



British Association for Nursing in Cardiovascular Care Summer 2026 Newsletter

Dear BANCC Members,

As we move through another exciting year for BANCC, I would like to thank all of our members, partners and council colleagues for their continued support and commitment to cardiovascular care. The recent BANCC sessions at the BCS Annual Conference in Manchester were exceptionally well attended and generated tremendous enthusiasm, demonstrating the growing influence and relevance of cardiovascular nursing and allied health professionals within the wider cardiovascular community.

The success of our own BANCC Annual Conference earlier this year, alongside our presence at BCS and an expanding education programme, gives us great confidence as we prepare for the next phase of BANCC's journey. Over the coming months, you will see a step change in our ongoing transformation, reflecting our ambition to become an even stronger, more inclusive cardiovascular professional organisation that better represents the multidisciplinary workforce delivering cardiovascular care. BANCC remains committed to providing high-quality education, professional development, networking opportunities, and a strong national voice for our members.

For me personally, this newsletter marks the beginning of a period of transition. As many of you know, my term as President comes to an end in September 2026. It has been an enormous privilege to serve BANCC and work alongside such a dedicated and talented Council. Together, we have strengthened our educational offer, broadened our partnerships, increased our visibility nationally and laid strong foundations for future growth.

I am particularly delighted that Dr Claire Lawson will be taking on the role of President. Claire brings outstanding leadership, vision and passion for cardiovascular nursing, and I know BANCC will continue to thrive under her direction. She will be supported by an exceptionally strong and committed Council whose enthusiasm, expertise and willingness to innovate gives me tremendous confidence in the future of our Association.

Finally, I would encourage every member to help us grow our community. Professional organisations are strongest when powered by engaged members, and there has never been a better time to invite colleagues to join BANCC and become part of our exciting future. I look forward to celebrating the next chapter with you all and watching BANCC continue to flourish in the years ahead.

Warm Regards

Mrs Nicola Bowers
President of BANCC

Education committee update:

BANCC Annual Conference 2026

Friday 25th April 2025 at Buckinghamshire New University

BANCC Council congregated in High Wycombe for our annual conference and what a fantastic education experience it was!

Our theme was Sustainable Cardiovascular Care.



Educational Highlights from BANCC conference:

BANCC President Nicola Bowers introduced our Keynote Speaker Dr Emma Blakely who spoke about “Sustainability is everyone’s business”. Dr Blakely is the Lead Nurse for Sustainability at NHS England, where she provides professional and clinical leadership on climate change mitigation, adaptation, and the delivery of net zero healthcare.

Next we explored the carbon impact of virtual wards with Kate Townsend, Sustainability Lead Manager, Berkshire Healthcare NHS Trust, Rebecca Housley - Consultant Nurse, Hampshire Hospitals NHS Trust and David Cruttenden-Wood - Consultant Surgeon, Hampshire Hospitals NHS Trust.

The fantastic Julie Hinchcliffe spoke about plant based diets for cardiovascular and planetary health.



We were privileged to hear from Daniela Machado who spoke about surviving infective endocarditis in her 'finding life twice' session.

We welcomed Rebeca Imms, Complex Device Nurse Practitioner, Oxford University Hospitals to speak about the fascinating Arrhythmia Alliance Pace4Life program.

Finally we heard from Dr Luke Dancy Consultant Interventional Cardiologist, Medway Foundation Trust, Shiny John - ANP, Medway Foundation Trust, Dr Farhan Ahmed - Consultant Chemical Pathologist, Milton Keynes University Hospital NHS Trust, for a fantastic, Recordati sponsored symposium: 'Going Beyond LDL-C'.

BANCC are very grateful to all their sponsors who came to conference this year: Recordati, Boehringer Ingelheim, Novartis, Novo Nordisk and Pfizer. Sponsors, which include pharmaceutical companies, have contributed financial support towards this event but have had no editorial input into the agenda, speaker selection or presentations, with the exception of Recordati which has created, developed and funded a promotional symposium.



