It seems a little late to wish everyone a happy New Year, however may I take this opportunity to wish all members a successful and prosperous 2014. I remain very conscious that we are all facing a range of pressures as we strive to provide highest quality care and rehabilitation for our patients and their families and that in such times it can be difficult to see beyond the immediate horizon. It is therefore incumbent upon me to thank, on our collective behalf, those within BSRM who have contributed to the work of Executive Committee, our Sub Committees and Special Interest Groups, as well as those who represent us on a range of external organisations.

I also remain acutely aware that so much of what we do is done by a relatively small number of individuals and for a healthy future to be assured for BSRM we need to continually refresh our committees with new members. On your behalf I would welcome Lloyd Bradley, Chit Ko Ko and Andrew Hanrahan on to Executive and look forward to their contribution both to Executive and subcommittee work.

It is also vital that the voice of our membership is heard so that your Executive is working towards what you feel is important. One area that we will need to have a collective voice on is the Future Hospitals Commission from the RCP. It is proposed to survey members on this in the very near future and I would encourage everyone to review the Executive Summary and respond to the survey. A small sub group of the Executive is then going to prepare a BSRM position statement on this very important area and suggest options as to how Rehabilitation Medicine can best play its part in what will be a radically different hospital environment in the not too distant future.

We have now agreed our new constitution and as a result of that we will be moving to one BSRM Scientific conference each year. It is recognised that this may lead to problems for members attending and this will be reviewed. However BSRM will continue to develop other CPD events, mainly through the work of our SIGs. While these may primarily appear to meet needs of trainees it is probably the case that within the revalidation process consultant members may also benefit from attending. We will also continue to look at collaborative meetings with organisations such as the SRR and in this context have submitted a letter of intent to host the World Congress of Neurorehabilitation in the UK in 2018. The outcome of this will be known in April of this year. Returning to the involvement of more members in our processes there is of course one way in which everyone can contribute without too much extra effort. I refer to the process of nominating persons for election and more importantly voting within the election process. Voting numbers, even without the need to attend the AGM, have in recent years been lower than one would hope for. I would therefore encourage everyone within BSRM, to make the effort to return voting papers so that the outcome of elections truly represents the voice of our members. Hopefully this can sustain the position of the BSRM as an important voice for Rehabilitation Medicine in these challenging times.

John McCann
President
johnp.mccann@belfasttrust.hscni.net

The past year has been very eventful after major changes in funding for Prosthetic Services. The CRG completed drafting the latest national service specifications for NHS England and this is now awaiting public consultation. The Prosthetic Sub-Group of the CRG also drafted several policies to inform the prescribing of expensive components. This includes multi-articulating hands, microprocessor controlled prosthetic knees and silicon cosmesis. These policies are currently being considered by NHS England for approval and if approved, are expected to have a significant impact on service delivery and quality. More work is needed to agree amputee rehabilitation tariffs to allow a transition from the current system of block contracts into a fairer payment by results commissioning system. Furthermore, amputee veterans are being discharged from the military rehabilitation services to the NHS to attend a centre of their choice. In the meanwhile work is planned to develop 9 NHS centres in England, selected on a geographical basis to become Enhanced Veteran Centres (EVCs).

We are all looking forward to the BSRM Annual Meeting in Bristol, which will include an afternoon SIGAM session. I am keen to hear BSRM members’ suggestions regarding subjects of interest or research papers for presentation.

I would like welcome Dr Fergus Jepson who was elected as a member of the SIGAM Committee. I also would like to thank Professor Jai Kulkarni for his valuable contribution and services to SIGAM, both during his term as a member and previously as a Chairman of the committee.

Imad Sedki
Chair – SIGAM
imad.sedki@rnoh.nhs.uk
SCISIG Update

I am pleased to report that the first annual Advanced Spinal Injury Medicine Course will take place from the 16th -18th June 2014. This national course will be hosted by the Princess Royal Spinal Injuries Centre in Sheffield. There will only be a limited number of places available on this theory and practical course so I recommend looking early. Thanks to all who have expressed an interest in this special interest group and as a newly formed group we are very open to ideas and suggestions from any of you and would be delighted to welcome trainees and new BSRM members. You can register an interest with Sandy Weatherhead at the BSRM or me.

