



British
Thoracic
Society

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the British Thoracic Society will be held on Wednesday 26 November 2025 at 5.35pm at the QEII Conference Centre.



Better lung health [for all](#)

THE BRITISH THORACIC SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 26 November 2025 at 5.35pm
QEII Centre, London

Please send apologies to bts@brit-thoracic.org.uk

A G E N D A

The Society's President, Professor Nick Maskell, will be in the Chair.

1. Apologies for absence
2. **Minutes** of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on 27 November 2024 (**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 Professor Richard Russell 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 2025 (**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 2026, including the ERS membership annual fee for BTS members (**Paper 3**)
- 5.4 Delegate rates for meetings in 2026
- 5.5 Appointment of auditors for 2025/2026
6. **Report from Editors of *Thorax* and British Open Respiratory Research (BMJORR)**
- 6.1 The annual reports from the Editors-in-Chief are enclosed. (**Papers 4a and 4b**)
7. **Office Bearers and Trustees**
- 7.1 **President and President-elect 2026**
Following the call for nominations in the summer of 2025, Professor Adam Hill was returned unopposed. He will serve as President-elect with effect from the AGM in November 2025, serving as President for one year from the AGM in November 2026. Professor Robina Coker will serve as President in 2025.

- 7.2 **Honorary Secretary**
Following due process and in accordance with the Society's constitution, Dr Charlotte Addy was selected as Honorary Secretary in 2025. She will take up post with effect from the AGM, having shadowed Professor Andres Floto for the latter part of 2025.
- 7.3 **Honorary Treasurer**
The post of Honorary Treasurer will be 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 brief report will be provided.
- 7.4 **Chair of the Education and Training Committee**
Following due process and in accordance with the Society's constitution, Dr Odiri Eneje was appointed as the Chair of the Education and Training Committee and will take up post following the AGM.
- 7.5 **Chair of the Standards of Care Committee**
Following due process and in accordance with the Society's constitution, Professor James Chalmers was appointed as the Chair of the Standards of Care 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 2025 until November 2028. The following members were appointed:
Mrs Alison Armstrong
Dr James Cavert
Dr Jessica Gates (Early Career member)
Dr Dana Li
Professor Najib Rahman
Dr Steven Walker
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:
Mrs Emma Chaplin
Dr Steve Holmes
Dr Katharine Hurt
Dr Sriram Iyer
Dr Pujan Patel
Dr Matthew Steward
- 9.3 **Trustees** who will stand down at the AGM:
Mrs Alison Armstrong, Chair of the Education and Training Committee
Professor Adam Hill, Chair of the Standards of Care Committee
- 9.4 **Officers** who will stand down at the AGM:
Professor Andres Floto, Honorary Secretary
Professor Nick Maskell, President
10. **Any other business notified to the Chair or Secretary before the meeting**
11. **Date of next AGM** Wednesday 24 November 2026

MINUTES of the meeting of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the BRITISH THORACIC SOCIETY
held on Wednesday 27 November 2024 at 5.35pm, QEII Centre, London.

Professor Jon Bennett presided.

The meeting was quorate, with 56 members attending.

1. Apologies for absence

1.1 Apologies were received from Professor Andres Floto and Professor Charlotte Bolton.

2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on 22 November 2023

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 of the Board started by looking back at the strategic priorities set in 2023, noting the four key priorities:

- 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.

4.2 Dr Walker advised membership numbers continued to grow from 4480 in June 2023 to 4678 in June 2024. Social media followers also continued to grow. "X" followers reached over 32,000 across BTS and Respiratory Futures, and LinkedIn had over 3,200 followers. BTS continued to be an active member of the UK Health Alliance on Climate Change (UKHACC), a collaboration of organisations working to raise the profile of climate change across healthcare, as well as the Healthy Air Coalition (HAC).

4.3 The Society continued to raise the profile of respiratory with NHS England leadership, other leaders across the four nations, stakeholders and with press/media work. BTS continued to support Dr Jonathan Fuld, NHSE Respiratory NCD, the Taskforce for Lung Health and the International Respiratory Coalition. The Society continues to work closely with colleagues across the 4 nations, with Asthma + Lung UK, PCRS and those colleagues in associated professional societies.

4.4 The 2023 Winter Meeting and 2024 Summer Meeting were well attended with the 2024 Summer Meeting attracting record numbers of delegates. 14 short courses were attended by 1,296

delegates during the 2023/2024 year, a 30% increase in delegate numbers compared to the previous year.

