



BSHP Gazette

The Newsletter of the British Society for the History of Pharmacy

June 2017

Number 1

A Note from the President

This year BSHP forges its own history. In our Golden Anniversary Year we are launching a new version of the *Pharmaceutical Historian* and this new Gazette.

The *Historian* will be available on the internet and therefore available to interested readers throughout the World. Stuart Anderson is the new editor following the retirement of Ainley Wade. Ainley has worked hard to produce a journal of international fame in the history of pharmacy for which I would like to give him my personal thanks.

The Gazette will be aimed at the BSHP Membership and aims to keep you informed of events and activities of the Society. I do hope that many of you will contribute your own comments and news. Our thanks go to Roy Allcorn who has undertaken the editorship of the Gazette.

Thank you all for your continued support.

Peter Homan
President

A Golden Celebration

Celebrating 50 years was always going to be an interesting challenge logistically but if we say so ourselves we made the perfect choice by returning to our roots at the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) at their new headquarters in East Smithfield. BSHP was formed by the Pharmaceutical Society, as it was, back in 1967 when it had its premises in Bloomsbury Square. The RPS opened its doors for us on a Saturday morning and we had a morning of personal nostalgia looking backwards and then forwards almost to the next 50 years. Details of the talks given appear on page 3.



This picture shows current and past officers along with some founder members of the BSHP gathered at the RPS Headquarters just before a "birthday" cake was ceremonially cut by the then President Roy Allcorn. The cake had been kindly donated by the Best Western Hotels Group (see photo overleaf) not only in recognition of the event but also as a thank you from them to us as we use their hotels for our annual conferences.

Everyone is standing in front of the original stained glass window from Bloomsbury Square which displays the original RPSGB coat of arms.

A blog reporting the conference posted by Briony Hudson appears at this location:
www.pharmaceutical-journal.com/opinion/blogs/pharmacy-history-past-present-and-future/20202661.blog

We were delighted to welcome 10 students among the 55 participants attending on the Saturday which was a higher proportion than normal.

Welcome to the BSHP Gazette

This is the name chosen for our new newsletter which is being introduced mainly because of changes in the format of the *Pharmaceutical Historian* but also because it will enable us to communicate news and other items of interest directly to you. It will be produced quarterly and whilst this issue has been printed, after this one it will be only available by email. It will also be published on our new website, more about this below.

So importantly if you wish to receive further issues after this one you will need to request them by email and in making this response we seek your permission to not only hold your email address but to also use it for e-mailing to you the Gazette and other items.

Please request the Gazette by emailing honsec@bshp.org

As said earlier by our new President we certainly welcome feedback from you about items you would like to be included here, or not, letters of general interest, plus any news items you would like to share amongst the membership. The intention is not to have articles as such but to share committee news, forward dates, reports on BSHP events, and general pharmacy history news. Please use the same email address above to contact us.

Roy Allcorn
Editor

Conference photo gallery

Some images from our golden jubilee weekend:



Peter Homan explaining a Museum display



Saturday evening and the conference anniversary dinner



The special "Birthday" cake

Our 2017 Annual General Meeting (Held Sunday 2nd April)

The election of the BSHP Officers took place at our AGM - the results of this being:

President	Mr Peter Homan	president@bshp.org
Vice-President	Mr Ainley Wade	ainley.wade@easynet.co.uk
Honorary Secretary	Mr Roy Allcorn	honsec@bshp.org
Treasurer	Mrs Deborah Bishop	deborahbishop1@btinternet.com
Other committee responsibilities are:		
Conference Organiser	Ms Briony Hudson	conference@bshp.org
Programme Secretary	Dr Chris Duffin	events@bshp.org
Editor <i>Pharmaceutical Historian</i>	Dr Stuart Anderson	editor@bshp.org

BSHP Website

Please look out very soon for our exciting new website with lots of new features at www.bsph.org.

Conference talks – given on the Saturday morning were:

Nicholas Wood "Sugar and spice and all things nice: What apothecaries were made of"
Ainley Wade "History of the *Pharmaceutical Historian*"
Briony Hudson "History of 'The Square' "
Peter Homan "BSHP then and now"
John Betts "The RPS Museum - its activities and collections"
Stuart Anderson "Pharmacopoeias held by the RPS Museum"

Posters for the day were presented by Christiane Staiger, Chris Duffin and 4 students from John Moore's University, Liverpool [Adeloja Mercy, Rebecca Burrows, Michael Klyne and Kathleen Pritchard]

On the Sunday morning after the AGM we had these presentations on research by:

Katey Logan, the 2017 Burnby Award winner – "Hearing the voices of Boots Pharmacists: an investigation of identity, 1930 -2000"

Toby Man Hei Ho, The Rajesh Joshi Memorial Bursary holder – "The history of the National Pharmacy Association"

Professor Axel Helmstädter "From Kew to the world: Botanical explorer's ethnopharmacological heritage"

Committee news

On the Sunday morning of the Conference we said a very big thank-you to two long-serving members of our committee who were handing over the reins of two key roles this year:



Picture (left) shows Roy Allcorn (President 2015/2016) presenting Shirley Ellis with an engraved Dartington Crystal vase. Shirley retired from being Conference Organiser, a role she had done since the Conference in Cambridge in 2004.



