

Oral Surgery Club of Great Britain

Annual General Meeting

Pendley Manor, Tring

3rd November 2022 @ 4.30pm

Agenda

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from 16 members.

2. New members attending

Geoff Chiu and Kartic Rajaram were welcome attending their first meeting.

3. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last AGM were agreed as a true record.

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Committee report

Deaths of members: It was announced that Iain MacVicar, Willie Gray and Charles Rowse had died. Tributes were made by John Rowson, Mike Awty and David Patton respectively and copies are appended to these minutes. A minutes silence was observed.

Retirements: Nick Rennie, Andrew Stewart, Andrew Lyons, Manu Patel, Mike Simpson, Tim Mellor, Stuart Hislop

Attendance: Three members who had not attended for several years and had not paid their subscriptions were recommended for informing that their membership had lapsed.

New members: The following consultants were recommended by the committee and approved by members for an invitation to join the Club;

Thomas Aldridge, Portsmouth
Jahrad Haq, St Georges/Ashford
Nabeela Ahmed, Nottingham
Alistair Fry, Guys and St Thomas'
Indran Balasundaram, Northwick Park/St Marys

Ashraf Messiha, St Georges
Liz Gruber, Northampton
Niall Mcleod, Coventry
Ash Gulati, East Grinstead

Committee changes: Manolis Heliotis has agreed to become a member of the committee.

6. Honorary Secretary's report

With the retirement of several members, proposals for new members, especially in the early years of their consultant careers, are welcomed.

Members were reminded that the Club website, maintained by Andy Sadler, is an excellent resource for information about forthcoming Club activities as well as a record of previous meetings.

7. Honorary Treasurer's Report

The Club accounts were presented, distributed and discussed, by the new Honorary Treasurer, Mick Gilhooly. These were inspected and their acceptance proposed by Ken Sneddon and seconded by John Rowson.

8. Honorary Members Report

There was nothing to report on this occasion.

9. Committee 2022/23

The President elect for 2023/24 is Steve Walsh.

Therefore, the Committee for 2022/23 is; Bhavin Visavadia, President; Jon Hayter, Hon Secretary; Mick Gilhooly, Hon Secretary; Stuart Hislop, Hon Members rep; Andrew Sadler, Archivist; Steve Walsh, President elect; Ken Sneddon, immediate past President; Neil Mackenzie and Manolis Heliotis.

10. Inauguration of new President

Outgoing President Ken Sneddon presented the Semmelweis Medal to Bhavin Visavadia and he was inaugurated as the new President for 2022/23.

11. Future meetings

Bhavin Visavadia confirmed that his overseas meeting would be in Siena, Italy on 28th – 31st May 2023. Details are on the Club website.

12. Any other business

There was no other business

13. Date of next meeting

The next home meeting will be under the auspices of Steve Walsh in early November 2023.

Summary of tributes

Iain MacVicar

John Rowson paid tribute to his colleague, Iain MacVicar who was President of the Club in 2016/17.

Iain and I met 40 years ago when I was a first-year medical student in Nottingham and Iain was an SHO in the local unit. He decided to follow a career in maxillofacial surgery and was accepted to study medicine in Nottingham and stayed in Nottingham to do his house jobs and initial surgical training. Iain was not seduced by any other specialty during this period and proceeded to follow Maxillofacial Surgery training as a Registrar in Chichester.

Senior Registrar posts were few and far between in those days but as it happened, Iain and I were both appointed to the Trent Senior Registrar rotation working between Nottingham and Sheffield. We met up regularly to share experiences and discuss surgical politics, finding that we shared a lot of the same ideas and ambitions. We also began to travel together to courses and conferences and, during one memorable trip to Dublin, we spent the journey out putting together a paper making the case to expand the Nottingham unit from two consultants to four. We were successful and were both duly appointed to those posts!

Iain helped develop the maxillofacial side of the head and neck cancer service in Nottingham, initially with our colleague Sheila Fisher and later with Phil Hollows. Iain was dedicated to his patients and to improving treatments and outcomes and he and Phil worked together for many years developing a highly respected service. He loved travelling to meetings and courses, keeping up to date, helping push the boundaries of surgery and was always ready to explore new techniques. He was a respected surgeon and worked closely with colleagues in other specialties both in oncology and in other areas and contributed greatly to both our department and to the hospital.

