

BSPOGA NEWSLETTER (NO 5 – April 2006)



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Dear Friends and Colleagues

It gives me great pleasure to introduce this 5th Newsletter for BSPOGA members. You will see within the Newsletter some exciting and interesting news articles particularly around the introduction of new benefits as part of your membership of BSPOGA.

To me, the reason for joining small and specialist societies and associations is several fold. There is the legitimacy of clinical and academic links. There are also tangible benefits which the executive committee and chairman should demonstrate as adding real value to the cost of your subscription. At BSPOGA we have been considering this carefully and you will see in the Newsletter details about a free subscription to the Journal of Psychosomatic, Obstetrics and Gynaecology over the next two years; a substantial reduction in the cost of a personal subscription to Sexual and Relationship Therapy (just £35) and the introduction of a prize for midwives and medical students. I also want the membership to be able to communicate with each other on a more rapid and easy basis. With this in mind we are contacting all of you to ensure that we have your current email address and, with your agreement, the opportunity to share this with members in our directory. Finally we are in the advanced stages of planning the annual meeting which this year will be in central London at the Royal Society of Medicine sharing a joint meeting with the Section of Sexuality and Sexual Health of the RSM. We have an interesting line up of speakers with themes that are rarely discussed and we hope this will encourage you to come along to our meeting. At the end of our

Newsletter we want to hear your views about our annual meetings and how to improve these so that you may be encouraged to come along more regularly.

I would call on any members with a creative hand to help us design a logo to make our society more recognisable and prominent out there within the clinical community. If you have an idea, share it with me and the best three will be put to the executive committee for recommendation and incorporation and a small prize offered to the winning designer!

Our society is a small group of people and so it is essential that your views are heard and I seek your opinions about what you like and dislike about the society. I will respond to all of your comments which can be sent to me by email or by post to me at Sheffield. We are looking for new and enthusiastic members to join our executive committee. Some new members have recently joined us on the committee and we want more of you!

I would also like to extend my thanks to Mike Pawson, Vic Robinson and Myra Hunter who have all given many years of support on the executive committee but are now standing down and allowing opportunity for new nominations to be received in time for the annual general meeting which will be held during the lunchtime period of our annual meeting in October.

Yours sincerely

Dr Kevan R Wylie
Consultant in Sexual Medicine

BSPOGA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The BSPOGA Tenth Annual Conference was held at Hillingdon Hospital in September 2005, organised by Mr Vic Robinson, Consultant Gynaecologist. The focus of the morning was gynaecological cancer and how patients can be supported. Drs Jackie Doyle and Nadine Hobro, Clinical Psychologists based at Hillingdon Hospital opened the morning looking at government initiatives with regard to cancer care. Karen Summerville, Clinical Nurse Specialist at the Hammersmith Hospital in London gave a presentation on "survivorship" groups that she has been running at the hospital. This was followed by two extremely moving accounts from patients of the Hammersmith Hospital, who spoke of their experiences of gynaecological cancer, its effects and life beyond cancer. These very brave women "told it like it is".

Ms Jenni Thomas from the Child Bereavement Trust opened the afternoon session on learning from our patients. The day ended with "role-play with a difference", as Vic Robinson and Dr Gail Clayton gave a lively demonstration of the medical model of learning communication skills for cancer doctors. Although the turnout to the Conference was poor it appears to have been well received by the delegates, with all rating the Conference as either "excellent" or "good"

1) MEMBERSHIP ISSUES

- **Tell us what you want, what you really, really want!**

The numbers of delegates attending BSPOGA conferences have been dwindling. This raises the concern that the association is not meeting the needs of its members. Attached to this is a brief questionnaire, which hopefully all members will complete. This survey will give us an idea of if, and how, BSPOGA needs to change. We look forward to hearing your ideas.

- **Membership Benefits**

Journal of Psychosomatic Obstetrics and Gynaecology

All fully paid up members of BSPOGA will receive copies of the Journal during 2006. The Journal is issued 4 times each year with the copies in March, June, September and December. The Executive Council is providing this from our funds as part of our educational work for the next two years. We will circulate a questionnaire towards the end of the second year to gauge members' response to this initiative. All members should ensure that their correct address is held in the membership database and if not, contact the Executive Treasurer.

