

# A newsletter for anaesthetists in Wales

**September 2019**



Dr Abrie Theron

Welcome to the September issue of the RCoA Welsh Newsletter. I hope you all managed to have a break over the summer holidays, and experienced the weather you were hoping for wherever you went to get away from work!

The [Critical Care Task and Finish Group](#) published its final report in July. This included the reports from each of the seven workstreams: Outreach, Post Anaesthetic Care Units (PACU's), Long Term Ventilation, Transfers, Workforce, Mapping of Service Model, Demand and Capacity and Performance Measures.

The Chief Medical Officer (CMO) for Wales, Dr Frank Atherton, also published his annual report for 2018/2019, [Valuing our Health](#). In Chapter 2 the Obs Cymru project is used as an example of Prudent and Value Based Healthcare. The third chapter is about Valuing Research and the final chapter is Working Together to Protect the Public from Health Threats. In this chapter the threats from antibiotic resistance and vaccine preventable diseases are discussed. The [Academy of Medical Royal Colleges of Wales](#) (AMRCW) is planning work in the autumn to encourage the uptake of the flu vaccination amongst health care professionals, particularly in light of the flu experience of the southern hemisphere during their winter.

A further [update](#) from the CMO was published in August. The Health and Social Care (Quality and Engagement) (Wales) Bill is briefly [discussed here](#). When we met the Minister for Health and Social Care, Vaughan Gething, as the AWRCW, we were reassured that the lack of something similar to the [Freedom to Speak Up Guardians \(FTSU\)](#), which the AMRCW have been campaigning for, will receive attention as part of this bill. In the aftermath of the [Cwm Taf Maternity Report](#) and with feedback from our anaesthetic colleagues in Cwm Taf Morgannwg, the importance of a similar mechanism should not be ignored.

In April we had a face to face meeting with the CMO. During this we discussed [Prehabilitation](#), the [Centre for Perioperative Care](#) (CPOC) and the effect of a dramatic reduction in numbers of beds in Wales over the last decade.

We have also raised our concerns with regards to the recently published document on [dental conscious sedation](#).



On the same day we met with the Medical Director of Health Education Improvement Wales (HEIW), Dr Push Mangat. Trainee numbers and predicted workforce needs as well as the effects of the new curriculum on training were discussed. The importance of the CESR route in Wales and the Associate Specialist grade was highlighted, as well as further incorporation of [Anaesthesia Associates](#) – previously known as Physicians' Assistant (Anaesthesia) (PA(A)s) and Advanced Critical Care Practitioners (ACCP). With [regulation](#) in place for medical associate professionals it should become easier to incorporate them in our workforce plans.

Please note that HEIW is at the moment consulting on their Health & Social Care Workforce Strategy.

During our last board meeting Tom Grinyer provided us with an overview of the 2018 Welsh Membership Survey. Key areas of the survey were perceptions of the College, The College's role as an organisation, engagement with the College and services and benefits. The slides of this presentation were circulated to your health board representative. You can contact them or myself at: [atheron@rcoa.ac.uk](mailto:atheron@rcoa.ac.uk), if you would like to have a look at the presentation.

Other important publications to take note of are the College's [Sustainability Strategy](#), the [maternity vision for Wales](#) to which anaesthetists delivered input as part of the multi-disciplinary team and the Living with [persistent pain document](#) to which the Welsh Pain Society contributed.

The Safe Anaesthesia Liaison Group has announced the second round of its programme of fellowships for anaesthetists interested in patient safety. Further details of the programme [are available here](#).

The Welsh Advisory Board has been allocated a new space on the college website where you can find further information like our terms of reference, constitution and previous newsletters. We are planning to develop this further over the following months and look forward to keeping you informed of the latest developments.

For this edition we have invited our specialist societies and other anaesthetic related groups to provide us with pieces for the newsletter. After reading this you should all know what the following stand for: AWAG, JAW, PAGW, WEAN, W-POMS, WICS, WRAG, SAW, SWOAF, WAAREN, WPS and TIVA Wales!

