

NEWSLETTER
MAY 2019
ISSUE 21

IN BRIEF

- **Chairman's Report**
- **Plans for 2019**
- **Snippets of news**

www.foan.org.uk



Friends of
African
Nursing

Chairman of Trustees Report

Clinical Ambassadors in various parts of our African network are regularly sent articles of interest to reward them for keeping their networks in touch with new education modules as we produce them. Many of them use WhatsApp software to keep in touch with their perioperative colleagues. We are delighted to announce that after a considerable hiatus, we now have a new and functioning site—so Dot will be communicating with them to share the news. Being an Ambassador is a relatively light duty, but it comes with considerable responsibility. I have been appointed as the Ambassador for Africa to the International Federation of Perioperative Nurses (IFPN). My voluntary role is to represent the organisation in fields in which I move, to enable the nurses I am teaching to find and understand the resources made available by IFPN. I have set myself a variety of communication goals to promote IFPN and also to support the development of perioperative organisations both face to face and by email as required. We hope that similarly, our Clinical Ambassadors also expand their networks when they have opportunities to do so.

There is no doubt that more could be done by me in this regard and I have made a commitment today to redouble my efforts. I have some opportunities at future conferences to promote both FoAN and IFPN in South Africa and possibly also Zimbabwe. We have a stand at the annual residential conference held by the Association for Perioperative

Practice in York in August which is a great opportunity to give information to colleagues about African Operating Theatres and conditions that we find. A bonus this coming August, is that the Annual meeting of IFPN will be held during the York conference, enabling more networking and development of goals and projects in different areas of the world. One of the other responsibilities of course is to stay up to date with the organisations you represent and ensure that you can answer questions about all the aspects of their business. You do not need a degree in marketing for this role but a sound belief in the goals of the IFPN and news of all its successes and recent activities.

FoAN does not perhaps keep our African colleagues sufficiently close, and at our meeting in June we will discuss the means of ensuring they keep up to date with us and our plans. It will surely help all of us. Technology is so wonderful now, just a short sentence can keep people informed on a regular basis. It need not be a chore, but a mechanism for ensuring that communication channels are open and transparent. A very different scenario from when we started, when we had to use the postal service to communicate! Watch this space for more news!

Meanwhile, I must write my report for the meeting of IFPN with prospective plans rather than actions completed!

Kate Woodhead

Plans for 2019

Dots Coffee Morning, raising funds for FoAN gifts of eye protection to the nurses.



Dot at her coffee morning



Contributions from a generous congregation to the Coffee Morning.

This is the area of the newsletter where we usually report to you what we have been doing with your generous donations and our core objective of delivering education in the field. Since the last newsletter we have not made a visit to Africa, much to our great sadness. There was a plan to visit Zimbabwe with helpful funding from the Women's and Health Alliance (www.waha-international.org) for a small course to be run in a hospital where WAHA fund a fistula repair service. Unfortunately in January when we were beginning to firm up the details with the Ministry of Health and WAHA, civil unrest broke out in Zimbabwe, largely due we understand due to a steep rise in the price of fuel and basic foods.

So we made the decision to postpone the visit, as it really is not appropriate for us to try to deliver education when the country is having trouble. The safety issue for us is not a small one—we have to be cautious.

We are once again using all the contacts we have to review the safety aspects of Zimbabwe travel and hope that we may be able to make our visit in July. This country has been on our list of possible countries where they have asked for our help, for a number of years. We hope that the time has finally come!

The other aspect of our lack of visits to Africa in the last six months is the collaboration with Kids OR. You will remember that we visited Rwanda last September to set up the education programme, followed by a team visit and a week of focused perioperative education in The Main Referral Hospital in Lilongwe, Malawi. The very small team at Kids OR are so busy travelling and setting up the details of the Operating Room regeneration and refurbishment programme across the world, in all the continents, that we are far from the top of their agenda. It has been very difficult to catch them between travels in order to discuss our visits. This has been a huge disappointment for us, as we know that our education for the nurses after the new equipment installation into the new theatres, is the means of ensuring patient safety and protecting the charities' investment. We remain hopeful that the situation can still be remedied.

More hopeful, in our immediate future, is a visit to Ghana which we are in the midst of arranging to re-visit the Medical and Surgical Institute in Accra to deliver a leadership programme and a perioperative couple of days. The programme is being developed, with briefings and collaboration occurring with colleagues from Friends of African Nursing Canada who will join us for the programme. We welcome their continued collaboration. KW

Sponsorship of cards

Many thanks to Co-Founder of FoAN and previous trustee, Lesley and her husband Chris who continue to support the supply of her cards to us to sell. It is a generous donation in kind and we are most appreciative.



Sandra Pryme

Introducing our new trustee, Sandra Pryme. Welcome !

Sandra did her initial nurse training in New Zealand and has a background of twenty nine years' experience of working in the Perioperative environment. She has worked in a number of different roles in perioperative care in scrub, anaesthetics and recovery and held a number of senior posts as a team leader and a clinical educator.

She is currently the

Training and Development Co-ordinator for the anaesthetic directorate at the Lancashire teaching hospitals NHS foundation trust. Within her current role she supervises and supports pre-registration student nurses, trainee ODP's and qualified practitioners in the clinical area. Sandra has been actively involved with AfPP for many years and has been a regional team lead, trustee and sits on the current governance committee. Outside of work I am a mixed media artist, I enjoy going to the gym, working on my allotment and spending time with friends and family.

Fundraising by Trustees

Sally and Stephanie and the light fandango



New to you sale Hazel, Kate and Soraya.

A Coffee Morning was held in March for FoAN at All Saints Church, Eastleigh, Hampshire. A lovely morning of socialising, coffee and tea swigging, delicious cake eating and table top purchases was enjoyed. A slide show of our work played during coffee generated various questions and comments. Members who

attended were very generous and those unable to do so kindly gave donations. The £378.01 raised will provide vital eye protection for Theatre Nurses during surgery, in Africa. Our grateful thanks to the Vicar and members of All Saints, generous supporters of our Charity. Dot Chadwick

On Sunday 17th March Stephanie and Sally were again invited to attend a Tea Dance in aid of FoAN held by the David Smith Dance Group in Basingstoke.

It was lovely afternoon of ballroom and sequence dances accompanied by David playing key board. David's parents who are also professional dance teachers were leading the dances. (Continued— below left)

New to You Sale

A new to you sale was held in the Parish Centre of Kate's village with the proceeds to be shared equally with a local breast cancer charity. Locals were very generous with their donations and there were mountains of clothes, shoes, jewellery and handbags for sale! On a wet and windy Saturday, many people stopped by for a cup of tea and homemade cakes and inevitably went

away with a bargain or two! The sale has to date raised nearly £900 with some more to come from e-bay sales. Many individuals were helpers and we thank them all very much. A follow-on sale of jewellery (as there was quite a lot left over, will be held in November) Soraya and Kate



Sally and Stephanie at their T Dance with David.

T— Dance for FoAN

(Cntd)

We were invited to bring the FoAN stand along with cards and items for sale. We also had an opportunity to tell the group about the trips and the on-going work that FoAN is undertaking. Alongside a raffle the afternoon raised £190 for the charity.