

PMG TRUSTEES' REVIEW 2021

Welcome to the PMG AGM 2021!

The formal Trustee's Report is contained in the PMG 2020 end of year annual report/accounts. You can download this, and other AGM papers, via www.pmguk.co.uk/about-pmg/agm-2021

Conference & Training

As you will be aware, the next PMG conference has been further postponed to July 2022, and we have been able to strike a favourable deal with Telford International Centre to hold the 2023 and 2024 conferences there too.

Following the success of the two webinars held at the end of 2020, PMG hosted three more webinars in 2021, including the one preceding the AGM today. Our thanks to all the presenters, and also to Joyjit Sarkar for his continued commitment and hard work on the webinars project; also to Nathan Robson for editing the webinar recordings as webcasts.

Journal

We are fortunate that Clare Canale continues as editor of the PMG journal, with support from Susan Hillman and Carolyn Nichols. Sadly, the Pandemic has meant even less of you than usual finding time to put pen to paper, and 2021 has been a particularly disheartening year for article submissions. We would really appreciate content from members, so do please consider writing for the journal - it's an excellent CPD opportunity!

Networks

PMG continues to work with the *National Wheelchair Managers' Forum* on matters of common interest. There is also PMG representation on the British Standards Institute's *Sub-committee CH173/1 [Wheelchairs and wheelchair seating]* – Paul Dryer. We maintain links with the *Rehabilitation Engineering Services Management Group (RESMAG)* - Paul Hewett, the *Wheelchair Leadership Alliance* – Richard Earl, and the *Wheelchair Advisory Group* – Kirsty-Ann Cutler. With our thanks to all four aforementioned!

Staffing

Once the decision was made in February 2021 to further postpone the PMG conference to July 2022, the PMG manager became furloughed for half the working week, making use of the Government's Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme. The Conference Collective team have continued to monitor for stand and delegate bookings, and will be back in full swing in March 2022.

Finally.....

PMG's only income comes from the annual conferences. With the 2020 event now postponed to July 2022, **three years** will have elapsed since the last PMG conference in July 2019, with the consequent strain on resources. Despite this, PMG continues to provide educational material and networking opportunities to members, as follows:

- organising the May, July and October webinars this year
- the PMG Facebook Forum is flourishing: 750 members at last count
- the library of webcasts from past conferences and webinars is freely available to PMG members. There are many posters to download also
- the *Best Practice Guidelines on Transportation of People Seated in Wheelchairs* is under review for a second time
- PMG provides employers with a free online job advertising service
- and, of course, we're now gearing up for next year's conference!

We hope you'll all agree that membership of PMG at no cost is a pretty good deal! Would you therefore kindly consider making a donation to help us continue to operate into the future? There are a few methods for supporting PMG financially, see via our Donate page www.pmguk.co.uk/about-pmg/donate. Your support will be hugely appreciated.

PMG Trustees, October 2021

Helen Critten-Rourke (Conference Chair),
Susan Gold (PMG Chair), **Pam Harper**
(Treasurer), **Susan Hillman** (Research brief),
Nathan Robson (Vice chair).