

Summer 2025 Newsletter

President Comment

My first 3 months as BAHNO President has seen an exciting and productive period for the Association.

I would like to start by thanking our Past-President Mr Ceri Hughes for his energetic and unstinting support for the Association over the last 2 years, and for steering the Association through this time.

Our congratulations also go to Professor Stuart Winter and his team together with the conference organisers for arranging such a fantastic 2025 Annual Scientific Meeting. It was good to see everyone getting together for this annual event celebrating all the different activities in British head neck oncology and the opportunity to catch up with one another.



In July I was incredibly proud to see the Liverpool Head Neck Centre host the International Academy of Oral Oncology (IAOO) meeting which attracted over one thousand delegates from 50 different countries around the world to gather and learn about latest advances in oral oncology. Congratulations to Professor Richard Shaw and to Professor Andrew Schache who not only organised the event but also hosted it in such a spectacular fashion in Liverpool.

The Association continues to work on your behalf particularly in the area of education and we are pleased to be partnering with Oracle Head and Neck Cancer UK to support them in the annual meeting in York taking place on 10th October 2025. This oncology-focused meeting is open to BAHNO members so please do register for this.

We are already starting to plan for the next Annual Scientific Meeting which will be entitled “Innovations in Head and Neck Cancer” and we hope to invite a national and international faculty to support this meeting in May 2026.

I wish you all a long, and happy summer and thank you for your support.

BAHNO Annual Scientific Meeting 2025



The BAHNO Annual Scientific Meeting 2025 was an outstanding success with over 500 registrants attending at the Business Design Centre in North London on 16th May.

Helena Kennedy KC, Baroness Kennedy of The Shaws (top left), delivered the Blair Hesketh lecture for 2025.

Her intellectually rigorous & deeply human address was a powerful reminder that the rule of law is not static and must be actively defended and renewed. Baroness Kennedy laid bare, the many challenges and implications for the audience as members of both the wider medical profession and of a humane and progressive society.

The meeting included an array of outstanding invited and free paper and poster presentations. The breadth and strength of BAHNO's increasingly multidisciplinary membership made the day a wonderful event full of engaging presentations including presentation of data from globally impactful clinical trials, national epidemiological studies and patient-centred regional research.

Particular thanks go to the members of the Bristol Multidisciplinary Team (pictured middle left) for their presentation of real world, challenging clinical cases and also to the BAHNO debaters for 2025. The debate confronted the audience with the well-balanced arguments surrounding centralisation of H&N Cancer care in the coming years.



Congratulations to the free-paper prize winners of each session:

Sinead Rothrie: Establishing a Living Well After Treatment (LWAT) service - The key role of patient participation in its evolution and delivery

Farizeh Jashek-Ahmed: From data to dashboard - A population cohort study of head and neck cancer waiting times in England (2018-2019) using linked electronic health records.

Raiza Elmira Imperial & Charlotte Freeman: Establishing a nurse-led telephone triage service for head and neck suspected cancer referrals.

The poster prize was decided by popular vote:

Maria Kiakou: Beyond the oropharynx - Expanding the utility and patient benefits of robotic head and neck surgery from the perspective of an established service.

Thanks to all of you who participated in the photo wall

You can view the photo gallery here: [BAHNO Annual Scientific Meeting 2025 - Google Photos](#)



Don't forget to fill in your feedback form – this then issues you with your CPD certificate. If you don't think you have received your link to the form, please check your spam folder or contact academia.bbmun@bbbraun.com

Plans are underway for BAHNO 2026, details will be shared in the coming weeks and months.

Presidents Awards 2025

The following leaders in H&N Multidisciplinary Cancer care were given special mention for their outstanding contributions to the field of Head and Neck Cancer in the broadest sense;

- **Professor Iain Hutchinson**
- **Miss Jane Dawson**
- **Professor Steve Thomas** (right, pictured with BAHNO President, Mr Ceri Hughes)

The outgoing BAHNO President, Mr Ceri Hughes, made particular reference to the unique capabilities of each of the recipients and of the important roles that they have played in advancing the management and care of Head & Neck Cancer patients throughout their careers.



BAHNO Research & Travel Grants

The council of BAHNO were pleased to announce the successful recipients of BAHNO Research & Travel Grants for 2025 at the AGM. The research committee paid specific reference to the strength and depth of applicants and would encourage members to consider placing an application to the 2026 round

2025 Research Grant Recipients

Tom Dudding - For research into "The influence of rare genetic variation on head and neck cancer mutation and survival".

Rhona Hurley - To support a pump priming project examining "The spatial biology of laryngeal squamous cell cancer (LSCC) in patients from the West of Scotland".

Travel Grant Recipients

Alexander Rogers - For an International observership at McMaster University, Ontario, Canada.

Katarina Kamerali - for a Fellowship position at Chris O'Brien Lifehouse in Sydney, Australia.

Manish George - for a Fellowship position at Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in Melbourne, Australia.

Members are encouraged to visit the BAHNO website for more details on the application process for future rounds of research and travel grants – [link](#)

Congratulations Professor Peter Brennan, OBE

Longstanding BAHNO member and Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon, Professor Peter Brennan, was awarded an OBE in the King's Birthday Honours in recognition of his outstanding contributions to surgery and the advancement of patient safety.



In addition to his clinical practice in Head & Neck Cancer Surgery, Peter has been a leader of national and international efforts to improve patient safety through analysis and correction of human factors. Notably, he has forged collaborations in the aviation industry, utilising the many parallels between aviation safety and healthcare to inform safe surgical practice.

This honour is testament to the transformative impact of his work on surgical safety.

Prof Chris Nutting, BAHNO President said "On behalf of the Association, we would like to extend our sincere congratulations to Professor Brennan for this remarkable national recognition of his achievements."

BAHNO hosted 10th World Congress of IAOO

It was with great pride that BAHNO was able to support the delivery of IAOO2025 (10th World Congress of the International Academy of Oral Oncology) in Liverpool, 16-19th July 2025.

Bringing together leaders in the fight against oral cancer, BAHNO was an integral part of the success of the world congress, attracting almost 1200 delegates from 55 countries worldwide representing the largest dedicated H&N conference to be hosted in the UK. The packed programme included 327 presentations, 41 expert symposia, and the discussion of 435 peer-reviewed abstracts spanning prevention, treatment, and patient care. The strength of BAHNO ran throughout the 4 days of the congress with UK opinion leaders presenting plenary addresses, chairing expert panels and invited symposia as well as play essential roles in two BAHNO-style debates.



BAHNO supports UK Oncology Meeting -

The Oracle Head & Neck Cancer UK Oncology (York) Meeting (Friday 10th October)



BAHNO Council is pleased to announce that it will be providing direct support to the “York” Meeting 2025.

BAHNO members made it clear in the survey of membership undertaken last year that they would like to see an expanded programme of education beyond the spring ASM in London. As part of council’s response to the members, we are delighted to support the fantastic Oracle H&N Cancer UK Oncology Meeting which hold a strong position in the autumn calendar. We would encourage members to visit the [website](#) to register for this complimentary 1-day meeting with a focus on multidisciplinary collaboration and the sharing of knowledge to improve patient care within NHS practice

The 2025 meeting will offer an opportunity to explore the latest developments and best practices in head and neck cancer care, while also providing valuable time to connect with peers from across the sector.