
Dr	P	Piriyankan	Ananthavarathan	CT1	St Mary's Hospital
Dr	N	Natalie	Anwyll	FY1	Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital
Dr	A	Aaron	Ben-Joseph	FY2	Princess Alexandra Hospital
Dr	J	Julia	Borowicz-Klementowicz	CT2	Addenbrooke's Hospital
Dr	C	Cyrus	Daruwalla	CT1	Royal Berkshire Hospital
Dr	S	Sean	Davidson	FY2	Royal Victoria Infirmary
Dr	E	Evan	Edmond	CT2	John Radcliffe Hospital
Dr	C	Charles	Fry	CT1	Southmead Hospital
Dr	R	Remi	Guillochon	CT2	Croydon University Hospital
Dr	S	Simon	Heller	CT1	Lister Hospital, Stevenage
Mr	C	Chanawee	Hirunpattarasilp	PhD Student	UCL
Dr	A	Andrew	Lee	CT2	Aintree Hospital
Dr	DG	David	Lester	CMT1	Derriford Hospital
Dr	N	Nicole	Lichtblau	CT1	Maidstone Hospital
Dr	A	Andrew	Lowry	CT1	Royal Hallamshire Hospital
Dr	SA	Sean	Mangion	CT2	King's College Hospital
Dr	TZ	Tun Zan	Maung	CT	Good Hope Hospital
Dr	L	Laura	Midgley	CT2	University College Hospital London
Dr	J	Jiten	Mistry	CT2	University Hospital Leicester
Dr	AM	Aye	Moe	CT1	James Cook University Hospital
Dr	S	Sophie	Moore	CT1	Royal Hallamshire Hospital
Dr	M	Mitsuko	Nakajima	CT2	St George's Hospital
Dr	J	James	Newman	FY2	Derriford Hospital
Dr	Y	Yassine	Noui	FY1	Royal Preston Hospital
Dr	A	Asha	Patel	Clinical Teaching Fellow	Royal Derby Hospital
Dr	D	Dexter	Penn	Clinical Research Assoc	Dementia Research Centre, UCL
Dr	E	Elena	Purcaru	CT2	Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital

Dr	PP	Pyae Phyo Gavinda	San	CT2	York Hospital
Dr	G	(Gina)	Sangha	FY2	John Radcliffe Hospital
Dr	N	Naomi	Silva	CT1	Royal Surrey County Hospital
Dr	N	Nicholas Keyi	Sim	CT1	Charing Cross Hospital
Dr	O	Oliver	Smith	CT2	University College London
Dr	M	Mary	Stevenage	CT1	Royal Surrey County Hospital
Dr	V	Vanessa	Tobert	FY1	John Radcliffe Hospital
Dr	V	Vivek	Vijay	FY2	Royal London Hospital
Dr	P	Pierre	Vila	FY2	Whittington Hospital
Dr	DEA	Daisy	Walters	FY1	Wythenshawe Hospital
Dr	A	Alistair	Wardrope	FY2	Royal Hallamshire Hospital

STUDENTS

Mr	W	Waqaar	Baber	Student	Cardiff
Mr	G	George	Choa	Student	UCL Institute of Neurology
Ms	M	Maria	da Rocha	Student	Queen's Medical Centre
Ms	R	Reem	Farwana	Student	Birmingham Medical School
Ms	N	Nira	Futter	Student	King's College London
Ms	K	Katherine	Hartley	Student	Queen's Medical Centre
Ms	M	Melanie	Jensen	Student	Triinity Hall, Cambridge
Ms	M	Meneka	Kanagaratnam	Student	Bart & The London School of Medicine
Ms	C	Cristina	Marcoci	Student	UCL Institute of Neurology

OVERSEAS

Dr	P	Payam	Sarraf	Consultant	Imam Hospital, Tehran, Iran
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CHANGE FROM ASSOCIATE TO ORDINARY

Dr	A	Alexander	Foulkes	Consultant	Watford General Hospital
Dr	C	Clare	Galtrey	Consultant	St George's Hospital
Dr	M	Mona	Ghadiri-Sani	Consultant	Walton Centre for Neurology
Dr	A	Annamaria	Kiss-Csenki	Consultant	Univeristy Hospital of Southampton
Dr	T	Tom	Lambert	Consultant	
Dr	R	Rebecca	Redwood	Consultant	Chelsea & Westminster
Dr	B	Biba	Stanton	Consultant	Royal Free Hospital
Dr	I	Ivona	Tylová (Horakova)	Consultant	Darent Valley Hospital
Dr	P	Philip	Wilkinson	Consultant	Royal Free Hospital

CHANGE FROM ASSOCIATE TO AFFILIATE

Dr	A	Abdelwahab	Babiker	Locum consultant	Medway Maritime Hospital
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CHANGE FROM JUNIOR TO ASSOCIATE

Dr	M	Mohammad	Ashraghi	Specialist Registrar	King's College Hospital
Dr	H	Harriet	Ball	Specialist Registrar	Southmead Hospital, Bristol
Dr	Z	Zoya	Georgieva	Specialist Registrar	Addenbrooke's Hospital
Dr	TK	Tara	Kozul	Specialist Registrar	Royal Preston Hospital
Dr	D	Danielle	Lux	Specialist Registrar	Kent & Canterbury Hospital
Dr	AM	Ahmed	Mohamed	Specialist Registrar	Royal Hallamshire Hospital
Dr	T	Thomas	Payne	Specialist Registrar	Royal Hallamshire Hospital
Dr	K	Kiran	Samra	Specialist Registrar	St George's Hospital
Dr	W	Will	Scotton	Specialist Registrar	Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham

Dr	M	Matthew	Smith	Specialist Registrar	University Hospital of Wales
Dr	D	Duncan	Street	Specialist Registrar	Addenbrooke's Hospital
Dr	B	Bo	Sun	Specialist Registrar	Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital
Dr	XY	Xin You	Tai	Specialist Registrar	John Radcliffe Hospital
Dr	O	Owain	Williams	Specialist Registrar	Morrison Hospital

CHANGE FROM JUNIOR TO AFFILIATE

Dr	M	Maryam	Talaei	Junior Dr	Southampton General Hospital
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RETIRED

Dr	P	Phillip	Barnes	Consultant	London
Dr	D	David	Bateman	Consultant	Sunderland Royal Infirmary
Dr	GH	Hugh	Boddie	Consultant	North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary
Dr	J	Julian	Fearnley	Consultant	London
Dr	A	Analiza	Grubneac	Consultant	Coventry
Dr	K	Karl	Herholz	Consultant	Manchester
Dr	P	Peter	Heywood	Consultant	Norfolk
Dr	A	Austen	Moore	Consultant	Liverpool
Dr	N	Neil	Munro	Consultant	William Harvey Hospital
Dr	I	Ian	Ormerod	Consultant	Bristol

DEATHS notified to the ABN in the last year

Prof	R	Roger	Bannister	Retired	Oxford
Dr	J	Joana Pisco	Domingos	Registrar	Great Ormond Street Hospital
Dr	M	Magid	Elsayed	Consultant	Hope Hospital
Dr	P	Peter	Gautier-Smith	Consultant	Retired
Dr	R	Richard	Godwin-Austen	Consultant	Retired
Dr	R	Richard	Weiser	Consultant	Retired Locum
Dr	L	Larry	Weiskrantz	Consultant	Retired
Prof	R	Richard	Wise	Consultant	Hammersmith Hospital

RESIGNED

Dr	I	Iris	Trender-Gerhard	Consultant	London
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REPORTS

Honorary Secretary

David Nicholl

The ABN received 69 requests in 2017 (compared to the 61 received in 2016) to contribute to consultations which included NICE Scoping Consultations, Guidelines and Quality Standard reviews as well as Technology Appraisals, and providing opinions on documents from the RCP, DH and other bodies. Once again our members, and in particular the ABN Advisory Groups, rose to the challenges associated with these consultations, often with very short timelines, and delivered high quality feedback.

This was especially so this year as we had a change in membership of all advisory groups- we are indebted both to the previous members and their successors for this essential nationally recognised work.

The ABN Advisory Groups continue to provide a wonderful and responsive resource to many queries, in addition to consultations. They are also now increasingly integrated via the Executive Office with Professor Adrian Williams in his role as Chair of the National Neurosciences Advisory Group. This integration provides the ABN with a great platform from which to influence service quality in the UK. The AAG chairs now sit on the editorial board of Practical Neurology journal and nominated members represent the ABN and their sub speciality in a range of roles including EAN Scientific committees, contributing to NHS Choices and guideline revision.

The Specialist Interest Groups (SIGs) continue to run separately from the council appointed Advisory Groups. Please contact the SIG Chairs directly if you are interested in joining one of these groups. We would like to involve as many ABN members as possible in one of the SIGs. The 2017 Annual Meeting in Liverpool will once again feature popular dedicated SIG sessions, which are often case-based.

Working with a highly efficient office makes the life of the ABN Secretary so much easier and I would like to express my appreciation to Joanne and Fardousa in particular for their help over the past year.

Honorary Treasurer

Trevor Pickersgill

In 2017, the ABN's incoming resources were £937,042 (£756,008 unrestricted income, £181,034 to the restricted ABN Clinical Research Training Fellowship fund). Total resources expended were £923,442 (£692,977 unrestricted, £230,465 from the ABN CTRF fund) giving a net surplus before revaluation of investment assets of £13,600. Contributory factors towards the growth in income included a successful annual meeting in a cost effective location and ongoing rigorous control of income and expenditure.

The co-publishing agreement with the BMJ, of *Practical Neurology* journal contributed £46,738 to ABN funds. The Practical Neurology management team, with representatives from both the ABN and the BMJ, meets regularly to progress developments and opportunities for the journal. Additional income also accrued from the continued growth of the Speciality Certificate Examination in neurology.

Our investments performed well in 2017, gaining £78,071. Taken in conjunction with the continued control of income and expenditure, this means that the ABN's unrestricted reserves increased from £912,848 at the beginning of the year to £1,053,950 at the end. However, in 2016 council agreed that, providing unrestricted reserves exceeded 1.25 times expenditure in that year, reserves above that level could be transferred to the restricted ABN Clinical Research Training Fellowship fund. Accordingly £150,000 was transferred in 2017 leaving final 2017 unrestricted reserves of £903,950. In line with financial and legal advice, the ABN will continue to maintain a reserve of around one to two times its normal annual expenditure. This is considered a safe margin which would allow for remote

contingencies, such as the financial failure of an annual meeting. Our funds remain within this window but year-on-year improvement affords increasing flexibility.

ABN Meetings Committee

Chair: Jon Sussman

Committee: Mary Reilly, David Burn, Phil Smith, David Nicholl, Trevor Pickersgill, Cath Mummery, Martin Turner, Tom Warner, Sam Shribman, Chris Kipps, Joanne Lawrence, Dawn Moore, Keith Brews (Affinity Events).

The 2017 Annual Meeting was held at the ACC **Liverpool on 3-5 May** and was preceded by a highly successful pre-meeting training and development day for foundation year trainees, SpRs and those interested in a research career, and a 'Need to Know Neurology' session for GPs.

Martin Rossor delivered the Medallist lecture '**New words for old**' describing the global cognitive footprint reflecting the increased awareness of the multiple contributors to dementia. The **Gordon Holmes** lecture was given by **Eric Hoffmann** who described his journey from identifying the gene for **Duchenne's muscular dystrophy** to developing innovative ways for delivering therapies, and **Andrew Schwartz's** lecture on **Recent progress towards high performance neural prosthetics** described an artificial arm that can not only move but also feel.

A number of records were broken with over 300 abstracts and 756 delegates contributing to excellent platform and poster presentations.

The meeting received much positive feedback and was deemed a great success. The programme, the speakers, the venue, the memorable gala dinner in the cathedral and even the weather all contributing to the atmosphere of the meeting.

The Autumn Meeting was held on **12 October 2017 – at the Holiday Inn Bloomsbury, London** and was preceded by a Neurology for Medical Students event with a series of lectures and presentations from Neurology and Neurosurgery Student Interest Group (**NANSIG**)

The Autumn Lecture '**The season of mists and mellow fruitfulness**' of **John Keats** was delivered by Gordon Plant. The meeting entitled 'Neurological Updates' showcased lectures on a wide range of topics of interest to the general and specialist neurologist. A very successful day was closed by a stimulating lecture by Fiona Godlee, editor of the BMJ on '**Fewer Tests, choosing wisely**'.

