

**Minutes of the 2014 Annual General Meeting of the  
British Association of Endocrine & Thyroid Surgeons  
Liverpool Town Hall  
Liverpool**

**9 October 2014**

**1 Apologies**

No apologies received.

All 9 members of the Executive were present.

**2 Minutes of the AGM, Rome, 2013**

The minutes from the Rome meeting were agreed as written.

**3 President's Report – Mr D Scott-Coombes**

3.1 The President reported the positive reception he received at his presentation regarding the BAETS National Registry. The ENT UK Executive have recommended that all members of that organisation undertaking thyroid surgery should also become members of BAETS in order to enter patients onto the BAETS National Registry and also to avail themselves of the educational opportunities available to BAETS members.

3.2 The ASGBI National Congress was to be held in Manchester in 2015 and there are plans to hold Specialty Surgery sessions one of which would be Endocrine Surgery. BAETS have been approached to assist with a program and the President is co-ordinating a faculty.

3.3 The President also gave thanks to Alison Waghorn and colleagues for their efforts in arranging the Liverpool conference.

#### **4 Treasurer's Report – Mr J Davis**

4.1 The Treasurer gave a summary of the Associations finances to the members attending including details of income and expenditure. As predicted, for the ASGBI financial year (Apr 2013 - Dec 2013 inclusive), expenditure exceeded income. The forecast for the next ASGBI financial year (Jan 2014 - Dec 2014) is net income/expenditure parity. There will probably be a modest increase in overall reserves.

4.2 The Eurocrine project has its independent account under the umbrella of BAETS finances. This is a cost neutral venture as costs are re-imbursed by Eurocrine funds.

4.3 BAETS has taken on a significant expenditure stream with annual support for the Surgical Trials Initiative for 3 years and this will require careful monitoring. Some of this cost has been offset by grants from the Get A-Head charity.

4.4 Profits from the annual BAETS Masterclass at the Royal College of Surgeons of England are shared with the college. The Treasurer was pleased to report that the profit from the 2014 Masterclass was £2987.50.

#### **5 Secretary's Report – Mr A Gandhi**

5.1 There was an invitation to the membership to apply for the role of Education Lead for BAETS following the departure of Alison Waghorn from this position. Four very high quality applications were received and discussed at the BAETS executive meeting. After much discussion Mr David Smith, Consultant Endocrine Surgeon was chosen for the post. Mr Smith had until recently been the Wade Chair of Education at the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and it was felt by the Executive that his experience and contacts gave him the edge over the other excellent applicants. Mr Smith commences his post with immediate effect.

5.2 BAETS are developing a members profile page on its website as a service to its membership. On this page BAETS will place a requirement for the minimum information of name, GMC number and affiliation. Members can then choose to add optional data such as email addresses, secretarial telephone numbers, details of practice in the independent sector, photo etc. All information on the profile page will be open to the public. Such a page will allow members to display their membership

of a specialty association to the public and may also be of use to patients/GPs wishing to seek a local specialist for treatment.

5.3 Access to the BAETS National Registry has been requested from time to time by members for the purposes of audit and research. The implications of this has been carefully examined by members of the Executive and discussed at great length. To ensure that access to the data is fair and justifiable, and acknowledging the responsibility of BAETS towards the confidentiality and integrity of the data a “Data Access Form” has been created and will be available for download from the website. This form will require applicants to detail the nature of the project they wish to pursue and will be subject to peer review. Any costs for data cleansing by Dendrite will be met by the applicants. There will be stringent assessment of any applications and it is expected that a maximum of 1 or 2 applications will succeed in any one calendar year. Deadlines for submissions will be on the website and will be around mid August and mid January for discussion at the October and March executive meetings respectively.

5.4 Research Grants are available from a number of organisations and members were reminded of this. In addition they should be aware that applications can also be made to National Cancer Research Institute, Get-Ahead Charity and BAETS itself (application form on website).

## **6 Research Update – Mr R Mihai**

6.1 The Clinical Research Initiative is a programme led by the Royal College of Surgeons of England to promote the development of clinical research within surgery. BAETS is a collaborator within this initiative and recognises clinical research as essential for promoting best practice for the care of patients. Mr Mihai presented data showing an increase in the number of surgical trials and the number of patients recruited since the onset of the initiative. Growth in colorectal research has particularly increased and this is felt to be due to trainee engagement into the process of research.