Afternoon Workshops

The afternoon workshops were the perfect way to complete the day. Delegate chose from a variety of options to suit their needs:

- Lived experiences of engaging with research in nursing
- ECG arrhythmia workshop
- Cardiac devices technical aspects for CV nurse
- Principles of genetics and inherited cardiac conditions (ICC) – for non-specialists
- Writing a sustainable business case round table
- Cardiovascular investigations, sustainable requesting and interpretation



Finally no conference is complete without the ever popular 'This year in Cardiovascular Research' round up by our education lead Charlie Spencer.

Delegate Poster Presentations and prize giving:

Another highlight of the day was celebrating our BANCC members research and there were some excellent poster presentations of the great work that you have been doing.

Congratulations to our poster competition winners **Joanne Szymkowiak** and **Natacha Harding**. The runner-up prize was awarded to **Lesley Petre** and **Jodie Turpin** for their poster.

Presenting posters at conference is an excellent way to raise the profile of your local and national work. Look out for another opportunity to present at the 2027 BANCC conference.



What did you think?

What was the best part of the 2026 BANCC Annual Conference for delegates survey?:

really helpful topic
great team real passion
the first presentation
enrich cardiac knowledge
networking
all sessions
meeting other nurses
variety of topics
committees enthusiasm
excellent speakers
sustainability
take away learning points

BCS Annual Conference 2026

Monday-Wednesday 1-3 June 2026, Manchester Central Convention Complex.

BANCC played an integral role in this year's conference at BCS, and the theme was "Staying Alive" and were invited to lead a session and a hot topic.

BANCC President Nicola Bowers chaired: Hidden Risk: Rethinking chest pain, cardiotoxicity and recovery.

Key Speakers:

- Mr David Burnett – When Angina Isn't Obstructive: The ANOCA Risk Trap
- Ms Priya Reehal – Cardio Oncology: Preventing Avoidable Harm in the Cancer Pathway
- Ms Janine O'Rourke – Risk Reduction in Recovery: Rehab, Lipids and Complex Case Management

Hot Topic

Ms Janine O'Rourke – From Clinic to System Change: Scaling Cardiovascular Risk Innovation Across ICSs.



BANCC Ordinary Council Member David Burnett reports from the 2026 ACNAP (Association of Cardiovascular Nursing and Allied Professions) conference:

I had the opportunity to attend ACNAP 2026 in Sophia Antipolis, France. The theme of this year's congress, Working Together: Multidisciplinary Care and Research.

The congress opened with a keynote lecture from Professor Roxana Mehran, who shared her personal and professional journey, delivering a powerful message about the importance of teamwork, collaboration and self-belief in advancing cardiovascular care and research.

A recurring theme throughout the congress was the role of digital health. Presentations from Professor Lis Neubeck, Dr Jagot Chahal and Benoit Mores explored both the opportunities and challenges of remote care delivery. A key message was the need to focus on people, rather than the technology itself, ensuring that innovation remains patient-centred. The digitally enabled secondary prevention pathway developed at Barts Health was particularly inspiring and provided ideas that I can take back to my own area of practice.

A workshop on cardiac amyloidosis provided practical guidance on recognising and diagnosing this often-underdiagnosed condition, while also offering valuable insights into international approaches to care and recent developments in genetics.

The session on Advances in Frailty and Cardiogeriatrics highlighted the close relationship between cardiovascular disease and frailty. Evidence demonstrated that targeted strengthening interventions and integrated frailty management can improve outcomes, while also highlighting important sex-based differences, with frailty more strongly predicting mortality in men and reduced quality of life in women.

