



President's News

Lisa Burnapp

It is only a few months since we were all together in Belfast for our 50th Anniversary Congress, but BTS Executive and Council have not been idle.

Planning for our joint Congress with NHSBT in March and Society business continues to travel at speed. At the November Council meeting, we heard from Committee and Chapter Chairs about their plans for the year ahead- they are all busy and active. If you want to play a more active role in BTS, make sure you take a look at the positions available in the upcoming elections in the 'Secretary's Corner'- the deadline for nominations is this Friday.

A huge thank you to everyone who participated in our Belfast Congress- despite the postponement from earlier in the year, it took nothing away from the event itself when the time came. We had a fantastic turnout and the enjoyment of meeting friends and colleagues again after such a long break was tangible. As an organising team, we couldn't have asked for more to mark our return to Belfast and a special milestone in BTS history. If you were unable to attend, you can catch up with the highlights from our 50th Anniversary celebrations and watch the '**First Fifty Years**' BTS film.

Those of you who were in Belfast will recall that Professor Sir Peter Morris and Professor Sir Magdi Yacoub were each presented with a President's 50th Anniversary Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of their contribution to BTS and transplantation in the UK. They both joined us briefly on screen together, with their awards, at the end of the 50th Anniversary Session, via a remote link- one of the bonuses of modern technology in the post COVID-19 era. It was a moment that I will never forget and one that I hope will remain in the hearts and minds of all those who shared in it. We were very sad to hear about Sir Peter's death in October, making his last appearance in Belfast before a BTS



audience a fitting tribute to his life and work. For those who may have missed it at the time, we have published Simon Knight's 'in memoriam' for Sir Peter at the end of this newsletter.

On another note, we have news about our collaboration with Forestry England and our tree-planting sustainability project for our 50th Anniversary year. Forestry England has identified an area in Hampshire that requires reforestation and have invited BTS to plant our legacy trees in this area. If you still wish to contribute, it is not too late. All proceeds from the sale of our limited edition 50th Anniversary bamboo reusable cups will be used to fund the tree-planting.

A BTS tree-planting day to plant 180 trees has been scheduled for Friday 3rd February 2023 and we are looking for 15 volunteers. If you are already the owner of a bamboo cup or wish to buy one ([you can purchase here](#)), you are eligible to put your name forward as a volunteer planter. For more details and to express interest in being involved, please email secretariat@bts.org.uk by 31st December 2022 and we will forward more information to you.

2022 has been a significant year for BTS in so many ways with much to celebrate and to be thankful for. Krish Menon will take over as President after our Congress in March next year and I know that I will leave the Society in the very capable hands of him and my executive colleagues when the time comes. In the meantime, I wish you a very happy and healthy festive season and look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in Edinburgh.



The Executive would like to wish all BTS members a Merry Christmas and Happy and Healthy New Year!

Lisa Burnapp





Vice President's News



Hope you have all been able to get out some much-needed relaxation after the frenzy of meetings in the Autumn! Although the Belfast Congress has only just passed, we have already put together a fabulous Congress jointly with NHSBT. The theme, to remind everyone, is 'Time to connect'!

The 2022 'Post Graduate Course' was very popular with great interactive sessions and considering the very constructive feedback we got from the trainees, the course will return in Edinburgh. We look forward to promoting this in real earnest through social media platforms and great senior colleague participation.

The Congress abstracts deadline has now passed, with the review meeting taking place next week. We promise you several opportunities to excel, such as Medawar Medal prize, Calne-Williams Medal and six of best being some of them!

The Gala dinner will be held on Thursday 2nd March at the Sheraton Edinburgh, with a live band and the dress code 'Go Tartan!' bearing in mind we are in Edinburgh.

Look after yourselves, stay well and look forward to welcoming you in Edinburgh 2023!

Krish Menon





The Secretary's Corner

Hello! Greetings from the Secretary's Corner.



Hot on the heels of the 50th celebrations - it's election time again!

You should have received emails asking for nominations for the posts on Council and in the Committees for election. Don't miss out, you will find the nomination form [here](#), return it via e-mail to the **BTS Secretariat** to arrive by the deadline - 5:00 pm on FRIDAY 9th December 2022. The following Council posts are available:

- Vice-President (President Elect) 2 + 2 years
- Transplant Nephrology 3 years
- Kidney Transplant Surgery 3 years
- Portfolio To Be Confirmed (Social media interest)
- Donor Co-ordination 3 years

To help people understand the roles and responsibilities, we have written some short Job Profiles so that you can get a feel for exactly what each position might involve. If you are thinking of applying, it is also a good idea to contact the current incumbent to hear directly what the post is actually like. Of course, if you do not have the time to take up a position yourself but, know someone whom you think "fits the bill" then you can support their application either by proposing or seconding them or offering support for their application process. The closing date for applications is this Friday 9th December, so it is fast-approaching.

