



# Bringing Together Specialities.

Chapter of Nurses and Allied Health Professionals Autumn Newsletter

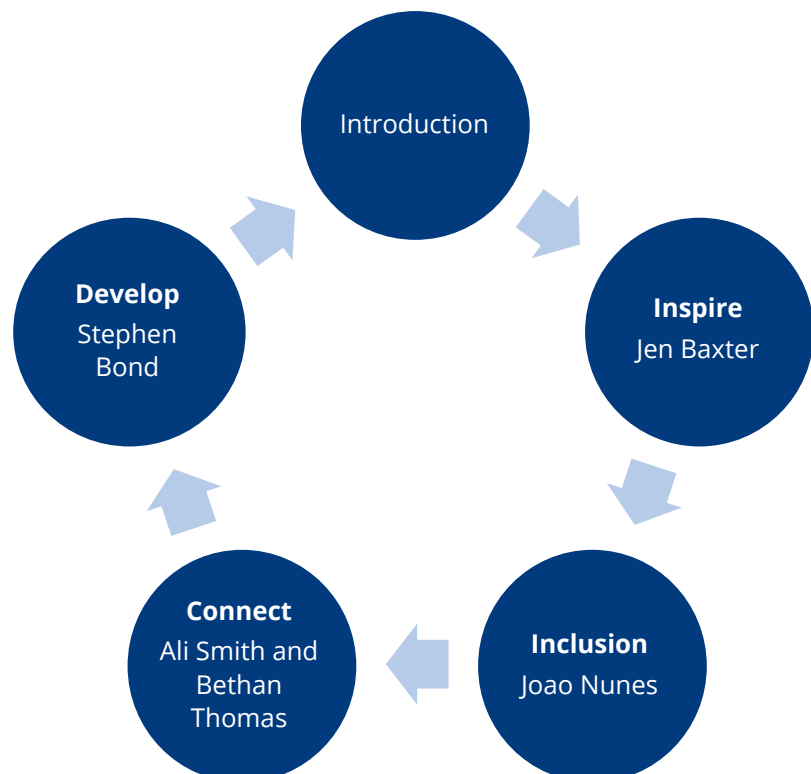


This edition of the newsletter covers the **BTS Annual Congress** which was held in Belfast in September.

Many thanks from **Jen** and **Katie** to everyone who joined the Chapter of Nurses and AHP lunchtime session. This proved to be a valuable information gathering session and we are keen to share the ideas and thoughts that we heard. We will use these ideas to move the Chapter of Nurses and AHP forward.

For those who were unable to attend Congress we set up a speed dating style format for the lunchtime session, with Council members representing the four pillars of the Chapter. Every 15 minutes participants moved to the next table so that all 4 values of the Chapter could be addressed, concerns were listened to and potential solutions were discussed.

This is how the session was run...

