

# The Dukes' Club Committee 2017-18

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## Kat Baker (née Gash), President

Kat is an ST6 in Colorectal Surgery based in Severn Deanery and is in her fourth year on the committee. She completed an MD in Cellular and Molecular Medicine at the University of Bristol, with her thesis investigating Aspirin's role as an adjunct to neo-adjuvant radiotherapy in colorectal cancer. This incorporated *in-vitro* lab work, as well as a translational NIHR Portfolio adopted study. Prior to ST6 she undertook a Fulbright Scholarship at Columbia University, New York, carrying out outcomes based research.



In addition to academic surgery she also has an interest in training and was part of the European Society of Coloproctology (ESCP) Education and Training Committee for 4 years. She is keen to support colorectal trainees' development; creating new opportunities for education and research and promoting collaboration within the national network of colorectal trainees.

During the year as President her main aims are:

- To establish the Dukes' Club Collaborative - a national trainee collaborative in colorectal surgery. The first study, **CLOSE-IT**, investigating time to ileostomy closure after anterior resection for rectal cancer and exploring reasons for delay, will open to recruitment in April 2018.
- To launch the new Dukes' Club Website, continuing much of the hard work of the Past President, Katie Adams.

To increase access to a wide variety of courses for colorectal trainees and to negotiate subsidised or free places, including three fantastic free courses which will run at the Annual Educational Weekend in April.

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## Henry Ferguson, Vice President

I graduated from Cardiff University in 2006, and then moved to the West Midlands for my Core Surgical Training. I am currently an ST8 Trainee in the West Midlands Deanery, having previously completed my MD investigating the development of a therapeutic anti-angiogenic vaccine in Colorectal Cancer. I have previously held the post of Vice President of the Association of Surgeons in

Training (ASiT), where I have had the opportunity to represent surgical trainees of the AoMRC Trainee Doctors Group and the General Surgery



SAC. I have also been the trainee representative to the higher surgical training committee in the West Midlands.

My previous experience has given me an interest in the coordination and delivery of surgical training, and as my career path has led me to specialise in colorectal surgery, becoming Vice President and President-in- Waiting of The Dukes' Club is a true privilege.

During my tenure, I hope to help protect and improve colorectal surgical training in the post - 'Shape of Training' era, and am highly receptive to any ideas from our membership, so please feel free to contact me with anything you feel is important to the colorectal surgical trainee body.

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## Katie Adams, Past President

I am an ST6 Colorectal Trainee in the South East Thames trainee. I graduated from Guy's, King's and St Thomas' medical school in 2004 and then completed my basic surgical training at King's College Hospital, London.

I have completed my PhD at King's College London where I researched the ability of Artificial Neural Networks to detect complications after colorectal surgery. I have also been involved in research on TEMS, STARR, outcomes in Laparoscopic Colorectal Surgery and am a current reviewer for Colorectal Disease and Thorax.



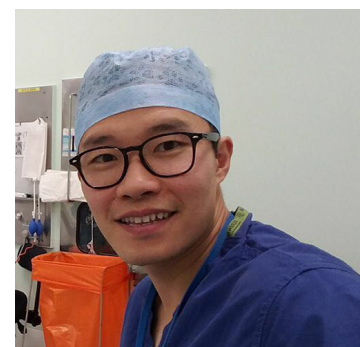
I have been involved in MRCS teaching, having been the General Surgical Lecturer for the Pastest MRCS lecture series. I have also been in the Sky series, 'Critical' as the stunt hands for the female surgeons (benefits of small hands!). I am the South East Thames General Surgery Trainee representative, sitting on the training board for my region. I have been a member of the Dukes' Club for the past five years and taken on the previous roles of Media Rep, Multidisciplinary Clinical Committee Rep and The Dukes' Club President for 2016-2017.

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## Fernando Yuen Chang, Media Representative

I graduated from Liverpool University in 2011, having completed an intercalated BSc in Anatomical Sciences in 2010 at Bristol University. I am currently an ST4 in the South West Deanery.

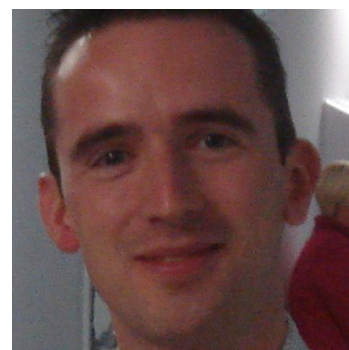
I understand the difficulty in searching and obtaining information about courses, research, audit and project in the vast world of Surgery. I hope that I am able to provide the information succinctly through the communication platforms available to us and therefore being at everyone's reach.



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## Steve Ward, JAG Representative

I am currently an ST8 trainee in the West Midlands Deanery. My PhD project concerned the immunology of colorectal cancer, but during this time I developed an interest in endoscopy training. I interrogated the JETS (JAG Endoscopy Training System) database to describe learning curves for colonoscopy and gastroscopy. This generated interesting data, including factors affecting endoscopy completion rates, that has been cited by recent JAG literature.