The 2018 ABN annual meeting will be held in **the ICC Birmingham 8-11 May 2018**. A new record number of abstracts have been submitted. The Gordon Holmes lecture will be delivered by John Trojanowski of the Center for Neurodegenerative Disease Research, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine entitled 'Tau Strains and Spreading in Pure Tauopathy and Alzheimer's Disease'. The practical Neurology lecture will be given by Bastiaan Bloem, Medical Director at Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre, Netherlands on 'Bringing neurology care back home'. The ABN Medallist lecture will be delivered by Chris Kennard. Plenary sessions will include 'Neuroinflammation, 'From Genes to Environment', 'Acute Neurology and 'Vascular Neurology'.

The 2018 ABN Autumn meeting will be held together with the Society of British Neurological Surgeons (SBNS) on **19-21 September 2018 – at the Queen Elizabeth II Centre, London**. This is at advanced stage of planning, and will include the inaugural John Walton Lecture to be delivered by Professor Sir Doug Turnbull.

Services and Standards Committee

Chair: Cath Mummery

Deputy Chair: John Woolmore

Administrator: Fardousa Musa

Regional Representatives: Nick Silver (Mersey; 2016-2019), Paul Maddison (Trent; 2016-2019), Gillian Stewart (E Scotland; 2016-2019), Rose Bosnell (South West; 2016-2019), Joanna Lovett (Wessex; 2017-2023), Orlando Swayne (Central London; 2017-2020), Owen Pearson (S Wales, 2016-2019), Rhys Davies (N Wales; 2016-2019), Tracey Graves (East Anglia; 2017-2020), Rubesh Gooriah (Yorkshire; 2017-2020), Krishna Dani (West Scotland; 2013-2019), Raeburn Forbes (N Ireland; 2014 – 2019), John Woolmore (W. Midlands; 2016-2019), Stephan Hinze (Oxford; 2016-1019), Adam Cassidy (Northern; 2016-2019), John Janssen (NW Thames; 2016 – 2019); Peter Brex (SE Thames; 2016-2019), David Barnes; 2014 – 2020); David Mckee (North West; 2017-2020), Francesca Crawley (Less Than Full Time Workers; 2016-2019)

Council Officers: Mary M Reilly (ABN President), David Burn (President–Elect), David Nicholl (Honorary Assistant Secretary), Jon Sussman (Honorary Assistant Secretary), Samuel Shribman (ABNT Chair), Lucy Kinton (Ex Officio)

Coopted members: Sarah Vibert and Fiona Tate (Neurological Alliance)

I took over the chair of the SC in July 2017 from Ralph Gregory – thanks to him for all his excellent work in the position, and for his help in settling me into the role. It has been a busy start! There have been a number of new appointments and the group is committed to ensuring we are a barometer for the state of neurology service in the country, and act to improve those services. Please do contact your regional representative or the ABN office if there is an issue causing you concern in your work, any examples of excellence you wish to share, or if you have any suggestions regarding suitable topics for review in relation to services that impact patient care.

Over the last 12 months, the Services committee chair and membership have been actively involved in the following:

ABN Acute Neurology Survey

The second ABN Acute Neurology Survey, published in March 2017, demonstrated significant variation in provision of service across the UK (full report available on the ABN website). Visual representation can be a very effective and powerful tool to show variation in staffing, infrastructure, and training; where there are persistent vacancies, what neurology actually 'looks like' across the UK. To that end, the SC is developing a national map of the neurology service, with the aim to develop a searchable, interactive tool available on the ABN website.

Alongside this, the full data set provided an opportunity to look at certain areas in more detail: there are several projects being undertaken by the SC and ABNT to look at a) the geographical variation in services, b) acute neurology provision c) access to investigations and d) trainee experience.

Vacancy Mapping

Allied to the above, there is a significant issue with some parts of the country having persistent vacancies in their areas. Only some of these are advertised. The RC census is only a partial representation as a result and has recently been axed as it was realised it was not an accurate depiction. We are developing a map of vacancies in the country to identify the most hard-pressed areas.

Outpatient referral triaging

There is a lack of OP capacity nationally to deal with the ever increasing number of referrals. Capacity has been further reduced by a lack of suitable candidates for a significant number of new and replacement posts that have been advertised, and the increasing involvement in acute neurology and stroke services. Several different systems are currently in use and the new e-referral (Choose and Book) 'advice and refer system is compulsory from April 2018, with CCGs no longer sending referrals. The SC is scoping the different methods being used in order to develop a referral management strategy toolkit, to help members develop triaging services that are effective and safe.

Getting It Right First Time

Getting It Right First Time (GIRFT) is based on a pilot quality improvement programme initially in orthopaedics, led by the National Director for Clinical Quality & Efficiency (Prof Tim Briggs). This has now expanded to cover ten key clinical areas over the next 3 years. One of these clinical areas is neurology.

The GIRFT programme aims to identify areas of unwanted variation in clinical practice and divergence from evidence-based practice, and to identify and share good practice. The programme will set national recommendations aimed at improving quality of care. It will equip acute Trusts with a number of quality indicators that will enable them to plot improvements in quality and productivity by clinical specialty.

Geraint Fuller was appointed the lead for neurology GIRFT in 2017 and has set up a working group to develop the programme in neurology. The members are

Geraint Fuller	Clinical Lead GIRFT Neurology
Adrian Williams	Chair CRG, Chair NNAG
Cath Mummery	Chair ABN Services Committee 2017-2020
Ralph Gregory	Chair ABN Services & Standards Committee 2014-2017
Jon Sussman	ABN Honorary Assistant Secretary
Chris Kipps	Chair, ABN Quality Committee

The process involves 3 main stages: gathering of data from publicly available datasets such as HESS, acquisition of trust specific information via questionnaire then visits to each trust to discuss with service leads. The ABN and GIRFT will perform a national census in the coming months to determine the current status of neurology – this is an opportunity to ensure that we have an accurate and blanket representation of the state of neurology in far more detail than has been possible before so do please facilitate completion of the census when requested.

Invited Service Review

The RC provides a service to trusts where they may ask for a review of a clinical practice where some outlying practice is outlined. This may involve individual cases, or less commonly, a larger practice concern. This is done following discussion with the GMC and any individual to ensure processes are appropriate and transparent. The ABN SC has been working closely with the RC on a number of ISRs providing experts for clinical service review. The ABN has been instrumental in developing a collaborative, instructive process for this with the RC then writing a report with the experts, SC representation and lay input. As a result, there will be workshops in the future looking to use lessons learned to improve practice reflection.

Clinical Reference Group

Following re-organisation of all Clinical Reference Groups in 2016, the neurology CRG, which is responsible for specialty commissioning funded in England by NHSE, was disbanded and combined with neurosurgery in a smaller group. It is chaired by Professor Adrian Williams.

National Neuro Advisory Group

Following the withdrawal of National Clinical Director of Neurology post, this new group has been set up. The core NNAG group, chaired by Adrian Williams, is designed to bring together the different parts of the health system that need to work together to achieve improvement in neurology including clinicians, patients, commissioners and academia. Additionally, all current national initiatives that focus on neurology have co-opted membership to the group – this includes the Neurology Intelligence Network and Right Care. The ABN is represented by the President and Chair of the Services Committee.

The group held a national leadership meeting in early 2018, which provided an opportunity for individuals across neuroscience to discuss neurology networks nationally.

There are a series of initiatives under the CRG/NNAG umbrella including:

- a) A priority for the group is the development of a revised specialised neurosciences specification, led by Andrea Merrison and Steve Sturman. This will align specialist descriptors with the ABN Advisory Groups with the AGs providing expert input. The aim will be to enable specialist work to occur in places other than in neuroscience centres and to make the process more transparent.
- b) National Workshops for multidisciplinary areas: so far a neuromuscular workshop has occurred; a Parkinson's and dementia day is planned in July. Further areas are being considered
- c) Neurology Intelligence Network was relaunched under the auspices of the NNAG. The aim is to share intelligence across the different parts of the health system and to ensure integrated data acquisition and utilization.

Quality Committee

Chair: Chris Kipps

Administrator: Fardousa Musa

Regional Representatives: Paul Cooper, Simon Hickman, Arani Nitkunan, Graham Warner, Amy Ross-Russell (ABN-T)

Council Officers: Lucy Kinton, Mary Reilly

Coopted members: NA

The Quality Committee was established following review of the ABN strategy in 2017, and reports directly to the ABN Council and Executive. It is responsible for all matters relating to quality, quality improvement, innovation, audit and revalidation. The Terms of Reference for the Committee are available on the ABN website ([link](#)). The purpose of the Committee is to:

- Raise the profile and articulate the importance of quality at all levels within the ABN aiming to ensure that quality is everyone's business
- Provide support and information for members on quality assurance, quality improvement and innovation
- Develop quality assurance processes and improvement methodology within the ABN to support
 - Clinical practice guideline development
 - Use of clinical and service audit in quality assurance, quality improvement and innovation
 - Revalidation
 - ABN processes in other areas of the organisation to maximize effectiveness in meeting ABN member's needs
- Identify appropriate quality practices and outcome measurements

Appointment of Quality Committee Chair

An application and interview process was conducted, and Dr Christopher Kipps was appointed as Quality Committee Chair following interview on 11th October 2017.

Election of Quality Committee Members

Nominations were requested for Quality Committee membership. The following members were appointed to the Committee; where there was more than one nomination, a formal election was held. Not every region is represented in the current structure as no members nominated for some regions. These posts will be filled at a later date, but the QC has sufficient membership to be quorate.

ABN Quality Committee Membership

Paul Cooper (Member)
Simon Hickman (Member)
Arani Nitkunan (Member)
Graham Warner (Member)
Amy Ross-Russell (ABN-T Rep)
Lucy Kinton (Council Rep)
Chris Kipps (Chair)

Priorities

Three initial priorities have been agreed by the Quality Committee:

Priority 1: Make quality highly visible - 'Quality is everyone's business'

Facilitate identification of quality throughout the ABN as an important issue for all members.

Priority 2: Develop a series of easily implemented clinical and service audits that will help inform service and quality needs

Facilitate a simple measure of quality assurance and quality improvement by producing a framework for this activity that is accessible nationally.

Priority 3: Develop process for adoption of clinical guidelines that meets the needs of members and supports quality assurance and improvement.

Provide tools for members to quality assure and improve their clinical practice.

Actions to date:

- Committee appointed and Terms of reference agreed
- Priorities identified and agreed
- Regular Quality Matters segment introduced into the monthly newsletter
- Quality focus within Annual Meeting agreed – abstracts themed where relevant
- Review of anticoagulant guideline for lumbar puncture undertaken
- Review of PHE Neurology Mortality undertaken and report written for ABN executive ([link](#))
- Interview for HSJ article on Neurology mortality ([link](#))
- Draft protocol for Clinical Guidelines review produced for further discussion
- Review of GIRFT questionnaire prior to implementation

Activities in Progress

- Review of existing ABN clinical guidelines in progress
 - Current guidelines to be reviewed by Quality Committee and AAGs for updating or removal
- Development of national quality assurance and improvement framework
 - simple audit methodology and IT platform to support
 - this will be aligned with GIRFT process
- Further development of ABN website to support quality assurance and improvement activity
- Q symbol for quality-related abstracts and presentations to be implemented at Annual Meeting to identify quality throughout organisation
- Quality Committee Poster for Annual Meeting
- Annual Meeting Quality Prize to be awarded
- Quality Committee membership expansion

Education Committee

General update:

The education committee (EC) comprises chair (Tom Warner) regional members (Robert Powell, Daniel Blackburn, Matt Jones, Mirdhu Wickemaratchi, Josef Alawneh, Paul Jarman (deputy chair), Edward Newman) plus Emma Tallentyre (co-opted member and LTFTW representative) and Lina Nashef (Council member).

Shape of training:

2017 was a critical year in the evolution for shape of training for neurology. The outcome was that neurology should join other medical specialities in the 3 year (IM) and 4 year (ST) model, of which 1 year ST would be general internal medicine. Both ABN and JRCPTB Neurology SAC appealed against this and Neurology is likely to have 5 year ST training, a stance supported by Prof Black at RCP. The JRCTPB Neurology SAC chaired by Tom Hughes and ABN are now working on curriculum and how dual accreditation would work. An update will be presented at ABN Annual meeting 2019 in Birmingham.