To make the process as democratic and valid as possible it is vital that you ensure you are eligible to vote by checking your membership subscriptions are paid up and looking out for the voting emails which will be coming round on the 17th and 18th January 2023. The emails come direct from the polling company Civica Election Services (CES) and may be lost in junk email boxes. If you haven't received an email, the most likely reason is that your subscription has lapsed. Check via the member's area of the website or, if necessary, directly with the Secretariat at secretariat@bts.org.uk

Please contact me if there are any issues you need help with or need highlighting
generalsecretary@bts.org.uk

Colin Wilson



Treasurer's Chest



2022 has proved to be a challenging financial year – certainly for the UK economy but also for many individually.

Fortunately, the Society's financial position remains secure, and we will end the year in a similar – perhaps slightly favourable - position compared to 2021.

As always, the single biggest financial commitment is the Annual Congress. In 2022 there were particular challenges - moving the meeting to September, running a hybrid in person / virtual format, and a degree of flexibility in celebrating our 50th anniversary. Nevertheless, and despite the additional costs involved, we ended the meeting pretty much within budget. A big thank you to all those registering and travelling to Belfast, and a special thank you to our sponsors – corporate partners and those participating in the exhibition – for such committed support and forbearance with the changed date.

I am really delighted to acknowledge our sponsors for 2023 – Astellas, Chiesi, Hansa and Takeda as Gold partners, and Sandoz and Eurofins as Silver partners. I am particularly pleased to welcome Eurofins as a new sponsor for next year.

You will be relieved that the membership fees have not increased for 2023 – given the difficult financial situation for many it seemed more than unreasonable to do so. Nevertheless, the Society is not immune from inflation, and the fees we pay to Moore Insight to run the Society (our second largest expenditure) will increase in line with inflation. So one change we propose for the membership year 2024 is to make an increase in fees for those not paying by direct debit. Paying by direct debit substantially reduces the time our membership team spend collecting fees and ultimately saves us administrative costs!

Finally, please look out for the registration details for the joint BTS / OTDT Annual Congress in Edinburgh. The programme looks great and we will not be running a full hybrid meeting – so as always the success of the meeting depends on the support of all of us making the journey to Edinburgh!

Nick Torpey



In other news...

The Roy Calne Award

This annual award is given to the current member of the Society who has, in the opinion of the judging panel, made the most outstanding contribution published in a peer review journal as a single paper. The member must be the first author of the publication and can be from any professional group. Full eligibility criteria are published on the BTS website.

The publication must be related to the broad field of transplantation and published in the two years preceding the date of the Annual General Meeting (ie, papers considered for the March 2023 BTS meeting must have been published in a journal dated between Jan 2021-Dec 2022).

One electronic application form and accompanying PDF copy of the paper under consideration must be emailed to the secretariat at secretariat@bts.org.uk AND the General Secretary at generalsecretary@bts.org.uk by 5.00pm, 9th January 2023.

For full details see the website [The Roy Calne Award - British Transplantation Society](#)

Upcoming events

[BTS NHSBT Joint Congress 2023 - 1st-3rd March 2023, EICC Edinburgh](#)

[BTS Post Graduate Course, 28th February 2023, The Doubletree by Hilton, Edinburgh](#)

More details will be emailed to the membership as they become available



In Memoriam

Professor Sir Peter J. Morris FRS

17 April 1934 – 29 October 2022

Tribute kindly written by Simon Knight, Senior Clinical Research Fellow | Honorary Consultant Transplant Surgeon, Nuffield Department of Surgical Sciences | Centre for Evidence in Transplantation

It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of Professor Sir Peter Morris at the age of 88. Peter was a much loved and respected figure in the international transplant community, with a clinical career that encompassed Australia, the US and the UK, eventually settling as the Nuffield Chair of Surgery in Oxford where he established the Oxford transplant programme.

Many of us in the BTS will have fond memories of Peter from his long career and involvement in British surgery and transplantation. His passion for science and quality research always shone through, and for those of us who had the opportunity to work with him he was a fantastic mentor – always supportive but just as happy to point out areas for improvement and push his trainees that little bit further to achieve their own successes. He remains a role model for any aspiring academic surgeon.

Peter was also an enthusiastic sportsman early in his career, a passion that remained in his later years. His festschrift on retiring from the Nuffield Department of Surgery in 2001 ended with a cricket match, and he was apparently the first president of the Royal College of Surgeons to install Sky Sports in the President's office and lounge!

It was a pleasure to see Peter, even if only by video link, at the BTS Congress in Belfast receiving his Presidents' lifetime achievement award. It is testament to him that despite all of the positions of responsibility he has held and the awards he has received over the years, how much it clearly still meant to him.

Family was also important to Peter, and he is survived by his wife Jocelyn and five children, whom our thoughts are with at this time.

Full obituary from Nuffield Department of Surgery can be found here: <https://www.nds.ox.ac.uk/news/obituary-professor-sir-peter-j-morris-frs>

Read more about Sir Peter's President's Lifetime Achievement Award and his contribution to transplantation in James Douglas' History of BTS and Presidents' biographies and listen to Sir Peter talking about the early days of BTS and transplantation in the BTS 50th Anniversary film, all found here <https://bts.org.uk/about-bts/fifty-years-of-the-bts/>

*Merry Christmas
& Happy New Year*