- 4.5 A new series of webinars covering respiratory physiology drew over 3000 views of the recorded events and the online learning resource for Thoracic Ultrasound continued to attract subscribers – over 600 new subscriptions during the year.
- 4.6 The Society published 5 new Guidance documents including a new pleural disease guideline and new clinical statement on pleural procedures. The MDR-TB Clinical Advice Service continued to provide vital advice to clinicians across the 4 nations and offered a special webinar.
- 4.7 The national Respiratory Support report was published revealing lower hospital mortality for hospitals with Respiratory Support Units (RSUs) (23%) compared to those without (35%) and 44% of hospitals had a nurse to patient ratio below national standards.
- 4.8 The final report for the Tobacco Dependency Quality Improvement programme was published as was the BTS position statement on Sustainability and the Environment: Climate Change and Lung Health which sets out the Society's stance on how the impact of climate change and the carbon footprint of respiratory healthcare can be assessed, reduced and mitigated. BTS also published the updated Position Statement on Tobacco and Vaping in October 2024.
- 4.9 The Society published a new policy document which sets out a practical framework for patient, carer and public involvement in the Society's work including how the organisation is governed, the work it does and how it works with others.
- 4.10 Through the Respiratory Futures platform the Society continues to publish case studies showcasing good practice; provide links to resources across a range of respiratory conditions and share new episodes of the Respiratory Futures Podcast.
- 4.11 Looking ahead to 2024/25 Dr Walker noted that a new Position Statement on Tobacco and Vaping had recently been published. Professional framework documents for ACPs, pharmacists and for those working in pulmonary rehabilitation would be published with further work on guidelines, clinical statements and quality standards.
- 4.12 The joint BTS/NICE/SIGN guidelines for the diagnosis and management of chronic asthma and the new asthma pathway had been published at the end of November 2024.
- 4.13 BTS planned to respond to the Change NHS consultation for the 10-year plan and development of a new BTS website is underway.
- 4.14 Dr Walker wished to record his ongoing thanks to all members of the Society and all that participate in Society activities. He also wished to thank BTS staff and Sally Welham in particular. He noted it had been an honour and pleasure to serve as Chair of the Board for the past three years.

5. Report from the Honorary Treasurer

- 5.1 Dr Alanna Hare gave a brief report on the BTS financial statements for the year to the end of June 2024, summarising the key issues for the past year. She reported that BTS remained in a strong financial position. When investment gains were added, the year ended with a surplus of £338,822 (surplus of £367,328 in 2023) and total funds at year end: £7,485,748 (£ 7,146,926 in 2023). This had allowed the Society to further support and grow core BTS activities including the range of short courses, webinars and communications work.

- 5.2 Income streams: the number of membership subscriptions had increased and continued to grow year on year. Conducting Short Courses virtually continues to allow more delegates to attend with fewer overhead costs and has made these a greater income stream. The Society welcomed 33% more delegates in 2023/24 than the previous year.
- 5.3 Dr Hare reported that there would be no increase in membership fees for the twelfth consecutive year and the ERS agreement would remain the same. Delegate rates for short courses, Summer Meeting and Winter Meeting will be set as close to the 2023/24 rates as possible.
- 5.4 Asset investments: the investment portfolio was valued at £4,892,440 on 30 June 2024. The Honorary Treasurer asked that thanks to the BTS investment manager be recorded for his careful stewardship of BTS resources.
- 5.5 Re-appointing of Haysmacintyre as BTS auditors: The Honorary Treasurer proposed the reappointment of Haysmacintyre. Members voted by majority to appoint Haysmacintyre for the next audit cycle.

6. Memorandums and Articles – new wording for approval

- 6.1 The Honorary Treasurer reported on behalf of the Honorary Secretary. Members were asked to approve the proposed adoption of the New Articles of Association as outlined in Paper 3.
- 6.2 Dr Hare advised the changes proposed to the BTS Memorandum and Articles were:
- to the British Lung Foundation (page 19), which should be changed to refer to Asthma + Lung UK following the organisation's name change.
 - The Memorandum and Articles require at least three of the councillors that constitute Council to be under the age of thirty-five.
 - The New Articles propose to exclude this age limitation due to the challenges and inadvertent exclusion it creates. The BTS Board had proposed the following wording:

3 members who shall either be doctors in training, or nurses/allied health professionals who are within 10 years of their primary respiratory qualification, at the time of election.

