It has been a busy autumn for ENT UK. In November we responded at short notice to a paper in the British Journal of General Practice implying that we undertake unnecessary tonsillectomies. The paper contained significant flaws; it is disappointing that it passed the peer review process. The ENT UK executive was mobilised. Your president elect, Nirmal Kumar undertook media and radio engagements. Our robust letter was published in the e-letter section of the British Journal of General Practice. This contained facts and evidence but did not get any media coverage! The incidence of deep neck space abscess is dramatically increasing. Many of you will have had the personal experience of managing these patients. The ENT UK sepsis group, ably led by Emma Stapleton, are going to look more closely into this subject in the next year. We need to know more about the issues of organism virulence, antibiotic use and tonsillectomy in these cases. At the moment there are continued and repeated campaigns to stop general practitioners prescribing antibiotics for sore throats. Possibly some of our serious abscess cases are delayed or inappropriate antibiotic use but we need further evidence on this subject.

This autumn has seen a number of changes to the ENT UK trustees and executive. ENT UK is a charity with a trustee board to oversee direction, strategy and finance. The trustee board comprises: President, President Elect, Treasurer, Secretary, BACO Master, BACO Master Elect, one ENT surgeon trustee and two lay trustees. Stepping down this winter are Valerie Lund (thank you, and well done for a successful BACO 2018) and Tony Narula (thanks for all your advice and support). Victoria Ward and I replace these two trustees. In March, when I complete my time in office, Nirmal Kumar becomes President. I’m pleased to announce that at the spring meeting Andrew Swift becomes President Elect for ENT UK. I have known Andrew for many years. He is great with detail and I am sure will be of great benefit to ENT UK. Commiserations to Hesham Saleh. We are honoured that you stood for election.
The election process produced its own surprises, with several voters placing multiple votes! For confidentiality, our system cannot identify the name of the person who votes multiple times. We remove double votes which are likely to be simple error. However, we found that three people voted five times and one person seventeen times! Consequently, we had to spend £500 to ensure a completely secure one person one vote system and hence the election re-run. Going forward, this does not seem a good use of your money. We are supposed to be honest and we say so to the GMC. We are going to look at a robust method of identifying the name of any multiple voter and your ENT UK trustees will be considering this matter into the New Year.

In the summer Chris Potter stepped down as Treasurer. We are very grateful for his work. Kay Seymour has taken over as Treasurer. Catherine Spinou continues as Assistant Treasurer with a remit for BACO 2020. Catherine’s work to keep BACO 2018 financially stable has been much appreciated. Will Hellier has also been appointed as Assistant Treasurer, with a remit for general ENT UK business.

Carl Philpott is ENT UK Secretary. Carl does great work co-ordinating responses to requests and enquiries from multiple sources including NICE, our government, Royal Colleges of Surgeons, TV, newspapers, commissioning groups, quality control organisations. Many of these demand answers yesterday! In addition to dealing with the significant secretarial routine workload Carl has undertaken a membership survey. There will be more on the survey in the New Year but a couple of headlines. ENT UK members do not wish to move toward our own college. Education and advocacy are the most important aspects of what ENT UK undertakes for members.

Supporting Carl are Assistant Secretaries San Sunkaraneni and May Yaneza. San is co-ordinating our Specimen Standing Orders. These are single A4 pages reviewed by sub-specialty organisations concerning urgent and emergency ENT conditions. The first one on orbital cellulitis can be found on our website. The intention is that these documents will be placed onto an ENT UK emergencies app. This will allow all members, particularly junior colleagues, to easily access this information. Please support the development of these Specimen Standing Orders. May has updated documentation on appraisal and revalidation, available on the website. May and San are also overseeing the revision and delivery of new patient information sheets.

Andrew Robson has completed his term as Director of Education. Andrew has made a priceless contribution. He had a critical role in our paediatric and adult emergency courses. As a former SAC chair he continued close links with the SAC. ENT UK is vital to support both the SAC and our trainees. For example, ENT UK is currently preparing an e-learning package on returning to work or training after maternity, sickness, or time out. The combined effort of both ENT UK and the SAC in ENT will be required to increase the number of training places to accommodate the ever-increasing demand for ENT services! We welcome Philippa Tostevin as the new Director of Education. Her enthusiasm combined with educational skills is likely to build the educational profile of ENT UK.

