

Gut

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public and potential large scale sponsors for financial support. It is particularly difficult for gastroenterology, for two main reasons. Firstly, the subject does not have the immediate emotive appeal to the lay public as do, for example, children or cancer. Nevertheless, the tremendous number of enquiries to the British Digestive Disease Foundation concerning alimentary ailments indicates that a high proportion of the population have gastrointestinal symptoms and complaints. The second reason is that a number of the more attractive components of gastroenterology research had already been split off as separate charities - for example Crohn's and ulcerative colitis, liver disease in children, etc.

There have, therefore, been useful discussions with the British Digestive Disease Foundation and the Council, and these continue. The Society would wish to make further contributions to the British Digestive Disease Foundation to initiate a major fundraising exercise.

One important consequence of the discussions was the alteration in the managerial and administrative relationships between the Society and the British Digestive Disease Foundation. Despite the closeness of the objectives, both organisations were, for practical purposes, quite separate, with their own committee structures. That the relationship was in fact so fruitful and successful was due to the excellent and dedicated liaison work of Dr Roy Pounder. The British Digestive Disease Foundation has now agreed to incorporate in several of its committees, including its important Executive Committee, several of the senior officers of the BSG, and there will be close liaison between the two research com-

mittees. The joint relationship between the British Digestive Disease Foundation and the BSG for fundraising activities has now a fair wind behind it and, I hope, despite the economic situation, should enjoy considerable success. What must be stressed is that the fundraising activities of a professional organisation such as the BSG will not be successful if they are left to others to do. There will have to be a considerable and sustained effort and support by all members of the BSG, nationally and locally. This is a challenge to the membership of the BSG and I hope that each member will rise to this opportunity.

I cannot end this brief presidential report without thanking colleagues for their steadfast loyalty and support. Members of Council, and particularly chairmen of the major committees, provided considerable advice and guidance. There are, however, three people who made my task very much lighter and more enjoyable: David Thompson, who succeeded Roger Leicester as Senior Secretary, who has been unstinting in his support and has devoted so much of his energy to the Society's affairs; Di Tolfree, for her advice, support, and deep knowledge of the Society's affairs, history, and personalities; and my departmental secretary, Miss Dawn Armitage, who was burdened with so much extra work, both for the Society and for the department when I was away on Society business.

R SHIELDS

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Clifford Hawkins Memorial Fund

Dr Clifford Hawkins (1915-91) made a wide range of contributions to clinical medicine, gastroenterology, rheumatology, clinical research, and the art of writing and speaking: contributions that were made with great good humour and style.

In appreciation of his work it has been decided to name the medical library in the postgraduate medical centre of his old teaching hospital after him and to establish the Clifford Hawkins Memorial Fund to provide for library activities and postgraduate education.

Contributions would be gratefully received by Dr J Michael, Chairman, Queen Elizabeth Postgraduate Medical Centre, Metchley Park Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 2TH. Cheques should be made out to the Clifford Hawkins Memorial Fund.

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Gut publishes original papers, leading articles, and reviews concerned with all aspects of the scientific basis of diseases of the alimentary tract, liver, and pancreas. Case reports will only be accepted if of exceptional merit. Letters related to articles published in *Gut* or with topics of general professional interest are welcomed. Authors should include the names and addresses of four experts whom the authors consider suitable to peer review their work.

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NB: Such conversion is the responsibility of the author.

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