

CHAIR'S report for the AGM

Firstly I am really sorry not to be at conference. I had made plans to be away at this time of this year over 12 months ago. Before the dates for conference were agreed. Besides I was not expecting to be in the acting Chair role.

Having said that I have thoroughly enjoyed my role so far.

The NUG has gone through further change Mostly good with new members on the committee, Julia Hippley-Cox was elected last year and both Mike Walton and Paul Maddy joined as co-opted members. Both are hopefully standing for election to committee this year. The Presence of all three on the committee has been excellent and has brought a different dimension to the committee.

The less good bit is losing Chris Frith as Chair. Sadly but understandable Chris felt the pressures of General Practice were getting more demanding and he felt the need to concentrate on his Practice and Partners. We wish him well.

Conference: As always Alison has done an exceptional job with conference and is to be congratulated. This extends to the subcommittee and the office. I am sure the conference will be excellent again this year. Please do give us feedback so we can continue to improve.

Retiring committee members: This is always a sad time. Dai, Tom and Mark will be leaving us. I would like to thank each of them for their valued contribution to the organisation and for making the organisation what it is. Mark's time may have been short (co-opted 2008 and elected 2010) but his knowledge of community IT was something we were missing and will miss. He also took on the challenging role of CEO which sort of changed to education and developing the website. Thanks Mark. Tom (member since the Millennium but god it feels longer) has been a large character for the NUG and we must thank him for his contributions as a committee member, Treasure and Secretary as well as for his storeys mainly about his time in the RAF. Having a practice manager on board was a very good move but having Tom on board was inspirational. Thanks Tom. I don't even know where to start with Dai who has been on the committee since 1992 (I hope this is right). NUG conference is almost synonymous with Dai Evans, His knowledge about the system and EMIS as an organisation have been second to none. His contribution to conference in ever which way has been exemplary, his talks are always amongst the most attended. Not sure I will comment about the dance floor. Without people like these 3 the NUG would not exist in the form that it has. Thank you.

New arrivals: We Hope to encourage new blood to try and fill the shoes of some real heavy weights.

Care.data: One of the biggest bits of work this year has been on Care.data. The NUG has had a firm stance on patient data being extracted in an identifiable form and have lobbied many agencies to try and make sense of why identifiable information is being extracted and stored. We will continue to work on this. We would very much value your support so please if you have not read the information on data extraction on our website then have a look.

NW London: Many EMIS practice in NW London are under pressure to change their clinical system to S1. The NUG have tried to support practices in the area with statements about GPSoC. If there are any practices here today who are experiencing pressure to change systems then please let us know.

Meeting/representation: The NUG continues to represent its members on the Joint GP IT committee and on GPSoC as well as lobby EMIS through sub committees like the Watchdog.

The main focus of activity for the NUG during the last year has been to get the Web site functional and to develop a strategy for educational content. We have tried a variety of approaches but have yet to find the ideal solution. The focus will be on video seminars with an opportunity to add new learning to your CPD. The magazine has also gone through some change. I will leave Maggie to tell us more on this. We have been very active on Care.data. The focus for next year will be on trying to improve membership, running a mini conference in Wales, perhaps in early Spring and getting high quality educational material on the website. The NUG will continue to develop it's relationship with EMIS through its various sub-committees and through other dialogue.

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