

T piece

ASM issue June 2017



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Welcome to the ASM issue of the T-Piece newsletter. Preparations are nearly complete for what we hope will be a memorable meeting. We kick off on Wednesday with an afternoon of the best and the latest in neuro-anaesthesia, followed by the welcome reception in Bristol museum. Thursday and Friday are filled with key topics and science, with a diverse range of topics such as "Ageing and the anaesthetist" and "Reflections on the Bristol inquiry". It is our great pleasure to welcome prominent speakers such as Brian Anderson, Andrew Davidson, Stephen Bolsin and Liam Brennan to our meeting. I am sure there will be something for everyone. The Thursday night dinner will be held aboard the SS Great Britain in the heart of Bristol dockland, a new diversion for us and surely not to be missed.

While we all enjoy the science and the social events it might be appropriate that we pause for a moment to reflect on the huge contribution to the APA of one of the legends of UK paediatric anaesthesia, Dr Roddie McNicol, who died suddenly in December 2016. He loved all aspects of the ASM and we will miss him greatly. Dr Neil Morton has written an obituary for the website and it is reproduced here.

Chris Gildersleve, APA Honorary Secretary



President's report

This will be my last report for the APA Newsletter. I will be handing over in June to Charles Stack at the end of the Annual Scientific Meeting in Bristol. I look forward to working with him and I wish him every success. Chris Gildersleve will continue as Hon Secretary for the next year but will also be shadowing Charles as President Elect for 2019.

I should also like to make a special mention of Bob Bingham the immediate past president who having served on Council as President, Treasurer and Chair of Professional Standards, demits after the current APA meeting. He has been a great role model and I have relied heavily on his calm balance and experience throughout my term of office. Other officers demitting from Council include Jon Smith who as meeting secretary has run several successful APA meetings in the last year, Suellen Walker who as Chair of the Science Committee has boosted the research profile of the APA with enhanced activities grants and publications. Liam Claffey who has been the Ireland representative has also left Council in the last year, as did Richard Marks who represented the RCoA. Richard is replaced by Russell Perkins from Manchester. Full details of changes in Council are enclosed in the Presidents Report for the AGM. In the meanwhile Philip Arnold from Liverpool is about to join Council and there will be further elections to Council coming up in the autumn. I would urge you to consider either applying yourself or discussing this with colleagues. We are an organization that always needs renewal and new initiatives. If you think you have the interest and energy, please consider applying. The Election will be announced by e-mail with full details in the autumn and simply requires you to nominate yourself or someone else.

Roddie McNicol. In 2016 we lost two of the leading lights in paediatric anaesthesia in the UK:

Peter Morris (one of the founding members of the APA and a past president) and Roddie McNicol (past APA Council member and pioneer of local anaesthesia blocks in pediatrics). Both Peter and Roddie were strong, charismatic individuals who had a major influence on our profession. Obituaries have been posted on our website. They will be sorely missed.

Annual Scientific Meeting: Professional Conference Organisation

As the numbers and complexity of the annual scientific meeting has increased in recent years (multiple streams, larger numbers of delegates, workshops etc.), this has put an increasing workload on the local team and the meetings committee. In 2016 we appointed INDEX communications to take on the conference management for Bristol 2017. This year will therefore be a little bit different, hopefully in a good way, both from scientific content and social functions. We will be asking for feedback after the Conference. So please let us know what you think works and does not. This will be vital to planning the Liverpool meeting in 2018.

National and International Activities

We are well represented from the APA at a number of organizational levels. There are members on all the key clinical reference groups (CRG's): cardiac, paediatric surgery, pain and Intensive care. Liam Brennan and myself are also representing paediatric anaesthesia at a wide-ranging NHS review of paediatric intensive care and Specialised Paediatric Surgery. It is focusing on the provision of integrated services in the future, recognising the over centralisation that has taken place in the last few years and looking at future models.

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This will have large implications for how paediatric anaesthetists work both in the DGH and specialist hospitals. It should report towards the end of 2017 with a proposal and consultation. In 2016/17, The Federal Drug Administration in the USA has presented several statements that have required attention. The statement on anaesthesia in the young prompted us to work with RCoA and AAGBI to provide our own guidance based on current data. This is on the website together with an updated advice to parents and carers.