Medical School Survey:

A key project for ABN EC is a survey of the scope and breadth of neurology clinical teaching at medical schools. This has commenced with regional EC members identifying key individual responsible for delivery on undergraduate clinical teaching who can complete questionnaire. Completion due June 2018. The second part of survey is to survey F1 competence and confidence of their clinical neurology skills and ability to diagnose and treat neurological problems. This part of project will be commenced once student survey preliminary results available which may guide additional areas to survey.

Australasian fellowship 2019:

The 2018 fellow is Dr Colin Mahoney who commenced work at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital in Sydney in Feb 2018. A candidate has been interviewed and appointed for the 2019 fellowship.

Student teaching day and Undergraduate prize:

A second successful student day was hosted by ABN in Oct 2017 in collaboration with the Neurology and Neurosurgery Student Interest Group (NANSIG). This comprised video cases discussions and update on dementia, as well as a poster and platform session for abstracts submitted by students on clinical cases and research. The standard and content of student presentations was extremely high and the feedback on the meeting from the 75 attendees very good. A third meeting is planned for Manchester in October 2018, again in collaboration with NANSIG.

The 2017/18 Undergraduate prize attracted 37 excellent submissions which were reviewed by the education committee led by Professor Tom Warner and research committee led by Professor Martin Turner. The three winners are Aaron Jesuthasan (research), Petros Fessas (Clinical) and Matthew Myers (Audit).

ABN Self Assessment Exercise:

2017 saw inaugural formative self-assessment exercise hosted on Ebrain website. This was led by Emma Tallentyre and Phil Smith and team from Cardiff who worked extremely hard putting together the MCQs and was completed by around 70 people (mainly UK trainees). The SAE has been confirmed again for 2018 by Emma and due to go live on 16th April for 5 weeks (covering time of ABN meeting). It was agreed to keep the Ebrain access and format unchanged at present.

Training in Neurology and Neuropsychiatry:

Preliminary discussions have been held with Prof Eileen Joyce (NHNN and lead on neuropsychiatry credentialing) and Adam Zeman (Neurology-Psychiatry working Group) regarding cross training of spr's in neurology and psychiatry and potential for interested neurologists to undertake post-CST credentialing in neuropsychiatry. These areas will be developed further in 2018.

Research Committee

Chair: Martin Turner

Deputy: Oliver Bandmann

Regional members:

Oliver Bandmann (North East & Yorkshire & the Humber)

Camille Carroll (Wales & South West)

Cris Constantinescu (East of England & East Midlands)

Colette Donaghy (Scotland & Northern Ireland)

Yusuf Rajabally (North West & West Midlands)

Simon Rinaldi (South Central & South East Coast)

Jon Schott (London)

Additional members:

Mary Reilly (ABN President)

David Nicholl (Honorary Secretary)

Jon Sussman (Honorary Secretary Assistant)

Peter Goadsby (NIHR CRN)

Sam Shribman (ABNT)

ABN Clinical Research Training Fellowships

The 2018 scheme received 19 very high-quality applications for five ABN Fellowships. For the first time, one award was dedicated to stroke-related work and potentially also open to stroke physicians. Of the original applicants, two withdrew prior to interview having secured alternative funding.

Ten candidates were shortlisted by a cut-off from the averaged peer review scores (which were not carried out by anyone from the same institution as the candidate).

The successful candidates are:

Evan Edmond	ABN & Dunhill Medical Trust
Sam Shribman	Guarantors of Brain
Bo Sun	Patrick Berthoud Charitable Trust
Ian McGurgan	Stroke Association & Sobell Foundation
Jeremy Johnson	Guarantors of Brain

We hope to see applications from a wide reach of UK centres in future.

The Chair and Deputy plan to draft revisions to the application form to allow more space for project details, and the scheme T&Cs in relation to eligibility (only 3-year funding requests).

Dafydd Thomas continues successfully to chair the Fundraising Committee.

HEFCE REF UoA4 meeting

Martin Turner attended the HEFCE meeting on January 23rd on behalf of the ABN to hear their discussions around allocation of funds for Unit of Assessment 4 (comprising Neurology, Psychiatry, Psychology) for the next REF exercise. HEFCE appear to recognise the importance of accurately reflecting the higher cost of clinician-led research and patient-based work involving expensive equipment e.g. MRI.

Rare Diseases Ascertainment & Recruitment (RaDAR)

The proportion of members participating in **Rare Diseases Ascertainment & Recruitment (RaDAR)** who responded to monthly emails in 2017 was 27%.

The status of the studies of the conditions under surveillance at the time of writing are:

Subject	Primary investigator	Date started	Referrals made	No. individuals recruited
Familial Alzheimer's disease and familial frontotemporal dementia	Dr Nick Fox	2017		
Myoclonus dystonia syndrome	Dr Kathryn Peall	2011	64	37
Demyelination complicating anti-TNF therapy in inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) and other inflammatory disorders	Dr Tariq Ahmad	2011	91	19
Hereditary hyperekplexia and glyne receptor antibody positive patients	Dr Sarah Crisp	2014	36	4
Familial Parkinson's Disease	Prof Huw Morris	2015		
UK register for hereditary spastic paraplegia	Prof Henry Houlden	2015	20	73
Corticobasal degeneration/syndrome (CBD/S)	Prof Huw Morris	2016	43	5
Patients with seizures and antibodies to LG11 or CASPR2	Prof Sarosh Irani	2016	38	15
Primary angitis of the central nervous system	Dr Desmond Kidd	2017	N/A	N/A
Polyneuropathy, Organomegaly, Endocrinopathy, Monoglomal gammopathy, Skin disease	Dr Mike Lunn & Dr Stephen Keddie	2017	N/A	N/A

Association of British Neurologists Trainees Committee

Chair: Sam Shribman

Committee members: Angelika Zarkali (Secretary), Sian Alexander (Education Rep), Fatima Jaffer (Treasurer), Michael Flower (Research Rep), Amy Ross Russell (Liaison Rep), Sangeeta Chaal (Media Rep) and Jason Appleton (BASP Rep).

Regional representatives: Fahd Baig (East Midlands), Ed Needham (East of England), Helen Devine (Kent, Surrey and Sussex), Charles Marshall (East London), Wei Zhang (North London), Fatima Jaffer (South London), Camille Clarke (Southwest London), Salwah Kamourieh (West London), David Lewis Smith (North East), James Lilleker (North West), Carolynne Doherty (Northern Ireland), Peter Fernandes (Scotland), Diane Swallow (Scotland), Eiman Abdelgadir (South West), Mkael Symmonds (Thames Valley), Duncan McLauchlan (Wales), Chinar Osman (Wessex), Ghaniah Hassan-Smith (West Midlands) and Joyutpal Das (Yorkshire and Humber).

Elections

Several individuals completed two-year terms on committee and were succeeded following elections, including Alex Foulkes, Tim Yates and James Hrastelj. New positions include Sam Shribman (Chair), Sian Alexander (Education), Amy Ross Russell (Liaison) and Fatima Jaffer (Treasurer). A new role as representative for Less Than Full Time (LTFT) trainees was internally appointed to Fatima Jaffer.

Regional representative role

Following consultation within committee and at an open forum in Liverpool, the ABNT regional representative role was reformed. Key changes are outlined in the Regional Representative Role Job Description on the ABNT website and include a minimum attendance rate and contribution to committee meetings.

Shape of Training

Discussions on this issue were held with or between trainees in numerous forums throughout the year. The ABNT committee remains firmly opposed to the imposition of the recommendations of the Shape of Training Steering Group. Our concerns have been raised by the chair and committee members at the ABN Council, ABN Education Committee and SAC for neurology. The new neurology curriculum is currently being re-drafted and we have been assured that multiple trainee representatives will be included in this working group.

QI Portal

This online portal to promote sharing of neurology quality improvement projects and audits was launched on the ABNT website by James Hrastelj in July. By sharing high quality QIPs the aim is to improve patient care, spread innovation, and even facilitate collaboration on multicentre projects and meta-analysis, while also providing neurology trainees in need of QIPs with inspiration. We are working close with Dr Chris Kipps, Chair of the ABN Quality Committee, to continue to expand this initiative.

ABN Trainee Day

Following the success of the trainee day in Liverpool, Angelika Zarkali has created a fantastic parallel programme for SpR and foundation doctor sessions for Birmingham 2018. The SpR session will include talks on approaching the unconscious patient and idiopathic intracranial hypertension, small group teaching on how to manage referrals and triage, a clinical skills laboratory and a research workshop.

ABNT Census

This biennial survey was conducted using SurveyMonkey in October. There were 179 responses, including 140 from those with national training numbers. Opinion on a wide range of training issues was collated. This has so far been used to devise the programme for the ABN Trainee Day in Birmingham 2018 and has contributed to ongoing discussion at ABN Council with regards to Shape of Trainee and ensuring adequate access for out of programme and less than full time training opportunities.

ACNR

Publications in the ABNT column of the ACNR this year included *How to prepare for the MRCP Neurology exam* by Ann Donnelly, *Things I wish I knew at the start of my PhD* by Pete Jenkins and *Preview of the Birmingham 2018 ABN Meeting* by Angelika Zarkali and Sam Shribman.

Mentoring Scheme

The latest round of the mentoring scheme was launched by Sian Alexander in September. This aim is to provide support and advice to foundation doctors and core medical trainees intending to pursue a career in neurology. There were 17 new pairings in the scheme this year.

European Academy of Neurology

Following the launch of the EAN Residents and Research Fellows Section in 2016, the ABNT Chair was approached to represent UK trainees and will continue to represent UK trainees at ongoing EAN meetings.

Regional Variation in Training

The ABNT will be launching a new initiative in 2018 to measure and address regional variation in training. With the support of the ABN and the SAC, we will be collating data from the GMC survey, ABN Acute Neurology Survey and ABNT Census to understand more about the nature of this variation. We will then be visiting a number of trusts to interview trainees and trainers in order to provide models for how to delivery exemplary neurology training in the UK.

Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board: Specialty Advisory Committee in Neurology

Chair: Tom Hughes

Vice Chair: Anthony Pereira

The Neurology SAC is one of 33 Specialist Advisory Committees (one each for Nephrology, Cardiology etc.) which answer to the Joint Royal College of Physicians Training Board (JRCPTB), and to which it submits an annual report. Prof David Black is the Medical Director of the JRCPTB.

The committee is comprised of the Training Programme Directors (TPDs), or sometime the Chairs, of the Neurology Specialist Training Committees in each of the following: the Wales Deanery, each of the local offices of Health Education England (e.g. Health Education Thames Valley (formerly the Oxford Deanery)), NHS Education for Scotland, and the Northern Ireland Medical and Dental Training Agency. Meetings are held three times a year and there is the option of dialling in. There is also a trainee representative, a lay member, a co-opted academic representative (if one of the TPDs on the SAC is not a university employee), the chair of the Neurophysiology SAC, and a senior clinician from the lead deanery (currently Professor Graham Dewhurst).

The agenda of each meeting reflects the duties and responsibilities of the SAC. It includes an updating of the membership (typically members serve three year terms, although there are some more long serving members), and a review of the register of External Advisors (each Deanery/LETB must have an external advisor who attends at least 10% of their Annual Record of Competency Progression (ARCPs) and all of their Penultimate Year Assessments (PYAs)). We then receive a report from the trainee representative, and from the lead in the management of Certificate of Eligibility for Specialist Registration (CESR) applications. Our role in Quality Management includes a discussion at the meeting of local issues relating to training programmes, ARCP and PYA process, externality, and the production of the Annual Specialty Report (ASR) which forms part of the ASR submitted by the JRCPTB to the General Medical Council. The SAC Chair and Deputy Chair are responsible for signing the forms which the JRCPTB use to recommend to the GMC those trainees who have completed a training programme (outcome 6 at final ARCP) and are eligible for entry on to the specialist register, and for the approval of all applications for Out of Programme Experience (OOPE).