Hope you enjoy reading through this collection and please contact me if you want to contribute to the newsletter.

Best wishes,

**Dr Abrie Theron**

Chair, RCoA Welsh Board

[atheron@rcoa.ac.uk](mailto:atheron@rcoa.ac.uk)

## Welsh Pain Society (WPS)

The Welsh Pain Society (WPS) has been established for over 20 years and aims to bring together all practitioners working in acute and persistent pain in Wales. Membership has gone to over 70 for an annual £10–£20 membership fee depending on income. The annual scientific meeting takes place in early November and rotates across Wales every year with hot topics covering persistent and acute pain issues, workshops, discussions and exchange of ideas, thereby spreading best practice examples.

The WPS has worked over the years to help individual pain services to establish multi-modal and cross-specialty team work by highlighting variations of services across Wales and HB services are now offering very similar services across Wales.

The WPS council has been active in influencing and working with Welsh government on the latest [persistent pain document](#) which may be useful to local services to develop areas of underfunded activity, and is closely involved in the current discussions on developing specific pelvic pain/surgical mesh MDT clinics across Wales.

We welcome any and all interested practitioners from all medical or non-medical specialities, working on the premise that if we don't stick together pain services may not have a voice loud enough to affect improvements.

Challenges are plenty with the current opioid crisis affecting prescribing, issues on diminished patient quality of care due to prescribing restrictions for so called low value medication such as Lidocaine plasters. It is vital now more than ever to be heard and to be working together with all specialities with a stake in pain treatment, with pharmacists and GPs, to improve services to the 20 per cent of the adult population that suffer with persistent pain.

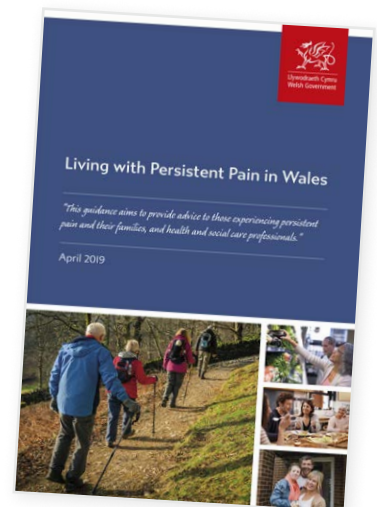
Our next Annual Scientific Meeting takes place in the **Hilton Hotel, Cardiff on 8 November 2019**, with illustrious speakers on topics of opioids, cannabis, medicolegal implications, neuromodulation, radicular pain, motivational interviewing and Expert Patient Programme vs Pain Management Programme.

We look forward to seeing you there.

### Dr Christian Egeler

Consultant Anaesthetist, Swansea Bay UHB  
Chair, Welsh Pain Society

[www.welshpainsociety.org.uk](http://www.welshpainsociety.org.uk)



## All Wales Airway Group (AWAG)



In 2009, Dr David Lacquiere, a consultant anaesthetist in Nevill Hall Hospital, Abergavenny completed an airway fellowship in Perth. In 2010, Dave successfully set up the South West Airway Management Society (SWAMS) and believed a Welsh society aiming to promote excellence in the anaesthetic management of patients with difficult airways would be of great benefit.

Being new to Wales, Dave needed some help. He contacted Dr Iljaz Hodzovic, a highly regarded airway enthusiast based at the Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport and the University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff who was very keen to get involved. In January 2012, Dave, Iljaz, Dr Adrian Woollard, the airway lead in Abergavenny at the time, along with a few other interested people met at a local pub and held the first All Wales Airway Group or AWAG (WAG had already been taken by the Welsh Assembly government!) committee meeting.

From that first meeting, AWAG has grown, having established links with airway leads in anaesthetic departments throughout Wales and more recently with the European Airway Management Society (EAMS), and the All Indian Difficult Airway Association (AIDAA). Also, our regular committee meetings, with trainee and ODP representatives, are now held via Google hangout!

