



3rd Membership Newsletter

November 2017

Dear Colleagues and members of the ACPIN community:

The aim of this newsletter is to update you on recent developments with ACPIN.

AGM Notice

The ACPIN AGM and **3rd ACPIN International Neuro Physiotherapy Conference** will be on 19th and 20th March 2018 at Deansgate Conference Centre Manchester #ACPIN18. Please check website for abstracts submission, ticket prices and full programme.

Structural change

The newly formed ACPIN Board, which replaced the National Executive Committee, took up posts following our AGM in March 2017. The Board Members have been given clearly described board roles which have a portfolio of defined activity and responsibilities attached. This new way of working was set up by Mr Richard Denyer our interim Chief Executive Office (CEO) to focus our efforts more specifically and to help relieve burden felt in past structures. At the same time, it aims to gather momentum for moving forwards with our aims and vision (ACPIN 2020). We strongly believe that it provides you, members of our community, with opportunities to engage with board portfolios specifically to link with related projects that may be close to your sphere of interest. You can contact a Board Member (contact details have been published in the latest Special Edition of Synapse and are also available on the ACPIN website) and ask for information on what they are working on or just volunteer to join in a few meetings online, where you may assist in some work to support a workstream or just share your thoughts in the discussion.

It fills me with great pleasure to let you know that the new Board members have been working hard since April 2017 to pick up pace with their new roles. Some really exciting ideas are being explored and will hopefully be rolled out as new services to membership in 2018.

ACPIN Council

Good governance is the foundation for a well-run organisation. As announced at the AGM (March 2017), and in accordance with good governance we have setup the ACPIN Council whose primary role is to hold the Board to account. The regions all have a seat on the ACPIN Council and we have changed the function of the Regional Representative to that of Council Member for a given region. We are working with regions to further develop this role and give it the weight and responsibility that it deserves. It is very much a work in progress and I am sure the final setup of both Board and Council may look different in the years to come. It is noted, that our adopted structure was put in place on recommendation by our interim CEO, who based his recommendation on many years of experience in CEO roles for various organisations and associations.

At the inaugural ACPIN Council meeting in July of this year, the ACPIN Council agreed to meet twice a year. The meetings are hosted and chaired by a different region each time. Regions can ask to host and nominate a chair for subsequent meetings. Council Chairs are in post for approximately 6 months giving 3 months to organise and then 3 months to

follow up from a meeting. The second ACPIN Council meeting is scheduled for 12th January 2018 in Liverpool, hosted by the Merseyside region and Council will be chaired by Caroline Marshall.

ACPIN as Charity

On the 3rd of August 2017, ACPIN became registered at Companies House (Company Number 10898963) as a company limited by guarantee. This was done in preparation for ACPIN seeking charitable status. Application for which has been submitted and we are looking forward to positive news about this application at the start of 2018.

You, as ACPIN members, have all become members of the ACPIN company and will become members of the charity once application has been approved. These changes create new responsibilities and they suit an organisation of ACPIN's size.

Charitable status brings a range of new opportunities for ACPIN including the ability to raise funds and collaborate with patient charities. These new opportunities can be harnessed in a number of ways, for example, to develop and deliver bespoke training through our existing regional network in collaboration with patient charities. ACPIN the charity, will further seek to develop new services aiming to improve knowledge and quality of Neurophysiotherapy service provided to the wider public.

Charitable status and indeed incorporation brings with it a greater responsibility for good governance and strict management processes.

ACPIN Office

We are continuing to develop our "ACPIN Office" function to increase support for you as our members and to increase our engagement with other organisations and the wider public. On completion of a one-year project of an Interim CEO, the Board's decision was to draw the project to a close. Therefore, Richard Denyer's contract has not been extended. We all agreed that in conjunction with the Board, he had helped bring about a huge shift in ACPIN's strategic direction. We would all like to take this opportunity to thank him for all his hard work and efforts. The Board felt that, with the limited membership resources, the next phase of ACPIN development would be to ensure administrative support for specific Board roles. In addition, we will look to create the role of fundraising support alongside our part time paid membership administrator who already started in early 2017.

After advertising in October, conducting interviews and considering various candidates in November, we are now expanding the ACPIN Office team with a full-time member of staff starting in January 2018. This role will help in running Board activities, develop charitable activities and support the expanding portfolio of our ACPIN community.

ACPIN on the road

I sincerely hope you have had an opportunity to visit the ACPIN stand at Physiotherapy UK and at the UK Stroke Forum this year. We would appreciate your feedback or ideas on how we portray ourselves to professional groups present at these events. If you feel you would like to assist with supporting the stand at any event, please let the Board member for Marketing (Karen Hull) know.

Website update

Alongside a dedicated conference website for **#ACPIN18**, which will hopefully have none of the glitches we encountered previously, we have remained busy developing the new ACPIN members only website with more functionality and content than ever before. It will

be no surprise if I tell you that this has been a complex and often difficult process which has picked up many delays along the way. Through the determination of our Website development group members, the project has managed to stay on track and develop some great opportunities for other areas of ACPIN activity. We hope that it will be worth the wait when it finally goes live in 2018.

Membership Engagement

ACPIN has contracted a marketing company to undertake a stakeholder engagement exercise, involving focus groups with members and other stakeholders. From these focus groups we will derive a questionnaire which will go to all registered members in an effort to give everyone a voice in the direction of travel for ACPIN. We hope to see this work completed by early 2018 and present the findings at **#ACPIN18** on 19th 20th March.

ACPIN Awards

Nominations are now open for the 3rd ACPIN Awards. As in previous years, the awards process will see awardees announced at **#ACPIN18**. We encourage you and welcome nominations from those within and outside of the ACPIN community who have contributed enormously to our profession on a regional, national or international level. The 2018 ACPIN AWARDS process is available on the ACPIN website.

#ACPIN18

We are putting finishing touches on the exciting scientific programme for the 3rd International ACPIN Neuro Physiotherapy Conference 19-20 March 2018 in Manchester. Keep checking the ACPIN website for updates. **"ACPIN on the move"** will be as exciting and thought provoking as you have become accustomed to expect. Please share with friends and colleagues the call for abstracts (closing date 13th January 2018). With increasing international interest in the world's first and still only international conference on neuro physiotherapy and in an effort to control the costs, ACPIN have decided to limit the number of tickets and it is likely that early booking will be needed in order to avoid disappointment. ACPIN members can count on an early bird discount which is only valid with confirmed paid membership at time of conference., Please check your membership details including direct debit information once the membership database goes live again on the 1st January 2018.

If you have any questions or would like to support the work of ACPIN, please do not hesitate to contact your local region or you can contact the relevant board member directly. As the ACPIN community, I hope you will find our aims and plans as exciting as the ACPIN Board and Council members do. I strongly feel that we are gathering pace to firmly cement the foundations for our profession's future and ensure our continued success in delivering a strong professional image.

Please contact us and find out how you can help in advancing ACPIN's future. I look forward to seeing you, at **#ACPIN18**.

Jakko Brouwers
Honorary Chair ACPIN

