



British Society of
Gastroenterology

e-news

www.BSG.org.uk

5 November 2008

A Survey of BSG members' From Quintus Public Affairs

As you may have seen in our recent newsletter the BSG has appointed new communications advisers, Quintus Public Affairs to raise the profile of the BSG in political and media circles and to help us promote our key message. In their early months with the BSG, Quintus are keen to map the knowledge and expertise of our members to compile a directory of members' interests to draw upon in order to respond to Department of Health consultations, engagement with national and regional politicians and liaise with local and national press.

To help them in this task, please read the following questions and after you have finished reading this e-newsletter forward this email with your answers to Robin Grainger at Quintus - robin@quintuspa.com :

What are your areas of expertise (clinical/health policy – the area can be as broad or as narrow as you like)?

Would you be willing to act as a BSG spokesperson on any of these issues – in responding to consultations or talking to regional/national media or to politicians?

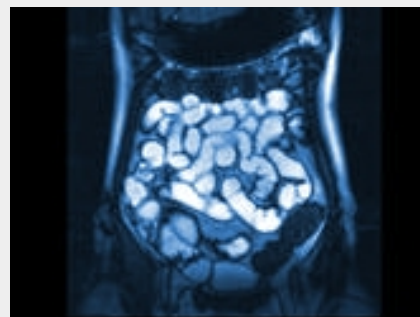
Do you have previous experience of dealing/speaking with local or national media? If so, who?

Do you have previous experience of dealing with politicians (local councillors or MPs), and if so who?

Do you have good contacts/working relationships with service commissioners in your local area?

Do you have good contacts/working relationships with other keys figures in your local Trust or SHA?

BSG Webcast



View the WebCasts taken at the BSG Annual Meeting 2008 at the following link: [Click Here](#)

BSG Annual Meeting SECC Glasgow 23-26 March 2009

Registration Live
1st December 2008

Early Booking Fees Before
10 Feb 2009

BSG Full Member:	£90/day
Honorary/Senior/Invited Guest:	Free
Trainee:	£55

BSG Oesophageal Section Autumn Symposium: Controversies in the Management of GORD

10th November 2008 @ Royal College of Surgeons

Topics to include:

- Poorly Responsive Reflux Disease
- Complicated Reflux Disease
- Hunterian Lecture: *'Laparoscopic Anti-Reflux Surgery, Before, During and After'* - Tom Dehn

[Programme / Application Form](#)

BSG Nominates 'Rising Stars' For Gastro 2009

Since 2003 ASNEMGE's 'Rising Star' initiative has been part of UEGW meetings. Its aim is to give young researchers (under 40 without a full professor title) a platform on an international stage and to support these people to become the organisers and chairs of UEGW sessions in the future.

Applications are made through the BSG (and are only accepted through national societies) and the 2009 British nominees have just been selected. They are Dr Charles Lees, Dr James East and Dr Melita Gordon. Congratulations to all three.

For more information on the initiative visit the ASNEMGE website, www.asnemge.org

Draft EU Guidance for the Composition and Labelling of Food Suitable for those Intolerant to Gluten

The food industry has developed a range of products presented to the general public as "gluten-free". Differences between national provisions concerning the conditions for the use of such product descriptions may fail to ensure the same high level of protection for consumers. For the sake of clarity and in order to avoid confusing consumers with different types of product descriptions at national level, the conditions for the use of the terms related to the absence of gluten have been laid down at European Community level.

The EC will proceed with notifications to the WTO and the finalised text will be published in the Official Journal of the European Union.

In order to allow business to adapt their production processes, the guidance will come in to effect in 2012.