The leads for recruitment (currently Dr Pereira and Dr Hughes) liaise with the local office of Health Education England which currently hosts the interviews for Specialist Registrars (usually Thames Valley for Neurology, hence the venue of the Kassam Football stadium in Oxford) to arrange two days of interviews for Round 1 (usually in April/May) and one day for Round 2 (Sept/October). In preparation for the interviews members of the SAC write the scenarios used in the interviews as well as the wording of the probes to be used and the features of good and poor answers. Ms Jane Excel and her team in the Thames Valley LETB and Mr Stephen Harding and his team in the JRCPTB ensure that recruitment rounds run smoothly.

The SAC is responsible for writing the curricula used during training and this is the challenge for the next 12-18 months. We need to write first a purpose statement and then the curriculum for neurology training in Shape of Training, with a view to submission to the GMC in 2020. We are in the process of compiling the Capabilities in Practice (CiPs) appropriate for a neurology trainee. When agreed these will form a central part of the assessment process.

As in 2016, on the backcloth of these routine activities the SAC has come under particular pressure in 2017 because of the high volume of CESR applications, some of which required repeated assessment and discussion by the two assessors assigned to each. We have expressed to the JRCPTB our reservations about the work involved in CESR applications. To try and manage the situation we hope to engage more SAC members to complete the GMC training in assessment of CESR applications. The specialty specific guidance (SSG) for neurology has recently been rewritten by Dr Myles Connor.

We are immensely grateful to the members of the SAC for the interest and engagement they display and for the hours of hard work they put in on behalf of their trainees and the wider neurology community.

Tom Hughes
Anthony Pereira

ABN Advisory Groups

The responsibilities of the ABN Advisory Groups are to report on designated consultation documents, NICE guidelines, and other requests for information received by the ABN and to provide these responses in time to meet imposed deadlines.

We are indebted to all advisory group members, both to the previous members (2015-2017) and their successors for this essential nationally recognised work.

Members from January 2018

Acute Neurology

Chair: Holger Allroggen

Members: Anish Bahra, Max Damian, Tatiana Mihalovam, Neil Munro, Arani Nitkunan, Martin Sadler, Barry Seemungal, Adrian Wills, Khalid Ali, Tom Hayton

Cognitive Disorder

Chair: Jeremy Brown

Deputy Chair: Jonathan Schott

Members: Andrea Cavanna, Elizabeth Coulthard, Kirsty Harkness, Jeremy Isaacs, Matthew Jones, Pares Malhotra and Rhys Davies

Epilepsy

Chair: Sanjay Sisodyia

Deputy Chair: Rajiv Mohanraj

Members: Heather Angus-Leppan, Sofia Eriksson, Tony Marson, Nicholas Moran, Rob Powell, Christopher Price, Graham Warner and Stephen Wroe

Headache and pain

Chair: Nicola Giffin

Deputy Chair: Alex Sinclair

Members: Fayyaz Ahmed, Jane Anderson, Brandan Davies, Anita Krishnan, Manjit Matharu, Nick Silver and Alok Tyagi

Movement Disorders

Chair: Donald Grosset

Deputy Chair: Oliver Bandmann

Members: Kaliash Bhatia, Mark Edwards, Tom Foltynie, Ralph Gregory, Paola Piccini, Tabish Saifee, Michael Samuel, Anette Schrag,

MS & Inflammation

Chair: Alasdair Coles

Deputy Chair: Waqar Rashid

Members: Robert Brenner, Olga Ciccarelli, Helen Ford, Bruno Gran, Anu Jacob, Siobhan Leary, Brendan Mclean, Sian Price and Victoria Williams

Neurogenetics

Chair: Henry Houlden

Members: Ammar Al-Chalbab, Nick Gutowski, Huw Morris, Richard Orrell, Esther Sammler, Ed Wild, Oliver Bandmann and Hugh Markus

Neuromuscular disorders

Chair: Michael Lunn

Members: Rob Hadden, Mike Hanna, Simon Hammans, David Hilton-Jones, James Holt, Rita Horvath, Chris McDermott, Karen Morrison, Jacqueline Palace, Wojteck Rakowicz, Alexander Rossor and James Stevens

Neuro-oncology

Chair: Fiona McKeivitt

Member: Katia Cikurel, Timothy Ham, Allyson Parry, Jeremy Rees, Robin Grant

Neurorehabilitation

Chair: Andrea Lowman

Members: Rachel Farrell, Ellen Merete-Hagen, Steve Sturman, Robin Grant, Siobhan Leary, Clarence Liu, Engelbert Puschmann and Nick Ward

Traumatic Brain Injury

Chair: Paul Cooper

Members: Colette Griffin, Sivaraman Nair, Jonathan O'Riordan, David Sharp, Richard Sylvester, Rhys Davies, Tom Hayton, Clarence Liu and Engelbert Puschmann

Stroke

Chair: David Werring

Deputy Chair: Hedley Emsley

Members: Tom Hughes, Anthony Kenton, Fozia Nazir, Martin Punter, Alakendu Sekhar, Gavin Young, Hugh Markus and Nick Ward

Members of ABN Council 2018-19

President	Prof Mary M Reilly	2017-19
President Elect	Prof David Burn	2017-19
Immediate Past President	Prof Phil Smith	2017-18
Honorary Secretary	Dr David Nicholl	2017-20
Honorary Assistant Secretary	Dr Jon Sussman	2017-19
Honorary Treasurer	Dr Trevor Pickersgill	2015-19
Honorary Treasurer Elect	Prof Neil Robertson	2018-19
Chair, Services Committee	Dr Cath Mummery	2017-20
Chair, Quality Committee	Dr Chris Kipps	2017-20
Chair, Education Committee	Prof Tom Warner	2016-19
Chair, Research Committee	Prof Martin Turner	2016-19
Elected Councillor	Dr John Paul Leach	2015-19
Elected Councillor	Dr Jacqueline Palace	2015-19
Elected Councillor	Prof Kevin Talbot	2016-20
Elected Councillor	Dr Lina Nashef	2017-21
Elected Councillor	Dr Lucy Kinton	2017-21
Chair, Association of British Neurologists Trainees	Dr Samuel Shribman	
Co-opted, Chair SAC Neurology	Dr Tom Hughes	
Lay Trustee	Lord Stanley Fink	
Lay Trustee	Ms Elisabeth Baltay	

ABN Office – Members of Staff

Joanne Lawrence

Executive Director
Full-time
Appointed January 2013

Dawn Moore

Meetings and Membership Administrator
Full-time
Appointed April 2006

Fardousa Musa

Committees and Communications Administrator
Full-time
Appointed February 2016

Jessica Holdgate

Finance Administrator
Part-time
Appointed April 2018

Appendix 1

Council Minutes 2017-18

Meeting of Council, Wednesday 25 January 2017 at ABN office, 27 Boswell Street, WC1N3JZ and by telecon

Present: Phil Smith (President, Chair), Mary Reilly (President Elect),

Phone: John Paul Leach, Elisabeth Baltey (Lay Trustee), David Nicholl (Honorary Ass. Sec), Tom Hughes (SAC), Ralph Gregory (SSC, Chair), Kevin Talbot, Helen Rodgers (BASP, President), Paul Worth, Jacqueline Palace, Lord Stanley Fink (Lay Trustee), Jane Dacre (RCP, President), Andrew Goddard (RCP, Registrar), Joanne Lawrence

Apologies: David Burn (Honorary Secretary), Jon Sussman, Alasdair Coles

1. Apologies for absence
PS opened the meeting asking members to introductions themselves and listed apologies.
2. SSC Report

Ralph Gregory (RG) summarised the points he would discuss;

1. Minutes (tabled)
2. Acute Neurology Survey
3. NNAG and CRG
4. Action points from strategy day
5. Get It Right application
6. ABN involvement at service level.

2.1 Acute Neurology

Acute Neurology Survey: RG has worked along side David Nicholl (DN) to produce a report for the RCP. RG described how they will ask the RCP for assistance. DN will be briefing Baroness Finlay. It was highlighted that the RCP will be hosting their annual meeting in March 2017 (Manchester). It was suggested that the ABN could have a stand at their RCP meeting.

RG also highlighted that Neurological Alliance (NA) are also publishing a survey and have asked for the ABN to publish the acute neurology survey at same time.

RG concluded his summary by asking the council to advice re: work with Neurology Alliance.

RG discussed idea of publishing and promoting the acute neurology survey
Jane Dacre (JD) message for the college council, to have a positive stance/ spin

PS stated that Baroness Finlay discussing loss of National Clinical Director on 31st January at the House of Lord.

Helen Rodgers (HR) identified that Stroke is not 100% a neurological condition. ABN should plan to collaborate with other services/societies as not 100% neuro conditions.

DN expressed that the ABN would like to collaborate with BASP.
MR agrees we should work collaboratively.

RG suggested that the report can be tweaked to support views above re: Stroke.
MR suggested that the ABN can provide a letter of support for NA.

2.2 CRG/NNAG

PS described that the CRG refers to highly specialist commissioning and that advisory group to neuro by the National health. Mary and Phil attended a meeting last week re: NNAG.

JD notified the council that Neuro radiologists are short staffed, there are concerns re: training. JD suggested forming a close relationship with neuro radiologist chair (Phil White).

PS informed the group that NNAGs are functioning well and they liaise with ABN AAGs which NHSE is pleased about.

Get It Right First Time (GIRFT):

ABN will be involved in appointment of clinical leads for GIRFT. RG stressed the urgency on reviewing applicants to assess who ABN supports.

ACTION: To discuss further at the next executive committee teleconference meeting on Mondays.

RG highlighted that there has been a recent request to provide assistance from the ABN at a unit level. This would be for units that are experiencing difficulty, showing dysfunction and there has been decommissioning of services.

RS requested the council's views on ABN involvement with individual unit issues.

HG suggested the use of a peer review system via the Executive committee which is what the RCP and BASP have used. Andrew Goddard (AG) also recommended a red flag system. JD suggested contacting Peter Bells for more advice on this topic.

3. TEC Report

Tom Warner (TW) briefly discussed minutes from the recent TEC meeting. He also highlighted new recruits with in the committee and their aim to build links with medical schools.

TW stated that this year's Self Assessment exercise will be a formative assessment produced by PS and Emma Tallantyre.

3.1 Shape of training- bench marking what is available.

TW described the current choices presented at the shape of training debate - ahead of the meeting next week. There will be a small presentation provided by the ABN representatives at the meeting.

PS highlighted that we would welcome extra year of general medicine. However the main concern is less emphasis on acute work with the job advertisement reading: General medicine with neurological interest. MR strongly feels acute neurology should be delivered equally across the UK and should not be diluted. Focus should not be to disadvantage a large group of patients, not to increase waiting times, and that the ABN should present a positive message supporting acute medicine.

PS requested Jane and Andrew's views on the topic.

JD agreed with MR but was unsure of which stance to hold. JD recommended using Ian Cummings lecture on flexibility of training to support presentation.

AG asked what the fall back position was. MR responded saying that group 1 is not a fall back position, stressing concerns re: patient care.

4. CRAC Report

Martin Turner (MT) told the council the main change taken from the strategy meeting was the renaming of the group to 'Research development committee'. MT highlighted that training fellowship has had an increase in numbers and profile. The other changes in the committee will be to 'refresh' BNSU as it is not a unit nor provides any surveillance. The idea would be to make it a more efficient reporting tool. Finally another suggested change would be that the BNSU chair would also hold a post on council.

4.1 Fellowship fundraising activity

PS highlighted that the Chair of Fundraising Committee has been appointed into the council and introduced Dafydd Thomas (DT). DT provided a brief progress report which was also provided to council for reference. DT highlighted the need to focus on foundations and trusts. He also highlighted that the ABN has had a new recruit, a fundraiser (Sonia Joseph, SJ) appointed in September 2016.

SJ provided an update which was tabled. SJ highlighted power of someone knowing someone on a board of trustees and having a strong application. She also discussed how fundraising links in with marketing and communications. SJ has been working on producing a strategy which is due to be completed by 31st January 2017. SJ also discussed her communications with Lord Fink; she is encouraged by their earlier meeting.

MR thanked DT and the positive involvement of SJ.

5. Honorary Secretary's report – AOB

Joanne Lawrence (JL) stated that the main topics have already been discussed in the previous council telephone meeting. Consultations are under control and strategy will be discussed at the end of meeting.

