



British  
Thoracic  
Society

---

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

---

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the British Thoracic Society will be held on Wednesday 22 November 2023 at 5.25pm at the QEII Centre.



Better lung health **for all**

## BRITISH THORACIC SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 22 November 2023 at 5.25pm  
QEII Centre, London

Please send apologies to [bts@brit-thoracic.org.uk](mailto:bts@brit-thoracic.org.uk)

### A G E N D A

The Society's President, Professor Onn Min Kon, will be in the Chair.

1. Apologies for absence.
2. **Minutes** of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on 23 November 2022. **(Paper 1)**
3. **Matters arising** from the minutes if not elsewhere on the agenda.
4. **Report from the Chair of the Board of Trustees**
  - 4.1 Dr Paul Walker will give a brief overview of activities during the year.
5. **Report from the Honorary Treasurer**
  - 5.1 Report and financial statements for the period ended 30 June 2023. **(Paper 2)**  
Members are referred also to the Annual Report from the Board of Trustees which can be found here: <https://www.brit-thoracic.org.uk/about-us/governance-documents-and-policies/>
  - 5.2 Investments.
  - 5.3 Membership Fees for 2024, including the ERS membership annual fee for BTS members.
  - 5.4 Delegate rates for Meetings in 2024.
  - 5.5 Appointment of auditors for 2023/2024.
6. **Report from Editors of *Thorax* and British Open Respiratory Research (BMJORR)**
  - 6.1 The annual report on the two journals is enclosed. **(Papers 3)**
7. **Office Bearers and Trustees**
  - 7.1 **President and President-elect 2024**  
The Honorary Secretary will report. Following the call for nominations in the summer of 2023, three nominations were received, and following an election, Professor Nick Maskell was confirmed. He will serve as President-elect with effect from the AGM in November 2023, serving as President for one year from the AGM in November 2024. Professor Jon Bennett will serve as President in 2023.

- 7.2 **Chair of the Board of Trustees**  
The post of Chair of the Board of Trustees is advertised in the year before the current incumbent demits office, as required by the Society's constitution. This allows for effective handover to take place during the coming year. A report will be provided.
- 7.3 **Chair of the Workforce and Development Committee**  
Following due process and in accordance with the Society's constitution, Dr Daniel Smith was appointed as the Chair of the Workforce and Service Development Committee and will take up post following the AGM.
8. **Election of members of Council**  
Following the call for nominations, 6 people will join Council, serving from November 2023 until November 2026. The following members were elected.  
Dr Charlotte Addy  
Dr Chloe Bloom  
Dr Wadah Ibrahim  
Dr Anna Murphy  
Dr Richard Russell  
Dr Aqeen Azam (under 35 member)
- 9 **Votes of thanks**
- 9.1 To all members of BTS.
- 9.2 **Elected members of BTS Council** who will stand down at the AGM:  
Dr Rachel Davies  
Dr Nicholas Duffy  
Dr Gareth Hughes  
Dr Ananthakrishnan Raghuram  
Dr Thomas Ward
- 9.3 **Trustees** who will stand down at the AGM:  
Dr Charlotte Addy, Chair of the Workforce and Service Development Committee
- 9.4 **Officers** who will stand down at the AGM:  
Professor Onn Min Kon, President  
Dr John Park, Honorary Treasurer
10. **Any other business notified to the Chair or Secretary before the meeting**
11. **Date of next AGM**                      Wednesday 27 November 2024

**MINUTES of the meeting of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the BRITISH THORACIC SOCIETY**  
held on Wednesday 23 November 2022 at 5.30pm, QEII Conference Centre, London.

Mrs Rachael Moses OBE presided.

The meeting was quorate, with 57 members attending.

**1. Apologies for absence**

1.1 Apologies were received from Dr Robert Monie.

**2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on 21 October 2021**

2.1 The President invited corrections to the minutes. No corrections were reported and the minutes were agreed as an accurate record.

