



FIFTY SECOND ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE HISTORY OF PHARMACY

1 JANUARY - 31 DECEMBER 2019

1. Annual General Meeting 2019

The 52nd Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on Sunday, 31st March 2019 at the Best Western Royal Beech Hotel, Southsea, Portsmouth.

At the AGM the following office bearers were confirmed/elected :

President:	Mr P G Homan
Vice-President:	Dr C Duffin
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 calendar year are:

Name	Elected
Mr R T Allcorn	(19)
Dr S C Anderson	(18)
Mr J Betts	(19)
Mrs D Bishop	(19)
Dr C Duffin	(19)
Dr S Ellis	(17)
Mr P G Homan	(18)
Ms B Hudson	(19)
Dr M H Jepson	(17)
Dr M Nesbitt	(18)
Ms M Wake	(17)
Ms Kimberley Walker	(18)

Ainley Wade (Vice-President in 2018) decided not to stand for re-election in 2019.

3. Membership

Total membership (including Honorary Members) at 31st December was 140.

Movements in the year having been as follows:

New members : 7

Removed/Lapsed/Resigned : 13

The agreed subscription increase to £30 was instigated and for the most part this was well received and successfully implemented. However it was a challenge for some mainly because at least nine members did not update their old £20 Standing Order with the bank. Then they did not pay the shortfall of £10 despite a reminder invoice and a personal letter.

On the positive side 16 members took up the option of paying by Direct Debit rather than by Standing Order. Some however didn't cancel their old bank payment instructions requiring a few refunds.

One member overseas, however after our offer, elected to have all his mailings sent electronically as pdfs.

4. Meetings/Events

Monday 4th February 2019

A joint evening meeting at the UCL School of Pharmacy, Brunswick Square, London was held where Professor Anne Charlton gave a talk entitled "The treatment of Henry VIII's *sore legge*".

Monday 13th May 2019

A joint evening meeting at the UCL School of Pharmacy, Brunswick Square, London was held where Professor Clare Fowler gave talk entitled "The Pharmacopoeia Londinensis 1618 and its descendants".

Friday 12th July 2019

Our Summer visit this year was to the National Archives, Kew for a "Behind the Scenes" tour. Twelve members enjoyed an overview of the history of the archive its aims and activities with specific emphasis on the types of material kept and conserved including some documents relevant to a pharmacy / pharmaceutical audience.

Monday 14th October 2019

A joint evening meeting at the UCL School of Pharmacy, Brunswick Square, London was held where Henrietta McBurney Ryan gave a talk entitled "Animal Vegetable, Mineral and....Dr John Addenbrooke's Cabinet of Materia Medica".

November 2019

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

5. Annual Spring Conference, Southsea, Portsmouth

There were 49 participants overall including 24 members of the Society and 11 pharmacy students.

The conference theme was pharmacy and the sea – maritime history, medicines and trade, and overseas influences on British pharmacy.

Friday's dinner was followed by a talk by Andrew Whitmarsh (The D-Day Story) on Portsmouth and D-Day.

The following short papers were given on Saturday morning:

- Darek Gorecki *One hundred years of pharmacy education in Portsmouth*
- Chris Duffin *John Woodall and 'The Surgion's Mate' (1617)*
- Ayman Atat *Oxymel in Ottoman Pharmacy*
- Peter Homan *Highlights of an ephemera collection*
- Stuart Anderson *Pharmacy and migration: James Butler Swann (1834-1901) and his three sons in New Zealand, Fiji and Samoa 1862-1936*

The Saturday afternoon visit to the Mary Rose Museum was very successful with 2 guided tours accommodating 29 delegates.

The Saturday evening dinner was followed by a quiz.

Sunday's proceedings began with the Annual General Meeting. This was followed by the Burnby Memorial Bursary talk from Katrina Maydom titled *Consuming New World drugs in Early Modern London: James Petiver's apothecary practice*. The conference closed with a paper from Jane Wickenden (Institute of Naval Medicine) *V Antim Tart, Emp Lyttae and others: naval pharmacy on a river expedition in Africa, 1825*

Posters were presented by:

- Norma Cox *Eleven chemists and druggist in Edwardian Portsmouth*
- Florian Eidam *Historical research from the British colonies: a grass from Africa as a repellent*
- Shirley Ellis *The uses of seaweeds through the ages and Sea sickness through the ages*

Following the popularity of non-resident and day fees at previous conferences, this was again offered and taken up by a number of delegates. It was particularly pleasing to have both students and staff attending from Portsmouth School of Pharmacy, obviously encouraged by the conference opening with a talk from a staff member in the School's centenary year.

Helped by the fabulous weather and seafront location, the conference again successfully met our aims of attracting members and non-members to share a common interest in pharmacy history in an enjoyable and welcoming atmosphere.

6. Pharmaceutical Historian

Four issues of the *Pharmaceutical Historian : An International Journal for the History of Pharmacy* (Vol. 49, 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 (ISHP). 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 past and forthcoming and other information including many 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.bsph.org .

9. Awards

Alongside our existing Burnby Memorial Bursary, we continued to offer the Annual Pharmacy History Research 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.