6. ABNT Report

Alexander Foulkes (AF) highlighted to the committee that the ABNT are scheduled to meet that afternoon.

The main areas of concern for ABNT are shape of training (which was previously discussed) and ST3 applications.

ST3 applications from "OOP" candidates: Final decision from JRCPTB appears to be no change to 2016 criteria (ie anyone >3 years from CMT sign off needs to be recertified). This is especially pertinent in view of the Shape of Training proposals.

AF highlighted that March will be his last meeting on council. Elections for a new chair will be late spring/early summer.

PS thanked AF for his contributions as ABNT chair.

7. Treasurer's Report

7.1 2016 accounts and 2017 budget

TP also highlighted that the Brighton meeting was the largest meeting the ABN has held increased income but also increased costs. Last minute cancellations from the autumn meeting venue by the Institute of Education also contributed to these costs.

PS highlighted the positive feedback from report. The ABN continues to add to its reserves and there was discussion on how the reserves could best be used.

PS also reported the £10k increased income from Practical Neurology.

7.2 Fellowship fund

PS requested advice from Lord Fink (SF) re: Charibonds. SF suggested scholarship underwriting funds for 6+ month and moving reserve. SF also suggested having a statement for a general reserves policy stating a figure that would be spent on fellowships which can be show to donors and members.

JL highlighted that the ABN would be comfortable with reserves around £800K.

ACTION: JL and TP to look into this in detail.

MR discussed the co-running of Practical Neurology journal. TP stated that there was a management committee meeting later this morning with BMJ which they would feed back to.

7.3 Staff salary review

JL and FM left meeting at 11:10am whilst the committee reviewed staff salary.

8. Items for Discussion:

8.1 ABN Strategy – development – follow up to meeting on 20.1.17

PS thanked Elisabeth Baltay for hosting the strategy meeting on 20th January 2017. PS stated that there were three main group summaries to address.

RG summarised the strategy for SSC:

- SSC engagement with its members and name change
- Suggestion of a 4th committee (ARC) to be instated and renamed Quality Improvement Committee.
- Produce service specification for referrals.

MT summarised the strategy for CRAC:

- Engaging senior member group to meetings
- Promote training re: research
- Refresh BNSU

TW summarised the strategy for TEC:

- To increase ABN support in undergraduate education in neurology
- Trainees- post CCT fellowship
- To integrating more with general government bodies in Education

PS highlighted the cross cutting themes found in the strategy:

1. Finance/ office
2. International
3. Communications

JL highlighted that the ABN office is at its capacity and have limited resource for valued work.

Suggesting to allocate resource to ABN communications by;

Short term: Consultation for comms strategy- guidance.

Long term: free up time in core team, book keeping low stage.

ACTION: 3 lead to come up with min report.

ACTION: JL to provide the Strategy writing team a written report of resource needed in ABN office.

8.2 International relations

MR emphasised the importance of building the ABN's international relationships especially with low income countries. A proposed suggestion was for the ABN to co-run international fellowships.

MT suggested putting a strategy in place re: work with Sri Lanka; as past collaborations have been more opportunistic.

8.3 Any Other Business

DT highlighted the council that he will be organising the Mansall bequest prize and would like the ABN's support with promoting it.

ACTION: To be promoted on newsletter and website to members.

SJ enquired where the ABN was with AMRC communications.

ACTION: to follow up with JL at the Monday teleconference.

**Meeting of Council, Wednesday 29 March 2017 at 0930hrs
ABN office, 27 Boswell Street, WC1N3JZ**

Present: Phil Smith (President, Chair), Mary Reilly (President Elect), David Burn (Hon. Sec), Trevor Pickersgill (Treasurer) Tom Hughes (SAC), David Warring (BASP representative), Tom Warner (TEC Chair), Martin Turner (CRAC Chair), Ralph Gregory (SSC Chair), Dafydd Thomas (Fundraising Committee Chair), Alexander Foulkes (ABNT Chair) Kevin Talbot, Jon Sussman, Joanne Lawrence(Executive Director),Sonia Joseph (Fundraising Manager), Stanley Fink (Lay Trustee).

Phone: Elisabeth Baltay (Lay Trustee), Adrian Williams (CRG chair)

1. Apologies for absence: John Paul Leach, Jaqueline Palace, Alasdair Coles, Paul Worth.

2. Minutes of the Council Meeting 25.01.17

David Nicholl (DN) noted penultimate paragraph of item 2.2 should read 'BASP' not 'BASH'. Sonia Joseph (SJ) added that her comments on item 4.1, 2nd para should read: 'power of someone knowing someone on a board of trustees and having a strong application'.

3. SSC Report

RG summarised the topics he would be discussing in his report and notified Council that Adrian Williams (AW) would be providing insight into the first topic, CRG and NNAG.

3.1. CRG/NNAG

AW described the administrative difference between CRGs and NNAGs. CRGs have a strict process and fall under NHS England whilst NNAGs work with Neurological Alliance, ABN, SBNS and NHS England; giving them a different and experimental structure.

AW commended the work of the ABN advisory group chair Alasdair Coles (AC) in collaboration with CRG, stating that this was a brilliant model of how the ABN and CRG should work together.

AW described NNAGs as CCG funded, involved with national planning. RG requested whether the minutes of NNAG meetings could be made available to the ABN membership so they can gain more understanding.

ACTION: AW to speak at business session of annual meeting, providing members with an understanding of CRG, NNAG and their working relationship with the ABN.

ACTION: To make NNAG meeting minutes accessible to membership.

PS thanked AW and requested further information on the three streams. AW reported that

- stream 1 deals with regional centres and is purely NHS England led,
- stream 2 would have more interest with the ABN; especially the SSC chair to write the neurology specification,
- stream 3 is more disease specific and ties in with the ABN Advisory Groups.

It became apparent that the ABN Executive Committee was not receiving all communication between advisory group chairs and CRG. AW noted that some chairs were quicker to respond than others.

ACTION: ABN Executive Committee to reinforce that ABN advisory group chairs must pass all communications through to the Executive committee.

ACTION: ABN Executive Committee to review advisory group job specification ahead of elections.

Kevin Talbot (KT) highlighted that involvement with CRG and NNAGs would be an opportunity to address complaints by members that the ABN is insufficiently involved in political matters.

ACTION: ABN to include a CRG/NNAG update/ bullet points of achievement from AW in ABN newsletter.

AW requested the ABN's help in promoting a 'disease specific day' which will be held on 4 September 2017, which will be attended by commissioners and neuroscience managers.

ACTION: To promote event in newsletter and website.

3.2. Acute Neurology

RG thanked the office and David Nicholl (DN) for the work on the acute neurology survey. MMR also thanked RG for his input.

The acute neurology survey was launched at the RCP conference in March and received well. RG urged council to proceed with next steps using Acute Neurology data while the attention is on it.

MMR suggested not to wait for Shape of Training results and to work on how neurology works within the current workload. DN agreed with MMR's basic principle and suggested learning from the models of good practice and providing a directory.

Jon Sussman added that the Getting It Right First Time programme would be a great way to identify good practice.

Joanne Lawrence (JL) suggested progressing acute neurology data by outsourcing analysis to interested parties i.e. NHSE.

3.3. New guidelines/quality standards committee

It was agreed during the Strategy away day in January that a fourth ABN subcommittee would be formed, to be called the Quality Committee. This fourth committee would reduce the work of the Service and Standards committee by removing the Audit and Revalidation section. Its focus would be to write guidelines and develop audits.

RG noted that his tenure as chair of SSC was coming to an end. The post will be advertised to members and a new chair appointed.

ACTION: Advertise for Chair and deputy, RG to write job spec.

3.4. Getting it right first time programme (GIRFT)

RG reported that neurology lead interviews will be held on May 17 2017. The post will consist of 88 days a year visiting hospitals across the UK, assessing services required; looking for good practice and sharing. The ABN has been invited to be represented on the interview panel.

4. TEC Report

Tom Warner (TW) reported changes in members with new, enthusiastic, regional reps. There was a good turn out for the first meeting held at the ABN offices.

4.1. UG prize

There were 28 submissions this year with the two (Kevin Teo, Audit and Amin Awed, Clinical Case) out of the three winners planning to attend the Liverpool meeting.

4.2. Australasian fellowship

Colin Mohoney was the successful interviewee for the fellowship and has chosen the Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney.

4.3. Shape of training

TW discussed the debate presented by the ABN at Shape of Training meeting in January. The ABN is awaiting a response. PS stated that there would be a report presented to ministers.

ACTION: It was agreed that the Shape of Training should be discussed at the annual meeting with a possibility of addressing the topic at the AGM.

4.4. ABN self assessment

TW described the new format for this year's ABN Self assessment questions. The formative assessment will be launched electronically on 1st April, contacting 100 of the best selected questions. Each person is asked to devise their own question for completing the assessment.

EAN member would have free access whilst non EAN members would be charged 10 euros.

TW thanked all those involved in self assessment.

ACTION: PS suggested inviting Emma Tallantyre as a member of TEC.

ACTION: ABN Exec to include poster of self assessment and work of other committees at annual meeting.

5. CRAC Report

5.1. BNSU

Martin Turner (MT) reported no updates for BNSU. He stated that BNSU will change name and structure as per strategy discussions. The BNSU chair will be selected from elected CRAC members.

5.2. Fellowship scheme 2017

MT notified the Council that the winners of the 2017 fellowship were:

Robert Hurford

Stephen Keddie

Vicoria Chelban (MSA candidate)

He stated that Prof Claire Fowler was very happy with the MSA candidate. MT stated that there were 180 reviewers all of whom were thanked via email. He also thanked the CRAC members for each reviewing two candidates.

11:20 Coffee break

11:30 Meeting resumed with Stanley Fink present in person and Elisabeth Baltay via phone.

6. ABNT Report

Alexander Foulkes (AF) reported on issues faced during his term as ABNT chair referring Council members to tabled document. AF also provided an up-to-date contact list of newly appointed members.

AF showed the council the proposed ABNT poster for the annual meeting asking for feedback/comments. Council members were impressed.

ACTION: FM to send copy of ABNT poster and template to other committees so they may also present a poster at the annual meeting.

PS noted that AF was coming to the end of his term as ABNT chair and this would be his last meeting. PS thanked AF for his contributions as ABNT chair. Elections for ABNT chair will take place in early spring.

7. Meetings committee

Liverpool 2017: DN reported 500 delegates registered to the ABN annual meeting. However there is a poor attendance recorded for the pre-meeting, which needs more promotion.

Birmingham 2018: DN also reported that the venue for Birmingham 2018 was confirmed with the next goal being to confirm speakers. JL added that the venue change from Cardiff was because Cardiff was unable to provide suitable event management.

SBNS 2018: DN confirmed that the date for the joint ABN and SBNS meeting in 2018 was set for 19-21 September 2018.

WCN 2021: Council discussed the need to promote London to voting members of WFN .

Stanley Fink (SF) offered to host up to 180 potential voters for the WFN at the House of Lords.

RCP 2018: DN advised that the 500 Anniversary of the RCP will be in 2018 with a planned ABN meeting titled 'From Holmes to House' on 20 March 2018.

8. Honorary Secretary's Report

8.1. Replacement Hon Secretary

PS congratulated David Burn (DB) on his election as President-Elect. DB proposed council member JS to act as meeting secretary for a period of 1 year when DN move into the role of Hon Sec, with a call for formal elections (for Hon Sec and Treasurer) towards the end of the year.

8.2. Agenda AGM 2017

ACTION: ABN Exec to discuss AGM structure on Executive committee telecon.

ACTION: ABN office to prepare a poster of Council members for Liverpool meeting.

8.3. Proposed rule changes 2017

Council discussed the name changes suggested for the 3 sub-committees as proposed in the strategy meeting held on 20 January 2017.

The 3 Main subcommittees of council will be renamed as follows:

- Service and Standards Committee (SSC) becomes Service Committee
- Clinical Research and Academic Committee (CRAC) becomes Research Committee
- Training and Education Committee (TEC) becomes Education committee

As previously noted, the Audit and Revalidation Committee, currently a subcommittee of SSC, will become a fourth committee, Quality Committee.

8.4. Advisory groups

The ABN Advisory Group (AAG) were appointed in August 2015 with 2 year term of office. The first term ending August 2017. Council discussed the logistics of AAG renewals.