**3. Matters arising from the minutes if not elsewhere on the agenda**

3.1 There were no matters arising.

**4. Report from the Chair of the Board of Trustees**

4.1 The Chair presented an overview of the Society's activities during the year. He reported that the Society had celebrated the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its incorporation in June 2022 and at the end of 2021 the Society had welcomed its first ever non-medical President, Mrs Rachael Moses.

4.2 Dr Walker advised that the Society had continued to raise the profile of respiratory with NHS England leadership, Health Education England, other stakeholders and in press/media work. The Society had continued communications with RCP London and colleagues in other key stakeholder organisations. Dr Walker gave special mention to Professor Andy Menzies-Gow, National Clinical Director for Respiratory, for his staunch support.

4.3 The Society had offered an online Winter Meeting to over 1,600 delegates in November 2021, an on-site Summer Meeting to over 600 delegates in June (the first onsite meeting since 2019), 10 online and on-site short courses to over 700 delegates during the 2021/2022 year and 8 webinars and presentations on Tobacco Dependency treatment, with over 400 participants.

4.4 Dr Walker advised the Society had published its second Impact Report, and importantly had published "A respiratory workforce for the future" which outlined the workforce requirements across the multi-professional respiratory team. In June 2022 the Society had 4254 members and BTS documents had been downloaded more than 940,000 times from the BTS website.

4.5 BTS members had been asked to participate in a survey to inform development of the new strategic priorities for the Society. Further to the survey Dr Walker announced that the "BTS Strategy 2023 – 2025" had been published and was available on the BTS website. The Chair

noted that the vision of the Society had remained the same – Better Lung Health for All. The Society’s mission is:

To influence the provision of the optimum respiratory workforce and the development of services that promote sustainable solutions and reduce health inequalities

To educate professionals to advance knowledge and share learning in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of lung disease

To support all members of the respiratory team to improve standards of care

4.6 The four strategic priorities are:

- To represent the entire multi-professional respiratory team across the four nations.
- To deliver education and continued professional development to the entire multi-professional respiratory team.
- To support the development and delivery of high-quality respiratory care which encompasses disease prevention, early diagnosis, therapeutic intervention and supportive care.
- To ensure BTS remains a well-governed, inclusive, and financially stable membership organisation.

4.7 The Chair reflected on the importance of representation from all multi-professional respiratory team members in Board and Committee roles. Finally, he warmly thanked the BTS members.

4.8 The President thanked Dr Paul Walker for his report and for his leadership of the Society over the past year.

## **5. Report from the Honorary Treasurer**

5.1 Dr John Park gave a brief report on the BTS financial statements for the year to the end of June 2022, summarising the key issues for the past year. He reported that BTS continued to be financially robust and resilient. BTS total funds are in excess of £6 million which allows BTS to continue to focus its work programmes in support of members and the wider respiratory workforce.

5.2 Income streams: membership subscriptions have increased, revenue from Thorax continues to hold and investment performance allows the Society to draw on £60,000 from investments to support head office activities. He reported that there will be no increase in membership fees for the 10<sup>th</sup> consecutive year.

5.3 Asset investments: the investment portfolio was valued at £4.3 million. The Honorary Treasurer thanked the Society’s investment manager for the strong performance of the portfolio. He also noted the clear ethical guidelines in place with no investment in tobacco, fracking or the arms trade. The Honorary Treasurer noted BTS investments have remained stable with a small decrease in value, which was expected due to market conditions.

5.4 Re-appointing of Hayesmacintyre as BTS auditors.

It was noted that the 2022 audit was carried out remotely and ran very smoothly. Members voted by majority to appoint Hayesmacintyre for the next audit cycle.

5.5 The President thanked the Honorary Treasurer for his careful stewardship of the Society's resources.

## **6. Report from Editors of *Thorax* and *BMJ Open Respiratory Research***

6.1 Annual Reports from the Editors-in-Chief of both journals were noted. The new editors-in-chief of the journal *Thorax* were formally welcomed. The new Impact Factor for *BMJ Open Respiratory Research* was hailed as an impressive achievement.

