

## ANSA 4th Annual Conference, Nottingham 2005



This year delegates to the ANSA Annual Conference were treated to an educational bonus – two days instead of just one. Thursday, Amgen and Shire Pharmaceuticals sponsored a workshop on Bone Management in Anaemia. Three experts shared their considerable knowledge, giving ANSA members an in-depth education in the subject. Iain Macdougall, Consultant Nephrologist at Kings College Hospital spoke about the current issues and management of bone disease in anaemia, highlighting current trends and limitations. Next Lorraine Edwards, Clinical Research Nurse from Northern General Hospital, Sheffield spoke about the subject from a nursing perspective, identifying clinical concerns shared by many in the audience. Finally, John Cunningham, Consultant Nephrologist at the Middlesex Hospital, gave an overview of bone disease: from basic physiology of SHPT to the future management, indicating potentials for improvement in care.

The ANSA AGM followed the workshop. It was attended by almost 100 members. Minutes of the meeting will be circulated to members, but the highlights included a summary of a very active past year and even more exciting events planned for the coming twelve months. Membership of ANSA continues to increase, and thanks to our corporate sponsors, ANSA remains financially sound.

Thursday evening provided delegates a chance to catch up with news from the various units represented over a relaxing dinner. Friday morning began with an introduction by our outgoing president, Karen Jenkins. She will be a hard act to follow but I am sure she will continue to be a great source of knowledge and experience to us all.

For the first session we decided to go back to basics, though not too far, with an overview of anaemia by Dr Ivor Cavill who gave us a passionate and informative talk and convinced most of us that we should be looking at both reticulocyte absolute count and % retics in the future.

Ivor was followed by Dr Drew Proven from the Royal London. Drew gave us an insight into the intricacies of haemaglobinopathies and Hb electrophoresis and gave us a few ideas about investigating non-response to EPO.

Ivor and Drew were joined by Dr Iain Macdougall, who needs no introduction to anyone in renal anaemia, for the panel discussion. ANSA members took full advantage of the opportunity provided to question such a distinguished panel of experts and to their credit, managed to stretch the panel, demonstrating just how involved and committed anaemia nurses are. Well done, ANSA members!

Professor Jerome Rossart from the George Pompidou European Hospital in Paris, finished the morning session with a fascinating update on PRCA. Following a superb lunch, we welcomed Clare Taggart, a Clinical Governance Sister from Nottingham City Hospital who managed to present the topic of Clinical Governance with clarity and personal experience, giving it an interesting perspective.

Delegates were privileged to listen to Andrew Bott, a Renal patient from Nottingham, give a very moving and thought provoking insight into the world of renal patients and their families.

The afternoon continued with a comprehensive review of the NSF Part 2 from Jane McDonald from Hope Hospital, Manchester.

In the end, there was no better way to end our 4th annual conference than with a whistle stop tour of the future treatments of Anaemia Management from Dr Iain Macdougall from Kings College Hospital.

To round off the proceedings we announced the winner of the poster presentations. Congratulations to George Peebles. Many thanks to all those who submitted their posters, they were studied and enjoyed by all the delegates. We will look forward to seeing many more next year.

All Roche our incoming president closed the conference with her vision of the future of ANSA, which includes more in-depth study days to ensure all ANSA members have the opportunity to be the best that they can be.

We at ANSA would like to say a big thank you to all our speakers and sponsors at this year's conference. Once again the ANSA conference was a great success, judging by the evaluation forms, you all enjoyed it and felt it to be beneficial to your clinical practice.

Pat Sirett, ANSA Treasurer  
Chair for the morning session

Nancy Tannahill, ANSA Newsletter Editor  
Chair for the afternoon session

**The 3rd ANSA Masterclass on Diabetes** was held at the Paddington Hilton London on the 3rd December 2004. Dr. Steve Thomas, Diabetologist from Guy's & St. Thomas, chaired the day and also acted as Quizmaster, so watch out Pat you may have competition!

The line up of guest speakers and topics was impressive and comprehensive.

Dr. John New from Salford gave a presentation about Diabetic Nephropathy and Anaemia. Natasha McIntyre, Renal Nurse Consultant, Nottingham City Hospital then gave an overview of the issues affecting primary and secondary care.

After coffee, Diane Green, Senior Renal diettitian from Salford highlighted the complexity of the renal diabetic diet.

The quiz was held just prior to lunch, giving delegates the chance to discuss the quiz questions and the morning topics.