There was discussion on the structure of the AAGs, having a deputy in place and a more detailed job description.

8.5. Risk register

David Burn (DB) directed the council to the tabled Risk register with no issues to report.

8.6. Consultations

Council were referred to the spreadsheet documenting consultations received by the ABN. DB noted that a matrix would be provided in the annual report illustrating how many were dealt with over the past year.

9. Treasurer's Report

9.1. 2016 accounts and 2017 budget

Trevor Pickersgill (TP) presented the 2016 draft accounts, stating that in the last council meeting it was discussed that an amount above an agreed ceiling for reserves, would be put toward the fellowship fund. The aim is to hold unrestricted funds of at least one and a quarter times annual income.

TP discussed tabled figures of estimated expenditures for 2017, explaining the increase in budget was due to increase in exhibition space and gala dinner costs.

It was also noted that the 2017 London meeting day delegate rate of £60 was higher than last year's.

TP also highlighted that staff salaries had increased with an addition of a book keeping resource required. JL added that the long term office needs would be assessed once a temp had been employed.

9.2. Fellowship fund

Dafydd Thomas (DT) provided the council with a tabled report, highlighting 3 possible promises of funding from Stroke Association, Sobell Foundation and Rosetree Trust.

DT also reported funding received from Trevor Pickersgill's Great North Run (£2k) and 2 in memoriam sets of donations.

10. Items for Discussion:

10.1. ABN Strategy – development

JL reported that after the strategy away day in January, chairs of the different subgroups provided a summary of strategic changes which JL, MMR and DN incorporated into the existing 2013 strategy. The main idea was to refresh the existing strategy with an aim to produce a draft document to membership later in the year.

A draft document was provided to the Council with a request that comments be sent to JL, MMR and DN.

Elisabeth Baltay (EB) suggested that clear and agreed deadlines should be set in order to complete the strategy on time.

ACTION: Council to present approve committee name change proposal at AGM

10.2. International relations

MMR reported that this committee was established to address the current Brazil and Sri Lankan relationships as well as to address the applications that come into the ABN. The committee will also be used to build relationships with international neurological societies.

10.3. Any Other Business

There were no other business items presented by the council.

Association of British Neurologists

Meeting of Council, Wednesday 27 September 2017 at 1030hrs Jury's Inn, Edinburgh

Present: Mary M Reilly (President), Phil Smith (Immediate Past President) Trevor Pickersgill (Treasurer), Helen Rodgers (BASP President), Catherine Mummery (Service Committee Chair), Tom Warner (Education Committee Chair), David Nicholl (Honorary Secretary) Jon Sussman (Hon. Asst. Secretary), Samuel Shribman (ABNT Chair) Joanne Lawrence (Executive Director), Tom Hughes (SAC Chair), Jacqueline Palace, John Paul Leach, Lena Nashef, Lucy Kinton, Kevin Talbot.

Phone: Martin Turner (Research Committee Chair), Adrian Williams (CRG chair), Geraint Fuller (GIRFT), Elisabeth Baltay (Trustee), Dafydd Thomas (Fundraising Chair), Jane Dacre (RCP president)

1. Introduction

Mary M Reilly (MMR) welcomed members to the meeting, thanked those who had attended the health leader's dinner the night before and advised names of the individuals who would be dialling into the meeting at various times.

1.1. Apologies for absence: none noted

1.2. Minutes of the Council Meeting 29.03.17

It was noted that the following action point was incomplete..

ACTION: *To make NNAG meeting minutes accessible to membership*

ACTION: JL to follow up with NNAG admin support to ensure copies received in ABN office.

2. President update

MMR presented her vision for the ABN during her presidency (tabled notes were provided for the committee's reference), identifying the ultimate goal for the ABN to deliver better care for patients with neurological conditions.

3. Education Committee

3.1. General update:

Tom Warner (TW) reported that the Education Committee consisted of very engaged Committee members and that it was a privilege to work with them. Paul Jarman was appointed as the new deputy chair for the committee and Lina Nashef and Emma Tallantyre joined the committee in an ex-

officio role. TW assted that the committee is currently looking to recruited a Less then Full Time Worker representative in the next few months. TW provided an update on the out come of the psychiatry training survey; were 99% stated that they would like neurology in training. TW will follow up with a meeting with Prof Eileen Joyce, president of Neuropsychiatry at the National Hospital, who is leading on this.

3.2. Shape of training:

Tom Hughes (TH) provided a summary of the latest meeting between himself, MMR and David Black.

ACTION: ABN Newsletter to include hyperlink to David Black's letter.

3.3. Medical School Survey:

TW provided an update of the recent medical school survey. TW was impressed with the engagement with survey in the first 48hrs and data collated and is in the process of collating the data.

ACTION: TW to present data to Council for input.

3.4. Australasian fellowship:

TW confirmed that there was minimal change with the layout of this year's Australasian fellowship.

ACTION: TW will be confirming sites available with ANZAN.

3.5. Undergraduate prize:

TW noted no new changes to process. The Undergraduate Prize will be advertised in the ABN newsletter.

3.6. ABN self assessment:

TW updated the committee on the new format used for the 2017 ABN self assessment questions, which was developed by Emma Tallantyre (ET) and Phil Smith (PS). TW stated that 75 people completed the assessment with a mean score of 56% and a median score of 59%. 48 individuals were UK based while 18 were outside the UK. It was reported that there was good internal consistency with good feedback and 89 questions were submitted.

In regards to long term sustainability TW noted that ET will carry on for one more year. The task will then revert to the Education committee.

PS noted that it was a very good start with the online assessment and it would get easier to administer once there is a good bank of questions. PS is awaiting confirmation for ET regarding date for question writing group.

Lucy Kinton (LK) noted that written feedback has been sent to the ABN office and TW regarding issues experienced whilst completing the online assessment, in particular the limited time available for completion. .

ACTION: LK's feedback to be forwarded to ET.

Sam Shribman (SS) expressed concern that the assessment might be obligatory, especially with training moral currently low. TW confirmed that the assessment would not be obligatory.

Joanne Lawrence (JL) queried the rationale behind the short time frame. PS stated that there would be no issue in keeping the assessment open online for longer.

Feedback was acknowledged by PS and TW who confirm that there is flexibility in the process to address these issues.

MMR thanked ET and PS on their work producing the self assessment.

MMR added that all subcommittees will be asked to produce a 1 page report to council from January 2018 onwards.

4. Research Committee

4.1. General update:

Martin Turner (MT) noted his concern with the inverse correlation between H-index and ABN engagement, describing it as a major worry that needs to be addressed and recommended engagement with senior academic colleagues. MT stated that it would be helpful to obtain data such as university of employment and member's sub specialty from the database. JL confirmed that the database has capacity to hold such information but that the information provided by the members was of variable quality.

Cath Mummery (CM) added that people may not understand the purpose of collecting this data.

ACTION: MMR recommended looking and improving functionality of the database fields and talk more about this at the next AGM.

MT provided an update on the pre-meeting day in Liverpool 2017. For the following year MT stated that the research session would focus on being technique based and there would be more integration with the trainee session.

MT raised concerns on consistency across deaneries and sustainability of out of programme (OOP) research. MT informed council that he had spoken with TH and has been invited to call into the next SAC meeting to address this.

TW added that he had volunteered MT along with himself and TH to provide a ABN statement for OOP.

MT reported that research committee member Camille Carroll had set up a system to track LACS and ACLs across the country.

MT highlighted that a review into winners of the ABN intercalated degree award showed a very few remained in neurology and advised that the funding for next years award should be put into the fellowship. MMR confirmed that Exec had already agreed and actioned.

4.2. Fellowship scheme 2018:

MT notified council that 21 applications were submitted to the 2017 ABN fellowships. MT also noted that Dafydd Thomas (DT) had secure two additional funders for the 2018 Fellowship; Sobell Foundation and Dunhill Medical Trust.

4.3. RaDAR:

MT discussed the rebranding of BNSU to form RaDAR following ABN strategy day in January. MMR stated it was a useful initiative and recommended looking at the uptake of cases after a year.

Committee discussed the reporting procedure for RaDAR and ways to improve it.

ACTION: update RaDAR application form and have an in-depth update of RaDAR in the January Council.

MT also noted that Oliver Bandmann was the research committee's new deputy chair.

ACTION: Committee reports to contain names of committee members.

5. Services Committee

5.1. General update

CM introduced herself as the newly appointed Service Committee chair. CM stated that she has been looking at the committee structure and receiving the strategy. CM noted that she is looking at ways to improve communication/ exchange information with members of the committee e.g via website or dropbox. CM highlighted the working document tabled which will be continuously updated and available for Council and Exec.

CM highlighted that the outcome for the first round of elections was that majority of members were re-elected and two new appointees were elected for Wessex and London. A committee meeting will be held on 3rd November 2017. No deputy has yet been appointed.

CM noted excellent response levels from committee members. A key initial task was to ensure that ABN records of all hospitals within each region were accurate. Additionally members were asked to draw maps on how hospitals within their regions linked up. The compiled data would support work on the Acute Neurology Survey and Getting It Right First Time (GIRFT) projects.

Service Review: CM discussed the recent invited service review from the RCP. CM reported being in discussion with RCP to develop a MOU. CM notified the council that the ABN had provided the 3 expert reviewers requested by the RCP.

ACTION: CM to provide a report on service review process, for future reference.

Jane Dacre (JD) confirmed that the current form of invited service review outlined in the MOU is a relatively new concept and neurology MOU is the second to be completed. JD reported that physician lead service review would be a supportive was of peer review.

CM added that Pete Belfield from the RCP had been very helpful. She will be having future meetings with him.

LK asked how it would relate to NCAS. JD highlighted that NCAS is typically about the individuals whilst the review would be about the department, with the department having the problem.

Trevor Pickersgill (TP) added that he had previously completed a performance assessment with Ed Fathers for the GMC and is happy to share how the document worked.

5.2. Acute Neurology

CM reported that, following a call for trainee volunteers to use data from acute neurology survey for small audit projects there had been a positive response with 12 individuals putting themselves forward. JD recommended speaking to Harriet Gordon, head of the medical workforce unit.

ACTION: CM to discuss this at the RCP workforce meeting.

5.3. Getting it right first time programme (GIRFT) –Geraint Fuller (GF)

GF provided a summary of what GIRFT is and how it started. GF noted the difficulty in outcome measures in neurology and that GIRFT will be building on work from acute neurology survey. GF added that from January will be receiving reasonable data mining resources which will be further discussed at the GIRFT meeting in early October.

JD highlighted that there will be 13 GIRFT leads, some to be appointed. JD added that RCP is looking to host all leads in January for a 'sharing of good practice day'.

MMR also added she will be in a meeting with Nick Kane from Neurophysiology and agrees the ABN should be involved with neurophysiology.

5.4. CRG/NNAG

Adrian Williams (AW) confirmed his involvement with GIRFT. He reported on his meeting with NHSE the previous day, commenting that neurosciences were being treated seriously and there was a drive to have a full service review. AW updated the council on the positive progression with stroke community as well as discussions with Alastair Burns regarding Dementia meeting.

Helen Rodgers (HR) advised that BASP had appointed with Graham McAllister from RCP Edinburgh to support BASP's strategy review. BASP proposes to bring in more formal management and is considering entering a service level agreement with an organisation, rather than directly employing one person. HR noted that there will be a meeting on 12th October with ABN and parent specialities.

6. ABNT

SS provided an overview of the ABNT (8 elected members and 14 regional reps) and stated that half of the members have been keen to get involved with auditing the acute neurology survey. SS added that would also be happy to assist other committee with any work they are doing.

SS provided trainee feedback to the council, commenting on concerns with rota gaps and implication for training.

SS noted that morale of trainees is a big concern especially with issues such as the shape of training, junior doctor's contracts and access to LTFT training. SS noted the Francesca Crawley (service committee LTFT rep) had taken lead of the latter issue.

TH highlighted that the SAC forum would be an excellent place to discuss trainee concerns.

SS highlighted that the ABNT census had been launched

ACTION: SS to include in ABN newsletter item.

SS discussed the mentoring scheme and noted that there were still vacancies for mentees. SS asked the council to refer any individuals that would like to mentor provide insight into being a consultant.