The President thanked all editors for their hard work, wishing to note special thanks to the outgoing Dr Steve Chapman, Professor Gisli Jenkins, Professor Nick Hart and Professor Alan Smyth who had been awarded the 2022 BTS Meritorious Service Award.

## **7. Office Bearers and Trustees**

### **7.1 President and President Elect 2023**

The Honorary Secretary announced the appointment of Prof Jon Bennett as President Elect (shadowing new President Prof Onn Min Kon for the next year).

### **7.2 Honorary Secretary**

Following due process and in accordance with the Society's constitution Professor Andres Floto is appointed as the new Honorary Secretary.

### **7.3 Honorary Treasurer**

The post of Honorary Treasurer was advertised in the year before the current incumbent demits office, as required by the Society's constitution. Following due process and in accordance with the Society's constitution, Dr Alanna Hare was appointed as the Honorary Treasurer elect and will take up post following the AGM in 2023.

### **7.4 Chair of Standards of Care Committee**

Following due process and in accordance with the Society's constitution, Prof Adam Hill was appointed as the Chair of the Standards of Care Committee and will take up post following the AGM.

### **7.5 Chair of the Education and Training Committee**

Following due process and in accordance with the Society's constitution, Mrs Alison Armstrong was appointed as the Chair of the Education and Training Committee and will take up post following the AGM.

### **7.6 Trustee – Sustainable Respiratory**

Following due process and in accordance with the Society's constitution, Dr Laura-Jane Smith was appointed as the Trustee for Sustainable Respiratory and will take up post following the AGM.

## **8. Election of New Council Members**

8.1 Following the call for nominations, 6 people will join Council, serving from November 2022 until November 2025. 5 applications for 5 places on Council were received, no election was needed. No election was held for the under 35 member:

Dr Stephen Holmes

Dr Katharine Hurt

Dr Sriram Iyer

Professor Colm Leonard  
Dr Pujan Patel  
Dr Matthew Steward, under 35 member

## **9. Votes of Thanks**

9.1 The President congratulated and thanked BTS members for their work over the past year.

9.2 Following the appointment of new Council members, the following Council members stepped down and were thanked by the President for completing their term:

Mrs Alison Armstrong  
Dr Karen Heslop-Marshall  
Dr William Man  
Professor Douglas Robinson  
Dr Laura Succony  
Dr Muhammad Tufail  
Dr Aashish Vyas  
Dr Emily Ward

9.3 The following Trustees stepped down and were thanked for their valued contribution to the BTS Board by the President:

Dr Simon Hart, Chair of the Standards of Care Committee  
Dr Alanna Hare, Chair of the Education and Training Committee  
Professor Jenni Quint, Chair of the Information Governance Committee

9.4 The Chair wished to thank Mrs Rachael Moses who stood down as President following the AGM. Dr Walker expressed the appreciation of the Board and the Society as a whole for a highly successful term of office and noted that having a non-medical President had been very beneficial to the Society. The Chair also wished to thank Dr Lisa Spencer who stood down as Honorary Secretary. He advised the contribution made by Dr Spencer over the previous 3 years had been immense. He thanked both Mrs Moses and Dr Spencer for their hard work and dedication to the Society.

## **10. Any other notified business**

10.1 No other business was recorded.

## **11. Date of next AGM**

11.1 Wednesday 22 November 2023.

DB 29/11/22

## The British Thoracic Society

## Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)