Mariel Purcell
Chair – SCISIG
margaret.purcell@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

MSKSIG Update

We are pleased to inform that it looks very promising as far as the field of Musculoskeletal rehabilitation is concerned. As you may remember the turn of events with Trauma (major) as soon as a Professor Keith Willet was appointed as National Clinical Director (NCD), it took no time for him to recognise the importance of Rehabilitation Medicine in delivering major trauma services and we all know the outcome. Similarly Professor Peter Kay is currently appointed as NCD for Musculoskeletal Services and I gather he has plans for Rehabilitation.

We have presented our case to the Chief Executive of ARMA and he was very quick to recognise what we may be able to better the MSK Services by contributing to the missing element of Rehabilitation within it, as a subsequent result we are now on the Policy Leads Board of ARMA along with other very important stakeholders and this will surely help us to put forth our agenda.

We are meeting with Professor Kay shortly to learn and contribute to the defining of musculoskeletal services and are very optimistic about the outcome of the same. MSKSIG along with BIMM has put a proposal to the Education Sub-Committee of the BSRM for approval to deliver a tailor-made advanced musculoskeletal rehabilitation course for the membership of the BSRM and trainees, which we hope would be an annual event.

The BSRM membership will be informed regularly of the progress made with national policy, but we need to be prepared in advance rather than wait for the opportunity, it may be worthwhile if regional trainers encourage specialty trainees to acquire appropriate and extra musculoskeletal skills in anticipation.

‘Watch the Space’ is the buzz word!

Mahesh Cirasanambati
Chair - MSK SIG
mciras@gmail.com

Major Trauma Rehabilitation

For those of us providing rehabilitation in Major Trauma Centres the last year has been extremely busy as Major Trauma Networks become established. Rehabilitation is becoming a higher priority as acute MTC care becomes better co-ordinated and the focus is now on what happens following the acute event, through patients’ hospital journey and life in the community. The BSRM standards are referenced in the Major Trauma Centre service specification for 2014/15, so will inform peer reviews. The Department of Health will be looking at the rehabilitation pathways in the near future – I will keep BSRM members updated.

For future National Peer Reviews of Major Trauma Networks a Consultant in Rehabilitation Medicine will be part of the review panel. If you work in a MTC, are involved in Major Trauma Rehabilitation and would like to join the National Peer review team, please contact me. Also could I please have names of Major Trauma Rehabilitation leads and directors from your networks.

Krystyna Walton
krystyna.walton@srtf.nhs.uk

VRSIG Update

The VRSIG committee have been very fortunate to be able to co-opt Emer McGilloway to the committee and look forward to working more closely with her.

VRSIG members continue to work with Bill Gurnyeon and the DWP in developing the Work Capability Assessment for clients with cognitive problems and there will be a VRSIG session at the Bristol Meeting focussing on fits notes and the Work Capability Assessment.

I am continuing to represent the BSRM on the Council for Health & Work and would welcome any relevant input from BSRM members in this area.

I look forward to seeing you in Bristol if not before!

Judith Allanson
jJudith.allanson@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Research Corner

BSRM Trainees Research network

A brand new Trainees Research network is being set up to link all Rehabilitation Medicine trainees with an interest in research. The research forum will be a chance to share ideas, advice and information about courses and links to other educational resources. It will allow trainees to feedback and suggest ideas to the BSRM about their posts and any academic issues. Dr Meena Nayar, the newly appointed National Trainee Representative will be co-ordinating the network. If you are interested in finding out more information or being part of the network, please email meenakshi.nayar@nhs.net

Meena Nayar
meenakshi.nayar@nhs.net
Education Sub-Committee News

As I write a number of new educational initiatives are under development and it is great to see the roll out of the BSRM’s National Training Programme for Rehabilitation Medicine. All Training Programme Directors will very soon (if they have not already), receive a CD with the library of presentations and further information.

