

## **Notes of the 81<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Association of British Paediatric Nurses held via teleconference on 25 March 2020.**

*The 81<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Association was held by teleconference in recognition of the unique situation across the UK due to the Covid-19 outbreak and subsequent public health measures restricting travel and gatherings of people. Members were notified of the change in arrangements via personal contacts, website and email, unfortunately none joined the meeting.*

**Present:** Bernie Carter; Danielle Edge; Jane Houghton; Ann Bisbrown Lee; Norman Long  
Stephen McKeever; Katrina McNamara; Jean Robinson;

**Apologies:** Jim Robinson; Michael Travis; Kath Mullen; Freda Long

**Welcome and introductions:** The Chair welcomed members to the Annual General Meeting.

**Minutes of the 80th AGM:** The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

### **Officer's Reports**

#### Chair/President:

Welcome to the 81<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Association of British Paediatric Nurses. I am sad that we can't safely hold the meeting face to face but as a professional organisation as well as informed individuals we have a duty to lead by example and reduce our own and the public risk of passing on Covid-19.

In this Year of the Nurse and Midwife, where so much was planned to commemorate Florence Nightingale, who was widely recognised as one of the founders of modern nursing, it seems that her treaties on infection control really have stood the test of time as much of what we can do now is down to the basics of handwashing and keeping a distance. We also know that a Field Hospital is being set up in London, at Excel – so close to the base where ABPN was established.

If I have just one final look back at our history as an organisation, the Association has previously postponed meetings and events to protect life, during the WWII Blitz.

As I look back over the past year, the Chair's activities have focused on enhancing the governance of the Association and raising awareness of ABPN through the UK Council on Children's and Young People's Nursing and NHS England and UK Children's Palliative Care Education and Training group. I have also been working with Sage and welcome Stephen McKeever to this meeting as Editor in Chief of our Journal for Child Health. As we look to the future, welcome to Danielle Edge as she takes on the role of Newsletter Editor as Jean Robinson leaves us. It seems strange and sad to say farewell to Jean Robinson, a stalwart member of ABPN, here's wishing you happiness in your retirement and look forward to you joining the "I don't know how I found time to work" club. Thank you Jean.

After looking back and then looking to the future, I will close, but repeat my thanks to the Officers and Members of the Association

It was noted that Mr Mike Travis had tendered his resignation from the post of Honorary Secretary

## Finance Officer

The Association ended the year 2019 with a deficit, as there was another fall in income from membership fees, plus we were sent invoice in October for 2020 publication of Journal and the on-going low interest rates.

In 2019 we received £9,356.51 in Royalties but paid £19,822.00 for printing of Journal for 2019 and 2020, so we utilised some of the surplus from previous year to manage affairs. Hence end of year figures as shown below.

Whilst the Journal continues to attract worldwide interest, Royalties were less than previous years following agreed contractual changes and an increase in printing costs.

The Governance and Development Group continued to reduce travelling costs by having more tele conference meetings.

Accounts for 2019 have been externally verified, final figures for the year are as follows: -

### **Current Account**

<b>Income</b> for the year 2019	£ 12 508 49
<b>Expenditure</b> for the year 2019	£ 22 511 23
<b>Excess of expenditure</b> over income for 2019	<b>£ 10 002 74</b>
Bank Balance as at 31 <sup>st</sup> Dec. 2019	£ 9 203 74

### **Business Reserve Account**

Balance as at 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2019	£ 4 968 74
Interest Earned	£ 9 92
Balance as at 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2019	£ 4 978 66

Members are again, urged to notify any change of their personal data - name, address, Bank Branch, Bank account name / number or sort code as soon as possible to maintain accurate records.

We require a new Finance Officer, so please consider offering your skills and time to support your Association.

Following recommendation from the Governance and Development Group, a new Financial Claims policy was tabled for approval. This was agreed unanimously.

## Membership Services Co-ordinator

Membership at 26 <sup>th</sup> March 2019		Membership at 23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2020	
Total membership:	288	Total membership:	264
Annual membership:	85	Annual membership:	77
Life membership (Active)	38	Life membership (Active)	37

Life membership (Inactive) 165

Life membership (Inactive) 150

Membership continues to decline. Of concern is the fall in annual membership as these generate income from both membership fees and journal subscriptions. The decline in life membership continues to be due to members retiring from nursing and deaths among our older members together with life members with whom we have lost contact.

Two annual members pay by cheque, the remainder pay by Direct Debit. Despite requests for payment neither of these cheque paying members have paid their membership fees so have not been included in journal mailing.

We still have 12 annual members with no updated contact details although there is a slight change in the composition of this group. As reported in previous years these individuals have not received newsletters or journals although their Direct Debits remain in place.

We have had 3 new members joining since the last report. There were several enquiries about joining ABPN during the year but most of these did not follow up with applications.

J E Robinson

#### Journal Editor

A full report is available in the ABPN Annual Report

**Journal of Child Health Care** is now in its 23<sup>rd</sup> year of publication.

Ranking: Our current (2018) Impact Factor is 1.505.

There has also been an increase in our ranking within JCHC's comparable journals, for both 'Nursing' and 'Pediatrics' we have increased our quartile position. A full list of the top 20 journals citing JCHC articles can be seen in the Annual Report

Journal of Child Health Care continues to grow internationally, papers have been submitted from 65 countries across the globe. Our top ten submitting countries are shown in Table 1

Table 1 Top ten submitting countries (data from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019 -31<sup>st</sup> December 2019)

Country	Submission (n)
United States	48
Turkey	41
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	34
Australia	25
China	23
Brazil	22
Canada	18
India	16
Iran (the Islamic Republic of)	14
Korea (the Republic of)	14

Manuscripts received by JCHC is increasing. Over the past 12 months, our rejection rate (this includes initial reject as inappropriate without going through the peer review system and reject to transfer desk) has remained static.