Our successful annual conferences provide an excellent opportunity for updates on difficult airway management from both local and world renowned invited speakers and are accredited by the College for CPD. Trainees who are shortlisted for an oral presentation will have their abstracts published in Trends in Anaesthesia and Critical Care.

The conferences also provide great opportunities for discussion and networking. We are always keen to collaborate with other societies. Our upcoming conference is being held in conjunction with the Junior Anaesthetists of Wales (JAW) having collaborated with Paediatric Anaesthetist's Group of Wales (PAGW), South Wales Obstetric Anaesthetic Forum (SWOAF) and SWAMS previously.

AWAG's goal of coordinating training in airway management has been fundamental in the success of the society. AWAG introduced the standardised approach to can't intubate can't oxygenate (CICO) training. Local teaching is supported by Wales-wide provider courses as well as Instructor courses, which are run in association with the AAGBI. Our ENT colleagues help us run the popular nasendoscopy course and the Emergency Medicine Airway course (EMAC) is aimed at our non-anaesthetic trained colleagues who deal with difficult airways.

AWAG aims to promote airway-related research and audit and funds bursaries for airway related research projects. Examples are Welsh trainee CICO training survey and residual neuromuscular block study. We are currently setting up a CICO data collection project. This is merely a snippet of the work of our society.

**Please note the joint meeting with JAW will be on 4 October 2019 in Cardiff.**

To find out more information visit our [website](#), find us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter [@airwaywales](#). Membership is free.

**The AWAG Committee**



## South Wales Obstetric Anaesthetic Forum (SWOAF)

This is a group of consultants, trainees and non career grade doctors that have a particular interest in obstetric anaesthesia. This group has been established for many years.

We meet twice a year in the spring and autumn, one half day meeting and one full day meeting.

The aim of the forum is to discuss interesting cases and present the results of quality improvement projects and research to all the local anaesthetists with an obstetric interest and those that cover labour ward on an on call basis, and want to keep up to date with current practice. This meeting enables us to share knowledge and develop practices and guidelines that can be implemented across the area.

During our full day meeting we invite outside speakers, which is a great opportunity to hear their expertise and question them in a smaller forum than at national meetings.

During both meetings there is a trainee competition, which offers the opportunity to present to a friendly but expert audience which allows valuable opinions and useful learning points to be gained. Presentations at these meetings attracts points for specialist training portfolios as well as the opportunity to win prizes.

We are part of a network of local obstetric societies that exist in the regions of the UK. One of our representatives attends a meeting at the Obstetric Anaesthetists' Association (OAA) on an annual basis to contribute to this meeting and share the experiences of other local obstetric groups. The OAA is supportive of the local groups.

Points of contact:

[Eleanor.lewis3@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:Eleanor.lewis3@wales.nhs.uk) (Secretary)

[ellie\\_powell@hotmail.com](mailto:ellie_powell@hotmail.com) (Trainee representative)

Look out for our posters in the anaesthetic departments and delivery suites across South Wales.

The next meeting is **Friday 18 October 2019**. This is a joint event with the Society of Anaesthetists of Wales who are meeting on 17 October.

**Dr Eleanor Lewis**

Consultant Anaesthetist, Swansea Bay UHB

## The Paediatric Anaesthetist's Group of Wales (PAGW)



The Paediatric Anaesthetist's Group of Wales (PAGW) was founded in 2002 when the original constitution was drafted by the legendary consultant paediatric anaesthetist, Dr Peter Lloyd-Jones (better known as PLJ to his colleagues). The inaugural meeting was held at Gregynog, mid Wales where this constitution was discussed.

The chief objects were identified as relating to education and scholarship and are as follows:

*To further promote interest in and knowledge of paediatric anaesthesia, to organise meetings of members appropriate to achieve this purpose, to foster research in the subject, to coordinate communication with government on matters of professional relevance.*

Membership is open to all consultant and anaesthetists in training, medical students and all persons with a special interest in the subject. Although anticipated that there would be an initial joining fee, this has not been maintained. There is also no centrally held membership list as originally discussed – when the constitution was reviewed in 2008 the view was taken that all Welsh anaesthetists were automatically counted as members.