Jeremy Davies comes to the end of his time as chair of the SAC. He has overseen a number of changes in training, working tirelessly for all of our trainees. The SAC chair is a member of the ENT UK executive and Jeremy has made many significant contributions. In the summer Jeremy lead on our very important response to the document on Procedures of Limited Clinical Effectiveness. We thank Jeremy, and congratulate him as he becomes the President of the British Association Endocrine and Thyroid surgeons. The new SAC chair is Craig Murray. Craig has great experience of all aspects of ENT training and will bring his characteristic decisiveness and good humour to this role.

As I write my final Presidential Update, freezing rain and Storm Deirdre are outside. Strictly Final is on the television. I am sure you have all worked hard this year, so please have a happy festive season.

Best wishes of the season.
BACO has its origin in the early 1960s and has over the years been the shopfront of British and Irish Otolaryngology. At the outset, the meetings occurred every four years, but in recent times the interval between meetings has narrowed. The last BACO was held in Manchester in 2018, with Professors Valerie Lund as Master, Vin Paleri as Academic Chair and Tim Woolford as Local Organiser. The meeting was a resounding success both academically and socially, attracting 1,300 delegates from the UK and around the world. Indeed, no previous BACO attracted so many delegates. Our speciality can be grateful to the many colleagues who spent countless hours volunteering their time to make BACO 2018 the outstanding success it was. Meetings on this scale constitute a major financial risk but thanks to rigorous financial governance, the meeting returned a modest surplus, a major relief to all concerned.

Organising BACO 2020 is a formidable task, not least given the very high standards expected of such a meeting. The strapline for the meeting is ‘Translating Research – Transforming Lives’ which we felt summarised the dynamic, forward-looking, research-led speciality we want otolaryngology to be. We hope this focus will oblige us to critically evaluate current practice and encourage presentations based on best evidence and current research and innovation.

The meeting will be held in the ICC in Birmingham, a wonderful, dedicated conference facility. The transportation links by rail, road and air to and from Birmingham are simply outstanding and make it an ideal location for a global event as well as being within easy reach from everywhere in the UK. Birmingham also has plenty of reasonable hotels within walking distance of the centre which makes the conference experience so much more pleasant. For our overseas guests, easy access to the rest of the UK, Ireland and Europe from Birmingham will add to the attractiveness of the meeting.

BACO 2020 aims to be truly international and we intend to reach out to ENT Associations and individuals around the world to share this major event with us. Thus, it will be a particular pleasure to welcome our colleagues from the American Academy of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery, as well Canadian ENT Association as our special partners. We will also be actively developing links with a host of other international organisations to participate in this event. Many ENT surgeons around the world have trained in the UK and Ireland and we hope the meeting will be a kind of ‘home coming’ for them.

The Academic Chair of the meeting is Prof. Hisham Mehanna with Prof. Richard Irving as local organiser. Heading up Communications is Ms Emma Stapleton; Prof S. Quraishi OBE is Director of the Commercial and Sponsorship aspects. In a break with tradition, the meeting is being organised by ENT UK and led by Ms Christy Hillman; it is felt that this approach will better serve the longterm interests of the speciality.

The success of BACO 2020 depends on your participation. If you have any suggestions about the academic content, either in terms of new topics that should be included or ways in which you or your colleagues could contribute, we want to hear from you at the earliest opportunity.

Please email us with your ideas, follow us on Twitter, and visit our website which is in the process of being constructed.
Specimen Standing Orders

As part of CQC requirements for specialty organisations, we have initiated a programme of collating Specimen Standing Orders (SSOs). These are suggested guidelines for the management of ENT problems that might occur on the ward, as emergency referrals, or intra-operatively. They will be put on the ENT UK website and can be downloaded for use in hospital departments. We have had a large amount of interest in creating guidelines by members of ENT UK. We have an active SSO for management of peri-orbital cellulitis. Topics undergoing evaluation are: Temporal bone fractures, Bell's Palsy, Epistaxis, Ingested caustic substances, Necrotising Otitis Externa, SSNHL, Supraglottitis. Further accepted proposals which are in the process of being designed are: Intra-orbital bleed during FESS, Displaced tracheostomy tube, Post thyroidectomy hypocalcaemia, Retropharyngeal abscess.

If you are interested in contributing other topics, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Professor B Nirmal Kumar
President Elect, ENT UK

ENT UK Spring 2019 Meeting

I would like to welcome all of you to the ancient city of Chester on Friday, 15th March 2019 for the Annual Spring Meeting of ENT UK. You can book using this link. Each chapter of history is etched into the very walls and Chester is renowned for having the most complete city wall. You will be walking where Roman legionaries marched to war, Viking raiders wreaked havoc and Norman invaders conquered! The programme has a range of interesting speakers with a focus on research and innovation in the morning followed by a veritable feast of interesting clinical topics in the afternoon.