Research

Focused Research has continued to be well supported by APA membership and funded through competitive grants. In 2015/16 two grants were funded through the NIAA and APA. These were for the multicenter study of neonatal anaesthesia practice (NECTARINE) and a second study on platelet function in infancy awarded to Danni Seddon. The NECTARINE study data collection has been completed and we await the results. In the meantime several UK centres took part in the APRICOT study of critical events in paediatric anaesthesia practice, which has just been published in the Lancet Respiratory Medicine. Currently, a study on paediatric laparotomy is up for consideration for NIAA/APA funding led by Dr Ramani Moonesinghe Director of the Health services Research Centre. Meanwhile, the Paediatric Trainee Network (PATRN) has been busy preparing a national audit on unplanned admission after day care anaesthesia. This would be a first major trainee project and will use both PATRN members but also the linkman network for data collection.

Meetings Education and Training

The ASM in Belfast saw the first meeting in which lectures were recorded as a resource and reference. Summit Das, Jon Smith and Mark Thomas also introduced a number of podcasts outside the main program related to lecture content as an additional website resource. This is now can be accessed via our website and we would be grateful for feedback. We will be repeating recordings in Bristol 2017. The Education and Training Committee has continued to innovate and expand the website educational content available to members. The institution of "article watch" and "hot topics" in recent years seems to be particularly popular. While there will be less emphasis on formal guidelines in the future, there will be an emphasis on monographs of guidance on focused topics and articles that have practical advice based on evidence.

Research Grants

Nectarine



It has been an eventful few months since my last report.

Personnel changes

It is with pleasure that I can announce that Mary Lane will be taking over as chair of our committee in June after the ASM in Bristol. Mary is an experienced educator who has lots of ideas for making the work of our merry band even more relevant and engaging so, watch this space!

We have also recently advertised for two new members to join the committee since I will be moving on and Robin Sunderland moved on last year. If you missed the advert then please express your interest. Even if this time round you missed the boat we are keen to engage enthusiastic visionary individuals so please get in touch.

Mark.thomas@gosh.nhs.uk.

Podcasts

Many thanks to Sumit Das for putting together 4 excellent podcasts from Belfast. You can subscribe to these on the APA podcast site in iTunes. The link is here: <https://itunes.apple.com/gb/podcast/apa-podcasts/id1195843284>

We will be repeating this process for Bristol so subscribe on the above link now to avoid missing out on the cumulative wisdom that will be imparted therein.

ASM videos

As you may be aware we are taking videos of the ASM. Those from Belfast are all posted on the APA TV website allowing members to watch the speakers with their synced slide sets. Again, we are repeating this for Bristol and starting to compile a nice library of subjects.

Why not consider playing one of the more popular ones (such as the Jackson Rees lecture on checklists by Prof. Kavanagh) at your department meeting?

The link is here: <http://www.apa.isi-science.com>

Hot topics

We continue to post these and get more than 100 responses per topic typically. The feedback is that members find these engaging and thought provoking and learn from the commentaries that accompany them. If you have any further suggestions for topics please let us know.

Trainee handbook

Natasha Woodman, our new trainee rep is updating the book so a new shiny PDF should be available before too long.

That is all for now. This is my last newsletter as chair of the committee so I would like to thank everyone for their support and encouragement during my tenure.

Mark Thomas

Chair APA Education and Training committee

Trainee Report



PATRN has gone from strength to strength over the last year. We sought to expand the committee and received many high quality applications from across the UK. Congratulations to 5 new committee members; Andrew Selman as Communication Lead, Sarah Greenway as New Project Liaison, Zoe Burton as Treasurer, Deborshi Sinha as IT lead and Emily Hatton-Wyatt as Secretary / Junior Trainee Representative. We also widened our reach significantly across the UK with over 100 PATRN representatives. We communicate using a multimodal approach; the APA Facebook page, APA Twitter account, emails via the consultant linkmen, and via Basecamp, the online platform used by RAFT to reach the regional networks. If you would like to get involved please get in touch (PATRN.network@gmail.com) or read about the network on the APA website under the Trainee section (<http://www.apagbi.org.uk/professionals/trainee-section/research-network-patrn>)

We have recently completed phase 1 of Unplanned Day Case Admissions and a poster has been accepted at the APAGBI ASM in Bristol. The PATRN committee would like to thank all the trainees and consultants that gathered this data. Certificates of participation have been distributed so please get in touch if you have not received yours. Phase 1 looked at the proportions of admissions retrospectively and has allowed us to plan a larger prospective phase 2 that we look forward to launching in the new academic year.