The Officer line up has also turned out to be rather more slim line than intended:

- the president – two years with an option for extension (currently Dr Maggie Collingborn, Aberystwyth)
- the honorary secretary – two years with an option for extension (currently Dr Felicity Howard)
- the Honorary Treasurer – three to four years with an option for extension
- trainee representative – one to two years (currently Dr Anna Pisarczyk).

These positions are nominated and, if required, voted on at the PAGW Annual General Meeting held during the autumn. These Officers make up the Executive Committee and every effort is made towards appropriate succession planning and to have staggered Terms of Office to ensure consistency.

One of the most important aims for PAGW was to emphasise the All Wales inclusiveness of the group. It was decided that the officers should be chosen to regionally represent the whole of Wales and that the succession of individual officers should broadly reflect this objective.

There are currently no specific membership advantages, and over the intervening 17 years the focus has shifted to the Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) traditionally held in the autumn and open to any anaesthetists in Wales who wish to register. Although its spiritual home will always be Gregynog, PAGW has chosen venues in all regions of Wales within the last 10 years to hold the ASM, which in 2019 will be held in the **Coldra Court Hotel, Newport on Friday 8 November**. I encourage you all, however small your paediatric interest is, to come along; for further information please contact me.

### Dr Felicity Howard

Consultant Paediatric Anaesthetist and PAGW Honorary Secretary, Noah's Ark Children's Hospital for Wales, Cardiff  
[felicity.howard2@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:felicity.howard2@wales.nhs.uk)





## Welsh Anaesthetic Audit, Research and Engagement Network (WAAREN)

Established in 2013, WAAREN is an anaesthetists in training led audit, research and engagement collaborative in the Wales Deanery. In this short time we have collaborated with multiple trainee networks across the UK completing a wide range of projects. We have also led multi-centre research projects within Wales.

### Our aims are:

- to support Welsh anaesthetist's potential projects by nurturing and developing them to achieve their potential
- to improve patient safety by organised audit, research and public engagement
- to increase trainee opportunities and accessibility to high quality audit, research and public engagement.

### How to get involved:

- help out in an upcoming project and be recognised as a contributor
- submit your own idea for a project and if selected have the chance to run the project UK wide
- volunteer to be your hospital WAAREN representative.

### Future plans:

- upcoming sustainability project across Wales
- 'How to get involved in research' day.

### How to get in touch or for more information:

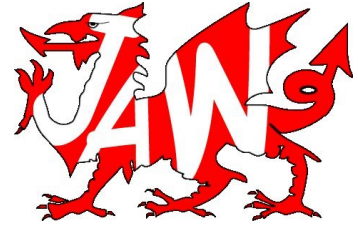
- check out our [website](#)
- follow us on Twitter: [@waarengroup](#)
- email us: [waarencommittee@gmail.com](mailto:waarencommittee@gmail.com).

### Dr Anna Williams

ST6 Anaesthetic Trainee, Wales Deanery



## Junior Anaesthetists of Wales (JAW)



Junior anaesthetists of Wales was formed in 2008 by a group of enthusiastic Welsh anaesthetists in training keen to provide a forum to promote communication, social events and academic issues for anaesthetic trainees in Wales. JAW celebrated ten years last autumn and has held a successful annual meeting each year since its inception as well as supporting social events and the College listening event.

Our annual meetings have hosted a wide range of speakers both home grown and from further afield. We have covered a variety of topics including military trauma, working in Ebola areas, perioperative medicine and global OOPE experiences. We have entertained with a few famous faces along the way, celebrated our successes at post conference dinner dances and been able to donate to local and international charities every year through funds raised with our charity raffle. We aim to provide a day filled with speakers that have an appeal to trainees with a healthy dose of academic content and with something a little more light-hearted.

JAW remains a forum organised by trainees for trainees. Our committee is always keen for additional members and we welcome trainees from all grades and hospitals. We have previously hosted joint meetings with SAW and PAGW, providing opportunities for trainees to present their work.

