

## Presidents Message

Summer is here and proving to be not a one day offering ! I am optimistic that this year we will have a proper Indian summer. Is this backed by the weatherman's forecasts-absolutely not! I am hoping that the sheer weight of my optimism will make the unthinkable happen!

Optimism is not, however, what one sees in the NHS today. Colleagues share tales of funding cuts, difficulties with filling posts, news of junior doctors disillusioned and leaving the NHS, stories of organisations going under due to financial strain etc. In the midst of this, one needs to focus on the reasons why we joined this profession and remind ourselves that we are here to serve our patients. What can we do to make a difference to healthcare in the midst of these challenging times?

Albert Einstein suggested that it is insanity to "do the same thing over and over again, but expecting different results." Several organisations across the UK have been able to overcome challenges and provide high quality healthcare through innovative approaches and embracing new technologies. We need to learn from such approaches and emerging evidence based literature to modify our practices and benefit our patients. The annual scientific meeting in April 2018 provided a platform for speakers from different parts of the UK to share their experiences and knowledge to revitalise our knowledge base and stimulate us to innovate our labour wards and organisations. We had an excellent meeting with great feedback from our delegates who appreciated the content and the information that would help them improve not only their own practice but that of their teams in their organisations. The aim of the Yorkshire Society of Obstetric Anaesthetists (YSOA) is to improve the excellence of care we provide our mothers and we believe that we are moving one step closer to this goal with every positive meeting we host.

The strength of an organisation can be measured by its membership and the contribution of the executive team. YSOA is blessed to have a committed team of consultant anaesthetists and to this dedicated team, we have two trainee anaesthetists joining us- James Turnbull and Charlotte Deveraux Walsh who will lead our evening meeting and stamp their individualistic approach to this important event. Welcome to the team.

Our next meeting is the ever popular evening anniversary meeting at Hinsley Hall in Leeds on 28th September 2018. I look forward to seeing many of you with your colleagues. In the meantime, enjoy the summer and see you in the autumn.

Makani Purva

President

Yorkshire Society of Obstetric Anaesthetists



Dr Makani Purva—President of YSOA

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## Dates for your diary

### YSOA Anniversary Meeting

Friday September 28th 2018

Free (small refundable deposit £25)

Our yearly exclusive meeting is a great time to network,

listen to interesting talks with audience interaction, often with a patient experience session.

Dinner included

Contact: [w.sheedy@hull.ac.uk](mailto:w.sheedy@hull.ac.uk)

### YSOA Annual Scientific Meeting 2019

Tuesday April 30th 2019 08.30 – 5pm

Venue: tbc (Mid Yorks)

## Membership details

Membership is free to all trainees and consultants in the Yorkshire and Humber region. Membership ensures you receive information regarding upcoming events and this amazing newsletter!

If you wish to become a member please forward the following information to:

[obstetricday@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:obstetricday@hotmail.co.uk)

Name:

Grade:

Employing Trust:

Locality if in a training post (East/South/West)

A reliable contact email address:



# Yorkshire Society of Obstetric Anaesthetists Evening Anniversary Meeting

**Hinsley Hall, Leeds  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

## **Essential Information**

To book online visit:  
<http://ysoa.org.uk/Contactus/>

Select "book anniversary meeting"

Hinsley Hall is easily accessible from  
M1, M62 and free parking is  
available  
<http://www.hinsley-hall.co.uk/>

62 Headingley Ln, Leeds, LS6 2BX

A small refundable deposit of £25  
will be required in the form of a  
cheque that will be returned at the  
meeting, this will only be cashed if  
non attendance.

