

Your council: our future

This brief overview of last year's activity focuses not on the detail of our work, but on the spirit with which all of you have continued to carry our traditions forward. From those in the public gaze to those working behind the scenes in committees and regional groups, from the growing band of experts to the newest qualified practitioner striving to help their first patient, everyone has played their part in upholding our standards.

We began this year as we began the last, waiting for announcements on statutory regulation and looking at how to move forward in step with a new regulator. With those announcements still some time away, we have realised that there's no reason why many of the ideas we have been considering shouldn't happen now. Through various channels you've made your wishes clear and over the next twelve months you will see many new initiatives beginning to come to life. We know that you will find them exciting.

For over a decade the BAcC has acted as a regulator, and has served the public interest every bit as well as many statutory bodies do. As that responsibility passes to others, your interests now take centre stage. The BAcC has always been your council; let us all now work together to secure and shape our future.

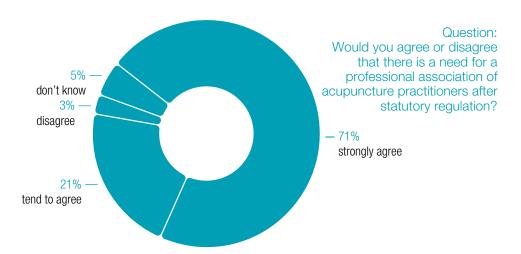


Committees and Codes Steady as She goes

Effective progress relies on solid foundations, and few are firmer than the committees and codes which the BAcC has now assembled. The hard work of initial development is finished, and across the board we have been constantly refining and upgrading. A measure of our success is that many of our documents are now copied (with acknowledgements) and used by other associations. Why try to improve on excellence?

The committees themselves are changing. With so much policy now established and agreed, and operational matters running smoothly through an increasingly expert staff team, the organisation is becoming leaner and more efficient – less meetings, lower costs, and greater flexibility. This has to be the way forward. A profession like ours with so much energy and commitment needs a workable structure that responds quickly to change.

The one thing above all else we have tried to do this year is make the whole process more transparent – more documents available in the Acupuncturist and on the website, more open invitations to sit in and see how things work, more opportunities to contribute to our development. And from what you've told us in the Membership Survey, it looks like we are getting it right.



Communications More and better

Of course, it takes good information to be able to make informed comment, and the last year has been one of our best yet for keeping you in the picture. The Acupuncturist has been transformed into one of the best of its kind as a professional association newsletter, and with its forums, downloads and search facilities, the BAcC website is fast becoming your most effective way of keeping in touch with your profession. Yet more popular still is the student website, with a new generation of increasingly computer literate people using it as their first port of call on many issues.

On the political and safety front, our recent Briefing Paper and the Safety Guides on Hazardous Waste and Fire Regulations have reinforced our track record for letting you know the latest practice-related information as soon as we know it ourselves. Members in Scotland also benefitted from new systems of information sharing when faced with a new licensing regime. More immediate communication allowed us to keep in touch with changes as they happened, respond rapidly, and ultimately to influence the legislation in our members' favour.

All this heralds many more initiatives in the pipeline. Guaranteeing a response within 24 hours from staff and senior practitioners, using the electronic highway as a means of alerting and contacting everyone, looking forward to online renewals for membership and insurance - we're committed to finding the best ways of giving you the services you expect.

Representation flying the flag

The BAcC has become a voice to be reckoned with in the political debates we enter. Our contributions to the stakeholder groups for acupuncture and traditional Chinese medicine have shown that we are not just in it for our own glory, and our responses to the consultations on which we have expressed our views have established us as a body which can be trusted to talk sense.

Of course this is nothing new; we've been doing it for years, and we intend to go on protecting your interests on every level. The representation that really counts is one-to-one, the voice on the end of the phone that informs, reassures and provides you with the support and guidance you need. In the past year we've been doing more of this than ever before, and we are continually advancing our systems to better protect your interests as individual practitioners. The challenges are many, and sometimes surprising such as dealing with child protection issues and heading off stalkers. However, the good news is that tackling and resolving such problems only serves to broaden our expertise and strengthen our community.

Let's not forget also the representation that matters to you most, the PR that puts your profession in the public eye and brings patients to your clinics. This year Republic and our in-house PR team have excelled themselves in ensuring that we are always consulted and widely quoted. Add to this a new marketing strategy, developed in direct response to your requests and delivering improved resources to explain and promote exactly what it is you do, and 2008 looks set to be a year of plenty for you and your profession.



Members' Highlights excellence abounds

Effective promotion needs good stories and this year has seen some remarkable achievements by BAcC members.