We do not charge a membership fee and aim to keep our annual meeting affordable for all anaesthetists in training, SAS doctors and consultants in Wales. We have received some financial support in recent years from the Welsh School of Anaesthesia which has enabled us to use our annual meeting to promote a career in anaesthesia to medical students and foundation doctors. They can attend our meeting for a nominal fee and participate in dedicated Q&A session about training opportunities, the application process and get some honest answers to what training in Wales is really like.

We are very excited to be hosting a joint meeting this year with the All Wales Airway Group (AWAG) on **4 October 2019 in Techniquet, Cardiff**. Tickets can be booked [via the AWAG website](#).

To get involved or to keep up to date with our activities please contact us via our Facebook page: [Junior Anaesthetists of Wales](#) or on Twitter [@anaesthetists](#).

**Dr Lucy Stacey**

ST5 Anaesthetic Trainee, Wales Deanery

**Dr Maxene Murdoch**

ST5 Anaesthetic/ICM Trainee, Wales Deanery

## The Welsh Environmental Anaesthesia Network (WEAN)

There is a growing recognition of the climate crisis worldwide. The NHS has a responsibility to examine and update current practice to reduce carbon emissions without compromising patient care.

The Welsh Environmental Anaesthesia Network (WEAN 'to wean off all the superfluous stuff') is an organisation of interested individuals who wish to reduce the environmental and financial impact of anaesthesia in Wales.

Trainees rotating around hospitals often feel as though they don't spend enough time in one place to help make a difference. Once in a consultant post it can be difficult to provide the drive and enthusiasm to instigate projects around the area of sustainable development. This is particularly tough as they are often part of deeply complex non-linear systems which require the development of dense networks throughout the entire structure of the health board in order to achieve anything!

A few of us started talking, put some feelers out, and decided to develop an anaesthetic green network. Our inaugural meeting and Sustainable Anaesthesia Innovation Day was held on 6 June in the Cardiff Bay Life Sciences Hub. We heard great talks from very entertaining speakers, took some interesting photos, and formulated our Mission and our Vision statements. The College accredited the day in line with their [Sustainability Strategy 2019](#).

Our vision is:

*To embed sustainable practice as a norm across anaesthetic clinical specialities in Wales, and influence similar approaches across the UK, the EU, and beyond.*

*To take an approach to 'Do no harm' at an individual, community and population level, to improve health for everyone, both now and in the future.*

Our mission is:

*To improve the environmental and financial sustainability of anaesthesia across Wales.*

*To provide education for staff and students around sustainable working and behaviours. Share ideas, knowledge and innovations in order to support implementation of sustainable practices.*

*Provide a network to promote and share best practice and celebrate success.*

We want to provide a supportive network of motivated individuals to share ideas and experiences to improve practice. We want to involve all members of the theatre team to increase support for sustainable practices.

As WEAN is in its infancy, a great deal of help and enthusiasm is required to help it become effective and established. Please do get in touch with any ideas, suggestions, or offers of help and expertise.

**Dr Alex Morgan**

ST5 Swansea Bay UHB

**Dr Jayne Sutherland**

ST6 Cardiff and Vale UHB

**Dr Fiona Brennan**

Consultant Anaesthetist, Cardiff and Vale UHB

[walesenvanaesnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:walesenvanaesnetwork@gmail.com)



## Total intravenous anaesthesia (TIVA) Wales

This is a newly formed group, which follows the first TIVA and Onco Anaesthesia study day which took place in Cardiff on 4 September 2019. Its purpose is to promote the education and use of TIVA in clinical practice. Membership is free, and open to anyone using or wishing to use TIVA.

The background to the formation of this group is the possible influence our anaesthetic choices have on our individual patients, and the environment in general. There is evidence TIVA may benefit the outcomes of cancer patients, possibly together with regional techniques to minimise opiate exposure.

The impact of volatile agents on the environment shouldn't be underestimated. Desflurane is particularly hazardous. Is TIVA a more sustainable anaesthetic technique?

