

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the BASW Renal Special Interest Group

The Novotel Hotel, Lauriston Place, Edinburgh

Sunday 21st June 2009

1. Present

Lisa Robertson	Queen Margaret Hospital, Dunfermline
Laura Cowell	Royal Preston Hospital, Lancs
Karen Bradley	Royal Preston Hospital, Lancs
Sabina Smith	Kings College Hospital, London
Jane Gardner	Kings College Hospital, London
John Chambers	Cumbria Infirmary, Carlisle
Munira Asaria	Evelina Children's Hospital, London
Kazia Gamble	St James Hospital, Leeds
Marion Dawson	Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh
Jane Stephenson	Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh
Alison Richards	Glan Clwyd Hospital, Rhyl
Caron Jones	Wrexham, North Wales
Mair Thornton	Wrexham, North Wales
Claudia Lang	Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary
Berni Boruch	Manchester Royal Infirmary
Louise Brown	Manchester Royal Infirmary
Janice Edwards	Hull Royal Infirmary
Pam Russell	Birmingham Children's Hospital
Julie Hallett	Harrogate/York Hospital
Cathy Holman	York District Hospital
Jenny Latchford	York District Hospital
Mary Braybrooke	Churchill Hospital, Oxford
Heidi Steward (Secretary)	QMC, Nottingham
Chris Pritchard (Chair)	Gwynedd, North Wales
Ruth Crowther (Membership)	St James's Hospital, Leeds
Ann Lee (Treasurer)	

2. Apologies

Apologies list to follow.

3. AGM Business

Chair's Report

Presented by Chris Pritchard, a copy is attached to the minutes.

Treasurer's Report

Presented by Ann Lee, a copy is attached to the minutes.

Ann has retired from her post and is stepping down as Treasurer. A presentation was made to Ann for her services to the group.

Membership Secretary's Report (Attached)

Ruth Crowther talked about the steady membership and that several new members had joined over the past 6 weeks. Ruth asks that all members check their entry on the list and let her know if there are any errors.

Membership currently stands at 55, split as follows:

43 adult renal social workers

8 paediatric renal social workers

4 associate members

Election of Officers

Chris Pritchard agreed to stand as Chair for one more year in the absence of any nominations for the post.

Heidi will also continue as Secretary for another year as there were no nominations for her post either. This was proposed by Chris Pritchard, seconded by Mary Braybrooke.

Ruth will continue as Membership Secretary for a second year.

The Treasurer's post is now vacant and we urgently need someone to be appointed. There will be support and advice available for anyone wishing to be nominated. Any interest should be expressed to Chris. In the absence of any nomination at the AGM, Ann agreed to continue with the work until a successor is appointed. However all members are urged to consider this post as a new Treasurer must be urgently found.

Could members please note that any expenses forms or correspondence to the Treasurer should be sent c/o Chris Pritchard, Social Work Dept, Gwynedd Hospital, Gwynedd, Bangor, North Wales LL57 2PW until further notice.

Date of 2010 AGM to be confirmed

4. Minutes of the Last Meeting

There was an issue regarding the paediatric audit and workforce planning. Any comment, information or discussion about this should be directed to Susannah Gibb.

Our website - Guidance on applications to charities has now been added. Steve's (website manager's) contact details are on the website. Heidi asked Steve about setting up a 'guest book' and there would be one-off charge of £100 for this. In view of this additional cost, Heidi will ask Steve to clarify what we would get for this money, before we decide whether to go ahead with it.

Action: Heidi

October meeting – This will be held at St James Hospital, Leeds on Monday the 5th of October. Ruth has kindly arranged the venue and will also look into catering and the options for use of a projector.

Action: Ruth

BKPA – Chris will contact Rosemary Macri regarding the recent appointment of Trustee.

Action: Chris

EDTNA – The social work group of EDTNA has been dissolved. Nurith Blumenthal is the social work consultant and is keen that we still have a link with EDTNA. Cathy agreed to discuss this with her further, when they meet in Hamburg in September and attend the presidents meeting on behalf of the Chair.

KRUK – They are no longer sticking to the guideline that they need a letter threatening that electricity will be cut off before they will consider a grant.

Reimbursement of LRD expenses – Chris is asking for examples of living donor expenses and problems encountered. There seems to be a lack of standardization about this and it would be useful to show examples of this. John thinks he may have an example of guidelines from Newcastle. Health Care Wales provides this for all patients in Wales.