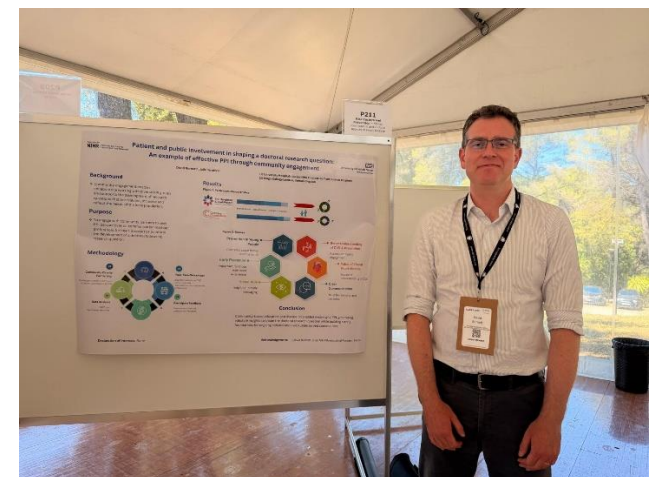
A particular highlight for me was the session on Obesity, Inflammation and the Heart: Turning Evidence into Action. Bart Scheenaerts delivered a powerful and honest account of his experience of living with obesity, describing the personal trauma that influenced his relationship with food and ultimately contributed to a cardiovascular event. The session also explored the direct impact of adipose tissue on cardiovascular health and showcased Scotland's innovative multidisciplinary, digitally supported STRIDE hybrid obesity clinic.

 **ACNAP**
European Society of Cardiology

Bonjour from France!



ACNAP 2026
12-13 JUNE
#ACNAP26



I was also pleased to present my poster, “Patient and Public Involvement in Shaping a Doctoral Research Question: An Example of Effective PPI Through Community Engagement,” providing an opportunity to share our work and discuss the value of meaningful patient and public involvement in research.

Overall, ACNAP 2026 was an excellent opportunity to learn from international colleagues, explore innovative models of care, and gain insights that will help inform and improve cardiovascular services for our patients.

BANCC Webinars are ongoing in 2026

Education Lead Charles Spenser reports:

‘Following the success of this year’s BANCC conference in High Wycombe, planning is already underway for next year’s event, provisionally scheduled for Friday 23 April 2027 in the North of England. The emerging concept is focused on collaboration across cardiovascular subspecialties and professional groups, with opportunities to work alongside partner organisations as BANCC continues to develop its broader cardiovascular focus.

We apologise for the delay in the webinar programme since the start of the year due to logistical challenges. However, webinars will now be coming thick and fast over the next few months, including:

Thursday, 30 July 2026 12:30 - 14:00

Council’s Conference highlights: BANCC, ACNAP and BCS. **Book your place now:**

<https://members.bancc.org.uk/events/6a4e1c76169e5d00088e0592/description?ticket=6a4e1c76169e5d00088e0591>

26 August 2026 — Nurse Echocardiography: Risky or Revolutionary?

A joint BANCC and BSH Nurse Forum webinar with Naomi Murphy, Charles Spencer and Becky Hyland.

22 September 2026 — Genomics in Cardiovascular Nursing: From Personalised Medicine to Patient Experience

In collaboration with Genomics Southeast, with Tootie Beuser, and Lisa Skinner.

Our annual BANCC/BACPR collaborative webinar will also take place in the autumn, focusing on cardio-oncology — date to be confirmed.

As always, we’d love to hear from you — whether you have ideas, suggestions, or would like to get involved in future webinars.

Email your suggestions to bancc@bcs.com.

Research committee update:

Research remains a key part of BANCC's work, supporting members to share their findings, develop their academic journeys, and connect with others involved in research.

We are pleased to announce plans to establish a **PhD Support Group**. This will provide an opportunity for members undertaking doctoral study to connect, share experiences, and support each other through their research journeys. Further details to follow.

PLEASE SEND US YOUR GOOD NEWS STORIES SO WE CAN CELEBRATE YOU OR YOUR COLLEAGUES.

Many congratulations from BANCC to:

Helen Eftekhari who has been awarded a NIHR senior research leader award which started in April.



Share your hard work or refer a colleague by writing an article.

Approximately 1000 words for The British Journal of Cardiology Nursing.

BANCC Council can support you. If interested, please get in touch today.

BENEFITS OF BANCC

At BANCC we are proud to have joint agreement with British Journal of Cardiac Nursing and publish our BANCC article each month. Please follow the link for the British Journal of Cardiac Nursing to find previous BANCC contributions to the journal: [British Journal of Cardiac Nursing from MAG Online Library](#)

Call for Editorials and Articles – Share Your Voice in Cardiovascular Nursing!