We are pleased that Ganesh Bavikatte has organised another Electronic Assistive Technology Training Day for 19 May 2014 in Liverpool (see details attached). Pradeep Thumbikat and colleagues in Sheffield have developed a Spinal Cord Medicine course for rehabilitation professionals, the first of which will be held in Sheffield from 16-18 June 2014. The programme for the three days looks great and we hope that this will become a regular event (see attached flyer). Also in the pipeline is a BSRM Musculoskeletal Rehabilitation Course which we hope will run annually from 2015.

As approved at the AGM, the BSRM in partnership with the Society for Research in Rehabilitation, submitted a bid to host the World Congress for Neurological Rehabilitation (WCNR) in 2018 with Manchester as the host city. Krystyna Walton will lead presentation of the bid to the Presidium during the WCNR in Istanbul in April.

Thank you to Rajiv Hanspal for the excellent meeting on ‘Rehabilitation Technologies’ in London on 13 December.

Finally, I look forward to seeing you at the Autumn Meeting and AGM in Bristol from 13-15 October this year.

Ruth Kent
Education Sub-committee Chair
r.m.kent@leeds.ac.uk

Trainees’ Section

It’s been 2 years since I embarked on a journey to represent Rehabilitation Medicine trainees at a national level. The BSRM Annual Trainee Meeting was recently held at the Royal College of Physicians on the 13th December 2013. I would like to thank Sandy for organising an elegant meeting room and I must say our trainee conference facilities are getting better year after year.

We have been using Dropbox to share documents with trainees. In a recent survey 90% trainees found our Dropbox useful. This is a significant improvement from a year ago when only 43% trainees were receiving email communication from us. Our communication strategy proved successful by improving attendance at the Derby Specialist Rehabilitation Course. Rehabilitation Medicine being a small speciality can be isolating for new trainees.

Dr Sarah Leeder has compiled a rehabilitation medicine e-handbook which is available on our Dropbox.

Career fairs are an opportunity for medical students and foundations doctors to gain more information on specialty training. As a trainee representative I had the privilege to represent BSRM at a career fair organised by The Royal College of Physician, London. We have improved our career fair posters and these are available from our BSRM office.

The 2 years as National Trainee Representative has been exciting. Dr Sarah Leeder, Dr Clare Mehta, Dr Swaroop Shanbhag, Dr Meena Nayar, Dr Klint Asafu-Adjaye and I have represented Rehabilitation Medicine trainees at the Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board (JRCPTB), Specialist Advisory Committee (SAC) and BSRM committees. I recently presented my leadership experience to the Midlands regional group at the Faculty of Medical Leadership and Management national conference. This session was lead by Mr James Quinn the deputy regional medical director for NHS England. I took this opportunity to showcase our speciality and discuss my role as BSRM’s National Trainee Representative. It is now time for me to pass on the baton.

Dr Meena Nayar an academic clinical fellow (ACF) based at Northwick Park Hospital will be our new BSRM National Trainee Representative. She is currently developing a BSRM Trainee Research Network. Meena will be supported by Dr Klint Asafu-Adjaye and Dr Sarah Leeder. I wish them good luck. I would also like to thank Dr John McCann and Mrs Sandy Weatherhead for their support.

BSRM Trainee Reps 2014
National Trainee Reps: Dr Meena Nayar & Dr Sarah Leeder
Trainee Rep Deputy: Dr Klint Asafu-Adjaye
SIGEAT Trainee Rep: Dr Clare Mehta
SIGAM Trainee Rep: Dr Julkiflakhan Tadvi
MSKSIG Trainee Rep: Dr Swaroop Shanbhag
VRSIG: Dr Moe Moe Myint

Thank you.