## **Topics & Speakers**

18:30 -19:00	Arrival and Coffee
19:00-19:05	Welcome
19:05-19:45	TBC
19:45-20:30	Dinner
20:30-20:45	TBC
20:45-21:10	TBC
21:10-21:45	TBC
21:45-22:00	Feedback and close

## **Become a Member**

Go to <http://ysoa.org.uk>  
and click on "Book Now"

**2 CPD points from the Royal College of Anaesthetists applied  
for**

# 5 reasons why you should come to the ASM....

## 1. The content!

This annual event has a fantastic line up of speakers, covering a wide range of important topics. Key areas of interest such as point of care testing in massive haemorrhage and provision of anaesthetic services in obstetrics, run alongside topics which are perhaps less high profile, but nonetheless important in our daily working lives, such as domestic violence in pregnancy. All our speakers are leading experts in their field, with a proven track record for giving stimulating and thoughtful talks. We also have a great session on the 'patient perspective' – which offers a unique insight into what it feels like to be a patient on labour ward when things go wrong.....prepare to be a little shaken by what you hear, as you may find yourself re-evaluating your communication skills!

## 2. The excellent networking opportunities.

Your obstetric anaesthetic colleagues from around the region will be attending, and this is a great time to link in with your fellow enthusiasts and share ideas and experience. There is plenty of time for meeting others, over coffee and cake, or a delicious lunch....

## 3. The opportunities for trainees.

Trainees, this is your moment to shine! Submit your abstract and have the opportunity to present your work to a regional group. We are a friendly crowd, and very supportive of all the hard work that we know trainees are doing. Whether you present a poster, or get selected for an oral presentation, this is great CV fodder and will help build your profile as a budding obstetric anaesthetist...

## 4. The great location!

The meeting is in central Leeds – and is easily accessible by both road and train. There is plenty of free parking.

## 5. Shushhhhhh.....we are better value and more fun than other one day or longer courses!!

## Trainee Representative for YSOA

We are delighted to announce Dr James Turnbull as our Trainee Representative

## YSOA website and Podcasts

Podcasts from the ASM 17 are available to download from our website

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

Username: admin

Password:  
Green42Carwash



## Dates of courses

### Obstetric Anaesthetic Emergency Course for CT2s

Hull Clinical Skills Facility	tbc
York	Wed 5th December 2018
Bradford	tbc

For more information please go to the Yorkshire and Humber-side Deanery Website

### TOASTY Advanced Obstetric Course

for senior trainees and consultants

Hull Clinical Skills Facility      tbc

Contact [Daniel.websdale@hey.nhs.uk](mailto:Daniel.websdale@hey.nhs.uk)



Annual Scientific Meeting, Clayton Hotel ,Leeds, 2018

## Annual Scientific Meeting 2018 Report

Clayton Hotel, Leeds

Tuesday 24th April 2018

By Dr James Turnbull

'Welcome to the YSOA ASM 2018!' This was the occasion, and I certainly did feel welcomed when I arrived at the excellent venue of the Clayton hotel in Leeds for my first attendance at the event. Having worked in a couple of the newly termed 'Hubs' in Yorkshire and the Humber I realised immediately that I already knew a significant number of the people in attendance, and with an inexhaustible supply of drinks and pastries, combined with a full hour for 'registration' the conversations never dried up. Throughout the room there was a real buzz from people catching up, having some general work banter, or simply replenishing their caffeine requirements following their trip to the venue. We were of course grateful to the sponsors who siting themselves around the facilities were more than happy to have a chat and discuss their displayed wares.

When we were ultimately wrenched from the meeting area to the seats, Drs Louise Savic and Makani Purva welcomed us all, set the scene and then we commenced with the presentations.

The first session was chaired by Sarah Radbourne, introducing Dr Rachel Collis from Cardiff who travelled to enlighten us on their use of Point of Care Testing (POCT) in Major Obstetric Haemorrhage (MOH). She highlights that retrospective analysis associate's fibrinogen deficiency with MOH, but the delay in obtaining results makes the test less clinically useful. While ROTEM does not accurately reflect fibrinogen levels, it also independently correlates with risk of significant blood loss. However the majority of PPH patients do not have a coagulopathy. So what is the role of POCT in obstetrics? Well it seems to confer two benefits; firstly it identifies those patients with a correctable coagulopathy who would benefit from treatment. But secondly they have shown that the team work and structure involved in instituting a policy for POCT can lead to a reduction in PPH by focussing the team on effective assessment of the blood loss, and avoiding escalating towards significant PPH.