For more information please contact: [tivawales@gmail.com](mailto:tivawales@gmail.com)

**Dr J C Williams**

Consultant Anaesthetist, Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend



## Welsh Intensive Care Society

**Cymdeithas Gofal Dwys Cymru**



## Welsh Intensive Care Society (WICS)

Welsh Intensive Care Society (WICS) is the professional society for those involved with care of the critically ill in Wales. Its aims are to advance critical care through education, training, audit and research, to engage with national professional bodies, and to promote collaboration between health organisations involved in the provision of critical care.

The society is open to clinical staff and students of all acute specialties and disciplines involved with care of the critically ill in Wales, and is extremely keen that its membership reflects the multi-professional nature of critical care.

WICS holds its annual scientific meeting in the summer, alternating between South and North Wales. The conference aims to provide a mix of international, national and local speakers – for the recent 2019 meeting, Professor Peter Brindley from Edmonton, Alberta, provided an outstanding keynote lecture on Teamwork in Critical Care. The society also supports the annual Welsh Intensive Care Trainee Society (WITS) meeting and the Advanced Critical Care meeting for nurses and allied health professionals. WICS works closely with the Intensive Care Medicine Specialist Training Committee and supports the delivery of core teaching for ICM trainees.

The society coordinates its own national audits and research projects and aims to facilitate engagement in multi-centre portfolio research projects through the WICS audit and research group (WICSARG). The group held its first research network meeting in May 2019, and its recent publications can be accessed [via the WICS website](#). The group can be followed on Twitter [@wicsarg](#).

WICS works closely with the Welsh Assembly Government and Wales Critical Care and Trauma Network through the Critically Ill Implementation Group, contributed to the recent [Welsh Government Task and Finish Group for Critical Care](#), and led development of the [All Wales Devastating Brain Injury guidelines](#), published in 2017.

From a wider perspective, WICS is a strategic partner of the UK Intensive Care Society and European Society of Intensive Care Medicine, and participates in work of the Intensive Care Society Standards and Guidelines Committee, the Critical Care Leadership Forum and the UK Critical Care Research Group.

Membership enables discounted registration for WICS meetings, reduced membership rates for partner organisations, and the opportunity to apply for travel and research grants. Membership application can be made via the [WICS website](#). Perhaps most importantly, membership enables a voice in the provision of care to the critically ill in Wales.

**Dr Richard Pugh**

Chair, Welsh Intensive Care Society



## Welsh Regional Anaesthesia Group – South (WRAGS)

The Welsh Regional Anaesthesia Group (South) was officially formed in 2016 after discussions between a small group of regional anaesthesia (RA) enthusiasts. Our aim is to promote communication and discussion between those interested in RA in South Wales in a friendly and informal manner.