Subsidised Fee (Medical Research Fellows and non- medically qualified Clinical Scientist):	£60 (whole meeting)
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Associate Member:	£45/day
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Non-member:	£110/day
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[Click here to see all meetings](#)

International Symposium

20th November 2008

The Wellington Hospital GI Unit,
London, NW8 9LE

[Further Information](#)

The Evolution and Adaptation of Foodborne Pathogens - A research strategy workshop

Monday 10th November 2008
Arden Hotel, Birmingham

[Further Information](#)

EHPBA Meet the Experts Conference: Techniques in HPB Surgery

20th - 22nd November 2008
Leeds, Yorkshire

[Further Information](#)

Midland Gastroenterological Society - Winter Meeting:

21st November 2008

Please view the draft guidance at the following link:

http://www.bsg.org.uk/pdf_word_docs/gluten_ec_draft_08.doc

FIPO Newsletter - Current Issues in Independent Practice

This Newsletter contains information about the following:

- Car Tax Allowances by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs
A dramatic change In AXA PPP's approach to consultants
- Ongoing pressure in ophthalmology from major insurers
- Orthopaedic package pricing by BUPA
- Norwich Union affecting patient choice via brokers and an MRI tender
- A questionnaire for consultants

http://www.fipo.org.uk/pdfs/FIPO_Newsletter_23_Sept_2008.pdf

Letter from Colin Johnson

Dear Colleagues

Randomised Trial of Duodenal Stenting vs Laparoscopic (assisted) Surgery

Gastric outlet obstruction complicates advanced pancreatic and gastric malignancy, and may be difficult to palliate. Recently duodenal stenting has been proposed as an alternative to surgery. Gastrojejunostomy can now be achieved with minimal access surgery, either laparoscopic, or lap assisted. There is no evidence to allow a direct comparison of these two approaches.

The success of the CREST trial (Colorectal endoscopic stent trial) has shown that surgeons and radiologists can collaborate on a national study and achieve rapid recruitment to a well designed trial.

We are proposing a randomised trial of surgery or stent to relieve malignant duodenal obstruction. An application for funding is in progress

If you and your Centre might be interested in participating in this trial, we would be very grateful if you could take a little while to answer the following questions, and then email your reply to us.

Please be aware that all we are asking for at this stage are preliminary

Nottingham Gateway
Hotel, Registration Deadline:
10th November 2008

Please contact christine.spiller@swbh.nhs.uk for further information

UK & Ireland Neuroendocrine Tumour Society Meeting

1st December 2008
The Royay Society of Medicine
Registration: www.ukinets.org.uk
Enquiries
enquiries@ukinets.org

Alcohol - Impact on ethnic minority populations in the UK

2nd December 2008
at Royal College of Physicians
Regents Park, London

Meeting First Announcement

[Click here for further information](#)

Colorectal Congress 2008

3rd - 6th December 2008 in St. Gallen, Switzerland
Main Topics: Colon Cancer and Inflammatory Bowel Diseases (IBD)

[Download Program](#)

The Mattu Oesophago-gastric Cancer Symposium

8-10 December
'Minimally invasive approaches to oesophageal and gastric cancer'
Postgraduate Medical School,
Guildford, Surrey.

expressions of interest – responding does not commit you to anything at the present time.

We will get back to you once we have finalised our proposals and secured funding.

1. Approximately how many duodenal stents have you and your Department deployed to date?
2. Approximately how many patients with duodenal obstruction do you palliate (stent or surgery) per year?
4. Please list the staff you would have available to support the trial - At least an interested Radiologist, Surgeon, and access to research nurse support (eg NCRI).

Please email your response to c.d.johnson@soton.ac.uk by 7th November 2008.

Many thanks for all your help.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely

Colin Johnson
Consultant Pancreatic Surgeon
Chief Investigator

On behalf of
Basil Ammori, David Berry, David Breen, Ross Carter, Steve George,
Scott Harris, Clive Kay

Reducing Alcohol Harm: Health Services in England for Alcohol Misuse

Alcohol-related ill-health is an increasing burden for the National Health Service. Alcohol misuse costs the health service in the order of £2.7 billion a year, but efforts to address it locally are not in general well-planned, the National Audit Office reported today. The Department of Health is however raising the profile of alcohol misuse by providing information and guidance to underpin local action, centred on encouraging PCTs to gauge their performance against the rate of alcohol-related hospital admissions.

