

PMG Trustees' Annual Report 2017/18

Welcome to our 2018 Conference, and a particularly warm welcome if you are new to PMG!

AGM 2018: see flyer in delegate bag. Download papers www.pmguk.co.uk/about-pmg/agm-2018-papers

Annual Conference

The conference is by far the biggest task in the PMG calendar. 640 people have registered for the 2018 event and, as usual, the exhibition is sold out. We are extremely grateful to RMS Ltd, South West Seating & Rehab, Specialised Orthotic Services, and Sunrise Medical for providing sponsorship to pay for the special extras that help make the event so enjoyable.

We know that getting funding for training is becoming more and more difficult, and we must acknowledge here the support of the companies who sponsor delegates to attend the conference. PMG too is funding 15 places through the bursary scheme.

Enormous thanks also to Helen Critten-Rourke, whose first conference as chair of the planning committee is happily here in her home city!

Best Practice Guidelines (BGP's)

The 2010 BPG *Transportation of people seated in wheelchairs* is under review; we will report back on the review's progress over the coming months.

Communications and Marketing

We had worried that the new general data protection regulation (GDPR) might decimate our mailing list. In the event, hundreds of you asked to stay in contact - quite a result, when you recall how fed up we all were in the build up to May's GDPR deadline!

Executive Committee/Trustees

In September 2017, Diane Hargrove left the posture and mobility field, and stood down as chair of PMG. We wish to formally acknowledge here Diane's immense contribution to PMG over many years, and wish her well in her change of career.

The three remaining trustees - Susan Gold, Susan Hillman and Pam Harper - held their first meeting in early October 2017, when Susan Gold agreed to

become interim chair of PMG until the 2018 AGM. Nathan Robson from the Conference, Education & Communications committee was subsequently appointed interim vice-chair, and Lorna Tasker (Research committee) re-joined the executive committee, becoming countries representative.

Journal

We are very fortunate that Clare Canale continues as editor of the online journal; however, like all her predecessors, Clare would appreciate more content from you the members! As well as contributing to the greater good of the field, it's a very good CPD opportunity for you. So please get writing!

Research Fund

The PMG Research fund has now been running for over 13 years, and the trustees feel it's timely for a review of the scheme. This review will take place in late summer/early autumn 2018.

Staffing

The PMG office in Exeter continues to provide a cost-effective base for our two members of staff. This year the external company, Conference Collective, have been supporting them through the management of the conference exhibition.

Training

There were two free PMG training events in 2017 - one at Naidex in April, the other during the OT Show in November, with most sessions attracting capacity audiences. We wish to thank all those who so generously gave of their time to deliver the training.

This year, in conjunction with the International Society of Wheelchair Professionals, we're piloting a basic training course alongside the main conference (on Wednesday only). If successful, PMG aims to provide this one-day training on a regular basis, also hopefully adding an intermediate level in future.

Finally

We wish all of you an enjoyable and worthwhile conference and hope to see you again next year in Telford!

PMG Trustees, July 2018