Complementary medicine in mental health

As the BAcC's representative on a multidisciplinary steering group led by the Prince of Wales's Foundation for

Integrated Health, Gisela Norman has taken on a vital role in helping to develop national guidelines for integrating complementary medicine into mainstream NHS mental health services. The consultation has been part funded by the Department of Health and finished guidelines are due to be published later this year.



Northern Ireland leads the way to integration

Sue Evans has been raising the acupuncture game in Northern Ireland through a Department of Health

initiative focused on integrating CAM therapies into the NHS. At the opening seminar organised by Sue and fellow CAM practitioners, the Government announced kick-start funding of £200,000. Pilot studies into efficacy and cost-effectiveness are now well underway and a progress report is expected very soon.



Life-changing research Beverley De Valois got the thing she wanted most in

the world when she was awarded a PhD for her research 'Using acupuncture

to manage hot flushes and night sweats in women taking tamoxifen for early breast cancer: two observational studies'. As well as changing her life, her practice and her whole view of acupuncture, Beverley has made an invaluable contribution to the future of her patients and her profession.



BAcC 2010 the brighter future

And finally, a few words about statutory regulation, a path we have been treading now for almost a decade. At long last we can say it is imminent and inevitable. Changes at the grass-roots level are likely to be few, especially for those already in tune with our codes and best practices, and our evidence shows that the vast majority of you are.

The advent of statutory regulation will of course trigger changes inside the BAcC, but until we have Government guidance we can only guess at the details of what might follow. For the time being simply to accept that there will be change is preparation enough. This impetus gives us a great opportunity to review all areas of our association to see how we can improve membership services and benefits.

Over the past year we have taken soundings from individuals, regional groups, and focus groups. We've even run a study day to identify the needs of members after statutory regulation. All this activity has generated a huge number of exciting ideas for us to sift through, evaluate and make happen in the future. Improved communications systems, enhanced insurance packages, more and better PR for the BAcC and for every member, further membership affinity provisions and pensions - these are just the start, so watch this space!

All in all, it has been a tremendous year, and with your help and support we intend to go on providing a secure foundation for this wonderful tradition of medicine.

Acupuncture Council Income and expenditure account

for the year ended 31 December 2006

The financial information presented in this Annual Review does not comprise the statutory financial statements of the British Acupuncture Council for the financial year ended 31 December 2006 issued on 24 May 2007, but represents extracts from them. These extracts cannot be expected to provide as full an understanding of the financial performance, financial position and financing and investment activities of the company as a reading of the complete financial statements. The statutory financial statements have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies and the auditors have reported on them; their report was unqualified and did not contain statements under section 237(2) or (3) of the Companies Act 1985. The complete financial statements, including the auditors' report, can be obtained from the resources section of the members' area on the BAcC web site: www.acupuncture.org.uk/members/resources/documents.asp or, free of charge, on request from the company's offices.

The British Acupuncture Council income and expenditure account for the year ended 31 December 2006

OT BOOTHBOIL	Notes	£	2006 £	2005 £
		₹.	₹.	~
INCOME				
Subscriptions	1(b)		1,300,762	1,227,738
Conference income			32,498	13,380
Sales of membership p	ublications		21,931	20,833
Bank interest received			15,354	14,681
Sundry income			500	250
			1,371,045	1,276,882
EXPENDITURE				
Audit and accountancy	7	7,020		7,020
Bank charges		2,772		2,573
Conference expenses		35,852		25,747
Contributions		181,719		188,689
Cost of membership p	ublications	9,293		3,762
Committees:				
Executive	- attendance and travelling	30,296		22,476
	- other expenses	5,024		3,739
Subcommittee	- attendance and travelling	31,945		31,283
	- other expenses	47,882		36,506
Regional groups e	-	2,005		1,440
Depreciation	3	9,032		9,995
Legal and professional	charges	18,950		14,526
Maintenance of equipr		2,068		6,215
Members' professional		337,389		316,108
Miscellaneous expense		31,664		16,623
Office insurance		5,969		5,688
Office rent and rates		27,057		27,271
Other office costs		22,531		23,721
Pension costs		1,618		1,454
Printing, postage, static	onery and advertising	109,126		91,448
Public relations costs	60,162		45,420	
Secretarial and admini	strative costs	333,067		333,602
Telephone		6,343		6,444
•			1,318,784	1,221,750
SURPLUS ON ORDIN	NARY ACTIVITIES 2		52,261	55,132
Tax on bank interest re	ceived gross		2,511	1,112
SURPLUS FOR THE		49,750	54,020	
Accumulated reserves 1			407,930	353,910
	SERVES CARRIED FORWAR	יר	£457,680	£407,930
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The British Acupuncture Council balance sheet 31 December 2006

	Notes	£	2006 £	2005 £
FIXED ASSETS Tangible assets	3		22,518	17,841
CURRENT ASSETS Stock Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	4	3,493 34,655 <u>542,640</u> <u>580,788</u>		4,344 24,215 <u>493,232</u> <u>521,791</u>
CREDITORS AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE	E YEAR			
Corporation tax Other taxes and social security costs Accruals and deferred income		2,511 11,594 131,521 145,626		1,112 9,731 120,859 131,702
NET CURRENT ASSETS			435,162	390,089
NET ASSETS RESERVES			£457,680	£407,930
Accumulated reserves			£457,680	£407,930

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small companies and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2007).