Sunil Ankolekar & Meena Nayar
uksunko@gmail.com meenakshi.nayar@nhs.net

European & International Affairs

UEMS Section of Physical & Rehabilitation Medicine
www.euro-prm.org

The UEMS Section met in Rome in September. Rajiv Singh represented us, as Tony Ward could not attend and has produced his report for the Society. It is available to anyone. Who wishes a copy.

European Board Certification and Exam

The 2013 exam took on 30th November and resulted in passes for Drs. Surendra Bandi, Kanchana Devinuwara and Poornashree Holavanahalli Ramamurthy. Very well done and congratulations go to the three of them. Well done to their trainers/educational supervisors as well! We
will send them their certificates after the next European Board meeting on 28th March, but will also make a presentation at the next BSRM meeting in Bristol.

The next exam will take place on 29th November 2014 and the final date for applications is 30th September 2014. Full application details and past papers are available on the UEMS website [see above]. There is great value for trainees to become members of the wider fraternity of Rehabilitation Medicine across Europe and the benefits include reduced registrations at conferences and meetings across the continent as well as free participation in Board-sponsored courses. Virtually all are run in English. Trainees can find details of Board registration on its website.

The European Board now has over 800 questions in its bank and it is becoming a valuable resource for any future knowledge based assessment in the UK. There may be great value, therefore, for British trainees to register with the Board. Anyone requiring further information can contact me on 01782 673 693 or by email at Anthony.Ward@uhns.nhs.uk

White Book on Physical & Rehabilitation Medicine in Europe

The European Academy has made a start in updating the White Book on PRM in Europe, as it is important to maintain the momentum of ensuring that policy makers across Europe know of the contribution of the specialty to improve access to rehabilitation services. The WHO have included rehabilitation as a health strategy in their Action Plan for 2015-2025. It will be an agenda item at their forthcoming World Assembly. This is great news and the ISPRM’s efforts to achieve will hopefully be rewarded later this year. This will mean that rehabilitation will have to be included in the planning of all health strategies and puts medical rehabilitation fairly centrally in people's thinking.

Courses

Two UK participants will participate at the forthcoming European School Marseille series on Posture & Movement Analysis. There is a great demand for places and the course is now being limited to two per country. There remain places for the 2014 course Further details will be available on the European Board website in the New Year. I would strongly advise European Board registered trainees to get an application in early to avoid disappointment. It’s in English, is completely free and all you have to pay is your airfare. Cheap flights to Marseille abound.

European Congresses

The standard of European Congresses has not been up to much, in my opinion, in recent years, but this will change for the 2014 event, which will be held in Marseille. Many of you will know Prof. Alain Delarque, who runs the European School in Marseille and the Congress has the backing of SoFMER, the French Society of PRM. It will run from 26-31 May 2014. Please look at the website for more details, www.esprm2014.com.

World Congress of Neurological Rehabilitation

This is to be held in Istanbul in 8th – 12th April 2014. If you wish to go, you had better hurry. The BSRM and SRR are making a bid to host the 2018 Congress and we will see how this gets on at the WFNR Management meeting in Istanbul in April.

North Sea/Baltic Physical & Rehabilitation Medicine Association

The Baltic/North Sea Forum held a very good meeting in Hanover from 25-27 September 2013. I would encourage you to consider attending the next one and we would like to plan a future meeting in the Netherlands, which should make it closer to home. Again, these meetings are in English.

The Future

Tony Ward is stepping down after representing the UK on the UEMS Section of PRM and the European Board of PRM for 22 years. He will be handing over to John Burn, who is the right person to take forward with Rajiv Singh the UK’s interests and contribution to the specialty’s activity across Europe. Tony would like to thank BSRM members for all their support in UEMS and European Board matters over the years and, particularly, the other past UK co-representatives (Vera Neumann, Chris Ward, David Rushton, Lindsay McLellan. Particular thanks should go to Anne Chamberlain, who had the vision back in 1992 to ensure the place of the UK among our European partners. British Rehabilitation Medicine is well regarded and held in high esteem throughout Europe and John and Rajiv will have the backing of the BSRM to carry on the work.

