



# BSHP Gazette

The Newsletter of the British Society for the History of Pharmacy

June 2018

Number 5

## A Note from the Editor

This issue provides a special report on our very successful annual conference including our visit to the Boots archive all illustrated with a photo gallery. We have also some key updates from our AGM, information about 2019 membership subscriptions, news regarding latest developments with the *Pharmaceutical Historian*, a data protection update, a report on our evening meeting last month, some dates for your diary and many other items which we hope you will find of interest.

## Annual Conference : 6-8 April 2018

This was held at the Best Western Premier Yew Lodge Hotel, Kegworth, Derbyshire (near Nottingham) and our special thanks must go to Briony Hudson, our conference organiser, for a full and interesting programme and also for the following summary she prepared of lectures and events.

"There were 46 participants overall including 32 members of the Society and 2 (pharmacy technician) students. The themes were Boots and the 400th anniversary of the London Pharmacopoeia.

Friday's dinner was followed by a talk by Professor John Beckett (Nottingham University) on *Jesse Boot: pharmacist and philanthropist*. For Saturday morning and after last year's 50th anniversary format, we reverted to our usual template of members' papers:

- Dr Graeme Tobyn - *Culpeper on distillations in his translation of the London Pharmacopoeia compared with his herbal*.
- Dr Chris Duffin - *Fraiskette or convulsion chains : 18th – 19th century magico-religious medicinal amulets from Bavaria and Austria*.
- Renzo Console - *Beautiful medical & pharmaceutical books in the course of the centuries*.
- Dr John Crellin - *The Scope of Pharmacy. John Quincy and the London Pharmacopoeia*.
- Patrick Chiu - *The First Hundred Years of Colonial Pharmacy in Hong Kong*.

The Saturday afternoon visit to Boots Archive was very successful. The staff provided an impressive range of material for us to view, as well as talking us through current projects.

Our Saturday dinner was followed by excellent musical entertainment from Chris Duffin (with contributions from Christiane Staiger).

We didn't know we had such talent in our midst.



Sunday began with the Annual General Meeting. This was followed by the Burnby Memorial Bursary talk from Alex Bowmer - *A View from the Farm: antimicrobial resistance before antibiotics c.1940-1960*. The conference closed with a paper from Dr Anna Greenwood (University of Nottingham) on *The Beginnings of a Healthcare Empire: the early international history of Boots the Chemists 1849-1925*. Posters were presented as follows : Norma Cox - *BP 1948* / Florian Eidam - *Ethnopharmacology in the Himalayas* / Scott Appleby - *Penicillin – "the miracle drug"* / and Rory Hicks - *Trading in the coat hanger to mifepristone: the transition between illegal self-induced abortion to the "abortion pill"*.

The conference successfully met our aims of attracting existing members, new members and non-members to share a common interest in pharmacy history in an enjoyable and welcoming atmosphere."

Please take a look at the photo gallery on page 4 which includes some illustrations from the visit to the Boots Archive. We had a guided tour all around their impressive archive of objects and documents.

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## Annual General Meeting - Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2018

At this the members present approved last year's Annual Report and our Financial Report for 2017.

Voting for the election Officers took place and the following were re-elected:

President : Peter Homan  
Vice-President : Ainley Wade  
Honorary Secretary : Roy Allcorn  
Honorary Treasurer : Deborah Bishop

The following nominations for committee members were voted on and accepted:

Stuart Anderson  
Peter Homan  
Ainley Wade  
Michelle Wake

We discussed the issue of succession planning (aka needing new blood) and would love to hear from any BSHP Member who is interested in joining the committee. We welcomed Kimberley Walker to our May committee meeting and who is interested in being co-opted. We can offer this route to others, for more information you just need to email [honsec@bshp.org](mailto:honsec@bshp.org).

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## Membership Subscriptions 2019

As mentioned in the last Gazette we have been reviewing our membership rates. Our expenditure has been increasing partly due to all the new things we have been providing (eg website, on-line journal, Gazette etc) but our income in real terms has been reducing. Our rates have not been increased since the 1990s and the AGM agreed to our proposal to set them at **£30 per member** and **£15 for registered students** for 2019. At the same time we got agreement to introduce payment by Direct Debit (and to phase out Standing Orders) and this will be more efficient and more flexible on both sides. More details on what to do and when will be issued with the September Gazette.

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## General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) - from 25<sup>th</sup> May

We are a small membership organisation and as such do not need to register under GDPR, but we must comply with the regulations. Having no employees we are exempt from keeping most of the documentation required under GDPR – particularly information regarding recording and processing of data. We hold your data because we have a "Legitimate Interest" to do so and we use the data to communicate membership related information mainly by post and email. We use the services of AssociAction Enterprises Ltd (AE) to manage and process our data. AE is registered as a data processor and the data remains the property of BSHP. We do not pass on your details to third parties.