Have you ever thought about writing an article but weren't sure where to start? Do you have a clinical case study, discussion piece, or service improvement project you'd like to share?

We're inviting nurses to contribute to the **British Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing** and have their work published.

You don't need to be an experienced writer, **guidance and support will be provided** throughout the process. This is a fantastic opportunity to **showcase your practice, share ideas, and help advance cardiovascular nursing**.

Interested? Get in touch with us at **bancc@bcs.com** to discuss your idea or find out how to get started.

There are joint membership opportunities between BANCC and affiliated cardiac organisations.

Email: bancc@bcs.com

Tel: 020 7380 1919

Fax: 020 7388 0903

Follow us on Instagram and be part of the

conversation: https://www.instagram.com/bancc.official?igsh=MXRubG10bHRvdHUwNg%3D%3D&utm_source=qr

We'll also be launching our new Facebook page shortly, giving members another way to engage with BANCC online. Please find our website and X account details on our linktree <https://linktr.ee/bancc.official>

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR 2026 DIARY:

Joint Symposium:

BANCC and British Cardiovascular Society 2026

Monday 28th September 2026 - Royal College of Physicians

BCS and BANCC will host their third collaborative symposium for nurses.

This one day course aims to provide nurses with the knowledge and skills for developing their clinical career as a nurse in cardiology.

This face to face course is delivered through a blend of clinical teaching, advice on careers development and management skills. The course is run jointly by nurses and doctors and is all built into a one day programme featuring excellent speakers and sessions for interactive discussion.

We are grateful to all our sponsors and exhibitors whose funding has contributed towards this independently produced meeting and programme. Sponsors and exhibitors have not had any



editorial input or control over the agenda, scientific content development, or choice of speakers, excluding dedicated industry symposia and masterclasses. Our sponsors include Pfizer.

<https://bcs-bancc-cardiac-nurse-specialist-symposium-2026.eventsair.site/>

Pricing:

BCS/BANCC Members: £32

*must hold both BCS and BANCC membership

Non-Members: £158

Advert

Have you seen the PCCS' new LinkedIn newsletter, *Cardiovascular Clarity*, yet?

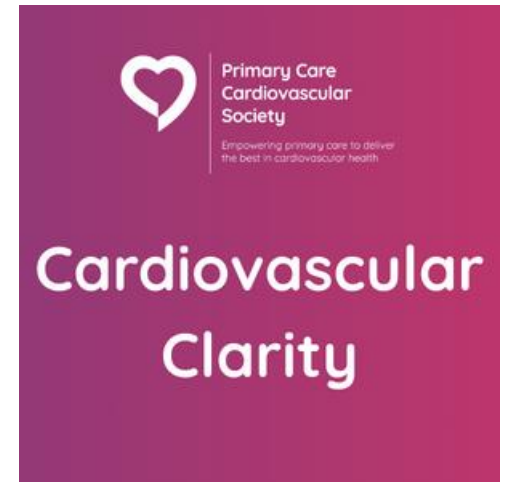
Launched in January, this is a short, insight-led read designed for primary care clinicians – offering expert perspective and real-world reflection on what's changing in cardiovascular care, and what it means in practice.

Rather than announcements or news, Cardiovascular Clarity focuses on:

- emerging issues in primary care cardiovascular care
- practical insight
- clarity you can act on in under five minutes.

The first edition explored upcoming changes to independent prescribing for pharmacists, and the second edition focused on patient information.

👉 You can join **over 700 clinicians** who've **already subscribed!** Read and subscribe on LinkedIn [here](#).



British Association for Cardiovascular Prevention and Rehabilitation (BACPR)

BACPR Education coordinates both the BACPR Specialist Exercise Instructor qualification and a range of short courses for health and exercise professionals involved in cardiovascular prevention and rehabilitation: [Education & Training — BACPR](#)



www.bacpr-conference.org

35th Annual Conference of the British Association for Cardiovascular Prevention and Rehabilitation

Save the date:

Thursday 8 – Friday 9 October 2026



RCN ANP Conference

Back by popular demand, the 4th **RCN Advanced Nurse Practitioner Conference** returns on 2 October 2026.

