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## AGM President Report:2022!

We are optimistic that the current change in restrictions will lead to us being able to return to a more normal way of life and more normal activities in the Society. Since the AGM in January 2021, the Council have worked together to find ways to reconnect as a Society in the absence of meetings.

Christine Smith as our Private Practice Rep has delivered the updated website and branding and I thank her, the council and all the members who have contributed to content. We have converted genuine queries that Aideen receives from the public into FAQ's and added news items. Thanks goes to Christine and the Council and all the members who have contributed. Our Seminars with Marie Ennis O'Connor informed us of the benefits of Social Media and online branding for the Society. Our previous President recruited Theresa Hannon to manage the OSI's social media and Theresa has provided members with an update on her work. This strategy relies on member's broader input to reach its full potential and I encourage members to participate and share their ideas for content with Theresa and the Council.

We also participated in an Irish Times feature on the future of dentistry in November 2021 and agreed the key messaging for this about the OSI and Specialist Orthodontics. We have responded to requests from other bodies to share information about specialist orthodontics in Ireland. In September, I made a submission regarding the WHO Resolution on Oral Health and shared this with other stakeholders in Ireland. This is on the OSI website. We submitted comments on the draft of the Dental Council's new Code of Practice and await publication in 2022.

Our HSE Rep Cath Rahilly surveyed HSE members in November 2021 and the results of this have been shared with members. The Council are mindful that the OSI was established for all specialist orthodontists and have discussed respondents' views on how the OSI can encourage HSE Orthodontists engagement in the Society.

In the absence of "live meetings" our Scientific Secretary Finn Geoghegan also initiated a series of talks in the Spring and Summer 2021 that were well supported by members and introduced us to some new and very interesting speakers and the feedback we received was very positive. We also chose to use Zoom for our meetings, lectures and webinars as this represented better value and versatility than other platforms, such as for our virtual Winter Meeting in 2020. We agreed not to plan a full Autumn meeting in view of the restrictions and instead planned a mini meeting and AGM, which was then delayed until Jan2022. This created an opportunity for members to reconnect and try a new meeting format, without the financial commitments that a full meeting incurs. I thank our Treasurer Martin O'Sullivan for his hard work, good judgement and perspective on these matters.

Our Consultant Rep Angus Burns introduced our Clinical Case sessions in 2021 which have proved popular with members. The Council recognised that there seemed to be an interest in sharing ideas but that the What'sApp group was not the ideal format for this. I have certainly benefited from both presenting and joining the clinical cases sessions and this sharing of knowledge about complex problems, techniques, materials and suppliers is a really valuable way for members to connect and I thank Angus for this initiative.

The Spring Meeting should be very much business as usual and will be preceded by golf and social events on Thursday for all delegates with a special welcome for new members. We welcome members' suggestions for future speakers or subjects as we finalise the plans for forthcoming meetings.

I would like to thank Aideen and all the Council, Claire, Martin, Christine, Cath, Martin, Angus, Finn, Ronan and Paul for their support and commitment to the OSI over the last year.

Yours sincerely,

**Dr Ciara Scott**

President of the Orthodontic Society of Ireland 2021-2022

5<sup>th</sup> March 2022