Online First continues to be a positive and highly regarded aspect of the Journal. It means that articles appear online within weeks of being accepted thus reducing the inevitable delay that occurs with a quarterly journal of hard copy publication.

Our key link with Sage is via Chantal Slaney (nee Stillwell). Chantal is an excellent contact and is now supported by an Editorial Assistant Molly Littleboy.

In Sage's India office we now liaise with Pooja Sharma, Senior Peer Review Associate – Global Services (Ankita Veerbhan took up another position during the year). Both Pooja and Ankita have provided timely support and help to resolve issues as they arrive. Recently, Archana Negi has been added to this team as an Editorial Assistant. Journal Production is ably handled by Deepak Vohra - Associate Production Editor. JCHC issue page budget continues to be 172 pages. With a volume page budget of 688 pages.

Due to Council Children's Nursing Inc (CCNI) in New South Wales membership decreasing beyond a sustainable point the organisation disbanded at the end of 2018. Thus, we have no further links with this organisation.

Major changes have occurred in relation to JCHC's Editorial Board membership:

- Dr Philip Darbyshire stepped down as Editor in Chief and Dr Stephen McKeever was appointed as his replacement. This transition commenced in October 2019 and Dr McKeever formally took over on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020. Dr McKeever's appointment followed a period as a Deputy Editor in Chief
- Prof Carter and Dr Philip Darbyshire are providing support as needed to smooth EIC transition
- JCHC representation on the ABPN Governance and Development Board is now made through Dr McKeever. In addition, ABPN representation at JCHC meetings is now through Danielle Edge (APBN's newsletter editor)
- JCHC is fortunate to have two Associate Editors for statistics. Steven Lane was appointed in 2018 and Che Li in 2019
- Due to other work commitments Edward Pursell and Jordon Bosse have both resigned as journal Associate Editors
- In 2019 Julia Harris and Joseph Manning were appointed Associate Editors.
- Through our Social Media editor Roses Parker we are active on Twitter @JournalofCHC. Plans for Twitter Journal Club to run again in 2020
- Affiliations for some International Editorial Board members are out of date. Dr McKeever is contacting members to ensure a desire to continue an association with JCHC and update records.
- Editorial Committee members are being contacted regarding this category being amalgamated into International Editorial Board
- There is discrepancy between our website listing and our published Editorial Board list. Once above changes are made, online and paper publications will be aligned.

JCHC thanks ABPN for honouring financial commitments made to attend our Board Meeting that will take place virtually rather than physically.

Included in previous APBN reports have been requests for JCHC to directly access journal generated funds. Accessing these funds would enable journal growth through implementing

innovative ideas and obtaining assistance in journal organisation. These initiatives would ultimately aim to reap dividends for APBN and increase revenue.

An initial step in this process would be a breakdown of income by source in APBN's financial report. This would enable greater transparency of funds.

Covid- 19 Globally, this provides a difficult time for everyone. We continue to monitor this situation. JCHC Board Meeting will take place virtually rather than physically. Some of our editorial team are required to return to practice. We will support these moves as far as possible.

It has been a busy year for everyone involved with JCHC and I wish to extend my thanks to everyone who has contributed – namely Governance Group, Sage, Associate Editors, Editorial Committee, International Editorial Board, reviewers, contributors, tweeters and readers.

Dr Stephen McKeever  
Editor in Chief

A question was raised about the potential for the Journal to only offer e—copies given recent changes in VAT rates, Dr McKeever will discuss this further with Sage.

Discussion took place about how to ensure ABPN representation at Board/Committee level.

There was also discussion about the focus of activity being on raising awareness of the Association and promoting membership, which would also raise the profile of the Journal.

#### Newsletter Editor

The newsletter has continued to be published three times a year and contains a mix of Association news and updates on issues which are felt to be of relevance to children's nurses. Requests are made by some external organisations who would like the Association to inform members of awards or study days around the country and these items are then included if felt relevant and of likely interest to members. The newsletter is sent electronically to those members for whom email addresses are held on the database and is also on the website.

After a long time editing the newsletter I am delighted to report that Danielle Edge will be taking over this role. Danielle is a lecturer in children's nursing at South Bank University. She has worked in children's settings in London, Essex and Australia and has lots of great ideas and suggestions about how to take the newsletter forward. It is great to have her in post and I wish her all the best. I am sure that she will receive lots of support from members. She hopes to survey all members very soon to find out what you would like the newsletter to cover.

Jean Robinson

There was considerable discussion about the future style and content of the Newsletter, led by Danielle Edge, this will be discussed further at the next G&D meeting,

#### Marketing/Merchandise

There were no sales of goods during the past 12 months, as review of stock and potential merchandise was undertaken.

It is anticipated that there will be some goods "marketed" at any events supported by the ABPN in 2020.

Ann M K Bisbrown-Lee.

## Officer Elections

<b>Role</b>	<b>Term of office</b>	<b>Nominee</b>
President		<b>Bernie Carter</b>
Chair	Until March 2022	<b>Katrina McNamara</b>
Honorary Secretary	Until March 2022	<b>Vacant</b>
Finance Officer	Until March 2022	<b>Norman Long</b>
Membership Services Coordinator	Until March 2021	<b>Jim Robinson</b>
Newsletter Editor	Until March 2022	<b>Danielle Edge</b>

## Members Items

**Events:** It was suggested that the Association should consider attendance at Careers Events to promote membership, this will be discussed further at the next G&D group

### **Date of Next AGM**

24 March 2021, the Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton tbc