

BGPert Christmas Newsletter

December 2013

Dear Members

I would like to wish you and your families a Very Merry Xmas from all of us at BGPert.

We have had our AGM and one significant change we have agreed, is to allow Nurse Practitioners to join as members from April next year. We have many requests for NPs to come to meetings and we think they have similar learning needs, so please do discuss BGPert membership with your NPs and put them in email contact with our admin team.

Becoming 'Maintainable'

Linda and I approached the AGM with the theme of 'Maintainable Education' to fit with the 'Sustainable General Practice' theme, where Trevor Thompson encouraged us all to consider becoming greener. You can see his inspiring presentation and further suggestions on the website. Another thought provoking ethical presentation on Overdiagnosis from our colleague Julian Treadwell, is on the website too.

Becoming 'Maintainable' involves financial savings and our financial plans include providing lunches for full day events only, closing the PGMc Office and consolidating at BIRD, scheduling our events to lower cost venues, rationalising meetings spread over the BCAP area and emailing all communications. Resulting from feedback from members,

We will be seeking your opinion on pharmaceutical sponsorship in future.

Members Survey

We have analysed the results of our member survey this year and are pleased with the headlines. We seem to be providing education you value with 95% very happy or happy with their membership. We have listened and afternoons are favoured for daytimes, evenings favoured by 31% but we need to eat first, when supper is included. We do plan to hold more meetings in

Frome and Zoe has more planned for Chippenham. Sam will continue First 5's and Reflective Practice Meetings which are valued by our Sessional GP members.

Podcasts and Online Evaluation

Tom and Fran have led on developing 'on-line' feedback and we have had some positive comments from members. Importantly more of you are completing these evaluations, so we are really pleased evaluation will be more sustainable and also more informative! Tom has also started making Podcasts, starting with GI Cancer with 3 Consultants. Technical hitches currently prevent adding to website, but please do ask the admin team to send it to you. With new Guidance on Acute Kidney Injury, Tom and Richard Smith are working on another.

Jo Swallow has led the way with Podcasts via her role in Swindon GP Education. Jo's podcasts can be found on <http://www.swindongpeducation.co.uk/podcasts.php>. We will continue to put as many presentations as possible on the website.

And as this year comes to a close...

We will always aim to provide education covering topics for our work as Generalist GP's, to maximise our skills, focusing on the whole patient in our local health environment. This year we have included additional topics such as MUS, Overdiagnosis and revisited HRT and revised communication and examination skills. We had our first collaborative Cancer Study day and we are proud our recent Dementia education programme was written as an example of good practice, as a GMC case Study.

Many of the 2014 meetings have been added to the website already.

Our very best wishes for the New Year

Nicole, Linda, Tom, Sam, Zoe, Ali, Fran and Tina