Alex Findley, Assistant Director National Diabetic Support Team, started the afternoon with a very interesting talk about implementing the Diabetes NSF in England.

Murudra Patel, Renal/Diabetes Pharmacist, from the Churchill in Oxford gave a comprehensive presentation about Drug Management in Diabetes.

Following tea break Karen Marchant, Renal Diabetic Nurse Specialist, Southmead Hospital told us that we "Could be better, Must be better" highlighting that ESRD and Diabetes should not be treated in isolation of each other.

The closing speaker was Paul Stevens, Head of Renal Medicine Kent & Canterbury Hospital, on the National Guidelines for referral to Nephrologist.

One of the main messages of the day was that Type II diabetes is a growing problem, which can be prevented by diet and exercise. Early intervention is the key in relation to slowing the disease process to ESRD.

Once again thanks to all the speakers for their excellent presentations enabling a better understanding of the diabetic disease process and its effects on CKD.

# ANSA NEWS

Welcome to the 2005 ANSA newsletter!

As ANSA has been undergoing some major changes over the past few months it has been hard to keep up with all that has been happening since 2005 began.

As you are aware the changes within the Executive Committee at the end of 2004 resulted in a new President-Elect Alison Roche and a new Treasurer-Elect Pat Sirett.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish Deborah Spencer all the best in her new job and to thank her for her valuable support and contribution as President Elect of ANSA from April 2003 – December 2004. A big thank you also goes to Lynn Fullerton whose firm hand as Treasurer has kept us on the right track for the past three years. Congratulations go to Lynn on the birth of Phoebe in March and to Eleanor Maloney on the birth of Charlie in May.

Also thanks to Pam Airey and Sandra Barnes for their efforts in supporting the ANSA committee over the past two years.

This is an exciting time for ANSA with membership constantly growing, from a mere 38 members in 2001 to a current 228 which includes 14 international members.

The new website [www.anaemianurse.org](http://www.anaemianurse.org) was launched last autumn and gives members the chance to view past conferences and keep up to date with future ANSA events.

ANSA is registered as a stakeholder for the NICE guidelines for Anaemia Management in Chronic Kidney Disease which means that we have the opportunity as an association to comment on any documents that are circulated regarding the development of these guidelines. ANSA is also represented on the guideline development by Alison Roche.

So it is now time for me to bid farewell to ANSA as President and to wish Alison all the best in her new role. I have seen ANSA grow from a small forum to an international association which would have not been possible without the hard work of the committee and its members. I am sure ANSA will continue to go from strength to strength under its new leadership.

Best Wishes to all for the future

Karen Jenkins  
Immediate Past President ANSA



It is with excitement and some apprehension that I take over as president of ANSA. Excitement, in that there are new times ahead in anaemia management in terms of new product development, and creative clinical management of anaemic patients. This in turn provides ANSA with opportunities for our members in terms of professional development and education.

My apprehension stems from a few insecurities that make me wonder if I can do even half the job that Karen did as president. She has led ANSA to the organisation it is today, continuing to build our membership (currently standing at 228 members), developing our collaboration with the pharmaceutical industry, and her never ending supply of new ideas to present as education opportunities for members.

Karen plans to remain very much an active committee member and I for one see her as pivotal in assisting me step up into the president's role. On behalf of all ANSA members and the executive committee I'd like to thank her for her wholehearted commitment to the development of ANSA and the ongoing development and delivery of our vision.

With best wishes

Alison



### ANSA Salutes Lynn Fullerton



Lynn Fullerton, Clinical Teacher at Nottingham University and Nottingham City Hospital, was the perfect person to take on the roll of treasurer just at a time when the Association was poised for growth. Since 2002, ANSA has experienced an increase in membership of almost 500%! Members are expensive. They quite rightly, expect services and benefits from their chosen specialist professional association.

The ANSA Executive rose to the challenge by creating innovative and educational study days, Master-classes, conferences, specialist training days, and to meet the needs of members on a day-to-day basis. ANSA has been developing a first class website.

Lynn kept industry informed of the advantages of close collaboration and was rewarded with generous support.

The accounts grew in size and complexity, but Lynn took it all in her stride, keeping the balance sheets in order and as the saying goes, smiling all the way to the bank! Even at the busiest times, such as when preparing accounts for audit, Lynn kept her sense of humour and was a joy to work with – a true professional.

Thanks, Lynn for being a terrific Treasurer. Good luck with you chosen new venture of motherhood. Phoebe's a lucky little girl.