

Tissue Viability Society Annual Report 2005

The Tissue Viability Society (TVS) experienced major changes during 2005 intended to extend the service delivered to members while minimising our administrative overheads. The most visible of these new developments was the closure of the TVS Office in Salisbury in the autumn of 2005. The TVS has enjoyed a long association with Salisbury District Hospital since the creation of the TVS back in 1981 and our departure from Salisbury was not a step taken lightly. The Trustees of the TVS would like to thank both Salisbury District Hospital and the Wessex Rehabilitation Association for their support over many years, support that has helped the TVS grow to its position of strength today. The principle reason for the closure of the Salisbury office was the reduction in full-time TVS administrative staff given that many of the functions of the office had been out-sourced in recent years (such as conference administration). Ten years ago the TVS employed four full-time members of staff and this number has been reduced through natural wastage until in 2005 only 1 full-time administrator remained. Anne Sullivan's contract with the TVS came to a close in the summer of 2005 allowing the Trustees to fully implement a plan to reduce our internal costs while moving the administration of the Society forward. At the heart of this plan was a search for an external society membership management agency and following the development of a specification for our requirements from a membership manager the Tissue Viability Society is pleased to note that Ancilla, a branch of McMillan-Scott were appointed in the autumn of 2005 to administer the TVS membership. For members you will see an increased level of contact from the Society under the new administrative arrangements. Ancilla will also provide basic administrative support for the TVS in addition to their role in the maintenance of the membership details. The Trustees would like to thank all our administrative staff over the years with a particular thank-you to Anne Sullivan our sole administrator for much of 2005.

McMillan-Scott, the parent company of the new TVS membership administrator also supports the Journal of Tissue Viability as our new publisher from the spring issue of 2005. We look forward to working with McMillan-Scott with this new arrangement on a contract publishing basis where McMillan-Scott set out, print and distribute the Journal of Tissue Viability with the costs of this work deducted from advertising revenue. Clearly if the advertising revenue falls short of the costs of the production of the Journal then the TVS has to pay the balance. In this regard we would encourage all commercial members to consider placing advertising material in the Journal of Tissue Viability. Not only would your commercial messages reach the key opinion leaders in the UK but you would also be offering financial support to the Tissue Viability Society who seeks to raise the costs of the production of the Journal of Tissue Viability through funds received from advertisers. The Trustees would also like to thank Mark Allen Publishing who previously published the Journal of Tissue Viability with their last issue being mailed to members in January 2005.

The annual Tissue Viability Society conference will be organised by Healthcare Events in 2006 and preparations for this major conference began in 2005. The key TVS conference in 2005 took place in Aberdeen on the 4th of May 2005. This highly successful one-day conference was organised on behalf of the TVS by the European Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel (EPUAP) and marked the formal participation of TVS within the EPUAP 2005 conference. With over 200 delegates and a wide variety of supporting commercial organisations this single day event provided a highly visible forum for the TVS during the year. Participation with other relevant organisations remains a central goal of the TVS particularly where we can work with national and European level organisations. A co-operating organisation with the European Wound Management Association (EWMA) TVS also was involved as an exhibitor at three UK events in 2005 (Wounds UK Summer Conference (Manchester), Scottish Wounds Care Conference (Glasgow) and Wounds UK national conference (Harrogate)).

The Tissue Viability Society depends upon a cadre of dedicated volunteers who become Trustees of the Charity and thanks are due to all Trustees in 2005. During the year, five Trustees reached the end of their term of office – Helen Orchard, Tony Swinscoe, Robert Ashford, Ann Cobb and Anne Wilson. We would like to thank all for their active participation especially Helen Orchard who reached the end of her term as TVS Chair. Providing direction for a growing organisation such as the TVS is a demanding task and one that Helen managed with considerable skill. We look forward to welcoming Helen as a Past president to future TVS events. Our Honorary Treasurer, Tony Swinscoe, also left the Trustees having come to the end of his term of office. Thanks are due to Tony for his diligent attention to the financial position of the Tissue Viability Society. Five valid nominations were received from potential new Trustees and Karen Svolkinas, Lyndsey Anton, Helen Fearnley, Jacky Edwards and Yvonne Orrell were duly elected as Trustees during the Annual General Meeting held in Aberdeen on the 4th May 2005. Following the AGM Deborah Thompson succeeded Helen Orchard as Tissue Viability Society Chair with Trudie Young and Lyndsey Anton elected from among the Trustees to serve as Vice-Chair and Honorary Treasurer respectively.

During 2005 the Tissue Viability Society received strong support – both financial and otherwise from our Key Commercial members – **Talley Medical Ltd, Molnlycke Health Care, Smith and Nephew Healthcare, Huntleigh Healthcare, Sidhil, Karomed and Pegasus**. We thank each company for their support without which many of the activities of the Tissue Viability Society would not be possible.

For many years the TVS have operated a series of Regional Study Days throughout the United Kingdom bringing national experts to local audiences. These Study Days provide

information upon pressure ulcer prevention and wound management are organised on behalf of the TVS by Maureen Benbow, a Past Chair of the Society. The planning of these events, typically 10-15 per annum poses an on-going challenge and the Trustees wish to thank Maureen for all her efforts on behalf of the Society.

The Tissue Viability Society web-site www.tvs.org.uk continues to grow and so provide a new and effective channel for communication between members, the Society and the wider wound care community.

Tissue Viability income and expenditure both fell during 2005 compared with 2004 primarily as a direct consequence of not receiving or spending all the funds typically associated with the annual conference. Over the year expenditure exceeded income by £14978 primarily as consequences of a) a reduced profit being received for the 2005 conference compared with 2004 along with b) reductions in the income received from Regional Study Days and c) reduced subscription income from individual members. The change in publisher of the Journal of Tissue Viability also resulted in an apparently reduced subscription income from advertisements with this masking the change from issue by issue accounting in 2004 to an annual reconciliation (2005 and beyond). The TVS reserves at the end of 2005 were £80835 and the TVS reserve policy remains unchanged from 2004.

Overall the Tissue Viability Society had an exciting year – moving its administrative centre and partnering with EPUAP being two of the key highlights. As we move forward into 2006 one major development will be the execution of a new education strategy agreed by Trustees during 2005 which will deliver a range of new initiatives and publications intended to further strengthen the reputation of the Tissue Viability Society among the public, professionals and patients affected by wound prevention and management. That education should be at the centre of TVS events in 2006 is highly appropriate for next year marks the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Tissue Viability Society.