We welcome Brad Welling from the United States as the Lionel Colledge lecturer. His talk entitled “avoiding complications in otology: a compendium of my mistakes” will be interesting coming from such an esteemed clinician of international repute and the lessons learnt will be useful for all of us. In addition, we welcome Dr Theresa Frawley, an Advanced Nurse Practitioner in ENT who perhaps is the only ENT nurse to be appointed as Dean, Faculty of Nursing in RCS Ireland or in any of the Royal Colleges. It will be useful to see how we can make best use of the multi-disciplinary skills that nursing colleagues can bring to the specialty for the benefit of our patients. Trainees in our specialty will be welcome and there is an opportunity to present both oral and poster presentations just in time for ST3 national selection! ENT UK have worked on a strategy document for the future direction of our specialty in the country and Prof Carl Philpott (Honorary Secretary) will explain the results of the membership survey that was undertaken recently. This will be your opportunity to engage with ENT UK executives and trustees and through participation in the AGM at the annual meeting ensure you have a say in the activities of your Association which represents your views.
Mr. Philip Clamp  
Consultant ENT Surgeon, Bristol

ENT UK Adult Emergency Safe Course for Consultants (ESCC)

After successful pilot courses in Manchester and Bristol, the fully-fledged ENT UK Adult Emergency Safe Course for Consultants (ESCC) course rolled out at the Newcastle Surgical Training Centre in October 2018.

This one day course provides consultants and senior SAS doctors with the opportunity to refresh the knowledge, decision making and practical skills required to safely manage adult ENT on-call emergencies. Case-based lectures and group discussion, are combined with fresh-frozen human cadaveric dissection and cover a wide range of common emergencies and operations, from quick and safe surgical airways to intracranial complications of sinusitis.

ESCC was set up in response to growing concerns about de-skilling. After all, when was the last time you took a deep neck-space abscess to theatre, drilled a hot mastoid or ligated the sphenopalatine artery?

The continuing move towards sub-specialisation in ENT may be beneficial in terms of developing and delivering complex surgery, but it also introduces the potential for reduced exposure in other areas. These general, emergency-safe skills are often called upon during on-call shifts when access to sub-specialist advice and support may be limited. GMC Good medical practice explicitly requires doctors to “be competent and keep your professional knowledge and skills up to date.” With increasing focus on appraisal and revalidation, the ENT UK adult ESCC aims to ensure that competence and confidence in managing common adult ENT emergencies is maintained.

The next adult ESCC will be advertised via the ENT UK website. If you are interested in hosting a future ENT UK supported ESCC course in your local unit, please contact the ENT UK office.

Feedback from the 3rd ESCC Course:

Great course. Should be mandatory for all surgeons.

Fantastic course. Excellent cadavers and equipment.

Good mix of discussion / controversy / practical skills.

Thanks to Mr Mohamed Reda, Lorraine Waugh and the team in Newcastle for hosting the course.
Mr. Jeremy Davis  
Chair, SAC in Otolaryngology

SAC Update

The new Otolaryngology curriculum is closer to gaining approval from the GMC. All specialties have to submit a new curriculum which meets new GMC standards by 2020. This is a two part process. We have gained approval from the GMC Curriculum Oversight Group (COG), and are hoping to submit the completed new curriculum to the GMC Curriculum Advisory Group (CAG) soon. If approved, the main changes will be to divide specialty training from StR onwards into two phases. The first four years (ST3-6) will cover the generality of the specialty and the knowledge required to provide a safe emergency service, and the final period (ST7-8) will take one or two years and will involve development of a special interest and completing emergency operative skills. Trainee assessment will include regular ‘Multiple Consultant Reports’ which will take into account the views of trainers regarding trainee capability in a number of areas of practice including managing an outpatient clinic, managing an operating list etc.

The run-through pilot has commenced with ST1-2 being appointed in five LETBs. There has been considerable support for the programme, and the SAC and JCST are gathering information that will be required by the GMC to gain approval for this to be a long term offering to trainees.

Mr. Shyam Singam  
ENT UK SAS Group

Follow on from a well-received SAS Study Day in September 2018, the next ENT UK SAS Study Day has been given the go ahead. This will be a two-day event. It will be a summer meeting in the English Riviera, June 20th - 21st 2019 with workshops, plenary sessions, free paper session, a course dinner and potential trek on the moors (weather permitting!)

This meeting, will also be open to ENT nurses and allied health professionals. In future, we hope to conduct these study days once every two years, alternating with BACO.