- [Full Report](#)
- [Executive Summary](#)

PhD Studentship in Inflammatory Bowel Disease

Programme

Hepatology 2009 Course

25th-27th January 2009
Royal Free & University College
Medical School
Hampstead, London, UK

[Click here for further information](#)

The Royal Marsden Cholangiocarcinoma Conference

29th January 2009
Royal Society of Medicine
1 Wimpole Street, London

[Click here for further information](#)



21 -25 November 2009 ExCeL London

Please note following deadlines:

**Opening of Abstract Submission:
January 2009**

Deadline for Abstract Submission:
8 June 2009

Reviewing of abstracts:
15-26 June 2009

Abstract handling meeting, Vienna:
10-11 July 2009

Deadline for late breaking Abstract
Submission:
17 July 2009

CICRA invites applications for funding of a 3 year PhD studentship in a research group with a proven track record of high quality output in gut immunology and inflammation of IBD genetics.

The appropriate annual stipend and home/EU tuition fees will be paid as well as a modest sum for consumables. The studentship will start in Autumn 2009 for 36 months.

For an application form containing further details of the terms and conditions of the award available email:

Martina Gaffney, Charity Co-ordinator
martinagaffney@cicra.org

Application forms must be returned by 30th November 2008

NEW BSG VACANCIES

The below three senior BSG positions will become vacant after March's Annual Meeting. We are keen to receive applications from ANY member who is interested in one of the positions. The deadline for all three positions is January 8th, 2009. Interviews will be held at the end of January.

Secretary

Applications are invited for the post of BSG Junior Secretary, to commence after the Annual BSG Meeting in March 2009. The postholder will join the BSG's Executive Committee and play a key role in the management of the Society. Administratively, the post-holder will be one of the responsible officers for the Society. On policy, the post-holder would work with our public affairs firm, to respond to media enquiries and improve the information we provide for patients. They will be a member of the Public Affairs and Education Committees and Council's Strategy Group.

This is a two year post and will progress to BSG Senior Secretary, a further two year post.

Those who would like to apply should email a two page CV with a letter of application to Tom Smith (t.smith@bsg.org.uk) by January 8th 2009. Interviews will be held at the end of January.

Vice-Chair Clinical Services and Standards Committee.

Applications are invited for the post of Vice-Chair, Clinical Services and Standards Committee BSG, to commence after the Annual meeting BSG March 2009. Job description is available from BSG office, a major role of



Abstract submission for DDW 2009 is open now through 1st December 2008.

Registration for DDW 2009 opens **7th January 2009** for members of AASLD, AGA, ASGE and SSAT and **21st January** for nonmembers.

Website: www.ddw.org

ASNEMGE Young Investigator Workshop 2009

**January 23-25 2009
Vienna, Austria**

ASNEMGE is happy to announce another Young Investigator Meeting (YIM) to be held from January 23-25, 2009, in Vienna, Austria.

Please note that the deadline for application is November 28, 2008.

[Further Information](#)
[Preliminary Programme](#)
[Registration Form](#)

**St. Mark's Hospital -
Educational CDs and DVDs**

the post is the commissioning & Editing of BSG Guidelines. The postholder will liaise with GUT in the role of Associate Editor GUT (Guidelines). Other duties include the Clinical Services and Standards Committee meetings and deputising for the Chair Clinical Services and Standards Committee. This is a rewarding and particularly important post in the BSG and previous experience on BSG committees would be an advantage.

This is a 3 year post. It will usually progress to Chair, Clinical Services and Standards Committee. for a further 3 years by mutual agreement with the BSG executive committee.

Please submit application to Chris Romaya, Executive Secretary, c.romaya@bsg.org.uk by 9th January 2009.

Workforce Co-ordinator

The role of Workforce co-ordinator for the BSG will become vacant in April 2009, following the spring BSG meeting. This is an important role to help advise on workforce issues within gastroenterology, particularly concerning the medical workforce.

The co-ordinator should hold a substantive post within gastroenterology. The post holder liaises closely with Chris Romaya within the BSG, concerning the annual workforce census and is responsible for producing an annual report which is widely disseminated.

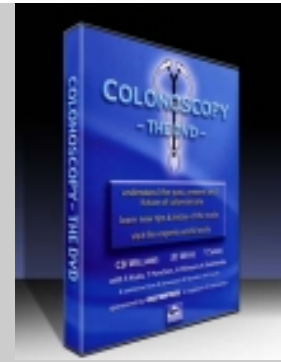
They sit on the Training, Devolution and Clinical Services and Standards committees of the BSG and the Joint speciality committee for gastroenterology and Hepatology at the RCP. The post holder meets annually with the Workforce review team of the Dept of Health on behalf of the BSG. For any enquiries concerning this post please contact Dr Nick Thompson (0191 244 8584, Nick.Thompson@nuth.nhs.uk)

Please submit application to Chris Romaya, Executive Secretary, c.romaya@bsg.org.uk by 9th January 2009.