Here Roy is presenting Ainley Wade with an engraved Dartington Crystal brandy glass (yet to be unwrapped!). Ainley retired from being Editor of the *Pharmaceutical Historian* which he started doing in June 2000.

Burnby Memorial Bursary 2018

Applications for our annual prize for students will be launched in July. The Burnby Memorial Bursary, worth £500, is open to all students. The successful applicant will have an opportunity to present a short talk on an area of original pharmacy history research at our 2018 conference (to be held near Nottingham). The Bursary pays for their attendance at the conference plus £250. Previous winners have included both pharmacy and history students, on topics ranging from treatments for eczema, pharmacists in the NHS, and medicines in 1914. More details and a short application form will be available soon on our website, plus this information is sent to all Schools of Pharmacy and to History of Medicine departments. Please get in touch with the Honorary Secretary if you would like a form emailed directly to you, or if you have any further queries.

Recent links of interest

- 1) This blog was posted by Briony Hudson about "Medicinal Plants-Britain's Home Grown Wartime Allies" the BSHP evening lecture on Monday 9th May by Professor Peter Ayres: www.pharmaceutical-journal.com/opinion/blogs/medicinal-plants-britains-home-grown-wartime-allies/20202796.blog
- 2) Details of the RPS Museum App, officially launched at the BSHP Conference, can be found here: www.rpharms.com/resources/apps/rps-museum

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 5 th July	Visit to John Bell and Croyden – see the enclosed flyer – please note that places are limited.
Monday 9 th October	Evening meeting (5.30pm) at UCL School of Pharmacy “Damien Hirst – the art patron and pharmacy” by Szu Wong.
November – date and time to be confirmed	Joint meeting between BSHP and the UCL School of Pharmacy, 29-39 Brunswick Square, London.
Wednesday 6 th to Friday 8 th December	Three day course at the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries “History of Pharmacy and the Pharmaceutical Industry”.
Friday 6 th April to Sunday 8 th April 2018	The 2018 BSHP Annual Conference is being held next year at a hotel near Nottingham (see next item).

Conference 2018

Our next Conference is booked for Friday 6th to Sunday 8th April 2018 at the Best Western Premier Yew Lodge Hotel, Kegworth, Derbyshire (www.yewlodgehotel.co.uk). Booking information will be available later in the year. Our programme is planned to include the usual mixture of talks and social activities, plus a visit to the Boots Archive in Nottingham. Members are invited now to get in touch with Briony Hudson, Conference Organiser, if they would like to give a short paper on the Saturday morning, or to bring a poster. Talks on any pharmacy history topics are very welcome, although as 2018 is the 400th anniversary of the first London Pharmacopoeia and the 500th anniversary of the founding of the Royal College of Physicians, talks with links to either milestone would be appropriate. Briony can be contacted by email via conference@bshp.org.

Pharmaceutical Historian : An International Journal for the History of Pharmacy

With this mailing you will have received a printed copy of our journal. This will be available shortly online as pdfs through Ingenta. Details of how to access it this way will follow soon.

Membership

We'd dearly love to recruit more members as our numbers have reduced over recent years. If you know anyone who might be interested then do please ask them to email our Honorary Secretary for more information or for an application form (email details on page 2).

Membership brings many benefits including:

- Four issues of the *Pharmaceutical Historian*
- Regular meetings, with guest speakers, usually held February, May and October
- Visits to places of historic interest, museums, libraries pharmacies, botanical gardens etc.
- Details of special pharmacy history events
- Free use of the RPS library facilities in London for research
- This new Gazette
- Help with historical research
- Affiliation to the ISHP and the BSHM (British Society for the History of Medicine)

New members

We would like to give a warm welcome to the following new members:

Dr Hilary Ingram, Nottingham
Ms Katey Logan, Nottingham
Prof Dr Francois Ledermann, Bern, Switzerland
Dr Apostolos Zarros, Beckenham, Kent
Dr Noel Snell, Pishill, Oxon

Contacts:

Facebook: British Society for the History of Pharmacy Twitter : @PharmHist
BSHP Secretariat : info@bshp.org