

### 5th ANSA ANNUAL CONFERENCE Hayley Conference Centre, Swindon

The 5th ANSA Annual Conference this year was a roaring success. This was held in the brand new state-of-the-art Hayley Conference Centre in Swindon on 8th - 9th June.

85 delegates benefited from some truly inspiring presentations on a wide range of topics around the theme of "Broadening the Horizon of Anaemia Management."

These topics provided valuable information and insight across the whole spectrum from the "old (!) issue of PRCA and is there closure?," right through to the innovative computerized interventions that have been devised to assist anaemia management in Germany.

Central to this theme, Keynote Speaker Dr David Van Wyck from Arizona, enthralled us with his passion for the impressive work he has undertaken in iron studies within chronic kidney disease patients. Additionally, it was also hugely exciting to hear throughout the seminars, about the increasing role of nurses in major research projects and in the development of the NICE guidelines, whose publication are eagerly awaited this September.

As if this wasn't enough the evening entertainment also broadened a few horizons! .... A ground-shaking opportunity for those brave enough to kick up their heels and barn dance into the twilight hours!

The AGM was attended by 29 members and was an opportunity for the Executive Committee to share their hopes and plans for the forthcoming development of ANSA and its future projects in 2006-2007.

Overall feedback from attendees was exceedingly positive and the whole 1 1/2 day event enabled high-quality education to be delivered and networking opportunities to be undertaken in a relaxed and friendly environment.

### Forthcoming Events

#### Exciting times ahead for all anaemia nurses as the NICE guidelines are published

As some of you may be aware, Alison Roche, Karen Jenkins and Carol Anderson have been working very hard over the past 18 months as members of the GDG for the development of the NICE guidelines for Anaemia Management in Chronic Kidney Disease. These guidelines were published in September 2006.

ANSA are very keen to support the implementation of these guidelines and as such have been given an educational grant from Amgen. This will be used to promote an awareness of the NICE guidelines and provide education for all health care professionals involved in anaemia management thereby enhancing best practice and improving patient care.

Two regional study days will be part of the educational programme. The first one will be held in Nottingham on the 10th January 2007 and the second will be in London on the 7th February 2007. A generic programme has been discussed and will include basic science in regard to anaemia in the morning followed by discussions regarding the NICE guidelines in the afternoon.

As ANSA have obtained support from Amgen, both days will be available free of charge. We will however, be requesting a deposit of £25 to secure a place, but this will be refundable on the day.

As we will be promoting these days within the primary care community it could result in them being heavily subscribed. If you are interested in attending or sending a member of your staff (they do not need to be ANSA members) I would recommend a prompt response. Details will be sent out to all the membership soon.

#### e-learning

ANSA remains committed to the provision of up to date, clinically relevant education for all health care professionals involved in the management of anaemia to ensure the delivery of high quality patient care. However the executive committee recognise it is becoming ever more difficult within the challenges of the current climate to take study leave.

In response to the needs of our membership and the wider healthcare community the executive committee has been working in collaboration with a specialist agency on an exciting and innovative project to create a unique educational resource aiming to meet individuals' needs in this challenging environment.

This "e-learning" resource is a web based programme the aim being to provide our members and the wider health care community with key information about anaemia from novice to expert, combined with an interactive self testing and assessment function, which will allow our members to assess their knowledge and gain accreditation at their own pace and at a time and place convenient to them.

We are certain this e-learning resource will be invaluable to those of us working in anaemia management and also appeal to other Healthcare Professionals who will need to extend their knowledge following launch expected in September of the National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) guidelines for the management of anaemia.