I understand how access to endoscopy training can be difficult for surgical trainees, usually coming last place when balanced with theatre, ward and clinic commitments. During my tenure on the Dukes club committee, I will use my experience in analysing endoscopy data and connections with the JETS team to determine total procedure numbers performed by trainees by the time of CCT, broken down by year and region. This will shine a light on the current difficulties trainees are facing. I will fully engage with the ACPGBI colonoscopy subcommittee and JAG training committee to represent trainees' views and highlight the difficulties we face. Please feel free to contact me via the Dukes e-mail address.

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## Jennie Grainger, Pelvic Floor Society Representative

I am delighted to be the Pelvic Floor Representative for the Dukes Club for the second year, and as a result the National training representative for the Pelvic Floor Society.

I am a post CCT Colorectal Trainee, currently doing a pelvic floor fellowship at St Mark's Hospital, London. I did my higher surgical training in Merseyside and my basic surgical training in the West Midlands. I have a special interest in pelvic floor and benign coloproctology. I am involved in research looking at quality of life following faecal incontinence and looking at Low anterior resection syndrome.



I have an interest in medical education, especially at post graduate level and am currently doing my Masters in Education. I am an honorary lecturer at Edge Hill University. I am faculty on many RCS courses and have helped redesign and configure the new RCS Specialist Registrar Skills in General Surgery Course.

As the Pelvic Floor rep I am aiming to have a close collaboration with TPFS to help design a pathway for trainers with an interest in pelvic floor. Specific PBAs and DOPs, a registry of training opportunities across the country, specific pelvic floor fellowships and better access to training

course are all on my agenda for the upcoming year. I will also continue to develop social media and newsletters for TPFS to aid communication amongst people with an interest in pelvic floor surgery.

TPFS will hold a joint annual conference with UKCS in Telford in April. After a successful training day prior to the Cardiff conference this year, we are planning to hold another raining day prior to the conference which will include wet labs and live operating.

Aside from pelvic floor we are hoping as a committee to devise an FRCS section with podcasts specific for the coloproctology speciality section of the exam, past question and relevant scientific papers so watch this space!

For further details on TPFS please see <http://thepelvicfloorsociety.co.uk/pages.php?t=Training-and-Education&s=Training-and-Education&id=95>

Please feel free to contact me for any suggestions or enquires.

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## Peter Vaughan-Shaw, Research Representative

Peter Vaughan-Shaw is ST5 in General Surgery in SE Scotland with a specialist interest in Coloproctology. He has recently finished his PhD at the Edinburgh Colorectal unit in colorectal cancer genetics investigating the link between vitamin D and colorectal cancer risk.



He has a keen interest in clinical and translational research and published many papers in peer-reviewed journals. He believes that Dukes' members are in a unique position to be able to contribute to national research and aims to set-up a collaborative research project led by Dukes' in the near future.

He enjoys teaching juniors, particularly on the use and abuse of medical statistics. He is a member of the RCSEd Faculty of Surgical Trainers (FST) and has a PGCertEd in medical education for surgeons.

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## Charlotte El-Sayed, Education Representative

I'm an ST4 in the West Midlands deanery. I graduated from University of Birmingham in 2011. I have a keen interest in education and training and particularly in simulation training. I run several courses in the West Midlands with a specialist interest in laparoscopic training.

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## Abigail Vallance, Multidisciplinary Representative

I graduated from Newcastle University in 2011, doing academic foundation training in the Northern deanery followed by an academic clinical fellowship in Leeds. I've just spent two years at the RCS as the clinical fellow for the National Bowel Cancer Audit undertaking an MD investigating the management of colorectal liver metastases. I'm now an ST3 in the Severn deanery.



I'm delighted to be involved with the Dukes committee as MCC rep. In this position I represent colorectal trainees at the Multidisciplinary Clinical Committee of the ACPGBI. This group has a role in reviewing and developing guidance within multiple areas of colorectal practice. If you feel that there are areas for development in colorectal practice which trainees could lead on, then please do contact me on [mcc@thedukesclub.org.uk](mailto:mcc@thedukesclub.org.uk) Twitter: @abigailvallance.

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## Vanessa Cubas, ASiT Representative

I am currently a General Surgery Trainee in the West Midlands deanery with a keen interest in colorectal surgery. As the West Midlands ASiT representative and a Duke's Committee member my central objective is to represent the interests of UK colorectal trainees and all West Midlands surgeons in training.

My main goal as ASiT representative is to ensure colorectal surgery remains an attractive career for future surgeons. I am looking forward to my tenure on the Dukes club committee and I am excited to represent trainees and contribute to the shape of training for the next generation of surgeons.

We are always looking for ways to reach out to surgical trainees within the ASiT and Dukes' networks, so please feel free to get in touch!