ACTION: Meetings committee to discuss inclusion of a 'new consultant' session at pre-meeting day at annual meeting.

7. Meetings committee (verbal update)

7.1. General update

Jon Sussman provided a brief update on the success of the London 2017 meeting. JS stated that the meeting committee had made good progress with speakers for Birmingham 2018. The structure of future meetings had been discussed and a separate session will be organised in January 2018 meeting to review.

8. Honorary Secretary

8.1. General update

DN advised that a standard operational procedure for the ABN advisory group will be produced, taking into account feedback from Exec and council members.

Council members discussed structure of the advisory groups and highlighted possible crossovers in groups.

8.1.a. Endorsement policy

DN presented the draft endorsement policy. MMR added that the current document was a working document and needs to be agreed on by Council.

HR stated that the BASP policy is that if evolved in the start, the organisation will endorse.

MMR agreed with correlation between BASP and ABN policy and stated that the ABN should add there is an approval mechanism:

Full endorsement with the ABN coat of arms

Approval would mean document has been sent to advisory group for review and accepted.

ACTION: final revised policy to be confirmed at council in January 2018.

8.2. Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

The council discussed the differences between ABN advisory groups (appointed by council) and SIGs (independent groups) noting that SIGs are separate entities of the ABN but do play a role in the annual meeting, providing input with chairs etc.

8.3. Risk Register

DN noted that the register was tabled and with nothing outstanding to note.

8.4. Consultations

MMR noted that process in which consultations are submitted on behalf of the ABN are reviewed by the Hon Secretary and Executive committee.

8.5. Elections 2018 (TP)

TP summarised what the Single Transferable Vote (STV) entails. Council discussed how this could impact the organisation. MMR suggested that a vote should be taken by council first before going to AGM.

ACTION: JL to go back to electoral reform society and take recommendations as well as providing them with historical voting examples.

ACTION: JL and Elisabeth Baltay review STV.

9. Honorary Treasurer

9.1. 2017 management accounts

TP provided a summary of ABN accounts (tabled) highlighting that the meeting income and expenditure were both high this year relating to higher venue costs and record attendance at the Liverpool meeting.

9.2. Fellowship fund

Dafydd Thomas advised that the ABN had received two donations (total of £40k) and two in memoriam donations (total of £5k).

DT also confirmed that the Guarantors of Brain had confirmed funding a full fellowship for 2018, Patrick Berthoud Charitable Trust -would find up to £200K for 2018. DT also added that Sobell Foundation and Dunhill Medical Trust would be funding half a fellowship each.

DT reported he was in communications with Professor Pippa Tyrrell from Manchester in regards to Stroke, confirming he would be attending a meeting at 5pm with the Stroke Association.

Following the end of the one-year contract with Fundraising manager, DT confirmed that interviews would be held to look for a Fundraising consultant to look into specific projects.

PS mentioned benefits of legacy donations on inheritance tax liability.

ACTION: Feedback to SAC through TH that ABN does not want fellows having issues with OOP.

9.3. Practical Neurology

TP directed members to tabled figures and confirmed that the estimated Practical Neurology year to date (July) profit share is 50% of £42,348

MMR added that the agreement at AGM was for ABN to continue to co-publish and not to move to co-ownership.

ACTION: JL to confirm with BMJ that ABN contract is an ongoing, rolling contract which is reviewed annually.

10. International relations

10.1. WFN

David Burn (DB) updated Council on the outcome of the ABN's bid to host the World Congress of Neurology (WCN) in 2021; confirming that Rome had been announced as winners at the 2017 WCN, Kyoto. DB reflected on the positive feedback received at the meeting.

DB discussed future involvement with WFN and the need to work out logistics of hosting a fellow. ABN has agreed to sponsor a WFN fellow for 4 years and had proposed to invite the fellow to attend an ABN meeting during that time. We have learnt that the ABN support will fund 4x1 year fellows. We would still like to invite a fellow to the UK meeting but clearly cannot afford to do this every year.

10.2. EAN

The merits of building a relationship with EAN and developing a better remuneration model for EAN congress hosts was discussed.

10.3. Other

ABN's future involvement with Sri Lanka was discussed. MMR confirmed agreement to fund speakers at Association of Sri Lankan Neurologists (ASN) annual meeting would end in 2018. ASN was notified that ABN funding was being used elsewhere, however the ABN would be happy to recommend individuals for the meeting.

ACTION: To provide access to ABN logo for slide uses for members.

11. Items for Discussion:

11.1. Sodium Valproate

PS provided an update on recent meeting held by European Medical Association which was attended by Tony Marson. PS confirmed the written evidence was provided to the panel and noted that the data collected for the registry of pregnancies was largely due to the work of neurologist over many years.

11.2. ABN Strategy – development

MMR referred Council to working strategy document tabled. MMR requested that Council review the document and provide feedback in 2 weeks time. MMR continued that once comments received the document would be set to subcommittee with a request to provide strategy objectives for 2018.

ACTION: JL to provide new Council members with 2013 strategy document.

10.4 Honours committee

MMR advised names of ABN members who had recently received honours and encouraged the committee to review individuals who are close to retirement who could potentially be nominated.

MMR added that the ABN would be sending letter of support for Martin Rossor.

Council discussed nominations for ABN Autumn medallist 2018.

11.3. Endorsement policy

Refer to item 8.1.1

11.4. Any Other Business

DN proposed the use of a press officer/ media specialist to assist ABN with identifying potential media topics and advise ways to address them.

ACTION: To use RCP resources more in relation with media support.

ACTION: Council to identify senior media individuals that can be used.

Fardousa Musa (FM) presented the council with a proposed table of schedule key events with an aim to identify key hot topics in neurology which may be circulation in the media.

ACTION: Council to review website and provide feedback on potential content.

**Association of British Neurologists
Meeting of Council, Wednesday 17 January 2018 at 0930hrs
ABN offices, London**

Present: Mary Reilly (President), David Burn (President Elect) Phil Smith (Immediate Past President), Andrew Goddard, Kevin Talbot, Trevor Pickersgill, Jon Sussman, Jacqueline Palace, Lucy Kinton, Martin Turner, Tom Warner, David Nicholl, Chris Kipps, Sam Shribman, John Paul Leach, Elisabeth Baltay, Stanley Fink, Joanne Lawrence,.

Phone: Geraint Fuller, Adrian Williams

1. Introduction

Mary Reilly (MMR) welcomed all attendees. Each attendee introduced themselves to the meeting.

1.1. Apologies for absence: Lina Nashef

1.2. Minutes of the Council Meeting 27.09.17 were approved by Council.

1.2.a. Endorsement policy confirmation

It was noted that Joanne Lawrence had drafted the initial endorsement policy document.

ACTION: Chris Kipps, chair of Quality Committee to review and present to Council for approval.

Council discussed clarifying the definition of endorsement and approval.

Andrew Goddard (AG) stated that the RCP are 'loose with the terms' and confirmed RCP would only 'fully' endorse by giving logo.

2. President update

MMR noted that the ABN has had a good 6 months and thanked the office, Executive Committee and Council for their work.

MMR thanked Tom Warner (TW), Sam Shribman (SS) for their work with the Education Committee. As well as JL and David Burn (DB) for the assistance with finalising the strategy.

MMR reported the introduction of a scientific programme committee. The committee would be lead by the Meetings Secretary, President and Hon. Secretary. The role of the committee would be to look at scientific programme of the Annual and Autumn ABN meetings.

MMR addressed hosting the European Academy of neurology. Looking at way to mutually benefit both committees post Brexit. MMR noted that Hannah Cock was a member of the EAN board and that a call for board members would be put out in February.

ACTION: Place EAN advert for board members in newsletters.

ACTION: To have an inventory of members working internationally on behalf of the ABN.

MMR noted no new updates with Shape of Training.

Stroke: MMR noted that Tom Hughes was writing the stroke curriculum for shape of training and that BASP has a new president - Prof Tom Robinson.

MMR stated that a one day media training course would be available for Council members, which would be linked to a Council day.

Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Sec posts: MMR encouraged all Council members to promote the posts throughout all UK regions.

3. Education Committee

Tom Warner (TW) provided an update of the Education Committee (tabled for the Council's reference and attached as appendix 1).

Self assessment:

ACTION: TW to discuss collaboration with neuropsychiatry with Tom Hughes and Eileen Joyce.

Phil Smith (PS) suggested having a representative from PN on the Education Committee.

4. Research Committee

Martin Turner (MT) provided an update of Research Committee (tabled for the council reference and attached as appendix 2).

RaDAR:

ACTION: MT to formalise RaDAR guidelines and application form with Fardousa Musa (FM).

5. Services Committee

Cath Mummery (CM) provided an update of Service Committee (tabled for the Council's reference and attached as appendix 3).

Getting it right first time programme (GIRFT)

Geraint Fuller (GF) notified the Council that GIRFT works well with the Service committee work. GIRFT leaders will be meeting to discuss ways to make research more streamline with planned visits to trust summer/ autumn 2018.

CRG/NNAG

Adrian Williams (AW) provided a verbal update of CRG and NNAG actives. AW noted that NHSE will be releasing comments for the neurology consultation.

6. Quality Committee

Chris Kipps (CK) provided an update of Quality Committee (tabled for the Council's reference and attached as appendix 4).

DB suggested a review by the Quality committee of existing guidelines. CK confirmed that they will be looking into establishing process to review consultations.

GF added that Practical Neurology would be happy to publish ABN guidelines once ready.

7. ABNT

Sam Shribman (SS) provided an update of ABNT Committee (tabled for the Council's reference and attached as appendix 5).

SS provided an update on the ABNT concerns re; access to research posts.

ACTION: Present Census at AGM.

8. Meetings committee (verbal update)

Jon Sussman (JS) thanked the ABN office and David Nicholl for their work. JS reported that there would be a newly formed Scientific Committee, primarily tasked to put together the scientific programmes for ABN meetings.

JS informed the Council on pending deadlines for abstract review (31 January 2018).

Tea break- 11:35

MMR welcomed lay trustees Lord Stanley Fink and Elisabeth Baltay.

9. Honorary Secretary

David Nicholl (DN) notified Council that the advisory group chairs had been named and requested their assistance in identifying 2-3 individuals, across the UK that could join the Acute Neurology advisory group.

ACTION: To provide a list of current Acute neurology advisory group members to Council; requesting additional member suggestions.

It was discussed that the Acute neurology advisory group should be renamed Acute and General Neurology

Risk Register:

DN noted no significant concerns with the risk register. It was discussed that the memberships input would be invaluable for 2019.

ACTION: Announce survey at 2019 AGM

Consultations:

DN highlighted the new procedure for collating comments for consultations. Noting that the main goals were to make sure all members was involved in the consultation and that all comments went through the Executive Committee and Council.

Elections 201:

It was noted that the office had received one applicant for the Honorary Secretary role so far. MMR encouraged Council to promote the two advertised roles. Trevor Pickersgill (TP) described the changes in his role as Honorary Treasurer and how he has received assistance from JL in the office.

Stanley Fink (SF) suggested the having an external finance committee to assist future Hon. Treasurer role.

10. Honorary Treasurer

TP referred Council to the Draft 2017 management accounts tabled, highlighting that the biggest source of income for 2017 was the annual meeting.

TP also added that the 2017 autumn meeting was the most successful to date with 220 delegates attending. It was noted that there was a £7K loss from last year due to the medical student day.

TP noted that the Practical Neurology profit share was looking positive this year; hoping to receive £40K back.

The increase in expenditure was discussed, noting that the increase in staff salary two new recruits into the ABN office.

Fundraising:

JL provided the Council with a detailed tabled document updating members on fundraising activities.

JL noted that she and Fardousa Musa (FM) were working closely with a fundraising with the following aims;

- Putting together a Legacy package to be launched in the annual meeting.
- Revisiting case for support
- Setting up a programme of communication
- Looking at potential trusts/organisations to approach and starting fundraising applications by end of quarter.

ACTION: Research committee to compile three short bullet points on why research is important to patients.

Staff salaries were discussed. No minutes noted.

ACTION: Final draft of accounts to be present to Council in April.

11. International relations

Sri Lanka:

ACTION: the ASN president to be invited to ABN annual meeting 2019.

WFN fellowship:

DB reported that we are awaiting the new appointment of WFN president before following through with the one year WFN fellowship.