Tony Ward & Rajiv Singh
anthony@bward2.freeserve.co.uk
rajiv.singh@sth.nhs.uk

New Members

Welcome to the following new members since the last Newsletter. We look forward to seeing you at future events and to your involvement in the Society:

Dr Nayder Agha, ST3 - Rehabilitation Medicine, Reading
Dr Klint Asiafu-Adjaye, ST3 - Rehabilitation Medicine, Cambridge
Dr David Malkarel, ST3 - Rehabilitation Medicine, Liverpool
Dr Kay Mitton, ST3 - Rehabilitation Medicine, Burnley
Dr Meena Nayar, ACF – Rehabilitation Medicine, London
Dr Alessia Saverino, Neuro Rehab Doctor, London
Dr Hazel Siringwani, RM Specialty Doctor, London
Dr Vina Tesorero, Specialty Doctor, Nottingham
And the winner is .......... 

Poster Prize Winner
Autumn Meeting 13 December 2013, London

Congratulations to Katrina Clarkson (Speech & Language Therapist, North London), on winning the conference poster prize for her poster ‘Enabling people with communication impairments to provide feedback on service satisfaction – a reliability study’.

Postgraduate Bursary Winner

Congratulations also to Dr Emily Thomas, RM Trainee, South Western Region, on being awarded the Postgraduate Bursary for 2013 to support her PhD study ‘Development of a measure of change in self-identity following traumatic brain injury’. We look forward to hearing how your study progresses in your annual report(s).

Rehab Diary

Please note that all meetings advertised as BSRM meetings are approved for the purposes of CPD.

BSRM Meetings details are posted at www.bsm.co.uk

BSRM MEETINGS

BSRM ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY 2014, 19 May 2014, Liverpool
Contact: tia.jones@aintree.nhs.uk

SHEFFIELD SPINAL CORD MEDICINE COURSE, 16-18 June 2014
Contact: louise.adams@sth.nhs.uk Tel: 0114 2266762

SPECIALIST REHABILITATION MEDICINE COURSE, 25 & 26 September 2014, Derby
Contact: karen.kirkland@nottingham.ac.uk

BSRM AUTUMN MEETING & AGM, 13-15 October 2014, Marriott Royal Hotel, Bristol
Contact: admin@bsrm.co.uk

14th ADVANCED PROSTHETIC & AMPUTEE REHABILITATION COURSE, 17-19 March 2014, Stanmore
Contact: admin@bsrm.co.uk

OTHER MEETINGS

BIMM Spring Symposium, 12 & 13 April 2014, Brighton
Contact: deena@bimm.org.uk or www.bimm.org.uk

BRITISH SOCIETY FOR RHEUMATOLOGY 2014, 29 April-1 May 2014, Liverpool
www.rheumatology.org.uk

BRAIN AND SPINAL CORD INJURY CONFERENCE, 14 May 2014, Birmingham

EUROPEAN CONGRESS OF PHYSICAL AND REHABILITATION MEDICINE, 26-31 May 2014, Marseille
www.esprm2014.com

RIMS (Research in MS) Conference, 6 & 7 June 2014, Brighton www.rims2014.org

SRR SUMMER MEETING, 10 June 2014, Glasgow
Contact: patricia.dziunka@srr.org.uk www.srr.org.uk

PMG NATIONAL TRAINING EVENT, 7-9 July 2014, Cardiff
Contact: conference@pmguk.co.uk www.pmguk.co.uk

EUROPEAN SCHOOL GAIT & MOBILITY COURSE, For details of course in 2014 …..
Contact: Professeur Alain Delarque, Pôle de Médecine Physique et de Réadaptation, C.H.U. Timone 13385 Marseille Cedex 5 Tel : 00 33 (0)4 9135801 Email: alain.delarque@ap-hm.fr http://ehm.univ-amu.fr/diplome/european-school-marseille?destination=node/18

