Following our recent committee meeting I thought it would be useful to update the membership on a few issues.

BSGAR annual meetings

Registration for BSGAR 2018 in Edinburgh is now open. We have an excellent, varied programme in a state of the art conference centre, and the city of Edinburgh speaks for itself. We are using a different AV company to last year, as there were some glitches. The course dinner will be held in the Museum of Scotland which our Meeting President, Ian Zealley, tells me is breathtaking.

lan and his team are once again running the small bowel MRI hands-on workshop but we do not plan to run this again in the future, so please take the opportunity to attend if you have not done so previously. I attended as a delegate in 2015 and it is invaluable.

BSGAR 2019 will be a joint meeting with the BSUR, and we are currently establishing the venue, hopefully in Liverpool. As BSGAR has grown over the years, the choice of venues is more limited and we need to start planning earlier. We are therefore now looking for venue ideas from the membership for BSGAR 2020. Please contact office@BSGAR.org with any proposals.

Imminent BSGAR membership survey about skills mix

You may be aware of the ongoing debate between the RCR and the Society of Radiographers regarding role extension, and some of the polarised views on social media. This could have implications for the future profile of imaging services, and for the future career pathways of Radiologists. For this reason, we felt it was critical for the BSGAR Executive Committee to properly represent the prevailing views of the BSGAR membership.

You will therefore shortly be sent a questionnaire via the BSGAR forum, which takes only 5 minutes to complete. Please don't automatically delete this, as your views on this are so important. A high response rate will allow us to better represent you.

Investment of BSGAR funds

Following discussion at the 2017 AGM, we are due to invest some of the BSGAR funds in Sarasin, which is an ethical fund aiming to protect capital but with some expectation of growth. The RCR also invest in this fund, and I can confirm no members of the BSGAR Executive Committee have any conflict of interest in this investment. Our Treasurer, Julian Elford has worked very hard in first researching and then setting this fund up.

Vacant Committee posts

Please keep an eye on the forum, as there are some vacant committee posts coming up, before the 2018 meeting. I believe it is a privilege to represent BSGAR, and it can be fun too!

I look forward to seeing you in Edinburgh.

Ashley Roberts BSGAR President