THE ASSOCIATION OF ANAESTHETISTS OF GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND

AAGBI

A YEAR IN REVIEW
2012-2013

MEMBERSHIP SAFETY EDUCATION
RESEARCH PROFESSIONALS NEWS
PUBLICATIONS INTERNATIONAL

www.aagbi.org

THE ASSOCIATION OF ANAESTHETISTS
of Great Britain & Ireland

AAGBI FOUNDATION
Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland
A YEAR IN REVIEW 2012-2013
The year 2012-13 was another successful and eventful one: here we share a few highlights.

COUNCIL
At the Annual Members’ Meeting in Bournemouth in September 2012, we were pleased to welcome three newly elected council members:
- Dr Rachel Collis, Consultant Anaesthetist, University Hospital of Wales
- Dr Matthew Checketts, Consultant Anaesthetist, Ninewells Hospital
- Dr Roshan Fernando, Consultant Anaesthetist, University College London Hospitals

TRAINEES’ COMMITTEE
The GAT Committee was joined by four new elected members at the Annual General Meeting in Glasgow in June 2012:
- Dr Ben Fox, Addenbrookes Hospital,
- Dr Claire Gillan, Lothian University Hospitals NHS Trust
- Dr Jonathan Price, Royal Free Hospital
- Dr Elaine Yip, Forth Valley Royal Hospital

21 PORTLAND PLACE
Our Grade II listed building in London has attracted around 300 visitors a week and hosted numerous meetings, events and seminars during the year.

We continue to offer office space to the World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiology (WFSA) and Lifebox, the international charity of which AAGBI is a founder member.

ENVIRONMENT
The AAGBI continues to make progress in its drive to become more environmentally friendly, for example using more energy efficient lighting and encouraging recycling where possible. Clinical guidelines and other publications are available for download from the website and limited print runs to reduce the environmental impact.

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We are pleased to report a healthy 93% retention rate and a total of nearly 10,600 members including 723 new members joining during the year.

The enhancement of membership services is a key focus. New services launched this year were: AAGBI Core Topics in Anaesthesia 2012 and the online case reports site Anaesthesia Cases launched in 2013. Additionally, we now offer an exclusive discount for members wishing to purchase the FRACQ online exam resource from Cambridge University Press.

In the last year we recycled a total of 9,330 kg of paper, making a CO2 saving of 13,060 kg – that’s equivalent to 126 trees saved!

SPECIALIST SOCIETIES
The AAGBI staff provide secretariat and event services for 20 specialist societies, the largest being DAS, APA and OAA. Eight one-day conferences and five study days were organised for specialist societies, together with upgrades to IT systems to enhance the service provided.

Social Media
Our Facebook and Twitter accounts have been extremely popular and we are now connecting with our members and new audiences through these interactive means. We have over 1600 followers on Twitter.

Join us on Twitter @aagbi or Facebook aagbi1
These young men and women are the new face of anaesthesia in Uganda. The more we can improve our numbers, the more we can develop our speciality. We are noticing better outcomes all the time.

Dr. Stephen Ttendo, Head of Department at Mbarara University Hospital, Uganda

SUPPORTING COLLEAGUES OVERSEAS

The AAGBI Foundation maintains an active programme of support for anaesthesia worldwide, including grants towards educational projects in lower resource countries, book donations and funding of educational resources. This year 37 grants were awarded towards work in 17 countries.

The Overseas Anaesthesia Fund (OAF) enables individuals and organisations to donate directly to AAGBI programmes that support training and promote safer anaesthesia in developing countries.

- Nearly 100 regular donors generated a total of £50,000 last year.

Uganda Fellowship Scheme

- Now in its seventh year, 23 doctors are currently being supported in training.
- Joint funding support is provided by RCoA, OAA, DAS and WAS.

One of the AAGBI’s principal activities is the advancement of patient care and safety in the field of anaesthesia. Over the last year the AAGBI’s Safety and Standards Committees have worked with like-minded organisations, industry and governments to advise and act on safety matters that affect anaesthetists and their patients.

