



## FIFTY FIRST ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF PHARMACY

1 JANUARY - 31 DECEMBER 2018

### 1. Annual General Meeting 2018

The 51<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at the Best Western Yew Lodge Hotel, Kegworth.

At the AGM the following office bearers were confirmed :

President:	Mr P G Homan
Vice-President:	Mr A Wade
Hon. Treasurer:	Mrs D Bishop
Hon. Secretary:	Mr R T Allcorn

The audited 2018 Annual Accounts were agreed by the membership at the meeting.

### 2. Meetings of Committee

The Committee met three times during the year. The members who have served this year are:

Name	Elected
Mr R T Allcorn	(16)
Dr S C Anderson	(18)
Mr J Betts	(16)
Mrs D Bishop	(16)
Dr C Duffin	(16)
Dr S Ellis	(17)
Mr P G Homan	(18)
Ms B Hudson	(16)
Dr M H Jepson	(17)
Dr M Nesbitt	(17)
Mr A Wade	(18)
Ms M Wake	(17)
Ms Kimberley Walker (co-opted 2018)	

### **3. Membership**

Total membership (including Honorary Members) at 31<sup>st</sup> December was 151. Movements in the year having been as follows:

New members : 6

Removed/Lapsed : 12

Preparations were made to increase the 2019 membership fee to £30 per annum with a concessionary rate for students of £15. This was agreed at the AGM in April as was also the ratification of a committee recommendation to phase out Standing Orders by introducing a Direct Debit payment option for 2019. A Privacy Notice was prepared for the membership to meet our obligations under the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

### **4. Meetings/Events**

#### **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

A joint evening meeting at the UCL School of Pharmacy, Brunswick Square, London. Dr Petros Bouras-Valliantos gave a talk entitled 'Byzantine Pharmacology between East and West'.

#### **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2018**

A joint evening meeting at the UCL School of Pharmacy, Brunswick Square, London. Fiona Shannon gave a talk entitled 'A Repository of Knowledge . the SchoolsqManuscript Collection offering a unique insight into medicinal practices in post independent Ireland'.

#### **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

Our Summer visit this year was to the Blythe House Museum Store near Olympia in West London where we enjoyed a very interesting guided tour of some of the pharmacy and related collections held by the Science Museum.

#### **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2018**

A joint evening meeting at the UCL School of Pharmacy, Brunswick Square, London. Dr Cherry Lewis gave a talk entitled 'The Enlightened Mr Parkinson of Parkinson's Disease'.

#### **November 2018**

We were unable to arrange a joint meeting between the Society and a School of Pharmacy this year.

However on the 9<sup>th</sup> November we held a joint symposium in London with the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries entitled 'Drugs, Trade and Empire 1650-1850 : How the Pharmaceutical Industry sold Medicines to the World' organised by Dr Stuart Anderson and Briony Hudson.

## 5. Annual Spring Conference, Kegworth

46 people attended the 2018 conference on the Saturday (including 32 Members and 2 pharmacy technician students). The themes this year were Boots and the 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the London Pharmacopoeia.

The conference opened on the Friday evening, after dinner, with a talk by Professor John Beckett about Jesse Boot : pharmacist and philanthropist.

On the Saturday morning the papers presented were:

• Culpeper on distillations in his translation of the London Pharmacopoeia by Dr Graeme Tobin.

• Fraiskette or convulsion chains: 18th-19th century magico-religious medicinal amulets from Bavaria and Austria by Dr Chris Duffin.

• Beautiful medical and pharmaceutical books in the course of the centuries by Renzo Console.

• Defining the scope of pharmacy by Dr John Crellin.

Posters were viewed during various breaks and they were presented by:

Norma Cox : *BP 1948*

Florian Eidam : *Ethnopharmacology in the Himalayas*

Scott Appleby : *Penicillin – “the miracle drug”*

Rory Hicks : *Trading in the coat hanger to mifepristone: the transition between illegal self-induced abortion to the “abortion pill”*

Finally that morning, a paper on The first hundred years of Colonial pharmacy in Hong Kong was presented by Patrick Chiu, President of the Hong Kong Pharmacy History Society.

On Saturday afternoon there was a tour of the Boots Company Archive in Nottingham. The staff provided an impressive range of material for us to view, as well as talking through current projects. The evening meal was followed by musical entertainment from our own Chris Duffin and his special guest celebrity flautist Christiane Staiger.

On Sunday, following the Annual General Meeting, lectures continued with A view from the farm : antimicrobial resistance before antibiotics c.1940-1960 by Alex Bowmer (the 2018 Burnby Bursary winner) and we closed with The beginnings of a healthcare empire: the early international history of Boots the Chemists 1849-1925 by Dr Anna Greenwood of Nottingham University.

## 6. Pharmaceutical Historian

Four issues of the *Pharmaceutical Historian : An International Journal for the History of Pharmacy* (Vol. 47, Nos. 1,2,3,4) were published during the year in March, June, September and December. Stuart Anderson continued with the editorship following the new arrangement in 2017 to publish the journal on-line (with Ingenta) and thus internationally with the International Society for the History of Pharmacy. Printed copies continued to be produced and sent to all members.

**7. BSHP Gazette**

Four issues of the Gazette, our quarterly newsletter, were produced and mailed out to coincide with the four issues of the *Pharmaceutical Historian*. This continued to be four pages of news, details of events and other information including photographs reproduced in full colour.

**8. BSHP Website**

Our website was kept updated with full information about our forthcoming events. Other information such as details of our awards etc the online application form (with ability to pay by PayPal) and a full list of contacts can be found at [www.bshp.org](http://www.bshp.org) .

**9. Awards**

Alongside our existing Burnby Memorial Bursary, we launched a new Pharmacy History Project Grant with the aim of stimulating research by pharmacy students, pharmacists and pharmacy historians.

**10. Appreciations**

The Committee once again wishes to put on record its thanks to the UCL School of Pharmacy for the assistance with facilities for meetings and to John Betts, Keeper of Museum Collections, at the Museum of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society and its team, for their help and support.