2020: A year to celebrate!

The very best wishes for the forthcoming year to everyone, I trust a relaxing and recharging Festive season was had by one and all.

2020 is now upon us and brings with it a time of great celebration and a perfect opportunity for us to pay tribute to the vision, energy and achievements of past and present colleagues who together have helped to shape the structure, function and direction of British Urology.

The British Association of Urological Surgeons (BAUS) was officially formed in 1945 with Ronald Ogier Ward of St Peter’s Hospital, London as its first President. The initial 37 members decided upon the direction and ethos of BAUS that we still hold up today: ‘to promote a high standard in the practice of urology’.

Now, 75 years later, BAUS continues along the very same laudable path, representing over 95% of practising Urologists in the UK and boasting in the region of 2000 members.

2020 is a landmark year for BAUS, and celebrations nationally and regionally will be taking place throughout the year in collaboration with other bodies also celebrating various milestones.

One such organisation is the Urology Section of the Royal Society of Medicine (RSM), which celebrates its centenary this year. Established by Sir Peter Freyer, the Urology Section of the RSM served to exclusively represent UK urology for 25 years before the creation of BAUS, and continues to this day to provide invaluable education, cohesion and direction for Urologists throughout the British Isles.

The British Association of Urological Nurses, (BAUN), a true sibling organisation of BAUS, celebrates its 25th anniversary in 2020 and can trace its roots back to its precursor organisation, The British Urology Research Nurse support group set up in 1992 by Sarah Heatley.

No talk of urological celebrations would be complete without the inclusion of The Urology Foundation, (TUF), which in 2020 celebrates 25 years of unparalleled charitable activities that no-one in UK urology could have failed to notice. In the past quarter of a century, TUF has raised millions of pounds in aid of urological training, research and development, a great testament to the energy and commitment of its founders, John Fitzpatrick and Roger Kirby.

Here at the JCU, I am delighted to introduce two new members of the Editorial Board, Rachel Barratt and Rebecca Tregunna, both of whom will bring skills and qualities to complement the existing board, and I am very much looking forward to working with them to the benefit of your journal.

I hope you enjoy this issue as always, and please do celebrate 2020 and all that Urology boasts.

Best Wishes

Ian Pearce