6.2 Within the clinical research initiative, Mr Mihai explained his vision for the ThyVoice Study to examine voice outcomes following thyroid surgery. It is hoped that this project would get R&D approval by December 2014 and a grant will be submitted to NIHR Research for Patient Benefit by

Mr A Gandhi MD FRCS  
Secretary BAETS  
Nightingale & Genesis Breast Unit  
University Hospital of South Manchester  
Manchester  
M23 9LT  
Tel: +44 (0) 161 291 4433  
Fax: +44 (0) 161 291 4435  
ashu.gandhi@manchester.ac.uk

Mr J Davis FRCS  
Treasurer BAETS  
Dept of ENT, Head & Neck Surgery  
Medway Maritime Hospital  
Gillingham  
ME7 5NY  
Tel: +44 (0) 1634 825051  
Fax: +44 (0) 1634 833931  
jeremy.davis@nhs.net

Mr D Scott-Coombes FRCS  
President BAETS  
Department of Endocrine Surgery, C2 Office  
University Hospital of Wales  
Cardiff  
CF14 4XW  
Tel +44 (0) 29 20 74 33 49  
Fax +44 (0) 29 20 74 44 53  
david.scott-coombes@wales.nhs.uk

January 2015. Patient recruitment could potentially commence October 2015 if approval and funding is achieved.

6.3 There is also the concept of the noTG-no RI study which is currently under development. The concept was put to the membership to see if there would be any potential impediment to the entering of patients into this putative study. The project is designed to consider whether patients with low risk thyroid cancer and undetectable thyroglobulin rates post thyroidectomy could be randomised between current treatment (radio-iodine) and no further treatment, the hypothesis being that omitting radio-iodine in a select group of patients would be safe and acceptable and allow the avoidance of radio-iodine related side effects.

6.4 The Surgical Endocrine Research Network UK is an initiative to develop a community of endocrine and thyroid surgeons within the UK. The network receives the support of ENT UK and BAETS as well as the Royal College of Surgeons. The website for SERN-UK was presented to the AGM. This would be an excellent mechanism for involving trainees in endocrine and thyroid research.

## **7 Consultant Outcomes Publication – Mr D Chadwick, Mr A Skene**

A formal session on COP was presented by Msrs Chadwick and Skene on the second day of the Annual Conference so this topic was not discussed in detail at the AGM. At this formal session the membership were informed of improvements/updates on the Registry. There have been emails to the membership over the summer informing of the new developments and details will also be provided in the BAETS Winter Newsletter. A detailed “walk through” of the changes in data entry was undertaken along with in depth discussion of some current and potential future audit parameters.

## **8 Future BAETS Annual Scientific Meetings**

2015	October 8, 9	Reading / Henley on Thames
2016	November 10, 11	Berlin (exact dates to be confirmed)
2017	October	Belfast (exact dates to be confirmed)

Mr A Gandhi MD FRCS  
Secretary BAETS  
Nightingale & Genesis Breast Unit  
University Hospital of South Manchester  
Manchester  
M23 9LT  
Tel: +44 (0) 161 291 4433  
Fax: +44 (0) 161 291 4435  
ashu.gandhi@manchester.ac.uk

Mr J Davis FRCS  
Treasurer BAETS  
Dept of ENT, Head & Neck Surgery  
Medway Maritime Hospital  
Gillingham  
ME7 5NY  
Tel: +44 (0) 1634 825051  
Fax: +44 (0) 1634 833931  
jeremy.davis@nhs.net

Mr D Scott-Coombes FRCS  
President BAETS  
Department of Endocrine Surgery, C2 Office  
University Hospital of Wales  
Cardiff  
CF14 4XW  
Tel +44 (0) 29 20 74 33 49  
Fax +44 (0) 29 20 74 44 53  
david.scott-coombes@wales.nhs.uk

**9 Any Other Business**

Professor Krukowski raised the issue of engagement with the wide number of surgeons performing adrenal surgery to encourage data capture on outcomes on the BAETS National Registry. This is work in progress and Mr Palazzo is currently engaged in a process of collaboration with the multiple stakeholders to try to assess current practice and consider improvements including the collection of outcome data onto the National Registry. All agreed that further efforts should be made to create an adrenal session within a future annual conference which could be held in parallel with a neck based session allowing delegates to attend whichever captured their interest.

**10 Date of Next AGM**

To be held on 8 October 2015 in Henley on Thames



Ashu Gandhi  
Secretary

Mr A Gandhi MD FRCS  
Secretary BAETS  
Nightingale & Genesis Breast Unit  
University Hospital of South Manchester  
Manchester  
M23 9LT  
Tel: +44 (0) 161 291 4433  
Fax: +44 (0) 161 291 4435  
ashu.gandhi@manchester.ac.uk

Mr J Davis FRCS  
Treasurer BAETS  
Dept of ENT, Head & Neck Surgery  
Medway Maritime Hospital  
Gillingham  
ME7 5NY  
Tel: +44 (0) 1634 825051  
Fax: +44 (0) 1634 833931  
jeremy.davis@nhs.net

Mr D Scott-Coombes FRCS  
President BAETS  
Department of Endocrine Surgery, C2 Office  
University Hospital of Wales  
Cardiff  
CF14 4XW  
Tel +44 (0) 29 20 74 33 49  
Fax +44 (0) 29 20 74 44 53  
david.scott-coombes@wales.nhs.uk