Sexual and Relationship Therapy

It has been agreed that BSPOGA members can subscribe to this journal for a reduced fee of £35 for one year. If you would like to pursue this contact the journal directly at this link.

<http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/offer/csmt-so.asp>

- **Subscriptions**

The current correct rates of subscriptions are as follows:

Medical	£25.00
Non-medical	£15.00

This can be paid either by cheque to the Executive Treasurer or by Standing Order. The form for payment by this method is available from the Executive Treasurer.

Members who are currently paying by Bank Giro Order to the Barclays Bank account should note that this account will be closed in the near future and make arrangements to pay by one of the alternative methods listed above.

- **E-mail addresses**

We are trying to create a list of all members' email addresses so that information can be circulated quickly between Newsletters. Currently, we do not have an email address for all members and some of the addresses held on the database have been returned as undeliverable. Where we hold an email address, it is listed in the Directory of Members. I urge all members to check this and let me know their correct address at the contact addresses listed below. Any members, who have not provided an email address, can send it to the Executive Treasurer.

2) PRIZE FOR MIDWIVES AND MEDICAL STUDENTS

A prize of £300 will be offered for a piece of work relating to psychological aspects of women's health. The work could be a part of a dissertation, although cannot have been presented elsewhere. The winner will be invited to present their work, with expenses paid at the next BSPOGA conference, 06 October 2006. The details about how to apply will be posted on the BSPOGA website.

3) REPORT FROM ISPOG

Sixteen delegates attended a meeting of the Executive Council of ISPOG in August 2005 in Vienna.

The Journal of Psychosomatic Obstetrics and Gynaecology continues to flourish with about 100 institutional subscriptions and about 50 personal subscriptions. The personal subscriptions are at a cost of £50 per subscription. The Journal's quality has increased during the past years and the editors receive enough manuscripts to choose only good quality papers for editing.

The next President of ISPOG will be Klaas Wijma (Sweden) and he will serve as the ISPOG President-Elect for the period until the world congress in Japan 2007. The 15th ISPOG Congress 2007 will be held in

Kyoto, Japan and national societies will be invited to submit symposia. The 16th ISPOG congress will be held Thursday 26 April – Saturday 28 April, 2010 in Venice Italy.

3) DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

European Federation of Sexology

Biannual meeting, Prague. 04 June – 08 June 2006

For further information contact Eva Bundova bundova@guarant.cz

BSPOGA Annual Conference. This is a joint meeting with The Royal Society of Medicine, Sexuality and Sexual Health Section.

Friday 06 October 2006

Royal Society of Medicine, London

Programme details will follow and be posted on the website

Put this date in your diary now

4) BSPOGA NEWSLETTER

Finally, if you would like to include any information that is relevant to BSPOGA in future newsletters, please contact Dr Jackie Doyle, Clinical Psychologist, Elizabeth Ward, Hillingdon Hospital, Field Heath Road, Uxbridge, Middlesex, UB8 3NN

E-mail: jacqueline.doyle@thh.nhs.uk

Executive Treasurer

Dr Ian C Allen either by email or post at the following:

Dr Ian C Allen

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Attachments:

1) AGM 2005 Minutes

2) BSPOGA Survey Questionnaire

Annual General Meeting 16 September 2005

Present:

Ian Allen, Beth Alder, Vic Robinson, Mira Lal, Annette Spence, Maggie Gormley, Susan Carr, Josephine Harrison, Anita Taylor, Myra Hunter, Heather Montford, Sarah Collings, Jackie Doyle, Jenny Dunlop, Susan Pacey, Sandy Goldbeck-Wood, Sarah Pitman

Apologies:

Mike Pawson, Catherine Coulson, John Studd, Hilary Thomas, Mike Dooley, David Horwell, Alison Ellison, Regina Sliw, Mary Hepburn, Jo Green, Pam Warner,

Minutes of last AGM held 23rd September 2004:

These were accepted as an accurate record

Chairman's Report:

Ian Allen stated that it was 10 years since BSPOGA had been reconstituted and this was the Ninth Annual Conference because none had been held last year due to the ISPOG Congress in Edinburgh.

We had taken part in the RCOG Careers Fair in November 2004 and thanks were due to Susan Carr who had run a workshop, Mira Lal and Martin Lupton who had manned the stand. Considerable interest had been expressed in our society.