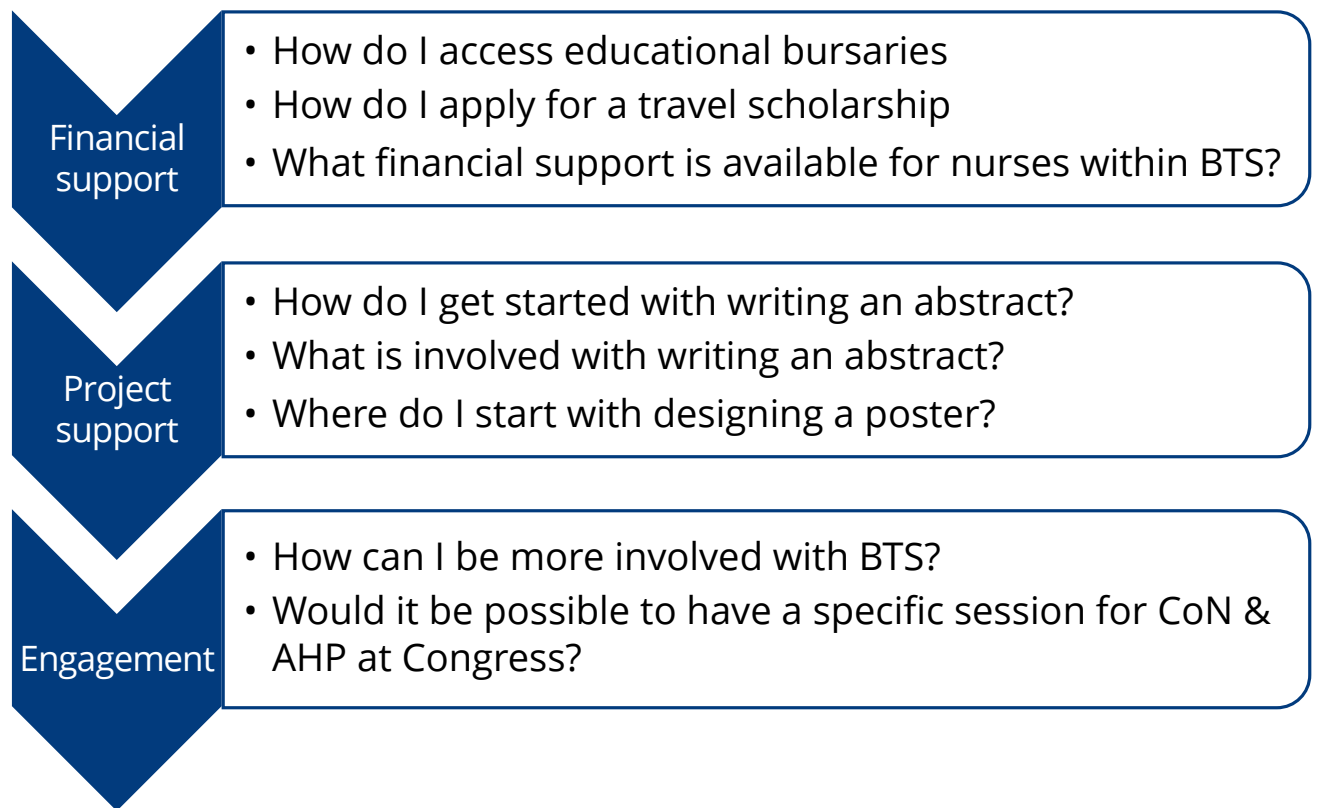


Each table collected information and the information that was shared is provided below.

# Inspire



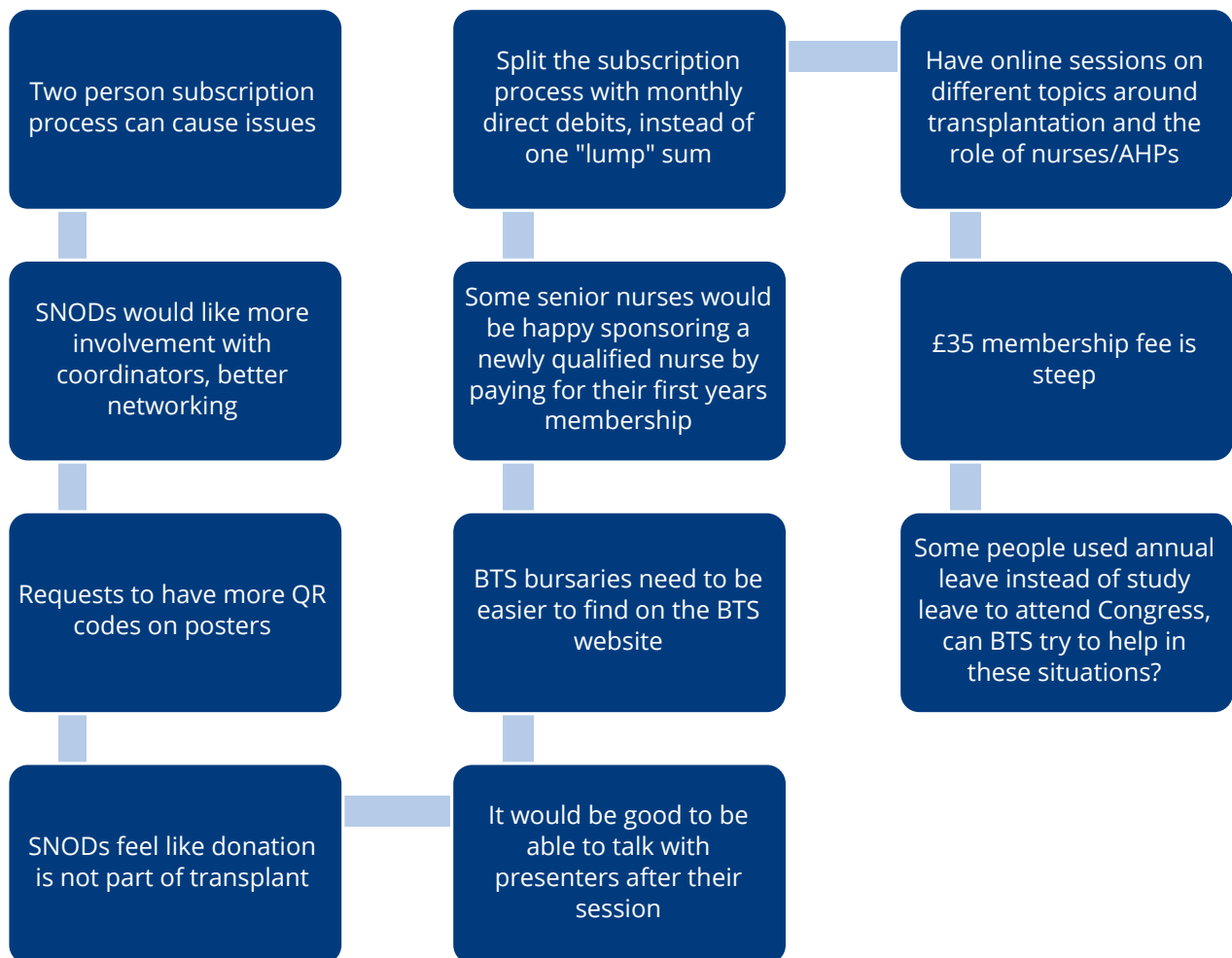
From this table which was chaired by **Jen Baxter** three main themes were apparent...