Iain had a keen interest in teaching, enjoying training the next generation of surgeons and he was a popular and respected trainer. He also went on to work with the medical students and later became the Director of Undergraduate Education, a post that he held until this year. He maintained links with our colleagues outside hospital and involved himself in various committees locally including the British Dental Association and Local Dental Committee.

Iain and I continued to travel together to meetings, and we often extended these visits to do some exploring and have time away from work. We had some memorable trips - India, Japan, USA, Canada, Finland and Russia to name a few and we always valued this time as an opportunity to discuss and resolve any issues in the department.

Of course Iain had a life outside work which included: Family - his first love and greatest achievement, Faith - unwavering and which gave him great strength in his last months, Farming - always a passion and he would unwind from a stressful day with his sheep and greatly looked forward to visiting his Scottish "estate," and Fellowship - Iain made friends everywhere and enjoyed nothing more than a good "chin wag" whether with friends, colleagues or patients and indeed, this is how many of us will remember him.

Willie Gray

Mike Awty reflected on the life of Willie Gray who was President of the Club in 1990/91. Following military service in the Guards, he followed a career in Oral Surgery resulting in the position of consultant in Ipswich. Mike had known him since being shown around East Grinstead by Willie, subsequently being summoned to act as his best man when he married Joan. Mike noted that at his funeral there were few contemporaries present as Willie had lived to the ripe old age of 96 and had outlived most of his old friends.

Charles Rowse

David Patton recalled the life of his former colleague, Charles Rowse, who was President of the Club in 1997/98.

Charles was a Consultant in Oral Surgery at Morriston Hospital in Swansea. He was born in Sussex, but the family later moved North to Wakefield where his father became a headmaster. Charles was educated at Goole Grammar School in the East Riding where he became Head Boy. The school was co-educational and whilst he was there, he went to help one of the girls put up Christmas decorations in the school. The girl was called Elizabeth and at his death recently, Charles and Elizabeth were two days short of their 59th wedding anniversary.

He studied dentistry at Durham which at that time was still combined with Newcastle, and after house posts became a registrar at East Grinstead. From there he moved to Sheffield where he completed his Senior Registrar training. He was then appointed at a fairly young age to a Consultant Oral Surgery post at Singleton Hospital in Swansea. He had one SHO, Julian Campbell, who I still sometimes play golf with. Being Wales, Julian played a lot of rugby and Charles had an arrangement by which he would cover Julian whenever he was playing in a match. At the other end of the city, Eric Morgan was also a Consultant Oral Surgeon, again with one SHO who also played rugby. The two teams therefore combined to facilitate cross cover. Both Eric and Charles became Presidents of the Oral Surgery Club, Charles in 1997. The away visit that year was to Professor Machtens Unit in Bochum, North Rhine Westphalia.

Charles was an accomplished yachtsman and became Commodore of the Swansea Yacht and Sub Aqua Club based on the seafront in Mumbles. He owned various yachts over the years usually favouring Westerlies. Under his command, SHOs earned their sea legs crewing for him. Elizabeth meanwhile had become a GP in Swansea but later gave this up to become a senior medical adviser at the

DVLA in the city. I was appointed to Swansea in 1988 when Eric Morgan retired. At that stage Charles and I were the only two consultants with 2 SHOs and a registrar. This was a time when the scope of the specialty was expanding rapidly. Charles anticipated this but felt it was too late for him to expand his range of interests. He was nonetheless very supportive and did all he could to facilitate the expansion of maxillofacial surgery in Swansea.

Charles was a kind man and a good colleague. On retirement he moved down to Salcombe so that he could continue with his sailing activities. Elizabeth is well and still living in Salcombe. They have a daughter Janet and a son Mark, and two grandchildren. Sadly, Charles had to give up sailing a few years ago as his health deteriorated, but he became an accomplished birdwatcher, and enjoyed travelling around the country to various nature reserves.