During the last year Ian Allen had concentrated on producing the Directory of Members, the administration of the Annual Conference and issues related to ISPOG 2004 Ltd.

Ken Bidgood has sent old files from BSPOGA's past.
Ian stated that there needed to be discussion on the future strategy for BSPOGA.

He gave thanks to Beth Alder who retires as Past President, Ann McQueen and Jayne Cockburn who had resigned, Martin Lupton and Myra Hunter who had completed their 4 year term on the Executive Council, Catherine Coulson who had stepped into Secretary General post and Hazel Jones who had provided administrative support.

Ian Allen also thanked the remaining Council members for their support: Kevan Wylie who is the new Chairman, Vic Robinson who organised the Annual Conference, Mira Lal, Mike Pawson, Susan Carr and John Studd.

Treasurer's Report:

Ian Allen presented the financial balance sheet for the year ending 31st August 2005, which was circulated to those present, and explained the entries.

Current cash balance	
Bank of Scotland	£20563.38
Barclays Bank	£ 400.86
Total	£20964.24

There were no questions raised and the report was accepted

Ian Allen also summarised the membership report:

105 members
64 medical
36 non-medical
5 paying the wrong rate

He pointed out that there had been 8 resignations/non payments but only one new member had joined. Members were encouraged to seek new members.

The first Annual Report has been submitted to the Charity Commission in March 2005 and was available for inspection. There is a new website listing all the charities in England and Wales: www.guidestar.org.uk

Report on ISPOG 2004 Ltd

Ian Allen and Beth Alder are Directors of ISPOG 2004 Ltd and the company is still not wound up. Apparently we have to wait until there have been no transactions for some time before giving notice and then must await objections which will come from the Inland Revenue. There had been problems submitting the company report.

The financial position at 05 September was positive. We had refunded the loan of 12000€ to ISPOG and paid for the ISPOG dinner. There was an estimated surplus £9571. This had been discussed with our principal sponsor who had agreed that we should spend this surplus on ISPOG related activities, such as attendance at ISPOG Executive Council meetings and supporting members to attend the ISPOG Congress in Kyoto in Japan in 2007. The following ISPOG Congress will be in Venice in 2010.

Elections:

No valid nominations had been received by the Secretary General, so this was opened to the meeting.

There were no nominations for the post of Chairman Elect for 2007-2009. Beth Alder proposed that the Annual General Meeting delegate responsibility for selecting an individual to the Executive Council and this was unanimously approved.

There were also 5 vacancies for Council members. Nominations from the floor included Jackie Doyle and Sandy Goldbeck-Wood and these were both agreed. Myra Hunter accepted cooption to the Executive Council.

The Executive Council has authority within the statutes to co-opt further members.

Date & time of next Annual General Meeting:

It was agreed that this would be held in conjunction with the next Annual Conference which would be held at a date to be arranged in September next year.

BSPOGA MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

Name (optional)

Profession:

Please complete all of the following questions and post to the address below.

1) **Why did you join BSPOGA?** (Please tick one or more of the answers below)

	YES	NO
Meet other people with the same interests		
Hear about the latest academic research in psychosomatic obstetrics and gynaecology		
Develop clinical skills		
Other: Please specify		

2) **How effective is the organisation in meeting your needs?** (Please tick one of the answers below)

HIGHLY EFFECTIVE	MODERATELY EFFECTIVE	PARTLY EFFECTIVE	NOT EFFECTIVE AT ALL

3) **Would you regard yourself as a regular attendee of BSPOGA events?** (Please tick one of the answers below)

YES, I am a regular attendee	NO, I am not a regular attendee

3b) If the answer is no: What stops you attending BSPOGA meetings? (Please tick one or more of the answers below)

	YES	NO
Time or day of meeting		
Location of events		
Competing commitments		
The programme of events are not relevant to my work		
Other: Please specify		

4) We are considering holding an overnight event (e.g. Friday evening and Saturday meeting). (Please give us your views with regard to this idea by ticking one or more of the answers below)

	YES	NO
I would be interested in attending an overnight event		
I would be more likely to attend BSPOGA meetings if some of the events were organised in this way		
Other comments:		

5) What one change would you like to see happen in the organisation?

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Thank you for your time. Please send this questionnaire to:

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 Elizabeth Ward
 Hillingdon Hospital
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 Uxbridge
 Middlesex
 UB8 3NN