

Minutes of the Meeting of the BASW Renal Special Interest Group

St.James's Hospital, Leeds

Monday 5th October 2009

1) Present

Heidi Steward (Secretary)	QMC, Nottingham
Chris Pritchard (Chair)	Gwynedd, North Wales
Berni Boruch	Manchester Royal Infirmary
Julie Hallatt	Harrogate
Pam Russell	Birmingham Children's Hospital
Ruth Crowther (Membership)	St. James' Hospital, Leeds
Mary Braybrooke	Churchill Hospital, Oxford
Janey Atha	James Cook University Hospital
Ann Murdoch	Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh
Kazia Gamble	St James' Hospital, Leeds
Caron Jones	Wrexham, North Wales
Mair Thornton	Wrexham, North Wales
Marian Wainwright	Freeman Hospital, Newcastle
Munira Asaria	Evelina Children's Hospital
Gill Butterfield	St James' Hospital, Leeds
Jo Hall	Northern General, Sheffield
Ann Lee (Treasurer)	
Sheelagh McGough	Manchester Royal Infirmary
Taiwo Ogunba	Hull Royal Infirmary
Lynne Cullen	Freeman Hospital, Newcastle
Claudia Lang	Dumfries and Galloway R.I.
Rachel Barkman	RVI, Newcastle Upon Tyne
Jackie Wilson	Northern General, Sheffield
Kamal Charan-Gilles	Guys Hospital, London
Pauline Edwards	Guys Hospital, London
Janice Edmonds	Hull Royal Infirmary

2) Apologies

Christine Beaty	Lister Hospital, Stevenage
Lisa Robertson	Queen Margaret, Dunfermline
Suzanne Batte	QMC, Nottingham
Amber Rudner	St Georges Hospital, London
Jenny Latchford	York District Hospital
Maria Da Silve Gane	Lister Hospital, Stevenage

Laura Cowell	Royal Preston Hospital, Lancs
Cathy Holman	Seconded from York DH
John Chambers	No longer in renal social work
Jill Holmes	RHSC, Edinburgh
Marion Dawson	Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh
Rita Taylor	Royal Berkshire Hospital
Dilani Dresser	Paediatrics, Leeds
Susannah Gibb	Bristol Children's Hospital
Helen Alton	Norfolk and Norwich Hospital
Karen Bradley	Royal Preston Hospital, Lancs
Wendy Ashton	Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh
Jane Stephenson	Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh
Alison Richards	Glan Clwyd Hospital, Rhyl
Jo Fearn	University Hospital of Wales

3) **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

Minutes proposed as accurate by Ann Murdoch. Seconded by Ann Lee.

4) **Matters Arising**

BKPA - Chris contacted Rosemary Macri regarding the Trustee's post. They received only one application which was from Margaret Mitchell. Margaret is now on the Board of Trustees. Chris has clarified with the BKPA that Margaret is not representing the group in her position as Trustee.

Re-imburement of live donor expenses – Chris is still in need of examples before she can write to Donal O'Donahue. If anyone has examples of living donors who have not been re-imbursed, please send these to Chris.

Action: Group Members

Chris would like to send thanks to Cathy Holman for sending on the group photos and also for all she has done for the group. We wish her well in her studies and will welcome her back, as a very valued member of the group when she returns.

5) **Correspondence**

Ruth Cartwright (BASW) has been in correspondence with Chris. We are hoping she will be able to attend one of our meetings soon to meet us, and update us on BASW issues.

6) **Finances/Treasurer**

The Elizabeth Ward Scholarship Fund (EWSF) currently stands at £7133.66. Some money has been transferred from the BASW RSIG current account which now stands at £704.31.

The BKPA have asked for a breakdown of our spending. We have had to look carefully at our outgoings, as for the first time last year our expenditure exceeded our income. The main outlay is on the Study Day which cost over £5000, and current costs have risen in all areas, travel, accommodation etc.

The Officers of the group have come up with the following recommendations to keep us within budget, and ensure that we use our finances wisely and fairly:

Membership fee to be increased by £5.

All members are asked that they should routinely approach their employer for funding, before applying to the EWSF.

The Secretary will look for a new (cheaper) venue for the London meeting.

Help for courses to have a ceiling of £500.

Ceiling to be set for the cost of the Study Day.

The maximum amount for an overnight stay will be reduced to £70 per night. Members are free to book more expensive accommodation, if they top up the difference, or make their own arrangements for sharing etc.