Vacancy for Flexible Training Co-Ordinator

Alistair McIntyre has been holding the role of flexible training co-ordinator for the BSG over the last few years but has now decided that it is time to pass it on. We are therefore looking for someone who could take this on. It will not involve a great deal of your time, if you wish you can contact Dr McIntyre at Alistair.McIntyre@buckshosp.nhs.uk or on 01494 425594 who will give you more details.

If you are interested in taking on the role then please let Chris Romaya know at c.romaya@bsg.org.uk; or 020 7935 2815



St. Mark's Hospital is a leading provider of medical training materials in gastro-intestinal care, catering for students, doctors, nurses, research scientists, surgeons and patients to a professional standard.

A variety of educational CDs and DVDs and interactive DVD-ROMs have been produced by an international line-up of top endoscopic professionals and surgeons.

The library contains everything from practical colonoscopy, nutrition, nurse training in endoscopy, fistula in ano, laparoscopic surgery and advanced polypectomy to new techniques and methods such as Narrow Band Imaging and ESD (endoscopic submucosal dissection).

You can find out more about the St. Mark's range of DVDs at this website: [Click Here](#)

RCP - College Commentary

The two following documents produced by the RCP contain some useful information.

- [CPD / Educational Activities 2008/9](#)
- [College Commentary](#)

Sir Francis Avery Jones BSG Research Award 2009

Applications are invited by the Education Committee of the British Society of Gastroenterology who will recommend to Council the recipient of the 2009 Award. Applications should include:

1. A manuscript (2 A4 pages ONLY) describing the work conducted.
2. A bibliography of relevant personal publications.
3. An outline of the proposed content of the lecture, including title.
4. A written statement confirming that all or a substantial part of the work has been personally conducted in the UK or Eire.

Entrants must be 40 years or less on 31 December 2008 but need not be a member of the Society.

The recipient will be required to deliver a 30 minute lecture at the annual meeting of the Society in Glasgow in March 2009. Applications should be composed electronically in Word or Rich Text format and emailed as an attachment to the BSG Office (A.Orgusaar@bsg.org.uk) by 31st December 2008.

Dame Sheila Sherlock Travelling Fellowships in Hepatology

These Fellowships have been offered by Dr Geraint James in memory of his wife, Dame Sheila Sherlock. Their purpose is to offer consultants and specialist registrars the opportunity to learn new techniques and acquire new experiences, ideas and stimulation by travel and exchange of ideas.

Applications are invited from consultants and specialist registrars for the next Dame Sheila Sherlock Hepatology Fellowships. Two Travelling Fellowships are available covering a period of one month each and will be offered to one consultant and one trainee. Each Fellowship will be for a maximum of £2,000, with the recipients being responsible for funding any additional costs. Initial applications should be submitted on the appropriate forms.

Closing date for applications is 2 January 2009.

Link: www.rcplondon.ac.uk/trustfunds

BSG/TiG National Training Survey in Gastroenterology

Dear Gastro Trainee,

As you will be aware, there have been many recent changes to postgraduate training in the UK. Compliance with the European Working Time Directive (EWTD) and the advent of MMC have altered the delivery of training across the board. Our speciality in particular has seen dramatic changes, with the ratification of the new subspeciality of Hepatology and innovations for accreditation in Endoscopy.

We are seeking your view on the current state of training in gastroenterology across the country. This represents a 'snapshot' of trainees' opinion of their training, and is invaluable to highlight discrepancies, deficiencies and excellence in training across the UK. It will be used to inform both the development of the BSG and your training programmes.

Please click on the link below to give us your opinion. The survey will take you less than 10 minutes of your time. Your answers will remain anonymous and by completing our survey you will be entered into a prize draw for £500, kindly donated by the Joint Advisory Group for gastrointestinal endoscopy (JAG).

[Link to Survey](#)

If you have any problems or difficulties filling out the survey, please contact Dr Adam Haycock on ahaycock@nhs.net.