Manpower has become a significant concern for both the SAC and ENT UK. Sean Carrie and Victoria Wilmot have carried out a survey which is published online in Clinical Otolaryngology.

Whilst there has been a welcome increase in ENT consultants, there is a worrying increase in locus and vacancies. This is starting to have an adverse effect on patient care in some areas, and can also adversely affect training. The evidence collected suggests a current shortfall of more than 100 ENT consultants (approximately 15% of the consultant workforce). Whilst some units have not experienced problems, others are significantly destabilised and may cease to be able to provide a full range of ENT services. The JCST is raising these concerns with HEE and other UK training authorities. This needs ongoing work.

Craig Murray takes over as Chair of the SAC in January 2019 at the end of my three years in post. I am delighted that Craig has been appointed and hope he enjoys his time as Chair as much as I have done. I am grateful to all the SAC members who have worked so hard over the past three years, including Prof Nirmal Kumar, Vice Chair of SAC and run through lead, Sean Carrie who has led on workforce and QA, and Paul Spraggs for his curriculum work.
Mr. Quentin Gardiner  
*Chair, Intercollegiate Specialty Board in Otolaryngology*

**Have you thought about becoming an intercollegiate examiner?**

The Intercollegiate Specialty Board in Otolaryngology are keen to recruit examiners for the Intercollegiate exam to increase the diversity, spread of geographical representation and super-specialty interests of the body of examiners. You would be a Consultant having been in a substantive post for at least five years in the UK or Ireland and have experience in trainee assessment and/or examining, which could be at undergraduate level. A commitment to a minimum of five days per year of examining and assessment would be necessary.

The Intercollegiate exam is one of the most important exams our trainees and colleagues undertake and allows them to apply for CCT, along with the other requirements, and to enter independent practice. The exam is regulated by the GMC/IMC and follows the Intercollegiate Surgical Curriculum Programme set by the SAC in Otolaryngology. It can be hard work during the exam but is enjoyable (at least for the examiners!) and provides an essential step in assessing who is suitable to join the Specialist Register.

Appointments are normally for five years (which may be extended to ten) and as the exam takes place all around the UK and Ireland you will gain experience both of a great deal of clinical material as well as seeing how other departments and regions function. Examiner training is given before you start and you will observe during the first exam that you attend so that you will feel prepared to examine competently at the next sitting. I think you would find that being an examiner is a very worthwhile experience.

If you would like to apply please have a look at the regulations and application form. If you have any queries please email Claire Digance-Fisher, Specialty Manager for Otolaryngology.
The British Otorhinolaryngology and Allied Sciences (BOARS) society meeting was held at Ropewalk house in Nottingham on Friday 26th October 2018. BOARS is for all research-active clinicians, allied health professionals, audiologists and medical students working in our specialty. BOARS is also the national forum for all clinical academic trainees in the UK.

Ten oral presentations were selected from a highly competitive field of submitted abstracts. The quality of the talks was excellent and there was plenty of opportunity for questions and discussion after each presentation. A special mention must be made of three talks given by medical students from the Universities of East Anglia and Nottingham. ENT is often under-represented in the undergraduate curriculum and it is wonderful that Norwich and Nottingham have been able to encourage such talent. Well done to Marius Pezard-Snell, Megan Laud and Ngan Hong Ta. Marius Pezard-Snell won the junior prize for his presentation on the potential of an auditory illusion for treating tinnitus.

Peter Prinsley, winner of the Angell-James Prize

Peter Prinsley, Consultant at Norfolk and Norwich Hospital presented the results of his research on the genetics of cholesteatoma. Whole exome sequencing of families with cholesteatoma has revealed variants in cytokine genes likely to important in middle ear inflammation. As the winner of the Angell James Prize for the best presentation at the BOARS Autumn meeting, Mr Peter Prinsley has been invited to present his work the at Dutch ORL Society next year. Lisa van der Putten PhD, who is based at Alkmaar in the Netherlands presented results that won her the top prize at the Dutch ORL meeting. Dr Van der Putten talked about the use of PET/CT to predict the recurrence of head and neck cancers.

BOARS is very grateful for the wonderful contributions from our keynote speakers Dr Kristina Harrison from the Medical Research Council, Professor Patrick Bradley, University of Nottingham and Dr Joanne Patterson, Newcastle University. Dr Harrison is the programme manager for studentships at the MRC, and shared advice and useful tips about how to submit a successful grant proposal. Dr Patterson researches swallowing outcomes after head and neck cancer treatment. As a PhD student she validated and popularized the water swallow test that is now used as an outcome measure in many head and neck cancer trials. Her talk highlighted how persistence pays off in a clinical research career, and encouraged us all to tackle the difficult questions in ENT. Professor Patrick Bradley spoke about the history of the Otorhinolaryngology Research Society, which was a forerunner of BOARS. After his talk we had a lively discussion about how to promote our specialty to undergraduates and how to foster research excellence in ENT.

