AGM Online 26th June 2021

Chair's Report

This year we have brought our AGM forward in order to ask the views of the members regarding updating our Constitution in line with Charity Commission guidance documents. The Executive Committee have undertaken a review of the Charity and believe that we should change from being an unincorporated charity into a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

I am pleased to report that our membership numbers have remained stable and as a thank you to our members we are inviting them to attend our annual conference, free of charge.

We want to expand our membership, and as such, we have provided a year's membership as part of the Conference admission fee to those who are currently non-members. During the next year we intend to demonstrate the benefits of being a BGTHA member to our current members as well as our new members. Look out for new webinars and educational meetings.

Since our last AGM a number of Trustees have resigned for personal reasons to pursue other opportunities. We thank everyone who has served on the Executive Committee. As we transition our Charity to a CIO, I would like to make members aware of the value and experience our Trustees bring to the Charity. We have a new Hon Secretary, Daniela Zanni who brings experience of health economics as well as being a travel health practitioner. I take this opportunity to thank very much all the amazing members of the Executive Committee. There are currently vacancies in the Executive Committee so there are opportunities to bring in fresh ideas and passion to the Executive Committee. Please contact me, or any of the Committee should you wish to nominate yourself.

We have continued to present the electronic version of the Journal, now merged with Travelwise, as an educational publication with relevant material to practitioners who provide, or have an interest in, any type of Travel or Global Health service. We are constantly inviting new authors to write for us. We also send a printed version to members. Our Journal Editor, Becky Swadling, works tirelessly to present the Journal, promoting it at every opportunity. For the first time in many months Becky now has support to edit the publication from Alys Bunce, a frequent author of articles in the journal. Becky and Alys have a shared passion in travel and global health education. Can I take this opportunity to invite members to contribute to the Journal.

My heartfelt thanks to all on the BGTHA executive committee for their hard work throughout this challenging year.

Patricia Armstrong