Approved by the Board on 24 May 2007 and signed on its behalf by:



The notes on pages 12 and 13 form part of these accounts.

Notes

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with:

- i) the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2007); and
- ii) the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small companies.

b) Subscriptions

The subscription year coincides with the accounting year. Subscriptions received in advance are treated as deferred income and released to the income and expenditure account in the year to which they relate.

c) Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets in use at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Computers and accessories – 25 per cent straight line basis

Office furniture, fittings and equipment – 25 per cent reducing balance basis.

d) Pensions

The company operates a stakeholder pension scheme covering all of its employees. The company's contributions are charged against profit in the year in which contributions are made.

e) Foreign exchange

Assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the rate ruling on the date of the transaction. Exchange differences are taken into account in arriving at the net outgoing resources.

2. SURPLUS ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES

	2006	2005
	£	£
This is stated after charging		
Auditors' remuneration	£ 2,468	£ 2,468
Operating lease rentals	£27,074	£27,710

3.TANGIBLE ASSETS

C.TANGELE / GOLTO	Computers Office furniture, and accessories fittings and		Total
	£	equipment $\mathcal L$	£
COST			
1 January 2006	68,327	59,172	127,499
Additions	6,052	7,657	13,709
31 December 2006	74,379	66,829	141,208
DEPRECIATION			
1 January 2006	62,573	47,085	109,658
Provision for year	4,096	4,936	9,032
31 December 2006	66,669	52,021	118,690
NET BOOK VALUES			
31 December 2006	£7,710	£14,808	£22,518
31 December 2005	£5,754	$\frac{\cancel{\cancel{L}}12,087}{\cancel{\cancel{L}}12,087}$	£17,841
4. DEBTORS			
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		£	£
Other debtors		14,310	7,114
Prepayments		20,345	17,101
		£34,655	£24,215

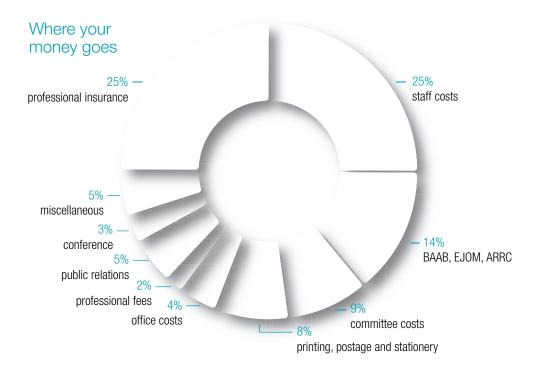
5. GUARANTEE

The company is incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 and not having a share capital is limited by guarantee. The guarantee given by each member is limited to a maximum of £5 and is for a maximum period of twelve months after ceasing to be a member. The position at the year end concerning members giving a guarantee was as follows:

				2006	2005
Number of a Total memb	members pers' guarantee	s		2,738 £13,690	£13,030

Treasurer's Report

This is my fifth report as your Treasurer. I believe that the members of the finance team have worked very well over the last year in meeting their objectives of ensuring financial probity in all areas.



I would particularly like to record a vote of thanks to Di Cook who as Assistant Treasurer manages our accounts with great skill and initiative, and once again I am able to report that the Finance Committee has discharged its duties, obligations and planned commitments in a professional and businesslike manner.

The challenges presented by statutory regulation and by moving the BAcC towards becoming a practitioner-focused professional association are all underpinned by the work of the Finance Committee. We are ensuring that the financial security which we have built up over the last twelve years is not compromised by this transition. Our working capital and reserve remain at an appropriate level, and allow us sufficient free capital to plan for and develop our future structure.

Subscription proposals

Based on the projections that the Finance Committee has considered I am proposing to the AGM that the UK membership subscription for 2008 rises to £620 in line with cost increases at the current inflation rate of around three per cent. However, as in previous years we will not have a definite figure for the cost of next year's professional insurance until after this report has gone to print and AGM papers have been circulated. Should we be unable to absorb unexpected insurance increases, I shall make a recommendation at the AGM for such small additional increases as may be necessary.

The subscription for Non-practising members will remain at £75. For Overseas members the subscription remains at £100, and is payable in euros or US dollars.

The current sliding fee scale for new members graduating from BAAB accredited institutions will remain in place.

Shaun Flyberg

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TREASURER

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