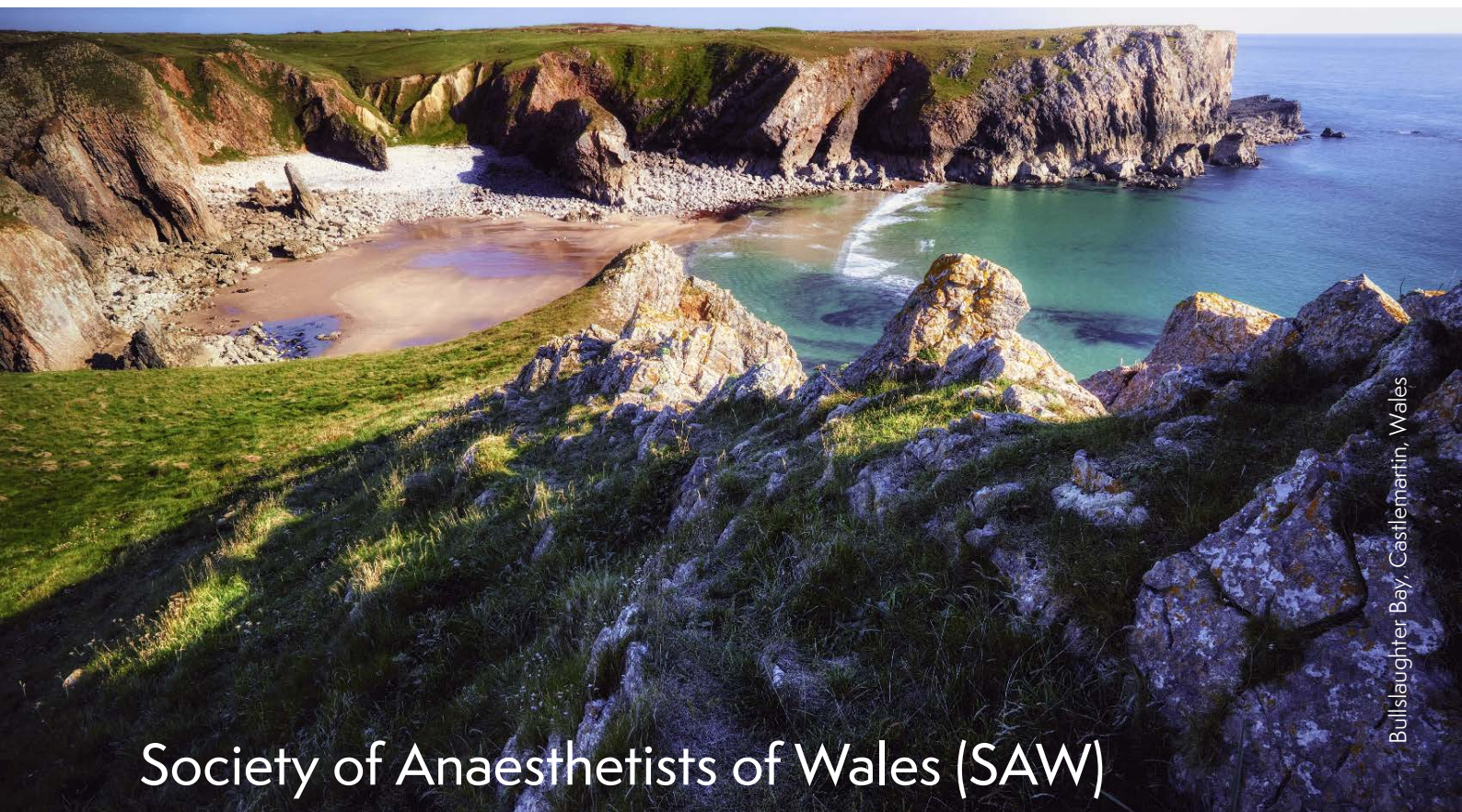
Our first meeting was at the Cameo Club, Cardiff, in 2016 using our now well recognised format of two to three talks, a sit-down dinner and drinks. Since then we have gone from strength to strength and have had six further evening meetings hosted by Swansea, Newport and Merthyr. Meetings are typically held twice a year, usually one in spring & one in autumn.

WRAGS meetings are always friendly, they are a good chance to catch up, discuss current practice and welcome new faces both from the consultant body and trainees. There is usually a theme to each meeting, the most recent centred around safety and how to investigate concerns following a block. This included a fantastic talk from a peripheral nerve surgeon.

We are looking to develop new and easier ways of communicating with each other, and ways to share ideas. For example, many hospitals are developing pathways to manage rib fractures using newly developed techniques for thoracic wall blocks and catheters. We would like to be able to share experience and potentially collect data to help us all improve our services. We have also held discussions on teaching and training, including elements of trainee sign off for their RA modules. We have a closed group Facebook page (Wales Regional Anaesthesia Group South) where we share ideas, post queries, and advertise courses.

There is no membership fee or joining process, we advertise our forthcoming evening meetings through existing email and social media networks in the region. We welcome all who are interested in RA to join us at our next meeting.

