

Association Award

Dr Ben Greatorex



I have known Ben since he was a trainee on the Severn Deanery rotation and was delighted when he decided to stand for election to the Trainee Committee (then known as GAT). As a senior trainee Ben spent a year working with a charity in Ethiopia, during which time he gained experience of working and negotiating with hospital management. Ben used this experience to contribute greatly to the work of the Association. He helped run the first inaugural Safe from Education (SAFE) course in Bahar Dar Ethiopia and presented this work to fellow surgical trainees at the Association of Surgeons in Training meeting (ASiT). Launched in 2010, SAFE is a training initiative of the Association with the World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists and aims to bring practitioners to a level of practice whereby they can deliver vigilant and competent anaesthesia.

Ben was on the International Relations Committee, a role that he was particularly enthusiastic for and brought a lot too. His boundless energy and enthusiasm for team working and charity meant that he came up with the idea of the Great GAT Challenge. He managed to persuade many members of the Trainee Committee (of varying levels of fitness) to train and compete the National 3 Peaks Challenge over 3 days. This involved 23 miles of walking and 3064 metres of ascending. Along with Cathy Lawson of the Trainee Committee, he planned the logistics, and during the walk Ben cajoled everyone to the peak and back. He was a constant source of support and encouragement, hanging back and keeping up with those who weren't the most avid walkers. To those of us who know him, this comes as no surprise. Without him the Trainee Committee would never have embarked on this venture or raised over £3000 for SAFE Africa. This is the first time that the Trainee Committee have instigated their own challenge and Ben has set the bar high for future adventures and team building within the committee.

In his 3 years on Council, Ben has sat on the Independent Practice and Heritage Committees and was a member of 3 Working Parties for the Association's guidelines: 'Anaesthetic machine checklist for drawover type anaesthetic devices'; 'Independent Practice'; and, 'Infection Control'. Ben was also involved in the GAT responses to: the 2016 contract negotiations; the Shape of Training mapping exercise; and, the House of Lords Select Committee Report on the Sustainability of the NHS. All of these were important pieces of work.

Throughout his time on the Trainee Committee, Ben has contributed to work on trainee wellbeing, fatigue and the eradication of workplace bullying. He has been quietly but determinedly involved in many aspects of the Trainee Committee and the Association as a whole.

Ben has been a terrific contributor to the Association, from organising the Great GAT challenge, karaoke singing in the Great GAT Christmas party, and as a senior trainee being a great role model to the Trainees Committee and to our trainee members. He is truly deserving of the Association Award.

Dr Samantha Shinde
Vice President



**Association
of Anaesthetists**