

Central Sterilising Club
Annual Meeting, Bath
5th – 7th April 2004
Chairman's Report

This is my second annual report as Chairman and I am pleased to report that the Club has had another very successful year. I would start by once again highlighting the considerable efforts of the Committee to ensure that not only are events smoothly organised, but also that the routine running of the Club continues in the background.

The Club is financially sound, with particular thanks to our Treasurer, Peter Hooper. Our secretary, Lynda Taylor also spends a great deal of her free time in organising the Club, not only restricted to Minutes of Committee and this Conference. Our Editor, David Hurrell and our Webmaster Tina Bradley give much time to promoting the Clubs interest. I would like to thank the two retiring Committee members for their support and particularly Val O'Brien for her invaluable experience and insight into the workings of NHS Estates, and Dinah Barrie for the production of the Newsletter.

Active membership is now approaching 350 although there are almost one third of subscriptions outstanding. We have again exceeded the 150 delegate mark for this Conference, confirming that we still occupy an important niche in the Conference circuit. Incidentally, over 45% of the registered delegates are from Industry.

In October 2003 we held the third of our series of successful workshops on the subject of Process Chemicals for Washer Disinfectors and Endoscope Reprocessors. I am again grateful to David Hurrell and Tina Bradley for the organisation of this event. A lighter workshop is planned for October this year to celebrate the 50th Meeting of the Club, when we hope to look back on the Club's pioneering activities in the decontamination field. The venue will again be in Birmingham.

The members of the Committee have been involved in the production of a number of guidance and policy documents.. These include:-

- A12, the Guidelines for Infection Control in Dentistry
- A Guide to the Decontamination of Re-usable Surgical Instrument.
- Decontamination Programme Strategy - "National Standards – Local Delivery". A strategy for modernising the provision of decontamination services.
- Model engineering specification for sterilizers
- Model engineering specification for benchtop sterilizers
- Model engineering specification for washer/disinfectors
- Model engineering specification for benchtop washer/disinfectors
- Guidelines for the prevention and control of Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies
- BSG guidelines on disinfection of Endoscopes
- HBN 13 – Sterile Services Departments
- HBN 26 – Operating Departments.

Our website www.csc.org.uk is fully operative, and has yielded both applications for membership and attendees at our meetings. We propose having a members protected area where we can fast track the proceedings of meetings, and then release material for open access as newer material is produced. Contributions are always welcome, via our Webmaster Tina Bradley,

Returning to the Conference, we were delighted to welcome Prof Michael Bramley as our Kelsey Lecturer. Consistent with our venue we are focussing on water and its role in decontamination. As ever, we are grateful for the support from our Commercial colleagues for the Open Forum section. Please book early for next year!

The organisation of this meeting involves a lot of hard work by a few people, and I would like to thank personally Lynda Taylor, Tina Bradley, Peter Hooper – and our honorary Conference organiser Mrs Shirley Hooper.

I look forward to another successful year and hope to see you all in Dundee in April next year.

The Club is its membership; tell your friends, encourage them to join, volunteer to serve on the committee. We need you!

Geoff Ridgway MD, FRCP, FRCPath

April 2004