## For the year ended 30 June 2023

	Note	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 Total £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £
<b>Income from:</b>							
Charitable activities							
Membership	2	684,441	-	<b>684,441</b>	666,540	-	666,540
Donations	2	68,910	-	<b>68,910</b>	56,353	-	56,353
Standards and Education	2	422,862	65,000	<b>487,862</b>	371,157	40,000	411,157
Research and Innovation	2	1,438,926	-	<b>1,438,926</b>	1,009,174	-	1,009,174
Profile	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	3	57,456	-	<b>57,456</b>	51,910	-	51,910
<b>Total income</b>		<b>2,672,595</b>	<b>65,000</b>	<b>2,737,595</b>	<b>2,155,134</b>	<b>40,000</b>	<b>2,195,134</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>							
Investment Management costs							
	4	40,851	-	<b>40,851</b>	31,708	-	31,708
Charitable activities							
Membership	4	136,405	-	<b>136,405</b>	120,159	-	120,159
Standards and Education	4	1,119,821	20,898	<b>1,140,719</b>	1,067,040	45,920	1,112,960
Research and Innovation	4	998,592	-	<b>998,592</b>	572,672	-	572,672
Profile	4	302,574	73,758	<b>376,332</b>	264,608	76,926	341,534
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>2,598,243</b>	<b>94,656</b>	<b>2,692,899</b>	<b>2,056,187</b>	<b>122,846</b>	<b>2,179,033</b>
<b>Net income before net gains on investments</b>		<b>74,352</b>	<b>(29,656)</b>	<b>44,696</b>	<b>98,947</b>	<b>(82,846)</b>	<b>16,101</b>
Net gains /(losses) on investments		322,632	-	<b>322,632</b>	(24,477)	-	(24,477)
<b>Net income / (expenditure) for the year</b>	5	<b>396,984</b>	<b>(29,656)</b>	<b>367,328</b>	<b>74,470</b>	<b>(82,846)</b>	<b>(8,376)</b>
Transfers between funds		(30,684)	30,684	-	-	-	-
<b>Net income / (expenditure) and net movement in funds</b>		<b>366,300</b>	<b>1,028</b>	<b>367,328</b>	<b>74,470</b>	<b>(82,846)</b>	<b>(8,376)</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure) for the year and net movement in funds</b>		<b>366,300</b>	<b>1,028</b>	<b>367,328</b>	<b>74,470</b>	<b>(82,846)</b>	<b>(8,376)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>							
Total funds brought forward	17	6,750,256	29,342	<b>6,779,598</b>	6,675,786	112,188	6,787,974
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	17	<b>7,116,556</b>	<b>30,370</b>	<b>7,146,926</b>	<b>6,750,256</b>	<b>29,342</b>	<b>6,779,598</b>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in Note 17 to the financial statements.

## Balance sheet

Company no. 1645201

As at 30 June 2023

	Note	£	2023 £	£	2022 £
<b>Fixed assets:</b>					
Tangible assets	11		1,517,666		1,557,177
Investments	12		4,662,673		4,386,259
			<u>6,180,339</u>		<u>5,943,436</u>
<b>Current assets:</b>					
Debtors	13	502,984		428,607	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,725,285		1,463,503	
		<u>2,228,269</u>		<u>1,892,110</u>	
<b>Liabilities:</b>					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(1,261,682)		(1,055,948)	
			<u>966,587</u>		<u>836,162</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>					
			<u>7,146,926</u>		<u>6,779,598</u>
<b>Total net assets</b>					
			<u>7,146,926</u>		<u>6,779,598</u>
<b>The funds of the charity:</b>					
Restricted income funds	17		30,370		29,342
Unrestricted income funds:					
Designated funds		6,333,946		6,008,649	
General funds		782,610		741,607	
		<u>7,116,556</u>		<u>6,750,256</u>	
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>			<u>7,116,556</u>		<u>6,750,256</u>
<b>Total charity funds</b>			<u>7,146,926</u>		<u>6,779,598</u>

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 4th October 2023 and signed on its behalf by

Dr. John Park  
Honorary Treasurer

**Report from: THORAX and BMJ Open Respiratory Research****Thorax**

The Editors-in-Chief (Professors Cecilia O’Kane, Jenni Quint and Mark Griffiths) took over in July 2022. We are supported by our deputies: Alex Bottle, Rachel Chambers and Manu Shankar-Hari, and a team of specialist and associate editors.