Following this we were given a real insight into the patient experience of a lady who had had significant anaesthetic input throughout her two pregnancies. She has juvenile idiopathic arthritis, which she informed that can be considered analogous to RA in adulthood. She discussed the impact of her condition on the pregnancy, mandated LSCS and subsequent management of child care. Whilst her overall experience of healthcare was positive, one learning point I took was her frustration at information sharing between hospitals. As someone who has had multiple procedures at multiple hospitals due to the speciality nature of her condition it must be frustrating to feel your care is impacted by an inadequate dissemination of information. Perhaps we could do better.



Dr Sue Smith followed up highlighting the multiple anaesthetic implications of her case and the management plan. The real key was creating a clear plan and communicating this to all grades of anaesthetists who may be involved in her care. Working at York myself I confirm I had been made aware of this plan, and being on call the week before I was very much hoping not to have to get involved in any emergency procedures – but I felt I knew the strategy if I'd have had to!

The second session was chaired by Louise Savic, introducing Dr Shouvik Dass a consultant rheumatologist from Leeds. Using case based examples he highlighted some of the rheumatological considerations for common conditions including SLE and Rheumatoid arthritis. He focused on the three separate phases; pre-pregnancy planning, the pregnancy itself and the post-natal period. The considerations are of course foetal condition and maternal symptom control. Importantly however disease management and avoidance of disease complications may be pivotal in foetal outcome. It can be a difficult balance to strike, that between the risks of the drugs versus the disease in pregnancy.

Lunch! Quite a queue, but a good chance to catch up with some old acquaintances over a selection of gastronomic nourishments. Curry with battered fried fish, maybe not a single platter combination to everyone's taste but if you're given the option.... There was also a chance to peruse the poster presentations, or liaise with the reps in an attempt to fill your card with stickers for the draw at the end.

Kay Robins arose from the post-prandial challenge to chair a session on Medico-legal challenges in obstetric anaesthesia delivered by Dr David Levy from Nottingham. Has anyone ever left a teaching session on this topic without some reflective learning points? I know I haven't! Certainly this was the case here. Several cases were discussed, and it amazes a doctor to see how we may be scrutinised in court. One particular item of note though for the record; 'Personal injury' claims must normally be issued within three years, but if the claimant is less than eighteen (such as neonate) then this doesn't apply. Record keeping must therefore be immaculate as there are obstetric cases which have been issued decades after the original event.

Following this some of the trainees ascended to the pulpit to deliver some excellent presentations before the traditional pro-con debate on Remifentanyl use in labour. Two well considered positions taken, with Debbie Horner taking the 'pro' side. But in the end, by a show of hands it seemed the majority were *Mc Lured* by the 'con' side, championed by Hamish (McLure).

More tea and coffee preceded Aseem Tufchi chairing a session on Trauma and Domestic Violence in Pregnancy. Corrinne Liddle Johnson a matron from Leeds explained to us how important routine enquiry is in identifying at risk individuals, and the mechanisms they use to recognise those patients. As anaesthetists it is vital that we report any concerns we have to the matron if we observe any alarming behaviours during our time with women at a vulnerable period.

Dr Felicity Plaat from Imperial College delivered the final session on Standards for Obstetric Anaesthesia. We looked at some current standards, and she presented an envisagement of the future. This included the hotly debated topic of 24/7 consultant delivered care, and expansion into a role as peri-partum physicians. I shall look forward to the subsequent tea room and more formal discussions on both of these issues.

This brought us to a close. Dr Ashwin Mallya from Scunthorpe winning the draw, and myself and Charlotte Devereaux-Walsh being accepted as the YSOA trainee reps taking over from Anju Raina.

All that was left to do was pop for a drink (or two) at the Friends of Ham pub near the train station with a dedicated few. Well that was a great day; informative, educational, thought provoking and social. Sign me up for next year.

## Contact Us

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Visit us on the web at  
[www.ysoa.org.uk](http://www.ysoa.org.uk)

Please email any comments or feedback regarding this newsletter to W Sheedy as above.

Please forward this newsletter to your obstetric anaesthetic colleagues and trainees to let them all know all the news – thank you.

Kay Robins , Editor  
(York)