Shelagh O'Riordan, Alison Roche, David Van Wyck, Eric Will, Elizabeth Lindley

#### Diary Dates for 2007

**Nice Anaemia Management CKD Guidelines Study Day**  
10th January 2007 - Nottingham

**Nice Anaemia Management CKD Guidelines Study Day**  
7th February 2007 - London

**World Kidney Day**  
8th March 2007

**Joint Meeting of the RA and BSH  
Clinical Challenges in Nephrology & Haematology**  
8th March 2007 - RCP London

**ANSA Annual Conference**  
19th - 20th April 2007 - Nottingham

**WCN**  
21st - 25th April 2007 - Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

**The Renal Association Annual Conference**  
21st - 23rd May 2007 - Brighton

**The British Renal Society Annual Conference**  
11th - 13th June 2007 - Birmingham

**Euro PD**  
7th - 10th July - Helsinki

**Renal Pharmacy Group Annual Conference**  
19th - 20th October 2007 - Birmingham

**ASN**  
2nd - 5th November 2007 - San Francisco

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# ANSA NEWS

Winter Edition 2006

## Seasons Greetings from the ANSA Executive Committee

I'd like to welcome you to the Winter 2006 edition of ANSA News; I can't believe the year is almost over. Firstly, I must thank Karen for doing such a fantastic job holding the fort as President whilst I have been on maternity leave, especially at a time when she was keen to change direction and perhaps adopt a less pressured, more advisory role in the committee.

In my absence, the past year has been a busy one for ANSA, with another fantastic Annual Conference in Swindon, our final day in the MasterClass series and regional meetings. We mustn't forget the representation of ANSA members in presenting their work within the anaemia workshop at the EDTNA in Vienna.

The MasterClass, held last December in Stratford was yet another successful venture from ANSA and supported by AMGEN. A review of which is in this newsletter. Sadly this was the last of the MasterClass series for the time being.

Your feedback from ANSA meetings has generated new ideas. We are concentrating on smaller and more intimate/interactive days as many members are moving into advanced roles and are looking to diversify and hone their clinical skills in practice. So far we have held two one-day workshops, which addressed advanced assessment skills, one in London and the second in Birmingham. Both were fun and informal days made so by our speakers and the interaction of the group.

We are currently all working to bring you another fabulous annual conference - yes the planning is already in full swing. We are returning to Eastwood Hall near Nottingham on 18th and 20th April 2007 and, no promises, but suspect we'll be asking you to bring your dancing shoes with you.

ANSA has been busy contributing to the development of the NICE guideline for Anaemia Management of Chronic Kidney Disease (AMCKD). Three members of the ANSA Executive Committee, Karen, Carol and myself, were able to play an active role within the guideline development group and contributed to the consultation process on behalf of the association. Following the publication of the guideline in September 2006, ANSA is presenting two study days after Christmas in the Midlands and London. These days will provide a morning of essential anaemia management and an afternoon considering the key aspects of the NICE AMCKD guideline. The morning will provide a great revision session and may also appeal to some of your nursing team in related clinical areas looking to extend their knowledge of anaemia. Places will be limited on each day and the invite will also be opened to health care professionals working in primary care. I'd advise keeping an eye on your post and the ANSA website where you will find more details as they are confirmed.

With the changing face of our workplace and it becoming ever more difficult to take study leave, ANSA is very committed to meeting the education needs of our membership. To this end we are continuing with our

established meetings but also pursuing a new venture to bring an evolving web-based learning resource to our membership. We are certain this e-learning resource will be invaluable to those of us working in anaemia and also appeal to other Healthcare Professionals who will need to extend their knowledge following launch of the NICE guideline.

It just leaves me to bid you a fond farewell for now and hope to see many of you at the events we have planned over the coming months.

With best wishes

*Alison Roche*

Alison Roche,  
ANSA President

## Farewell to Pat Sirrett and Nancy Tannahill



Pat Sirrett

Nancy Tannahill

It is sad to see Pat and Nancy leave as they have made a significant contribution to the development of ANSA during their years with the committee. They have both organised and led some excellent regional study days and, more recently, their work as treasurer and Newsletter editor has been much appreciated. We look forward to seeing you both at future ANSA meetings and wish you all the best for the future. Thank you for being valued members of the ANSA executive committee.