

Chair Report _ ATP AGM March 2020

A very warm welcome to everyone present.

I would first like to acknowledge that 'things don't just happen' there is a huge commitment, dedication, passion and team effort from the committee who give their time freely to support the aims of the ATP. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our committee members personally and also on behalf of our members for their hard work this past year. I would also like to thank our members who volunteer to give their time freely to help achieve our goals, supporting audit projects, writing policies, organising and attending meetings, feeding back and the endless hours of contribution and support on our Facebook group. Thank you.

I am pleased to report and hope that you will agree that this year has been a busy but good year for the ATP. Last year was overshadowed by the CQC and to some degree this year too, but hopefully in a more positive way. Most of our members are now registered with the CQC, however it is sad to acknowledge that some members did stop practicing as a consequence of the need to register.

I have maintained the communication with the CQC which Sarah initiated and feel that they now have a greater understanding of what we do. We have been invited to comment on the Inspection Framework and I do feel they have been prepared to listen and taken on board our comments.

Thinking about what else we have achieved this year?

Thanks to Suzanne we now have our new website and IT system up and running, it turned out to be a more challenging and time consuming project than initially thought but I hope you are now seeing the benefits and ease of use, especially regarding communication and purchasing of stock.

We have negotiated a contract with CEDR (Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution) which will provide a professional mediation service for our members. Our constitution was felt to be outdated and has been updated for this year. We have added a professional conduct policy following episodes of unprofessional behaviour in relation to communication particularly during the distressing time around the CQC issues last year. Our bleeding guidelines have also been updated following a very informative and productive study day organised by Sarah.

The ATP could not function without the committee and it was wonderful to see new face around the table following last years AGM. I am hoping to see a few more after today. It is lovely and rewarding to see committee members join the committee and subsequently find the confidence to step up into designated roles. This is how we will move forward in the future by bringing in enthusiasm and fresh thinking. Although we have 2 NHS members on the committee, I would like to see more representation on the committee from our NHS members.

Which leads me to my decision to step down as Chair, I have found this year challenging on a personal level and on reflection feel that my personality suits a more supportive role. I hope that the membership will allow me to continue to work on the committee and I look forward to supporting our new Chair and working with the committee to seek ways to boost the profile of the ATP and meet the needs and 'would likes' of our members.

Thank you