PATRN has also received interest from several anaesthetists looking to lead

their own national projects via our network. This was the original intention of PATRN and we look forward to facilitating the next project beyond Unplanned Admissions. As a relatively new network we have collaborated with the regional networks under the umbrella of RAFT. These regional networks have proved a gateway to many enthusiastic trainees and provided mentorship for the committee. We may also collaborate with PSTRN (paediatric surgery trainees research network) in the future.

Article watch publishes 10 interesting article summaries each quarter on the APA website under Education and Training for Professionals. Thank you to Victoria Ferrier, Beki Baytug and Baljit Phull who have completed 3 publications and will soon be handing over the reins to a new team. This is a great resource available to everyone.

The APAGBI Trainee Handbook, Guidance for those planning a career in Paediatric Anaesthesia, was first published in July 2013. This is currently being updated and a new edition will hopefully be available in early 2018.

Finally, we will run a Hot Topic later in the year looking at anaesthetic preference when faced with emergency front of neck access in a child. Keep your eyes peeled! Please come and visit the PATRN table at the ASM in Bristol. We look forward to meeting as many of you as possible.

Dr Natasha Woodman

Trainee Representative

Obituary of Dr Leslie Roderick ("Roddie") McNicol (1945-2016)

It is with great sadness that I write this tribute to my friend and office-buddy of some 25 years Roddie McNicol who has died suddenly on 5th December 2016 in France at the age of 71 years.

Roddie was educated at Allan Glens School and the University of Glasgow. He trained in anaesthesia in Glasgow and was appointed as a Consultant with clinical sessions mainly in orthopaedics, plastic surgery and paediatrics. He was co-author of one of the first papers on ketamine pharmacokinetics in children in 1983 and with Douglas Arthur wrote a very influential review of local anaesthetic techniques in children for the British Journal of Anaesthesia in 1986. This, along with his many lectures, tutorials and one-to-one clinical teaching sessions, encouraged widespread adoption of regional anaesthesia in paediatric practice. Around this time, day case surgery was developing and Roddie's techniques of "balanced analgesia" were found to be perfect for many paediatric day cases. He always taught that if a child wakes up pain free after surgery they will need less analgesia thereafter and this principle of pre-emptive analgesia has proven to be extremely important in paediatric patients, most especially in those coming back for multiple procedures.

He was always keen to encourage clinical research and to apply new techniques and technologies to his paediatric practice. He published his experience with anterior approach to sciatic nerve blockade in children and evaluated fascia iliaca blocks and rectus

sheath blocks in children. Roddie was very supportive of the concept of the pain management team and encouraged research into PCA in children, the use of the subcutaneous route via an indwelling cannula to inject or infuse morphine, and the use of wound and dressing catheters for local anaesthetic infusions into sites such as for iliac crest bone grafts or split skin grafts. He always had good ideas to try in children such as different LMA insertion techniques, use of the fibrescope to evaluate LMA positioning and problems, and was among the first to study postoperative hypoxaemia in children with pulse oximetry.

He was elected to the Councils of both the AAGBI and the APAGBI. For the AAGBI, he served diligently on many working groups and often influenced the AAGBI to more fully consider paediatric aspects of their work. Indeed he prompted an important debate about

the pros and cons of centralisation of paediatric services in an effective editorial in *Anaesthesia* in 1997 following on from the NCEPOD report of 1990 which led on to the more rational current approach espoused by the AAGBI, APAGBI and RCoA and summarised in the GPAS and ACSA documentation and processes. Roddie served for many years as a College examiner and always said it was the best CME he ever had!



Roddie was a very funny man and a great character with a fund of hilarious stories and extremely rude jokes and was always the life and soul of any social event. Here he is seen in typical pose sharing an anecdote with Jack Rees.