ISCOS 2014, 2-4 September 2014, Maastricht
http://www.iscosmeetings.org/

UKABIF 6th ANNUAL CONFERENCE, 27th November 2014, London
Contact: Chloe Hayward info@ukabif.org.uk www.ukabif.org.uk

ISPO UKNMS CONFERENCE, 3-4 October 2014, London
Contact: ISPO UK NMS Secretariat, PO Box 2781 Glasgow G61 3YL Tel/Fax: 0141 560 4092 info@ispo.org.uk

BRITISH GERIATRICS SOCIETY AUTUMN SCIENTIFIC MEETING, 15-17 October 2014, Brighton
Contact: conferences@bgs.org.uk www.bgs.org.uk

13th EUROPEAN FORUM FOR REHABILITATION RESEARCH, 6-9 May 2015, Helsinki, Finland
www.efr2015.org

ISPO WORLD CONGRESS, 22-25 June 2015, Lyon, France
www.ispo2015.org

CPD AWARDED TO BSRM MEETINGS

BSRM Autumn Meeting & AGM
13 December 2013 London
‘Rehabilitation Technologies’
6 credits  Event Code 86415

14th Advanced Prosthetic & Amputee Rehabilitation Course, 17-19 March 2014, Stanmore
18 credits  Code 88579
BSRM Prizes

BSRM Philip Nichols Prize (Value £500)
Open to RM trainees and new consultants

The Philip Nichols Prize is offered annually on a competitive basis and is awarded for excellence in original research. Trainees and newly appointed consultants (3 years or less) are eligible to apply. In the case of consultants, the work submitted must have been undertaken whilst a trainee.

Submissions must be pertinent to Rehabilitation Medicine and original. Entries should be between 5,000-7,500 words.

Successful authors will be invited to present their work at a national meeting of the BSRM.

Medical Student’s Essay Prize (Value: £250)
The BSRM Medical Student’s Essay Prize is offered annually on a competitive basis. All UK Medical Students are eligible to apply.

There is no application form but submissions should be up to 2,500 words in length and on a subject pertinent to Rehabilitation Medicine from a medical, biological or sociological point of view.

BSRM Travelling Scholarship (Value: Up to £600)
The BSRM Travelling Scholarship is offered annually on a competitive basis to facilitate travel for the purpose of furthering experience in Rehabilitation Medicine. It is open to all medical doctors, in training posts, in Non Consultant Career Grade posts, and Consultant posts working within the NHS in the UK.

Applications should be made to BSRM upon the application form, supported by a submission of not more than 1000 words outlining:
- the objective of travel
- potential benefits to the applicant
- relevance of the travel to practice of Rehabilitation Medicine

It is a condition of the award of the Scholarship that the recipient must submit a written report to the BSRM on the travel within 3 months of its completion.

Postgraduate Bursary Scheme
Applications should be on the appropriate form, and may be made for a grant of up to £2,500 to support a postgraduate student registered for either a PhD or an MD research degree. The bursary is open to RM trainees in the UK or Ireland who are members of the British Society of Rehabilitation Medicine. Applications will be assessed under three criteria; the applicant, the training environment, and the project.

- Successful applicants will demonstrate evidence of academic potential, judged from their academic record and achievements such as research publications, as well as evidence that their clinical training is proceeding satisfactorily.
- The application must be supported by evidence that the applicant’s nominated academic supervisor and institution will provide effective training support within an appropriate University department, and that there will be adequate facilities to enable the degree to be submitted within the agreed time period.
- The project will be judged on:
  - suitability as a vehicle to acquire research competencies as described in the Rehabilitation Medicine training curriculum
  - its potential to contribute to scientific advancement in Rehabilitation Medicine
  - potential for high quality peer reviewed publications and presentations.

The closing date for all prizes is 28 September and further information form(s) and examples of previous awards are available on the BSRM website - Prizes page www.bsrm.co.uk
Dr Sarah Anjina, Dr John McCann & Dr Sunil J Ankolekar
at the Royal College of Physician, London Career fair 2013