If you would like to present your ENT research work at the next BOARS meeting, please go to the BOARS section of the ENT UK website.

Our next meeting will be held jointly with ENT UK on Friday 15th March in Chester. Looking forward to seeing you there!
Mr. Jayesh Doshi  
*Chair, Student and Foundation Doctors in Otolaryngology*

**SFO Update**

SFO continues to grow from strength to strength. We are the fastest growing group within ENT UK with a membership of 228 with an approximately 50/50 distribution of medical students and junior doctors from Foundation and Core Training Programmes.

Following our latest recruitment round, we now have SFO representatives at 80 percent of all medical and foundation schools. These representatives are doing a fantastic job of promoting ENT locally in conjunction with ENT consultants and registrars. In some areas, regional events have attracted over 100 delegates!

The SFO website has recently been updated with ENT clinical examination videos (courtesy of Jo Buckley et al, Newcastle). These are free to access in addition to the current podcasts so please direct your medical students/juniors to the website. The e-book mapped to the published SFO curriculum is currently being converted to Kindle format. This should be available for all medical students and foundation doctors to download during 2019.

We also wish to welcome our newest committee members Chang Woo Lee (Cambridge University) and Randa Asswad (Liverpool University) who won the 2018 Undergraduate Essay and Elective Prizes respectively. Please continue to spread the word to your medical students and juniors. I encourage you all to keep up to date with our latest SFO activities by following our social media platforms.

Planning is already underway for the next SFO conference on Saturday 12th October 2019 (University Hospital Birmingham) as well as the SFO day at BACO 2020. It will follow the successful format of previous conferences with a mix of lectures and practical skills stations. Promotional posters are available to download from the SFO website and I will be asking for volunteers for faculty in due course. Next year, we are also supporting a pre-conference ENT surgical speciality day at ASiT (Belfast, March 2019) which is being organised by Fenella Shelton.

**A highly successful regional SFO study day organised by representatives from Norwich and Cambridge Medical Schools**

**SFO Clinical Skills at BACO 2018**
Mr. Steven Backhouse  
*British Society of Otology (BSO) Council Member*

**British Society of Otologists (BSO) Update**

The British Society of Otologists (BSO) Annual Meeting is on Monday February 4th 2019 in the Edinburgh College of Surgeons. This event is six weeks away so apply for study leave and register to attend NOW! This BSO Annual Meeting is for more than just otologists with varied and wide-ranging content for trainees, SAS and consultants in ENT. The meeting also offers great value at £80 to £120 for a full CPD-packed day programme of fourteen speakers all focussed on delivering practical, real-life information and training for the front-line ENT clinician. The meeting theme is ‘Practical Knowledge, Science and Skills for today’s Otologist’ with UK and international expert speakers across 4 sub-sections including:

- An Endoscopic Ear Surgery Masterclass led by the world-renowned Professor Daniele Marchioni (Italy).
- ‘How I Do It’ with expert instructions giving clarity to complex but common clinical conditions, including Prof Joel Goebel (USA) outlining how to clinically assess dizzy patients in the Emergency Department.
- ‘Science Faction’ with leading otological and audiological scientists and engineers sharing translational research outcomes that every delegate can apply immediately to their current clinical practice both in the operating theatre (tympanoplasty reconstructions) and outpatient clinics (listening advice, counselling and rehabilitation of hearing impaired patients).
- ‘Key Generic Skills’ for a modern otologist, including the Faculty of Surgical Trainers Deputy Director Mr David O’Regan revealing how to maximise impact and influence in your formal role as a trainer, and Professor Janet Wilson (on behalf of the ICONS group) will elucidate best practice for informed consent in the current post-Montgomery era.

You can also register for the BSO Balance Course on the following day (Tuesday 5th February 2019) in the same RCSEdinburgh venue for a combined reduced delegate rate. Within ENT, balance has become a niche specialty understood by few. This course aims to address this issue by providing ENT surgeons of all grades with the necessary tools to diagnose and treat patients in a routine ENT clinic. The emphasis of the BSO course is on clinical techniques and management strategies which work for the general ENT surgeon rather than the neuro-otologist. The course will also give an insight into investigations likely to influence management. A morning session of lectures is followed in the afternoon by practical worked examples of common balance disorders.