Important Safety Initiatives

Neuraxial connectors

In February 2013, AAGBI, RCoA, OAA, RA-LK, APA, and RCoA Faculty of Pain Medicine and Patient Liaison Group released an updated statement to advise hospitals and support clinicians in the NHS in the process of introducing non-Luer connectors for neuraxial and regional anaesthesia. The AAGBI is represented on the External Reference Group established to support the safe implementation of new devices. We would like to hear of your experiences with the new non-Luer needles. Please e-mail us at neuraxial@aagbi.org.

AAGBI and the Safe Anaesthesia Liaison Group (SALG)

The AAGBI works with SALG to promote learning from incident reporting. It has two networks (with a total of 800 individuals) that disseminate information and provide valuable feedback. It publishes quarterly Patient Safety Updates to highlight reported safety incidents, the latest one relates to fire safety on intensive care and in theatre.

National Audit Project 5 (NAP5)

NAP5 was launched by the AAGBI and RCoA in June 2012 to investigate accidental awareness during general anaesthesia in the UK and Ireland. All four Chief Medical Officers endorsed the work. Cases continue to be sent in and the results will be published in Anaesthesia and the BJAn. Several follow-up projects are planned.

Assistance for the Anaesthetist statement

The AAGBI released a supporting statement on assistance for the anaesthetists in September 2012 to supplement the existing Anaesthesia Team 3 guideline.

National Essential Anaesthetic Drug List (NEADL)

The WHO defines national essential medicines as ‘those that satisfy the priority healthcare needs of the population’. The AAGBI canvassed the views of delegates attending the WSM 2013 meeting on essential anaesthetic drugs and produced the first version of NEADL. At this year’s Annual Congress we will conduct another consultation with members.

Checking Anaesthetic Equipment (checklist)

The machine checklist published in June 2012 to complement the Checking Anaesthetic Equipment safety guideline will be tailored to suit the machines of a variety of manufacturers.

SAFETY MATTERS

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Feedback from a tour group visitor:
“It was all very positive, one of the best visits and we have visited many places! The subject was interesting and relevant, the timings were just right and above all, your speakers were superb. They were knowledgeable, engaging and with just the right amount of humour. They were happy to answer all questions and you all made us feel very welcome.”

The bi-weekly enewsletter, @AAGBI, provides members with quick, effective and convenient communication with the latest information about the AAGBI and current issues within the profession.

The average opening rate continues to be 30 - 40%. In addition, we sent out 40 individual e-flyers which had an opening rate of 42%.

Development of e education and online learning for CPD is a key priority. Our online video platform now offers over 200 lectures and CPD content from our conference and seminars. It attracts, on average, over 900 views a month. The AAGBI is working to incorporate the video platform into a CPD zone which will allow users to record CPD for appraisal and revalidation purposes.

The AAGBI is committed to providing opportunities for anaesthesia professionals to keep up to date with their professional development and continues to develop new resources for its members.

Greater numbers of educational events were provided for the profession in the form of three national conferences: GAT, AC 2012 and WSM London 2013.

Attracting 1,800 delegates, significantly more than previous years. WSM London in January 2013 was the largest ever attended at 948 delegates. 2251 delegates attended our conferences and seminars this year.

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Dr Chris Gornall, Consultant Anaesthetist

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The Arts Council accredited AAGBI Heritage Centre hosted nearly 750 visitors in London and at events around the country.

The exhibition A Blessing in Disguise proved to be extremely popular and was extended for an additional six months. Our dedicated team of hardworking and enthusiastic heritage volunteers were joined by two new volunteers and we have developed a new internship programme this year.

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AAGBI online

Video Platform and e-education

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@AAGBI and www.aagbi.org

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Over the year, the Association has supported members with the Revalidation process and has published a position statement on CPD, actively liaising with the General Medical Council (GMC).

The AAGBI has also responded to the Office of Fair Trading and Competition Commission investigations of private healthcare and contributed to the Department of Health consultations on training, manpower planning and the future consultant role.

As a professional association, the AAGBI is constantly active in representing the interests of anaesthetists and acting as a voice for the profession.

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We would like to say a huge thank you to all our members for their continued support!