- 6.3 After discussion regarding making the wording as inclusive as possible, the following wording was proposed with 50 members in favour and there were no opposers:

3 members who are within 10 years of their primary qualification or time in respiratory practice at the time of election.

- 6.4 Dr Hare thanked all members for a very useful discussion. The revised Articles of Association would be submitted to the necessary bodies in the coming weeks.

7. Report on the journals Thorax and BMJ Open Respiratory Research

- 7.1 The President advised the report from Editors in Chief of Thorax, and from the publisher of BMJ Open Respiratory Research was available in the AGM papers. The President recorded the Society's thanks to all those involved in producing the Society's journals.

8. Office Bearers and Trustees

- 8.1 The Honorary Treasurer reported on behalf of the Honorary Secretary.

8.2 President and President Elect 2025

The Honorary Treasurer announced the appointment of Professor Robina Coker as President Elect.

8.3 Chair of the Board of Trustees

The Honorary Treasurer reported following due process and in accordance with the Society's constitution, Dr Richard Russell was selected as Chair-elect in 2024 and will take up the role following the AGM having shadowed Dr Paul Walker for the latter part of 2024.

8.4 Chair of the Quality Improvement Committee

Following due process and in accordance with the Society's constitution, Dr Andrew Molyneux was appointed as the Chair of the Quality Improvement Committee and will take up post following the AGM.

8.5 Chair of the Science and Research Committee

Following due process and in accordance with the Society's constitution, Professor Mona Bafadhel was appointed as the Chair of the Science and Research Committee and will take up post following the AGM.

8.6 Lay Trustees

Following due process and in accordance with the Society's constitution, Ms Caroline Nokes and Ms Lucy Davies were appointed Lay Trustees and will take up post following the AGM.

9. Election of New Council Members

Following the call for nominations, 6 people will join Council, serving from November 2024 until November 2027. No election was required. The following members were appointed:

Dr Cara Flynn
Dr Tuck-Kay Loke
Dr Arshiya Mastan
Dr John Park
Dr Hitasha Rupani
Dr Shaun Thein

10. Votes of Thanks

10.1 The President formally thanked BTS members for their work over the past year for all of their contributions to the Society.

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

Professor Robin Condliffe
Dr Rebecca D'Cruz
Dr Stephen Scott
Professor Dominick Shaw
Professor Koottalai Srinivasan
Dr Sophie West

10.3 The following Trustees stepped down and were thanked for their valued contribution to the BTS Board by the Chair of the Board:

Professor James Chalmers, Chair of the Science and Research Committee
Dr Mark Juniper, Chair of the Quality Improvement Committee

10.4 The following Officers stepped down and were thanked for their valued contribution to the Society:

Chair of the Board – Dr Paul Walker

The President noted Dr Walker had been an active member of the Society in various roles for the previous 25 years. He had been an inspirational and positive Chair, who has led the Society with distinction for the past 3 years. The President wished to record thanks to Dr Walker on behalf of the Board and all BTS members for his tireless service.

Dr Walker thanked Professor Bennett and stated it had been an immense pleasure and privilege to serve as Chair for the past three years.

BTS President – Professor Jon Bennett

Dr Walker noted that Professor Bennett had been BTS Chair of the Board during the COVID pandemic, which had been extremely challenging for all but throughout Professor Bennett had led the Society through these extraordinary event. Professor Bennett returned to the Board as President in order to offer more support to the Society over the past 2 years, marking his loyal and committed service to the Society and all who work in respiratory. Dr Walker added Professor Bennett's wisdom and advice had been appreciated by all and offered a vote of thanks on behalf of all BTS members.

The President wished to thank everyone for their support during his time as an Officer of BTS stating it had been a pleasure and honour to serve the Society.

11. Any other notified business

11.1 Mrs Rachael Moses requested that information on the breakdown of the professions that comprise the Society's membership be made available in future. It was agreed that this would be provided as part of the next Annual report.

11.2 No other business was recorded.

12. Date of next AGM

12.1 Wednesday 26 November 2025.

The President thanked everyone for attending the meeting which closed at 6.15pm.