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## Other news in brief

- The application forms for the 2019 Burnby Bursary will be available on the website shortly.
- We are launching a new Pharmacy History Project Grant, awarded annually from 2019 aimed at pharmacy students, pharmacists and pharmaceutical scientists. Application forms and more information on this grant will be published on the website.
- We send hearty birthday wishes to Doris Jones, Honorary Member, who was 100 years young late last year (reference *Pharmaceutical Journal*, December 2017, 299 (7908).)

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## Evening meeting held at UCL on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May

Here is a summary of this recent talk for your information and interest.

The lecture was given by Fiona Shannon (Trinity College, Dublin) and was entitled "A repository of knowledge - the Schools' Manuscript Collection offering a unique insight into medicinal practices in post independent Ireland." She gave a fascinating insight into this important archive which was collected as part of a schools' folklore collection scheme in the late 1930s. She focused on religious, ritual and medicinal (plant) practices/"cures" (broadly known as ethnomedicine) and many of these are still in use in Ireland today.



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## Pharmaceutical Historian : An International Journal for the History of Pharmacy

With this mailing you will have received the latest printed copy of our journal (Volume 48 Number 2, June 2018). All the issues from the start of 2017 are available online as open access pdfs through Ingenta Connect. We need to give you a new more direct link to access them:

<http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/bshp>

In the last Gazette we briefly referred to a project to digitize all the pre-2017 back issues of the *Pharmaceutical Historian*. This work has been completed and all copies are now available on-line.

This archive, from 1967 to the end of 2016, is available on an open access basis. The work has been very generously carried out at the Technical University of Braunschweig (Technische Universität Braunschweig) in Germany by Stefan Wulle and his team. The archive itself is being kindly hosted on the University of Braunschweig Library server. It can be accessed directly at the University of Braunschweig using this link: <http://publikationsserver.tu-braunschweig.de/get/65362>

As part of the above all four numbers of the *Transactions of the British Society for the History of Pharmacy* have also been digitized, and the articles are available online on the same open access basis. The work was kindly undertaken and hosted as above. Please see:

[https://publikationsserver.tu-braunschweig.de/receive/dbbs\\_mods\\_65592](https://publikationsserver.tu-braunschweig.de/receive/dbbs_mods_65592)

One result of this is that we have removed the ability to buy printed back issues of the *Pharmaceutical Historian* from the website. However we have some stock of these remaining and so for a once and only limited opportunity you can contact us to see if we can fill any gaps in your print run. There are too many to list but we are happy to check to see if we have specific spare copies.

For UK customers we need to charge for postage and packing plus a nominal admin/handling fee. So for each one that we are able to supply (note: there is no guarantee that we will have the one you want) we will charge you £4.00/copy and once confirmed we will require payment by PayPal or by direct bank transfer. This offer expires on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2018. Please send all your availability enquiries to [honsec@bshp.org](mailto:honsec@bshp.org) just giving the volume and the issue number. Thank you.

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## Dates for your diary

Monday 15 October (5.30pm)	Evening meeting at UCL : Dr Cherry Lewis (Honorary Research Fellow, University of Bristol) – “The enlightened Mr Parkinson – of Parkinson’s disease fame”.
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> November (9am-6pm)	“Drugs, Trade and Empire 1650-1950 : How the pharmaceutical industry sold medicines to the world.” Joint Symposium BSHP and the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries. For more information see: <a href="http://www.apothecaries.org/Apothecaries/media/Media/Faculty%20HPMP/Pharmacy-Flier-Prog.pdf">www.apothecaries.org/Apothecaries/media/Media/Faculty%20HPMP/Pharmacy-Flier-Prog.pdf</a> )

Our Conference next year will be in Portsmouth – 28 -30 March 2019

Our meeting dates for 2019 are provisionally Mondays 4 February, 20 May and 14 October

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## New members

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

- Joy Wingfield, Nottingham
- Ianto Jocks, Glasgow
- Alex Bowmer, Oxford

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## Contacts

Facebook: British Society for the History of Pharmacy

Twitter : @PharmHist

BSHP Secretariat : [info@bshp.org](mailto:info@bshp.org)



**The Conference**



The President opened the proceedings



Dr Graham Tobyn



Dr Chris Duffin



Renzo Console



Dr John Crellin



Patrick Chiu



Alex Bowmer – Burnby Bursary winner

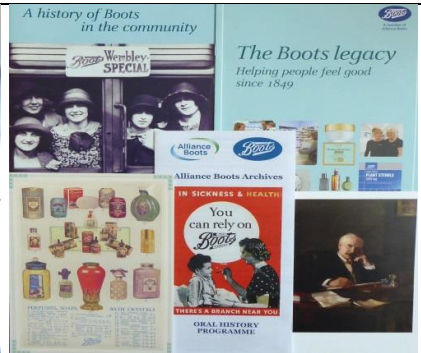


Dr Anna Greenwood



Part of Sunday's audience

**Boots Archive visit – some of the exhibits that we saw**



"When I say I want Wright's Coal Tar soap I get it, and that's the kind of chap I am"