Thank you for your participation.

Adam Haycock & Stuart Kendrick BSG Trainees Section Chair TiG Chair
On behalf of the British Society of Gastroenterology and Trainees in Gastroenterology.

Michael Jack MP visits Blackpool 's new Gastroenterology Unit

Michael Jack, Conservative MP for Fylde, visited Blackpool Victoria Hospital in September to see the state-of-the-art facilities at the new Gastroenterology Unit.

Mr Jack met with BSG members Dr Chris Shorrock, Dr Peter Isaacs (pictured) and other staff for a tour of the unit and was told about recent service developments which are transforming services for patients, including capsule endoscopy and endoscopic ultrasound.

The new unit houses four endoscopy suites – double the capacity of the

old unit – enabling the Trust to increase the work it carries out and reduce waiting times for patients.

Commenting on the visit, Mr Jack said:

“I have been very impressed with what I have seen today. There seems to have been a huge leap forward in the diagnostic techniques that are now available locally.

“Patients will be very reassured to know that the facilities here are among the best available. The unit has access to modern techniques and imagery that years ago were not available.”

Following the visit, Dr Chris Shorrock, Divisional Director for Medicine, said:

“Our new unit now puts Blackpool back where it used to be with state of the equipment and new technologies previously only available elsewhere. This enables us to provide high quality gastroenterology services locally for our patients as good as any that can be provided in the UK. The new unit has also given us the opportunity to develop an ‘out of hours’ GI bleed service, giving our patients 24hr 365 day access to GI bleeding advice and endoscopy.”

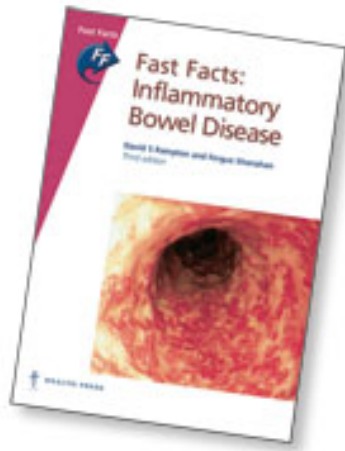
The visit follows approaches by the BSG to MPs to visit local gastroenterology units.



Photo: From Left-Right Dr Chris Shorrock, Consultant Gastroenterologist and Divisional Director for Medicine, Teresa Buenavenbura, Sarah Gledhill, Dr Peter Isaacs, Consultant Gastroenterologist, and Michael Jack MP.

Fast Facts: IBD, 3rd Edition

This new edition of the fast facts book on IBD by David S Rampton and Fergus Shanahan has recently been published. The 2nd edition won the BMA Medical Book Award for Gastroenterology and is a resource for all healthcare professionals working with people with IBD, particularly generalists and even for patients who wish to know more about their condition.



The book ordinarily sells for £10 but as a special offer for BSG members it is available for £6 if you visit the www.fastfacts.com and enter the voucher code 'SP6' at the checkout stage.

CORE

WANTED! - Adventurous people throughout the UK to do something like this...



for FREE!

JUMP FOR CORE!

Dare devils are needed by Core - the Digestive Disorders Foundation to take part in a thrilling sponsored sky dive to raise funds for research into the causes, prevention and treatment of gut and liver diseases.

No experience is required and if you raise the minimum amount of sponsorship you will get to jump for **FREE!** Dates are available throughout the year and at several destinations in the UK.

We ask you to raise a minimum amount of sponsorship money in order for you to jump for free (from £360 depending on the jump you choose) and in turn we will receive an average donation of £140. Every extra pound that you raise over the minimum goes directly to Core so please raise as much as you possibly can!

Chloe Wicks, Core's community fundraiser did a tandem skydive for the first time. "I had an incredible and surreal experience, I loved the freefall

especially, I recommend doing a skydive to anyone!"

For an information pack or if you would like to find out about other challenge events please call Chloe on 020 7034 4972 or e-mail chloe@corecharity.org.uk

Further information about the work of Core can be found at www.corecharity.org.uk.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

If you believe that you received this message in error and/or do not wish to receive further emails, please [click here](#).

British Society of Gastroenterology, 3 St Andrews Place, Regent's Park, London NW1 4LB