Save the date and register your interest to receive an email alert as soon as booking opens and the programme is announced.

We look forward to welcoming delegates both in-person and online.

Book now: www.rcn.org.uk/ANP26

It is going to be a great event with some great speakers lined up including: Professor Alison Leary, Paula McClaren (Senior Nursing Adviser for Advanced Practice) and a fabulous patient representative speaker: Dr Kate Allatt a super fit young mother of 3 who suffered a stroke and became locked in her own body “Locked in syndrome”. We will have expert panel members addressing current

The graphic is a promotional poster for the RCN ANP Conference. It features a dark blue header with the 'Connect Discover Inspire' logo on the left and the 'RCN Events' logo on the right. Below the header, the text 'RCN Advanced Nurse Practitioner Conference' is displayed in white. The main body of the poster is white, with the date '2 October 2026' and location details 'In person: RCN HQ, London' and 'Online: Zoom Events' listed. At the bottom left, the website 'rcn.org.uk/ANP26' is provided. On the right side, there is a yellow sticky note with the text 'Save The Date!' written in a cursive font.

Connect
Discover
Inspire

RCN
Events

RCN Advanced Nurse
Practitioner Conference

2 October 2026
In person: RCN HQ, London
Online: Zoom Events

rcn.org.uk/ANP26

Save
The
Date!

issues from all 4 nations on the matters affecting advance practice in this current climate.

UK Shock 2026

4–5 December 2026 at the Royal College of Physicians, London.

BANCC are delighted to be invited to partner with us for the upcoming UK Shock 2026 event, a national meeting focused on improving the care and outcomes of patients with cardiac arrest and cardiogenic shock in the United Kingdom.



Current BANCC Council:

President: Nicola Bowers - Term: October 2024 - October 2026

Current Role: Director of Research and Innovation Buckinghamshire, Healthcare NHS Trust

Areas of Special Interest: For research nurses, midwives and AHP's to be an integral member of every healthcare division. Introducing, supporting and completing clinical trials and individual researchers, to increase national research activity and promote evidence-based practice. Through collaborative working and dissemination of information, reduce cardiovascular disease locally, nationally and globally.

President Elect: Dr Clare Lawson - Term: October 2024 - October 2026

Current Role: Associate Professor and Cardiovascular Clinical Epidemiologist, University of Leicester

Areas of special interest: The collection, linkage and analysis of routine data to investigate heart failure and comorbidity epidemiology, patient-centred outcomes and health informatics and education. Provision of mentorship and support for nurse academic careers.

Education lead: Charles Spencer - Term: September 2023 - September 2026

Current Role: Associate Chief for Advanced Practice at South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust, visiting lecturer at Birmingham City and Warwickshire Universities

Areas of special interest: Echocardiology and point of care ultrasound, ECG interpretation, general cardiology, advanced life support, free open access medical education (FOAMed), [Facebook Cardiology Nurse Forum](#).

Research Forum Lead: Dr Robyn Lotto - Term: October 2024 - October 2026

Current Role: Associate Professor in the Faculty of Health at Liverpool John Moores University.

Areas of special interest: Research, Heart failure, Congenital Heart Disease in the paediatric and adult populations, Cardiac Surgery, CVD risk reduction.

Deputy Research Forum Officer: Dr Hannah Waterhouse - Term: October 2024 - October 2026

Current Role: Lecturer in Nursing, University of Leicester

Areas of interest: Heart failure, Frailty, Cardiac Rehabilitation, EBP, Research

Treasurer: Dr Karen Higginbotham - Term: October 2024 - October 2026

Current Role: Senior Lecturer Adult Nursing in the School of Nursing and Allied Health at Liverpool John Moore University.

Junior Treasurer: Priya Reehal - 1st Term: October 2024 - October 2026

Current Role Title: Lead Cardio-oncology/Heart Failure Clinical Nurse Specialist

Area of expertise: Cardio-Oncology and Heart Failure

Secretary: Position Vacant

Junior secretary: Esther Arnold - Term: October 2024 - October 2026

Current Role: Cardiac Nurse Specialist at Medway NHS Foundation Trust and Senior Lecturer for the Advanced Clinical Practice Course at Canterbury Christ Church University.