**Click here for the BSO Annual Meeting**

**Click here for the BSO Balance Course**

Finally, BSO Council elections will be held during the Monday Annual Meeting. This is your chance to get involved with the Council’s current activities that include developing undergraduate education programmes, specimen standing orders and patient information sheets for ENT UK, PHIN classifications for appropriate recognition of ear surgeries, NICE quality standards, BACO 2020 programming and organising BSO 2020 events!

It would be great to see a good turn out of ENT colleagues in Edinburgh for BSO 2019 and consider adding social value to your trip by staying in the College’s award-winning on-site boutique Ten Hill Place Hotel.

**Contact Jessica if you have any queries**
INTEGRATE UPDATE

Since INTEGRATE formed in 2015, the National ENT Trainee Research Network has come a long way. Following the 2016 National epistaxis audit and the INTEGRATE-led British Rhinological Society consensus recommendations on epistaxis management, INTEGRATE looked to deliver another national audit. The 2018 BAHNO head and neck follow up audit followed, with 89 UK sites submitting data on 5123 cases. This huge data set has been analysed and the interesting results will be published in the new year.

INTEGRATE has grown, now incorporating three subcommittees (head and neck, otology and rhinology), with eighteen committee and subcommittee members, and numerous project collaborators. With generous funding from ENT UK and the Royal College of Surgeons of England we are also able to support the salary of a research fellow to further drive the delivery of INTEGRATE projects. The three subcommittees are independently developing ambitious projects that aim to ensure a steady stream of varied opportunities are available to ENT trainees who want to participate in clinically-relevant, high-quality audit and research.

The Epistaxis Audit laid the foundations for a series of trainee-delivered epistaxis-based studies and service improvements currently in development. These will involve qualitative and quantitative clinical research, and working with a Clinical Trials Unit, we aim to submit a funding application for this to the NIHR in January.

The otology subcommittee are undertaking the preparatory work for a study into otitis externa, a topic identified by trainees as a research priority. We are soon to launch a Delphi process to establish a definition, diagnostic criteria and core outcome set for otitis externa, having involved varied stakeholder groups from the start of the project. The outcomes of the Delphi will inform the development of a clinical trial.

The head and neck subcommittee will be publishing the results of the BAHNO Head and Neck follow-up audit, accompanied with a series of systematic reviews on the topic. The HOLOS project will follow from this, providing trainees with qualitative research training, and an opportunity to participate in a project exploring patient and clinician objectives and priorities relating to head and neck cancer follow-up. The head and neck subcommittee are also looking to collect UK-wide data on complications and quality of life outcomes following tonsillectomy.

All projects will provide opportunities for ENT trainees to participate at all levels, from contributing to a systematic review or collecting local data, to taking on the role of associate principle investigator in a clinical trial.

INTEGRATE also hopes to adopt research or audit projects into a portfolio of supported projects, if they offer opportunity for significant trainee involvement. These projects will remain externally run and funded, but INTEGRATE will facilitate the involvement of trainees. If you have a project you think may benefit from more widespread trainee involvement, please get in touch.

In addition, we are once again running our annual Research Competencies and Skills Development course in January 2019, along with a new Qualitative Research Methods Course to prepare trainees for project involvement. Details will be available on the website shortly.

www.entintegrate.org
Mr. Hesham Saleh  
*President, British Society of Facial Plastic Surgeons*

**A message from the new BSFPS President**

Progress is what shapes the medical profession and we must always aspire to continue building on what has been achieved. I am honoured to follow the steps of Tim Woolford and Alwyn D’Souza in establishing a strong society for facial plastic surgery. Very high standards have already been set and it is a great privilege for me to take the Presidency at this stage. Our annual meeting has proven its worth and has always been highly attended. We had a second highly successful cadaver dissection course in Manchester. The course covered the all-important facial procedures including facial flaps, blepharoplasty, rhinoplasty and facelift. Our next annual meeting will be held in Birmingham on the 14th June 2019 and will be followed by two days of cadaver dissection.

Facial plastic surgery has become an integral part of international otolaryngology meetings and we are pleased to be involved in organising FPS programmes for BACO, ERS and CEORL-HNS. It is my plan to expand on these collaborations and work jointly with other associations to advance the educational opportunities for our members. I am particularly fortunate to have been voted as the next President of the European Academy of Facial Plastic Surgery (EAFPS) and can forge links between both sides. The name of our society is a subject that has been deliberated for a while. It has been felt by many that FPS UK has not captured attention and that a title which parallels other societies in the UK should be chosen. We have chosen The British Society of Facial Plastic Surgery (BSFPS). We are pleased that the trustees of ENT UK have approved the change of name. With the change of name and maturity of our society, it is timely to look into the structure of BSFPS. I plan to devise specific byelaws for BSFPS with the inclusion of wider election procedure for the council and more involvement from our membership. I wish that you all have a fulfilling year and look forward to seeing you in Birmingham.

