

THE ASSOCIATION OF SURGEONS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

The Association of Surgeons was founded in 1920 by Lord Moynihan. The objectives of the Association were twofold; *the advancement of the science and art of surgery and the promotion of friendship amongst surgeons.*

Initially, Fellowship was limited to 250 consultants and the Association's activities amounted to the organisation of an Annual Meeting for its Fellows. In 1970 the Association was opened to all consultant surgeons and, as a consequence, has grown from a small club to a national body of around 2500 Fellows, providing education through its Annual and Autumn Meetings and representing all surgeons involved in the general surgical care of patients.

The Association's 2002 Annual Scientific Meeting in Dublin, held jointly with the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, attracted around 1,500 delegates. The 2004 Annual Scientific Meeting will be held in Harrogate from 28th to 30th April 2004.

For further information, please visit the Association's website: www.asgbi.org.uk

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Conference Registration and the Scientific Programme

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Fellowship of the Association

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Trade Exhibition and Commercial Sponsorship

Ms Janet Mills
Event Presentations
101 Valley Park Drive
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*Association of Surgeons
of Great Britain and Ireland*

ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

Manchester International
Convention Centre
7th to 9th May 2003

in association with

Association of Coloproctology of Great Britain and Ireland
Association of Endoscopic Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland
Association of Upper Gastrointestinal Surgeons
Association of Breast Surgery at BASO
British Association of Endocrine Surgeons
British Association of Paediatric Surgeons
British Transplantation Society
Vascular Surgical Society of Great Britain and Ireland

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The purpose of the Association of Surgeons has always been to promote education and good fellowship among surgeons across Great Britain and Ireland. I should like to believe that the Annual Scientific Meeting is an important factor in that process. With increasing specialisation, we must not lose track of what we can learn from each other, not only in the specialisms that comprise general surgery, but also from the other SAC defined surgical specialities.

The theme for the 2003 Annual Scientific Meeting in Manchester is “**Innovation**”; to innovate is to change. We will seek to review the changes in patient management and surgical procedures, that are taking place across the whole surgical field, in order to assess how they may affect our practice as surgeons and our health as future patients. We will look beyond the bedside at changes taking place in teaching and in surgical training. We will explore the impact of IT and robotics. In particular we will examine how innovation can be justified, afforded, implemented and managed in the “Modernised NHS”.

Following the success of the electronic submission and selection of abstracts for the Association’s 2002 Annual Scientific Meeting in Dublin, the 2003 Meeting in Manchester will, once again, feature a paperless electronic abstract submission system. This system, entitled *iFormix*, was developed in the Department of Surgery at the University of Cork by Mr Conor Shields, a Surgical Research Fellow, under the guidance of Professor Paul Redmond.

The electronic submission process enables the surgical community to “copy and paste” abstracts, including tables and special scientific characters, directly from word processing software, facilitating quick and painless abstract submission. Abstracts can be submitted, through the system, at any one of the following three websites:

www.asgbi.org.uk

www.iformix.com

www.electronicabstract.com

Submission of abstracts for the 2003 Annual Scientific Meeting in Manchester opened on **Tuesday 1st October 2002** and will close at midnight on **Friday 3rd January 2003**. We encourage you to submit short papers, posters, mini-posters and videos for the meeting.

I hope that you will join us in Manchester in May 2003 for what we hope will be an informative, innovative and enjoyable meeting.

Mr R W G Johnson
President

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- A wide-ranging Scientific Programme comprising symposia, state of the art lectures and short paper sessions on the theme of “Innovation”.
- Interesting and entertaining Lunchtime Lectures.
- A major Trade Exhibition.
- An Evening Civic Reception at Manchester City Hall.
- A Conference Dinner at the Midlands Crowne Plaza Hotel.

SHORT PAPERS

There will be several sessions for short papers, and any Fellow or Affiliate Fellow wishing to submit or sponsor a paper for this part of the programme is asked to access the websites listed above by midnight on Friday 3rd January 2003.

Details of publication of papers are given in the *Preliminary Programme and Call for Abstracts* available from the Association’s offices. Please note that all accepted abstracts, whether for oral presentation or a poster, will be published in the *British Journal of Surgery* supplement.

ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

The meeting will feature the *iformix* paperless electronic abstract submission system which enables abstracts to be “copied & pasted” directly from word processing software.

As well as being available via the ASGBI website www.asgbi.org.uk the system is available at www.iformix.com and www.electronicabstract.com

Submission opened on **Tuesday 1st October 2002**, and will close at midnight on **Friday 3rd January 2003**.

PRIZES AND AWARDS

Moynihan Prize

The Association’s most prestigious scientific award, consisting of £1,000 together with a medal, is presented to the author of the best research work delivered at the Annual Scientific Meeting. The Moynihan Prize paper will normally be published in the Association of Surgeons’ issue of the *British Journal of Surgery*.

British Journal of Surgery Prize for best manuscript

The *British Journal of Surgery* has endowed a prize of £500 for the best manuscript to be offered to the Journal after the work has been accepted in abstract form for the meeting. Manuscripts should be sent to the *British Journal of Surgery*, John Wiley & Sons Ltd, The Atrium, Southern Gate, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 8SQ by the closing date of **Monday 24th February 2003**, marked for the attention of Mr John Murie, Editor-in-Chief.

John Wiley & Sons Ltd Audio-Visual Prize

The competition for the best video/DVD has been generously sponsored by John Wiley & Sons, Ltd, publishers of the BJS. The award consists of a plaque, together with a cash prize of £300 for the winner, £200 for second place and £100 for third place. Entries must be of general surgical interest suitable for an audience of consultants and higher surgical trainees and be produced by a surgeon in association with his/her department of medical illustration.

Videos/DVDs must be sent to the Director of the Scientific Programme, Association of Surgeons, at the Royal College of Surgeons, 35-43 Lincoln’s Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3PE and be received by the closing date of **Friday 3rd January 2003**.

Poster Prize

A poster competition will be held at the meeting and two prizes totalling £300 will be presented to the winner and runner-up.

Mini Posters

Mini Posters (between A3 and A2 size) will be displayed in a competitive setting. Each poster should depict an instructive case on any aspect of innovation in surgery. Submissions should be made to the Director of the Scientific Programme, The Association of Surgeons, 35-43 Lincoln’s Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3PE by the closing date of **Friday 3rd January 2003**.

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

The City of Manchester has undergone major urban regeneration over the last ten years and has become a very interesting and exciting city with a plethora of good restaurants and entertainment venues for music and the arts. The city’s industrial heritage is well worth exploring. Manchester created the industrial revolution and, when cotton was king, Manchester was the richest city in Europe. Communications are very good and the excellent art galleries, museums and theatres are all easily accessible. Manchester hosted the highly successful Commonwealth Games in the Summer of 2002.

It is anticipated that a varied and interesting social and accompanying persons’ programme will be available featuring an “Old and New” guided walking tour of the City and a guided coach trip to Tatton Park, a magnificent country house on the outskirts of Manchester.

Further details on the social programme, the submission of abstracts and the award of prizes are included in the *Preliminary Programme and Call for Abstracts*, available from the ASGBI offices or on the Association’s website: www.asgbi.org.uk