The 2022 IF increased slightly (to 10) whilst that of other competitor journals has mostly declined after the period of COVID inflation.

Our five-year editorial strategy is to build on existing high standards of originality and rigour to:

1. increase impact and reach
2. make Thorax a prime resource for education
3. encourage environmentally sustainable publishing and support environmental issues
4. increase diversity in the Editorial team

Recent changes made by the EICs include:

1. recruitment of more statistical editors
2. restructuring of the Editorial Board (in progress)
3. increased proportion of original articles accompanied by editorials
4. increased number of podcasts: downloads currently 500-1000/ episode
5. established means of production for visual abstracts of original articles to facilitate
6. dissemination by social media
7. commissioning of at least themed review series lead by teams of associate editors
8. increased engagement with respiratory health colleagues in India through AE, new members of the Editorial Board, highlights from Thorax at NAPCON New Dehli 7th October 2023

Actions for the coming year

1. produce webinars to discuss hot topics
2. working with the BTS Education and Training Committee, commissioning a trainees survey of what they want from Thorax and establishing a publishing internship programme for trainees.

Cecilia O’Kane, Jenni Quint, and Mark Griffiths  
Editors-in-Chief, Thorax

## **BMJ Open Respiratory Research**

Following the departure of Steve Chapman as Editor-in-Chief late last year, two in-house BMJ research editors were appointed to manage submissions and make editorial decisions. Anne Menard and Shona Reeves have been with BMJORR for nearly a year, and are also on the BMJ Open editorial team so bring a great deal of expertise to the journal.

In addition, over the summer we were delighted to appoint Professor Gisli Jenkins (formerly joint-EiC of Thorax) as chair of the editorial board to provide strategic advice and guidance to the team. A number of new associate editors across a range of specialist areas have been appointed to increase the breadth of the team and ensure that papers can be reviewed as promptly as possible.

The journal has maintained a good impact factor of 4.1 (JCR 2022), and is ranked 26<sup>th</sup> of 65 journals in the SCIE Respiratory category; it has a Scopus Citescore of 6.4. Overall submissions continue to increase: 420 submissions Jan-Aug 2023 compared with 384 in total for 2022. Acceptances year to date stand at 97 compared with 107 for full year 2022. The majority of submissions are original research, followed by reviews and protocols. The overall acceptance rate stands at 29% (2022: 33%).

Over a third of submissions come from China (35%), followed by UK (16%) and USA (7%). China and UK are equal for acceptances (23% each), with USA and Australia both at 9%.

The mean time to first decision is 51 days (median 28 days), and mean time to acceptance is 171 days (median 156 days). These times should reduce further as the editorial team expands.

The transfer of papers from Thorax remains steady: 87 transfers received Jan-Aug 2023, of which 22 have been published so far, compared to 104 transfers for the whole of 2022. Transfers comprise 9.6% of all submissions.

In terms of reach and impact, in the first 8 months of 2023 BMJORR has received over 239,000 visits and over 267,000 article views. Most usage comes from Europe (141,000 page views) followed by the Americas and Asia. Over 50% of the journal's users come from the USA and UK. BMJORR has received 735 Altmetric mentions this year, mainly coming from Twitter and news and blogs. The journal's Twitter (X) account has over 8000 followers.

The journal continues to develop and welcomes good quality submissions across all areas of respiratory medicine, including critical care and sleep medicine. BTS members benefit from a 25% discount on the article publishing charge when they submit to the journal.

BMJ Open Respiratory Research Editorial team



---

**British Thoracic Society**

The British Thoracic Society is a Company Limited by Guarantee. Registered in England and Wales with number 1645201.  
Registered Office: 17 Doughty Street, London, WC1N 2PL • The British Thoracic Society is a Charity registered in England  
and Wales with number 285174, and registered in Scotland with number SC041209  
[www.brit-thoracic.org.uk](http://www.brit-thoracic.org.uk)