DB 27/11/24

BRITISH THORACIC SOCIETY

AGM

26 November 2025

BTS Membership rates 2026/27

Purpose of paper

1. To propose that there is a small increase in membership rates for the coming 2026/27 year.

Background

2. BTS Membership subscriptions have been at the current rates since 2016.
The Consultant rate is £250 (by direct debit). In 2012 the consultant rate was £235 and in 2008 it was £205.)
3. The concessionary rate (for nurses, AHPs) is £40 (in 2012 it was £52 – but membership categories were modified since then).

Proposal

4. We are proposing a small rise this year given inflation of past few years. (On average inflation has been 3.75% per year since 2016 and the cumulative rise would equate to approximately 40% over that time).

Using a rise of about 5% (rounded) this would give:

Cat A: £265 (from £250)

Cat B: £160 (from £150)

Cat C: £42 (from £40)

Cat D: free

Cat E – as for Cat A

The fee for ERS membership remains at £30 in addition to the Category fees above.

5. Approval is requested.

BTS/Sally Welham

October 2025

Thorax report from the Editors-in-Chief

The current editorial team at Thorax comprises three Editors-in-Chief (EIC: Professors Cecilia O’Kane, Jenni Quint and Mark Griffiths) and the deputy editors: Professors Alex Bottle and Rachel Chambers. Our five-year strategy for the journal remains:

1. Increase impact and reach
 - Our Impact factor has decreased from 10.8 to 8.3 according to the most recent data. Thorax is ranked 8th of 108 journals in the Respiratory Systems category of Web of Science. The journal has a CiteScore of 16.8 and is ranked 6th of 59 journals in the Scopus Respiratory Medicine category
 - Developing markets: MG is attending NAPCON 2025 representing Thorax in India. We were invited to China in 2025 and may visit in 2026
 - The number of submissions is increasing (average of 143/month in 2025 compared with 124/month in 2024). The overall acceptance rate is 16%.
2. Make Thorax a prime resource for education
 - Podcast in collaboration with PulmPeeps and new Thorax Education web page established – see <https://thorax.bmj.com/pages/thorax-education>
 - A library of content-related MCQs is being developed.
3. Encourage environmentally sustainable publishing and support environmental issues
4. Increase diversity in the Editorial team.

Challenges for Thorax

1. Impact factor
 - Highly cited Covid-related content published in 2021 and 2022 is no longer in the impact factor window, so total citations have dropped although selected papers continue to be well cited
 - Publication of quality guidelines attracts citations but there is strong competition from other society journals
2. Managing turnaround times for submitted papers, making sure that reviews are conducted in a timely manner and avoiding reviewer fatigue
3. Marketing – ensuring the journal is promoted widely online to readers and potential authors.

We are grateful as ever for the support of Sally and her team at the BTS, and Morag and Henry at BMJ Publishing.

Cecilia O’Kane, Jenni Quint, and Mark Griffiths
Editors-in-Chief, *Thorax*
October 2025

BMJ Open Respiratory Research report

Submissions to BMJORR continue to grow year on year. There were a total of 793 submissions in 2024, and 649 this year from January to September. This means the journal is likely to exceed 850 submissions for the whole of 2025.

Following two years as chair of the editorial board, Gisli Jenkins was appointed as editor-in-chief in July 2025, assuming responsibility for the whole editorial team and for all papers from submission to acceptance and publication. We're very grateful to the two BMJ staff editors, Jamie Royle and Sinead Weldon, who previously managed the peer review process through to final decision and have now returned to their full time roles with BMJ Open.

A number of new associate editors have been appointed to cover a range of subspecialties and the journal is keen to reduce turnaround times further and provide an even more efficient service to authors. Increasing numbers of papers are being transferred from Thorax following rejection on the grounds of scope or priority, which saves authors the trouble of having to resubmit elsewhere. With the continued volume growth experienced peer reviewers are always welcomed - please contact the editorial office if you wish to be considered.

BMJORR is currently inviting submissions for three topic collections – please see the journal website for further details, including deadlines to submit (<https://bmjopenrespres.bmj.com>):

- Advances in Asthma Diagnosis and Management
- Air Pollution and Respiratory Health: Measuring Impact and Supporting Mitigation
- Sleep-Disordered Breathing in Children

Finally, a reminder that BTS members benefit from a 25% discount on the article processing charge when they submit a paper to the journal. Members of the other affiliated societies (BSS, ARNS, BALR, ARTP) also receive discounts.

Gisli Jenkins
Editor-in-Chief, BMJ Open Respiratory Research
October 2025



British Thoracic Society

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