**Dr Tessa Bailey (Cardiff), Dr Simon Ford & Dr Christian Egeler (Swansea),  
Dr David Burckett-St Laurent (Newport), Dr Jenny Ferry (Abergavenny)**  
[WalesRAGroupSouth@outlook.com](mailto:WalesRAGroupSouth@outlook.com)



## Society of Anaesthetists of Wales (SAW)

The first meeting of the [Society of Anaesthetists of Wales](#) took place on 12 January 1949, making 2019 our 70th year. This is quite an achievement for a specialist society and we are proud to still be offering two meetings every year giving trainee and consultant anaesthetists in Wales a space to exchange ideas, socialise and explore different anaesthesia related topics. Over the years we have offered a truly diverse range of speakers, from noted Nobel laureates to world class sports people; all with the aim of promoting the varied aspects of our specialty.

In 1948 the aims of our society were drafted and seventy years later these three objectives still resonate with the SAW council and provide the very foundation for planning SAW meetings:

*To advance the knowledge and practice of anaesthetists; to encourage the exchange of ideas and to further friendship and harmony among anaesthetists.*

Moreover, anyone who works as an anaesthetist in Wales is automatically a member of SAW, without any membership fees, and is welcome at all meetings. We would like all new trainees to the Welsh Deanery and consultant anaesthetists arriving to work in Welsh hospitals for the first time to feel it is their society and a forum to enhance their experience of working and living in Wales.

Our upcoming 2019 autumn scientific meeting is a joint venture with the South Wales Obstetric Anaesthetists Forum (SWOAF) and takes place on 17–18 October at the Vale Resort Hotel in Hensol, Vale of Glamorgan. We are excited to welcome guest speakers from the Neurovascular Research Laboratory of the University of South Wales, and our keynote talk from one of the UK's most prominent fire officers who is an expert in decision making under stress. An all-important annual dinner is also planned so we look forward to welcoming you all to both lecture theatre and dinner table.

There are many demands on anaesthetists' time and finances when it comes to keeping up-to-date with our evolving and exciting speciality but rest assured that SAW will continue to offer high quality CPD in a friendly environment – hopefully for the next 70 years.

**Dr Danielle Huckle**

Consultant Anaesthetist, Cardiff and Vale UHB

## The Welsh Perioperative Medicine Society (W-POMS)

### The role of W-POMS

The Welsh Perioperative Society (W-POMS) aims to provide a platform for like-minded clinicians who are interested in improving patient outcomes via quality improvement and research projects based on perioperative pathways. By sharing experiences and examples of good practice, we hope to improve the patient experience as well as their outcomes after surgery.

What we are aiming for:

- to provide a network of communication regarding QI opportunities and research projects in this area
- to support trainees in developing an interest in perioperative medicine
- to support opportunities of perioperative medicine fellowships both nationally and internationally
- to organise a W-POMS annual conference to allow like-minded clinicians to share ideas and explore challenges faced.

After the success of the first W-POMS conference in 2018, the second W-POMS conference took place on 7 June in the Cardiff Life Sciences Hub. It was a multi-professional event which had been awarded 5 CPD points and was given a £500 bursary by the College.

The 110 delegates comprised a mixture of consultants, trainees, SAS doctors, specialty nurses and medical students from a range of specialties including anaesthetics, surgery, intensive care and medicine. We were excited to invite doctors from 10 hospitals within Wales as well as five hospitals across England to join us in raising the profile of perioperative medicine within Wales.

We would like to say thank you to those who attended and helped to deliver a fantastic day. We are already looking for dates for the next W-POMS conference in 2020.

### The future of W-POMS

We are keen to create a committee to drive W-POMS forward so if you are interested in a position or wish to help organise future events then please contact: [welsh.poms@gmail.com](mailto:welsh.poms@gmail.com). Dr Ellie Powell has worked tirelessly to create a website that will provide a focus for communication and education.

### Membership

If you are interested in joining and becoming a member of W-POMS then please follow [this link](#)

Membership is currently free and as a member you will receive early notification of events, announcements and new guidelines. Our website is now live: [www.welshpoms.com](http://www.welshpoms.com) – if there is anything you would like us to add or if you have any questions please email us at: [welsh.poms@gmail.com](mailto:welsh.poms@gmail.com).

We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at the next W-POMS 2020 conference (date to be confirmed).

### The W-POMS Faculty



# ANAESTHESIA

## 2020



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