Advance bookings for travel should be made, if this works out cheaper.

Justification will need to be made for the use of taxis, which should be shared if at all possible.

Mileage to be reduced to 35p per mile.

Members' contribution to the AGM meal to be increased to £20.

The above measures were proposed by Kazia Gamble and seconded by Rachel Barker.

We still urgently need to fill the Treasurer's post. If anyone is interested or requires further information, please contact Chris. Support in the post will be provided.

7) **Dialysis Questionnaire Results**

John Chambers has now moved to another job and the results of the questionnaire have not been sent on.

Action – Heidi to chase up results from Wendy Ashton in Carlisle

8) Website

There were problems over the summer with the bulletin board being hacked into by 'spammers'. Steve (website manager) said he would sort it out, but the bulletin board is now closed. Heidi has also not received any response from Steve to requests made over past months to update information on the website.

Ruth agreed to contact Steve with an update on the membership list. Also, other issues for updating the website to be followed up. Put on January agenda

Action: Ruth/Ann

9) Updates from Group Representatives

British Renal Society

Jenny Latchford sent the following update on the BRS which we thank her for. She reports that:

The next BRS conference is on the 17th of May and will be held jointly with the Renal Association and entitled 'Bench to Bedside'. The programme has a lot of psychosocial content.

The workforce planning document should be in its final draft by the end of the year.

BRS are looking for individuals within renal units to promote the idea of 'Green Kidney Units'. These people would help encourage 'green' practices such as recycling of water and cartridges etc. If anyone is interested, please contact Paul Stevens at Kent and Canterbury.

There was also a presentation about new regulations governing the activity of drug reps. (Lavish meals and luxury hotels etc. no longer allowed).

Kidney Research UK

KRUK grants have been taking a long time to process, anything up to 3 months. Berni thought this may be due to some problems with their admin.

This will be put on the agenda for January to see if things have improved. In the meantime, our rep Wendy Ashton will be emailed and asked to bring this up at their next meeting. It would also be useful for Wendy to provide some feedback to the group in January about how KRUK grants have been spent etc.

Action: Heidi

EDTNA

The conference in Hamburg was attended by several members. Cathy Holman did a presentation, and Wendy Ashton and Julie Hallatt did poster

presentations. Congratulations to all three for their efforts and success. Chris has asked Cathy to put her presentation on the website.

Cathy who is our EDTNA rep. reported as follows on the President's meeting which she attended:

EDTNA are keen to hear from our group about 'renal workers' attitudes to the elderly renal patient'. Ideas are being asked for, and a European project is envisaged over the next year. It was not entirely clear what this would be, so we need to find out more about this.

Cathy met with Nurith Blumenthal about the publication of the Renal Social Worker's job description. Cathy is not happy about our group's name being put on it without prior consultation with us, and also about the format. Our views have been made clear by Cathy, but the document has already been publicised.

A Professor from Israel gave a good presentation on happiness.

Cathy is happy to continue as group rep. whilst on study leave.

Chris extended thanks to Cathy on behalf of the group for her report and for attending the president's meeting.

Study group.

Feedback from the last Study day was very positive. Edinburgh is still the favoured venue for next year. Mair is retiring; therefore another person is needed to join the group.

BKPA

There seems to have been a lack of consistency in the BKPA's response to requests for holiday grants.

Chris agreed to contact the BKPA to ask for clarification about some issues that have arisen e.g. taking holidays in school time and how often grants for holiday can be awarded.

Action: Chris

10) Dates of Future meetings

Friday 22 January 2010, Evelina Children's Hospital, London

(PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE AND VENUE of the above)

AGM/Study Day Edinburgh June 2010 (Dates to be confirmed)

Monday 4 October, 2010, St James's Hospital, Leeds

11) Any Other Business

Janey Atha has expressed an interest in taking over as Secretary next June. Concern was expressed about David Cameron's recent comment on cutting Incapacity Benefit and how much anxiety this will cause our renal patients. Chris will look to see if there is somewhere on the web where we can register our concern. Janey will find out if the NKF will get involved in this.

Action: Chris and Janey

Best wishes were extended to Mary Braybrooke and Mair Thornton on their respective forthcoming retirements. Thanks for your support and great contribution over the years. Take care, be happy, have fun!

Heidi Steward
Secretary
BASW RSIG

October 2009