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Tony Narula  
*Past President, ENT UK*

**MediX Cover Ltd. A new initiative to benefit doctors**

Most of us buy our day to day household and general insurance individually and fail to take advantage of the considerable buying power of the more than 10,000 of us in the UK.

This is a lost opportunity from which we could all benefit. The buying power extends not only to savings in each family’s combined insurance premiums, but also to having a say in policy design, the type of cover provided and how claims are handled.

**The Opportunity:**

Beginning with the support of ENT UK and the Federation of Surgical Specialty Associations, I have helped form MediX Cover Ltd. and created a series of insurance offerings initially for surgeons of all ten Specialty Associations. This will provide us with greater control and convenience in our insurance spend. By acting together, we can achieve much better outcomes than would be available to us as individuals.
MediX Cover will offer attractive insurance cover:

MediX Cover will be managed with the interests of doctors at heart, and will embed covers that are most appropriate for us in the policies it designs and promotes.

Here are some insurable characteristics we may share:

- Some of us are lucky enough to own multiple homes, which we protect carefully.
- We tend to own multiple vehicles, but we are usually careful drivers.
- We often have young drivers in our families.
- We travel frequently, on business and on holiday.
- And we have specialist personal needs, such as protection against injury to our thumbs, our dominant hands and our eyes.
- Many of us have specialist business needs too, in insuring our practice premises and employees.

There should be significant financial benefits:

By operating together, a collection of people such as us has financial muscle.

Affinity group: in insurance terms, we ENT Surgeons are a valuable affinity group. Our shared characteristics mean predicting our behaviour is relatively easy; for an insurer this means our policies can be priced more easily and therefore more competitively.

High Net Worth: we are usually high net worth individuals, and our demographic is known to deliver fewer claims and relatively lower claims pay outs than the general public, which can be factored in to reduce the price we pay for our insurance.

Scale: by adding family members and “bundling” coverage of more than one policy (e.g. home + car + disability + travel) we could generate greater volume and allow even greater savings.

Low turnover: we tend to be conservative and not shop around. Insurers value loyalty, and we have the best chance of achieving this if we work together through an effective intermediary.

MediX Cover Ltd. will enable us to unlock for our own benefit the considerable value embedded in the insurances we hold.

MediX Cover will offer greater convenience:

A MediX Cover policy will make life easier in other ways, for example, by replacing the burden of multiple annual renewal dates with a single policy covering all of our risks on a continuous, monthly basis.

One MediX Cover client recently saved 50% on his home & car insurances by switching to MediXcover. Whilst this will not be the case for everyone, it shows what can be done by using our team of specialists.

Other Insurances:

MediX Cover can also quote for other areas where cover may be needed such as Employers’ Liability, practice cover including cyber security, business travel etc. We are also exploring Medical Indemnity.

All insurance quotations are valid for 30 days so please let us know your renewal dates and we will contact you at the appropriate time.

MediX Cover is in its infancy. It has been designed by doctors for doctors. Its success or otherwise is entirely dependent on its ability to attract colleagues to renew policies with them. The more medical professionals that become involved, the more powerful MediX becomes in being able to influence the market in a manner which will further benefit the medical community.

customer@medixcover.co.uk
Telephone: 020 3846 5410

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The Trustees of the TWJ Foundation are delighted to announce the appointment of two new TWJ Fellows at the recent interviews held on 10th December 2018.

Mr. Gaurav Chawdhary (Oxford rotation) was appointed to the Fellowship at QEII Health Sciences Centre, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, where he will work with Prof. David Morris and Mr. Nael Shoman. Ms. Louise McMurran (East of Scotland rotation) was appointed to the Fellowship at Auckland City Hospital and Starship Children’s Hospital, Auckland, New Zealand, where she will work with Mr. Michel Neef, Mr. Hamish Sillars and Ms. Michelle Wong.

TWJ Major Clinical Fellowships in Otology, Neurotology and Skull-base Surgery are open to ENT Specialty Registrars on numbered otolaryngology training programmes in the UK and Republic of Ireland. Applicants must have passed the Intercollegiate FRCS by the time the Fellowship commences but may be pre- or post-CCT. These TWJ Fellowships are available for six months to one year in overseas university ENT departments to specifically supplement the otological training of the applicant. The grant generally takes the form of an educational stipend of £25,000: this is intended to cover the first 6 months, and the second 6 months is funded through the host Hospital. TWJ Fellowships are advertised in the July/August edition of ENT and Audiology News, in ENT UK e-mail newsletters and on the TWJ website. Short-listed candidates are interviewed in December, eighteen months ahead of the Fellowship start date in July of the following year.

