

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2026

President's Report 2025-26

Members of the British Institute of Radiology, I am very pleased to welcome you to our sixty-sixth annual general meeting (AGM).

This is my second report as BIR President and it gives me great pleasure to reflect on another successful year for the BIR. Our achievements over the past 12 months demonstrate the strength of our community, the dedication of our volunteers, members, trustees and staff, and our continued commitment to advancing radiology, radiation oncology and the wider imaging professions through our work

I am delighted to report that, in the Journal Impact Factor window, the *British Journal of Radiology* was home to the most cited article across the entire Radiology, Nuclear Medicine & Medical Imaging category. *Understanding Breast Cancer as a Global Health Concern*, authored by Louise Wilkinson and Toral Gathani, received an impressive 294 citations, outperforming its nearest competitor by 35 citations. The article has now generated more than 1,000 citations and over 45,000 downloads. This is a remarkable achievement and demonstrates the global impact of BJR and its authors.

We have also celebrated important milestones for *BJR/Open*. The journal was accepted for indexing in both Scopus and the Web of Science Emerging Sources Citation Index, significantly enhancing its international visibility. In June 2025, the journal received its first Impact Factor of 2.3, placing it in the second quartile of journals within the Radiology, Nuclear Medicine & Medical Imaging category, alongside a CiteScore of 2.8. This represents a major achievement for what remains a relatively young journal.

In partnership with Oxford University Press, we have also launched three new themed content hubs focused on Artificial Intelligence, Radiotherapy and Oncology, and CT. These pages bring together journal articles and wider BIR activity, improving discoverability of content while reinforcing the BIR's position as a leading voice across imaging and radiation sciences.

Education remains at the heart of what the BIR does, and this year we delivered an exceptional programme.

In November 2025, we welcomed 300 delegates to our Annual Congress. The event brought together professionals from across multiple disciplines and explored topics ranging from everyday clinical practice and learning from errors to workforce sustainability, clinical efficiency, artificial intelligence and NHS financial pathways. Delegates also heard inspiring

presentations from BIR award winners Professor Louise Rainford and Professor Ferdia Gallagher.

The sixth Annual Radiotherapy and Oncology Meeting was held under the theme *Looking to the Future*. The programme addressed many of the key challenges and opportunities facing the profession, including the NHS Ten-Year Plan, workforce development, advanced practice, clinical trials, patient experience, adaptive radiotherapy and safer radiotherapy implementation. We were also pleased to continue our collaboration with the Association for Radiation Research, whose contribution added significant value to the meeting.

Another notable success was our collaborative study day with The HLH Imaging Group, focusing on the end-to-end lung cancer screening pathway in the UK. Attracting over 240 delegates, this event continues to provide an important forum for multidisciplinary learning and discussion around the future of national lung cancer screening programmes.

For our membership, our focus this year has been on enhancing the value of BIR membership and supporting members throughout their professional journey.

In early 2026, we introduced free webinars as a membership benefit, providing access to high-quality educational content covering both clinical topics and early-career development.

Our weekly *Members Monday* bulletin continues to be highly valued by members, providing a trusted source of news, resources and professional updates.

Listening carefully to member feedback has shaped our future plans. As a result, we are investing further in our digital learning offer and are preparing to introduce a new eLearning platform in 2027, which will further enhance how members access education and professional development opportunities.

Our World Partner Network has now grown to 25 radiology societies spanning six continents. During the year, we were delighted to welcome the Caribbean Society of Radiologists, the Uruguayan Society of Radiology and the Nepal Radiological Association to the network.

The BIR maintained a strong presence at major international congresses. At RSNA 2025 and ECR in 2026, extensive meetings with corporate partners, international societies and prospective collaborators provided valuable insight into emerging technologies, evolving industry priorities and future partnership opportunities.

The BIR continues to play an active role in promoting professional standards, collaboration and patient safety.

Patient and staff safety remains a key priority. During Radiation Safety Week in March, we shared a wide range of educational resources, including videos, articles and posters, helping to raise awareness of radiation protection principles and promote best practice across healthcare settings.

Our annual MR Safety Week in July also proved highly successful. Resources covered important topics including Magnetic Resonance Output Conditioning, implant safety, incident reporting,

fire risk assessment and updated guidance on magnetic field safety. These materials continue to support healthcare professionals and organisations in maintaining safe and effective MRI practice.

None of these achievements would have been possible without the commitment and expertise of our volunteers, council members, trustees, editors, reviewers, staff, partners and members. On behalf of Council and the BIR, I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the BIR's success over the past year.

Together, we continue to strengthen the BIR's position as a leading multidisciplinary organisation and ensure that we remain relevant, influential and impactful for the professions and patients we serve.

Dr Nick Screatton

BIR President