**Dr Roddie McNicol
1945-2016
continued**

He made many amusing contributions to the AAGBI Newsletters and formed a completely fictitious society (which some thought to be a real one) called the Tricky Vein Society, which will be long remembered! Roddie was a passionate Scot and this occasionally backfired, such as when he was ejected from an English pub for teaching the landlord's pet Mynah bird the words of the Scottish National Anthem. He was passionately interested in sport and latterly particularly in cricket and incredibly was a keen supporter of the English Test Match Team. He was always well travelled and in his retirement spent several years adventuring around the world with his wife Anne Marie and especially spending quality time with their three

children and seven grandchildren, most often in France and Australia.

A thanksgiving service was held in the University of Glasgow Chapel on 20th December 2016 where around 200 family members, friends and colleagues celebrated his life in music, poetry and song and with moving tributes from his children and closest friends. I think Roddie would have agreed with the words read in his honour from the poem *Thankful am I* by Leslie Scrase:..... *"When I look back upon my richly varied years, I crave no more, thankful that I have lived..... so shed no tears."*

Dr Neil S. Morton

2017 Annual Linkman Meeting

York

14th November



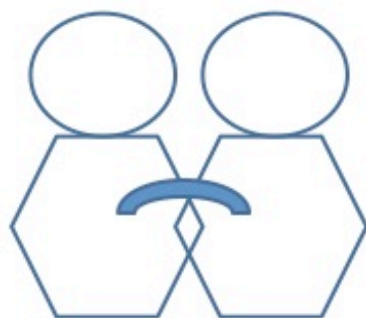
11TH APA LINKMAN CONFERENCE 14TH NOVEMBER 2017

Save the date



**Watch out for details
on**

**[http://www.apagbi.org.uk/
professionals/apa-linkman-
scheme/apa-linkman-
meeting](http://www.apagbi.org.uk/professionals/apa-linkman-scheme/apa-linkman-meeting)**



#APAL17



Paediatric pre-operative care
conference
15th September 2017



SPAN

The spring AGM was held in Crieff Hydro hotel on the 21st of April.

An update on the problems surrounding the provision of General Surgery of Childhood by Mr Atul Sabharwal (Consultant Paediatric Surgeon) kicked off the meeting. There were sessions on consent, skill retention including the remote and rural perspective, Apricot update and some interesting trainee presentations. The visiting speaker was Dr Simon Courtman who presented the SWACA audit of Paediatric Laparotomy. Public transport links to the venue were poor but there was a reasonable attendance. All presentations will be put onto the website in the next few weeks.

The Span website has been revamped; lots of useful information, including a teaching package on Capnography use for Recovery staff and links to other relevant meetings. www.span.scot.nhs.uk

The provisional date for the **2018 spring meeting is 20th April**, venue to be decided.

PPTC

The annual Paediatric pain travelling club meeting this year was held in The Central Hotel Glasgow on the 21st of April.

There were some interesting presentations including the assessment of sedation with-drawl which highlighted how this problem is underreported and often difficult to diagnose; the use of intravenous lignocaine for pain; setting up a paediatric pain assessment training programme; interventional procedures for chronic pain and presentation of the draft guideline / SIGN for the treatment of Chronic Pain which is due to be published in the near future.

ESPA

Glasgow is hosting the ESPA meeting in September 2017.

MEPA / SIMULATION

The next MEPA course is the 21st June 2017 and the MEPA-FC (for Consultants) is the 11th May 2017.

More information available from: <https://scschf.org>

SCCCSS

The SLWG chaired by Mr Atul Subharwal has been heavily involved compiling a report on the future provision of General Surgery of Childhood in Scotland. Presentations at SPAN and more recently at the Surgical Forum meeting in Edinburgh on the 24th of April; which brought together the great and the good of the surgical training programmes and the various surgical college presidents, were used to highlight the work of the group in trying to solve the growing crisis in provision of GSC. The report from the group will be sent to the next meeting of the NPF.

The concern is that many other Children's Surgical Services are also likely to come under threat in the near future.

Carolyn Smith

APA National Representative for Scotland