Areas of special interest: Acute Coronary Syndromes and stable angina, ECG interpretation and advanced clinical practice. I am particularly interested in career progression and development of nurses in cardiology.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Officer: Fang Feng Ting - Term: October 2024 - October 2026

Current Role: Arrhythmia Specialist Nurse at Watford General Hospital-West Hertfordshire NHS Trust.

Areas of special interest: Arrhythmia related topic: palpitations; Atrial Fibrillation, supraventricular tachycardia, syncope, pacemaker, defibrillator, Cardiac-synchronised therapy; digital health; self-management; life-style modification; cardiac research; gender inequality in health, menopause and cardiovascular disease. I am particularly interested in promoting professional nurse's advocator and support the cardiac nurses in their carer progression.

Ordinary Council Members:

David Burnett

1st Term: October 2024 - October 2026

Current Role: Nurse Consultant in Cardiology

Area of expertise: Chest Pain and Acute Coronary Syndromes, Secondary Prevention and Lipid Management.

Janine O'Rourke

Ordinary Officer and BACPR Representative,

1st Term: October 2024 - October 2026

Current Role: Cardiac Rehabilitation Specialist Nurse Lead

Area of expertise: Cardiac Rehabilitation, Heart Failure, Secondary Prevention Management and Angina

Lyndsey McCunnell

1st Term: September 2025 – September 2027

Current Role: Senior Lecturer in Post Graduate Nursing.

Areas of special interest: Cardiovascular Health, Adult Congenital Heart Disease/Inherited Cardiac Conditions, Advance Practice and Resuscitation.

Khelvin Jocson

1st Term: September 2025 – September 2027.

Current Role: Cardiology Advanced Nurse Practitioner.

Areas of expertise: Acute and chronic coronary syndromes, Secondary Prevention and Lipid Management, Cardiac Arrhythmias and Heart Failure, Nurse-led and autonomous practice, including DCCV and ILR implantation/explanation, Enhancing and expanding nurse-led cardiology services, Safe and effective independent prescribing, Driving quality improvement and service transformation in cardiology, Leadership development and strengthening clinical governance, Promoting patient education, engagement, and self-management, Promoting education, research, audit, and innovation in cardiac services.

Co-opted/Non-voting Members:

Chloe Macarthur, British Heart Foundation Health and Care Lead.

Sharlene Hogan, Royal College of Nursing, Contracted Research Organization (CRO), supporting global commercial drug and device clinical studies.

Beverley Bostock, Primary Care Cardiovascular Society (PCCS), Advanced Nurse Practitioner in long-term conditions in general practice in Gloucestershire.

Carys Barton – British Society for Heart Failure Representative.

BANCC Council Elections 2026

Nominations for BANCC council closed on Monday 6th July at 5pm.

BANCC have been recruiting for the following posts:

- **Ordinary Council Member** (2 posts - 2 year term)
- **President Elect** (1 post - 2 year term, before stepping into President role for 2 years)
- **Education Lead** (1 post - 2 year term)
- **Equality Diversity and Inclusion Lead** (1 post - 2 year term)
- **Deputy Research Forum Officer** (1 post - 2 year term, before stepping into Research Forum Lead role for 2 years)
- **Junior Treasurer** (1 post - 2 year term, before stepping into Treasurer role for 2 years)
- **Junior Secretary** (1 post - 2 year term, before stepping into Secretary role for 2 years)

To find out about the responsibilities of each post, please refer to: [BANCC Council Roles and Responsibilities](#) and [BANCC Constitution](#).

Stand by for update in the next newsletter!

Thank you for reading!

Editor: Esther Arnold - BANCC Junior secretary

Senior Lecturer Advanced Clinical Practice, Canterbury Christ Church University

Cardiac Nurse Specialist, Medway NHS Foundation Trust

British Association for Nursing in Cardiovascular Care

c/o BCS

9 Fitzroy Square

London

W1T 5HW, UK

Phone: +44 20 7380 1907

Email: bancc@bcs.com