

Honorary Secretary Report – 2022-2023

Last year was the year following the COVID pandemic. Our meetings gradually moved from an online to face to face. It has remained hybrid.

Our periodic *Executive Committee Meeting* has been totally on zoom, but took place regularly. The views of the committee helped steering the society through a challenging year.

As many forums and many Societies, a challenge arose of the reduced number of attendees and the reduction of the revenue that came from reduced sponsorship. Given the demographics of MedChi membership, we have sadly also members to long-term illness and death. We had the challenge in streaming talks and publicising talk for the same reason.

An opening became available when *Bristol Nuffield* responded positively to Dr Jonathan Pitts-Crick ask to use their meeting rooms and lecture theatres. This has allowed us using their rooms for lectures and their catering for the meal.

Another opening is us being joined by new and young members. We are now joined in the executive committee by 5 young members. Dr Juliette Pitts-Crick (who is the president elect), Dr Hassan Kahal, Dr Priyanka Singhal, Dr Alan Abraham and Dr David Baker. We are hoping that they will move forward with the society and will add new membership to the society.

Another positive change is the appointment of our new secretary *Helen Purver* who is now leading with new designs and new ideas. Helen is making an amazing stride of getting the new face of the society visible.

Linking to the academic report, is that we are now looking at *improving streaming of our lectures*. We purchased new IT and audio-visual equipment with the help of *Mr Jon Voyles* from the BBC. system to help that. We are hoping to stream to a dedicated to a *Bristol MedChi* channel on *Youtube* for ease of following the high-quality lectures, direct interaction and of storing these lectures.

Academic Secretary Report – 2022- 2023

Last year programme was very strong. We continued to bring forward issues of the time regarding our NHS. Each session was organised and/or led by an executive member.

It started by an additional lecture on Psychedelic drugs. It continued with contributions from *Professor Pietroni* and *Dr Custard* on NHS culture and on Same Day Emergency Care (SDEC).

A notable talk about continuity of care from *Dr Jacob Lee* and on Obesity from *Dr Hassan Kahal* – from NBT has focussed our minds. *Prof Parag Singhal* addressed hopes and obstacles for running the NHS, our concern. The programme concluded by *Prof Gus Dalglish* and *Prof Paul Goddard* on COVID – Pharma and the power of mis-information.

All these lectures were followed by an enthusiastic discussion and ended prematurely to those who would have liked more discussions to take place.

In the midst of the year and at the end *Rev Dr Victor Barley* set up the Christmas Concert and the Christmas celebration at the Centre of Bristol. He has also organised the Summer Party at the beautiful and inspiring Penny Brohn Centre.

Next year will follow this year with another strong programme. Like last year, each session will be chaired by one of our executive committee members. The programme is attached.

We are hoping to improve and simplify the *Med Chi web-site* and a discussion on the future of *West of England Medical Journal*. A task that we are hoping our new executive members will take forward.

Dr Nabil Jarad Honorary Secretary and Academic Secretary.