Opportunities:

DBN noted a need to be more proactive in seeking external international opportunities.

ACTION: Kevin Talbot to assist DB in international affairs.

12. Items for Discussion:

12.1. ABN Strategy – development

MMR reported that the ABN strategy was finalised.

ACTION: EB to review final draft with JL

12.2. Ethics (JP)

The Council discussed the past published guideline for assisted dying on the website. It was decided that the document was out of date and that the ABN would refer to the 2014 RCP survey.

ACTION: To take down documents/ guidelines that not up to date and to place an expiry date on future ABN publications.

12.3. JNC update (PS)

MMR congratulated PS on his role as President Elect.

10.5 Honours committee

MMR prompted Council to think of individuals to nominate for Honours Committee.

Any Other Business

MMR stated that the ABN should collaborate more with Edinburgh RCP.

ACTION: Student day (in collaboration with NANSIG) to be held in Manchester.

ACTION: Clinical excellence to be announced in early February. ABN to advertise in newsletter.

Appendices

Appendix 1- Education Committee Report for ABN Council meeting 17th January 2018, Tom Warner (Chair).

General update:

The education committee (EC) has full contingent of regional representatives/ordinary members (Robert Powell, Daniel Blackburn, Matt Jones, Mirdhu Wickemaratchi, Josef Alawneh, Paul Jarman (deputy chair), and Edward Newman) plus Emma Tallantyre (co-opted member and LTFTW representative) and Lina Nashef (Council member). The committee has met 3 times since last Council.

Shape of training:

The EC chair and committee have supported the ABN team in negotiating the position for neurology training. Tom Warner is member of the JRCTPB Neurology SAC, chaired by Tom Hughes who has been instrumental with Mary Reilly in developing strategy over 2017 and the current talks with Prof Black and RCP re the final outcome. This work will be ongoing in 2018.

Medical School Survey:

Part of the EC strategy is to scope the nature and extent of undergraduate clinical neurology teaching. The process has 2 questionnaires with following goals:

1. To work with Medical School Deans and staff to get data on how much teaching students receive, who delivers and assesses this, and the format of teaching
2. To get final year medical students to comment on the competence and confidence of their clinical neurology skills and ability to diagnose and treat neurological problems as they prepare for foundation years.

Draft questionnaires attached as appendix and this delivery of the survey will be discussed in EC meeting 11th Jan 2018.

Australasian fellowship:

The successful candidate for 2018 fellowship is Dr Colin Mahoney who will work at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital in Sydney. The first round of advertising for the 2019 fellowship disappointingly yielded no candidates. A second advert through JRCTPB SAC members and ABNT associate members has been performed and result will be known at Council meeting.

Student teaching day and Undergraduate prize:

A second successful student day was held on 11th Oct 2017 before the autumn meeting in London, in collaboration with NANSIG. 75 students attended practical talks by Matt Jones, David Nicholl and Cath Mummery and the feedback for these was exceptional. This was the first meeting organised with NANSIG and students submitted abstracts of which 4 were chosen for platform presentation and 10 for posters. Prizes were awarded for best platform and poster presentations. NANSIG are keen to work with us again and discussions underway about holding the day outside London (Birmingham and Sheffield suggested) to attract a different geographic student group of attendees.

The 2017 Undergraduate prize attracted 5 entries for audit, 8 for clinical case and 23 for research. The winners for each category were: Clinical Case: Amine Awad, Audit: Kevin Teo, Research: Avinash Kumar Kari Narayana.

ABN Self Assessment Exercise:

2017 saw inaugural formative self-assessment exercise hosted on Ebrain website. This was led by Emma Tallantyre and Phil Smith and team from Cardiff who worked extremely hard putting together the MCQs and was completed by around 70 people (mainly UK trainees). The SAE was successful and will be repeated in 2018 with a new bank of questions. The hope is to be able to release 50 old questions on ABN website to assist candidates for SCE. A number of

areas of improvement were identified to increase participation and allow smoother running of the platform. It was agreed to keep the Ebrain access and format unchanged at present.

Training in Neurology and Neuropsychiatry:

Preliminary discussions have been held with Prof Eileen Joyce (NHNN and lead on neuropsychiatry credentialing) and Adam Zeman (Neurology-Psychiatry working Group) regarding cross training of spr's in neurology and psychiatry and potential for interested neurologists to undertake post-CST credentialing in neuropsychiatry. These are relatively nascent proposals and will be taken further in 2018.

ABNT:

Regular meetings in 2018 agreed between Tom Warner (ABN EC Chair) and Sam Shribman (ABNT Chair) and Sian Alexander (ABNT Committee Training representative) to update and discuss relevant issues.

Thanks:

The ABN EC would like to thank the ABN office staff, particularly Fardousa Musa, for consistent support and help (and patience), without which the committee would struggle to function.

Appendix 2- **Research Committee Report for 2017**

Chair: Martin Turner (commenced 03.10.16)

Regional members (7): Oliver Bandmann – Deputy Chair (North East & Yorkshire & the Humber), Jon Schott (London), Yusuf Rajabally (North West & West Midlands), Simon Rinaldi (South Central & South East Coast), Cris Constantinescu (East of England & East Midlands), Colette Donaghy (Scotland & Northern Ireland), Camille Carroll (Wales & South West)

Additional members (6): Mary Reilly (ABN President), David Nicholl (Honorary Secretary), Jon Sussman (Honorary Secretary Assistant), Jacqueline Palace (Council), Peter Goadsby (NIHR CRN), Sam Shribman (ABNT)

Clinical Research Training Fellowships

Three Fellows were appointed in the 2016/17 round:

Viorica Chelban	ABN/Multiple System Atrophy Trust fellow
Stephen Keddie	ABN/Guarantors of Brain fellow
Robert Hurford	ABN/Patrick Berthoud Charitable Trust fellow

Fundraising and engagements with funding partners are still needed to sustain and expand the scheme. Dafydd Thomas continues to chair the Fundraising Committee and has been outstanding in securing a free-range Dunhill Medical Trust 3-year Fellowship plus a joint Sobell Foundation/Stroke Association 3-year Fellowship in stroke-related research for this year's round. A condition of the Stroke Association was that it was open to non-neurologist applicants. Guarantors of Brain and Patrick Berthoud Charitable Trust have both agreed to fund another Fellowship this year. Sonja Joseph's one-year fundraising support position came to an end in August.

Nineteen applications were received for this year's round. One candidate obtained other funding and has subsequently withdrawn. Shortlisting will take place later this month. Interviews will be held on Wednesday March 14th, where we anticipate appointing 4 fellows (3 free-range, and 1 in stroke).

Annual Meeting Research Careers Session

Another research training workshop at the annual meeting in Liverpool was well attended with talks and Q&A from three neurologists who have moved into a primary neuroscience research career by different routes (Alexandra Sinclair, Michele Hu, Cath Mummery). A further workshop is planned for the Birmingham ABN meeting with four talks highlighting different research career pathways, methodologies and day-to-day working with Q&A (Mary Reilly, Kevin Talbot, Jacqueline Palace, Martin Turner).

Intercalated Degree Bursary

Two £5000 intercalated degree bursaries were awarded for 2017 to Amy McWhirter (Supervisor Prof Sir Turnbull, Newcastle) & Tom Kennedy (Supervisor Prof Mark Cunningham, Newcastle).

Joanne Lawrence undertook a survey of the last 10 years of awardees and found that only 4 of them (<20%) are current ABN members. After discussion, the Executive took the decision to discontinue this scheme and put the money towards the Fellowship fund instead.

RaDAR

The platform formerly known as BNSU is now managed from within the ABN as part of RC activity, and continues to support recruitment of rare disease patients to research studies. Consultation with RC membership was undertaken in relation to the term of reference for RaDAR. It has been agreed that we will request regular figures on returns, with a default expiry for each study of three years. We will also invite all listed studies to submit a poster for the annual meeting.

Access to OOPR

This issue has been flagged by several trainees as inconsistent around the UK. Some Deaneries e.g. London offer more flexible entry and 4 rather than 3-year options for some. Others are less flexible as a result of pressure on local service requirements. This presents an additional disincentive to candidates without guaranteed up-front funding from their supervisors. MRT confirmed that Guarantors of Brain 1-year funding is given in anticipation of a successful further 3, not 2-year RCUK award. These are therefore impractical for those whose Deaneries are less flexible about entry/exit points e.g. candidate with 1-year award who is unsuccessful in Fellowship funding and wishes to return to training.

MRT raised the concerns of trainees and regional RC representatives at the SAC meeting on 11 October. There was strong conceptual support for OOPR but some desire to standardise entry points in August or February to assist service workforce planning and no uniform support for extending beyond 3 years in some cases.

The impact of Shape of Training on the proportion of trainees wishing to undertake OOPR is not yet clear, but of concern to RC members.

In the recent ABNT survey, more than 60% of respondents have taken or plan to take OOPR.

Tracking Neurology ACFs and ACLs

Camille Carroll highlighted the lack of a formal network for tracking career neurologists within the Walport scheme (ACFs and ACLs) and has undertaken to locate them. Currently she has identified 31 ACFs and 9 ACLs.

Strengthening CRN links

Peter Goadsby has advised that the ABN PhD Fellows may be able to access more NIHR support if the ABN registers with the principles of the Association of Medical Research Charities (AMRC). This application is being put together.

Camille Carroll noted a new Trainee Award for research through a joint initiative with the CRN and Royal College of Anaesthetists and is exploring the possibility of a similar dedicated link and award scheme with the ABN.

Appendix 3 - SERVICE COMMITTEE UPDATE COUNCIL 170118 Since 27/09/17

1. GENERAL UPDATE

- a. Committee meeting F2F November 3rd. Next meeting at ABN May 9th

2. Projects

a. UK Neurology infrastructure

- i. Correct list of Trusts in each region – revision now almost complete, chasing last few representatives

- ii) Links between trusts in each region. Each SC rep asked to look at their own area and affirm/amend affiliations / patient flow between local hospitals

Examples of flow maps attached as appendix. Will feed into i) below and GIRFT

- iii) Vacancy map – survey monkey to go out. To share with RCP once complete (workforce and specialties meeting – data inaccurate on this)

N Alliance interested in working together on this via regional reps.

b) Acute Neurology Survey

ABNT applications requested for 4 topics relating to ANS data:

- i) Relating structure to population – geographical cover and pt distance travelled: variability in access across UK
- ii) Acute neurology cover OP and IP
- iii) Regional variation in investigation availability
- iv) Trainee location and variation in experience - part of larger ABNT project

High quality applications reviewed and successful candidates informed and sent initial data and timeline for 3 of 4 topics. Final topic being interviewed for shortly.

c) Referral triage and e-referrals

Stephan Hinze due to complete this in time for next SC May 2018

3. Co-working with external agencies

a) RCP Invited service review

- i. Individual consultant practice under review in a number of clinical areas. Process due to complete January 2018. RCP report will be available following that.
- ii. MOU agreed between RPC/ABN exec
- iii. Meeting to discuss and refine the process and understanding for future work
- iv. Possible workshop to be set up with the specialists involved in ISR, ABN and RCP to discuss how similar learning might be used for
 - a. educational purposes
 - b. to draw up OP quality metrics –will feed into GIRFT

b) NICE neurology guidance

- a. Response sent from ABN/NNAG via Adrian Williams stating revised version was not fit for purpose – ABN unable to support unless significant consultation/review performed. Awaiting response

c) RCP workforce and specialties meeting November 2017

Agreement re insufficient NTN across all specialties; discussion about re-mortgaging of NTN; some geographical bias

d) RCP Joint Clinical Neuroscience Committee December 2017

Positive discussions – collaborative working with stroke – Prof Rogers – is there work to be done linking ANS on vascular and thrombectomy with stroke info. Raised important issues re neurophysiology in GIRFT. Acute neurology representative newly appointed and keen to work together to raise acute neurology profile.

e) GIRFT Progressing GF to update.

f) **CRG/ NNAG** Adrian to update Subgroup working on neurology specs– awaiting review

Appendix 4 - **Quality Committee Report to Council**
17th January 2018

The Quality Committee was formed following discussion at the ABN Strategic Review in January 2017. It was felt essential that issues relating to quality were given a high priority within the ABN.