The next round of TWJ Major Clinical Fellowships will be interviewed in December 2019 to commence in July 2021, and will be for posts in Cambridge, England and Vancouver, Canada. As well as Major Clinical Fellowships, the Foundation awards Short Fellowships which provide for a week of clinical observation and personal instruction at a leading European Otology Clinic, attached to an advanced Otology Course at the same institution. Applications can be made at any time and details are on the TWJ website.

The Trustees are proud to have awarded around 200 grants since the TWJ Foundation began in 1974, and a large proportion of currently practising UK otologists have held TWJ Fellowships. Following two recent major bequests the Foundation is going from strength to strength, and looks forward to continuing to play an important part in advanced otology training.
It seems almost unbelievable to be writing about the loss of Heinz, who passed away completely unexpectedly on the 9th December 2018. Heinz has influenced so many careers that, like many of you reading this, it is hard to express how shocked I am by this sudden loss. To say that he had a major impact on ENT and specifically on rhinology would be a huge understatement. Without his supreme surgical skill, endless enthusiasm and superlative linguistic skills, chronic rhinosinusitis would have likely remained an unattractive clinical backwater and endoscopic sinus surgery would not have taken the world by storm. He was an indefatigable teacher, running hundreds of dissection courses and lecturing throughout the world from the early 1980s right up to the last few weeks. He was President of innumerable international congresses and societies, was a founder of the Society of Minimally Invasive Therapy and his FESS courses run in German and English each year in his department in Graz, Austria were the go-to destinations for endoscopic endonasal techniques. He published widely and his first textbook, Functional Endoscopic Sinus Surgery in 1991 was the ‘bible’ for the technique. He was personally responsible for the introduction of extended endoscopic skull base surgery and many of the innovations that accompanied it, from fusion imaging to instrumentation and packing. Heinz was a true pioneer who was continually looking for new ways to enhance our knowledge and disease management. It is no surprise that his pre-eminence was recognised with a plethora of honorary memberships to international and national ENT and rhinology societies, as well as honorary fellowships of the Royal Colleges of Surgeons of England, Edinburgh and the American College of Surgeons. He received multiple prizes and awards including the George Davey Howells from the University of London, the ERS Award of Merit and the Cottle Golden Head Mirror.

But Heinz was much more than an inspirational doctor, surgeon and rhinologist. He was a true renaissance man, interested in everything from prehistoric rock art and archaeology to all aspects of the natural world, from geology to gastronomy, from philosophy to photography, from diving to deserts. He travelled to every continent, often with his lovely wife, Doloris who shared his many interests. I even managed to drag them up to Orkney, in the rain and windswept north of Scotland to visit Neolithic monuments. He was the perfect companion at so many meetings in far-flung parts of the world, displaying a wonderfully subtle sense of humour when things did not always go according to plan. He was simply one of the most interesting people I have known and who I have been deeply privileged to call my friend. The world is a poorer place for his leaving it.

Valerie Lund
It is with sadness that I report the death of Mr John Brennand, at the age of 84, on 23rd October 2018. John was appointed to a consultant post in Perth with sessions in Ninewells in 1968. He was a stalwart of the excellent Ninewells ENT department in the 1970s, 80's and 90's. John Brennand provided the main ENT service to Perthshire, during this time operating out of both Ninewells and Bridge of Earn Hospitals. Bridge of Earn Hospital is now a housing estate!

Trained at Kings College Hospital London, he graduated in 1959. Following six-month house surgeon post in the ENT department at Kings, in his own words ‘arguably the most outstanding ENT Department in Britain’ he pursued a career in ENT, in contrast to his original ambition to be a GP in rural Yorkshire. John would often narrate tales of Sir Terence Cawthorne who was his trainer at Kings and a famous name in the world of ENT. A good cup of tea was a helpful stimulus to these stories.

John Brennand was an excellent clinician and for most of his time as a consultant he provided a one weekend in two emergency cover for Perthshire and Bridge of Earn Hospital. His other great skill was as a fisherman. He often supplied a salmon to be consumed at the Scottish Otolaryngological Society meeting. He helped me, greatly, in my early career and I shall miss his sharp observation of life.

Brian Bingham

ENT UK Newsletter

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