Cathy will forward the photos that were taken at the January meeting to Heidi who will send on to members (if her new I.T. set up can cope with this).

Action: Cathy/Heidi

5. Correspondence

There have been a number of enquiries from people wanting to join the group.

Maria Da Silva Gane has emailed to let us know that she has been involved in contributing to a book, and a new 3 year study at the Lister hospital on end of life care. Maria sent apologies

for not attending the meeting. She will give some feedback in October on the MSc module she is doing.

Mark Drinkwater from Community Care is asking for an article and case study to put in the magazine.

Tess Harris from the Polycystic Kidney Disease group is also looking for an article.

If any member is interested in helping with these articles please contact Chris

Donal O'Donahue, Czar for Renal Services at the DoH, has responded to our Audit. He made some constructive comments as to who to send it to, but suggested we find data on the cost-effectiveness of social workers. It will be very difficult to find this type of information. If anyone has any data/audit information please email this to John Chambers (john.chambers@cumbriacc.gov.uk) and he will co-ordinate this. Responses from other renal organisations are awaited.

Action: Group members/John

6. British Renal Society

Jenny reported back that the workforce planning drafts will soon be published. At the last conference, Maria Da Silva Gane did a good presentation about end of life care. Jeanette Moran (psychologist) and Dr. Jean ? (Consultant in Palliative Care) presented a workshop on communicating with dying patients and their families.

The next BRS conference will be in Manchester 2010. All members of our group are encouraged to submit abstracts.

Action: Group Members

7. BKPA

Applications are being dealt with promptly and efficiently. The paediatric group are writing to the BKPA with a query about families with lots of children not being eligible for help because the amount of child benefit they receive brings them Action Paediatric above the earnings threshold.

Action: Paediatrics Group

8. Elizabeth Ward Scholarship Fund

Lisa is not getting reports back for individual grants/ attendances at conferences etc given out. There was discussion of the 'pathway' produced by Chris to provide guidance on the process of grant application and feedback. This was agreed and will be placed on the website.

A named person will be identified at each meeting/study day who will produce a short report for this purpose, that will be forwarded to the BKPA with the annual report.

Action: Chris

9. Conferences (Feedback and Forthcoming)

The next NKF conference is in October in Blackpool. Chris and Janey will be attending. The stand and posters that Julie Hallatt has need replacing. Berni has another set which are in better condition and she will send these to Chris.

Action: Berni

EDTNA 5th to 8th September in Hamburg. Cathy Holman and Wendy Ashton are presenting at this, and Julie Hallatt has a poster presentation.

The Scottish Renal Association Conference was in Edinburgh this year and was attended by Lisa Robertson, who presented her Msc dissertation, Jane Stephenson and Marian Dawson. The issue of transport costs in the Highlands and Islands was raised.

10. Study Day/Study Day Group

Tomorrow's Study Day is on promoting psychosocial support in the MDT setting and strategies for coping with this as renal social worker.

Mair is retiring in December. Berni, Julie and Caron will continue in the group and we need to ask Ann Murdoch if she will continue to be involved. The group will need another member to come forward to take Mair's place.

11. Any Other Business

The question of payments of electricity and water costs for people on home dialysis was raised by Chris. This needs to be audited as there appear to be wide variations across the country. Cathy will do a questionnaire for Heidi to send out with the minutes so that the units can be audited on what they do regarding reimbursement of costs. John will coordinate the adult information and Heidi will coordinate paediatric.

Action: Cathy/John/Heidi

12. Dates of Future Meetings

Monday 5th October 2009 St James Hospital, Leeds

Monday 25 January 2010 University of London Union, London

June 2010 AGM/Study Day Edinburgh (dates to be confirmed with Ann Murdoch)

Minutes taken by Cathy Holman

Minutes typed by Heidi Steward

June 29th 2009

For the assistance of new members, and those of us who struggle to remember all the myriad abbreviations used in the renal community, a glossary of terms may be helpful :

AGM	Annual General Meeting
BKPA	British Kidney Patients Association
EWSF	Elizabeth Ward Scholarship Fund – provided for the group by the BKPA
EDTNA	European Dialysis and Transplantation Nurses Association – also known as the ERCA – European Renal Care Association
LRD	Living Related Donor
DoH	Department of Health
BRS	British Renal Society
NKF	National Kidney Federation
MDT	Multi Disciplinary Team