# Inclusion



On the inclusion table led by **Joao Nunes** there were many comments and potential solutions. Here's a summary of the discussion...



# Connect



The thoughts and ideas gathered on **Ali Smith** and **Bethan Thomas's** table have been divided into four main themes:

## Motivation to attend BTS Congress

- Most attendees to the Congress were either encouraged by another team member or through collaborative work.
- Main motivation to join BTS was to access discount to attend the BTS Annual Congress.
- Benefit of being a BTS member- to find out what is happening and network.
- Revalidation purposes

## Suggestions for future Congresses

We like to see more:

- SNOD involvement, liver content, more about the patient experience including donor families.
- More to attract the Pharmacists to attend Congress.
- More info on bursary, parallel nursing sessions, organ specific arms within BTS- kidney/ pancreas, lungs.
- Better app for the congress and increase social media coverage.
- Hybrid conference- online access should be cheaper.
- Different coloured lanyards to help identify people attending the congress.
- Suggestions: fee to include congress and dinner/ fee plus hotel package. Or locally discounted hotels.

## Ideas for the future

- Shared database of names/ roles would be appreciated.
- Buddy system for people who are attending the Congress for the first time.
- Encouragement for Nurses to present in smaller groups.

## Ideals

- Culture shift needed: nursing hierarchy does not view attending the Congress as important, also that attending Congress needs to be taken in turn, thus lacking continuity for individuals.  
**Can BTS help to change this barrier?**

# Develop



## Personal development

- Networking is essential for nurses.
- More opportunities to share practice/ interdisciplinary thinking.
- More nursing abstract categories.
- Good to learn about other centres practices.

## Financial support

- Education is not budgeted for or encouraged by our Trust.
- Unaware if the bursaries/ fellowships are available to nurses to apply.
- Keep hybrid to allow for one day access.

## Professional development

- Encouraged to submit an abstract by a colleague.
- Lots of the presentations were about what has happened, it would be nice to focus on the future.
- More support with abstract submission, mini symposium to provide education and support for nurses.
- More nurses as co-chairs on sessions.

## BTS support

- Would like to see more nursing involvement at BTS.
- Would like more help from BTS with abstract submissions.
- Buddy system to attend Congress would be appreciated as felt overwhelming.
- Need to encourage more nurses and it would be helpful to have a smaller nurses group for nurses to present to.
- What does the CoN do for nurses?
- Need a better voice.
- Lack of awareness of BTS website.

As a part of the Chapter of Nurses and AHP BTS Develop session I'd like to understand further how/if BTS members would like to enhance their transplant CPD portfolio. Please could you take 3-4 minutes to complete a short survey by scanning the QR code. The survey can also be accessed by using the following web address: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TV5WHLW> x



# Closing remarks...

Don't forget that registration has opened for the BTS Congress in Edinburgh. [Educational Bursaries](#) can be applied for by Nurses and AHPs and will help support the costs of attending the Congress.

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