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**WELCOME** to the Summer Edition  
of the IDSc journal.

Hopefully all our readers are safe and well, we are certainly living in strange times at the moment, priorities have changed and many of our members have been re-deployed to support the response to the Coronavirus crisis. IDSc members and their staff have been undertaking some unfamiliar duties in support of their Trusts, private companies furloughing staff, no Reps visits, hopefully everyone will come out the other side relatively unscathed.

The UK and the rest of the world certainly under the cosh at the moment, I would like to say in unforeseen circumstances but Operation Cygnus carried out in the UK in 2016 to test the NHS' ability to cope with an unknown pandemic causing virus from Asia (based on H2N2) proved what we now know is that it couldn't cope without the necessary support and supplies available, the whole of the report is still not available for public viewing but by all accounts it doesn't make good reading.

» As we can see our members far and wide are working as one in the battle against the Coronavirus, a fact that shouldn't be overlooked, I am proud to be associated with such a fabulous bunch. «

This year's conference, 30th November – 2nd December to be held at The Celtic Manor in Newport, is still scheduled to go ahead however IDSc board will keep members updated, hopefully COVID-19 will be a distant memory and we have a conference befitting such a fantastic venue which will be well worth attending.

There has been an on-going issue with the CPD certificates from 2019 conference hopefully this will be overcome and they will be sent out, once again apologies for the delay.

We have great pleasure including articles, letters, odes etc. from our some of our members; it's great to see, despite it all, we keep going with a smile on our faces.

**Paper:** Our paper, written by **David Stephenson** (Freelance Writer and Consultant Editor) takes a look at the New Sterile Service Department at Queens Hospital, Burton on Trent, which is part of University Hospitals of Derby and Burton NHS Foundation Trust, a very successful venture and something which all involved can be proud off.

**From the Archives:** looks at the issue of ward cleanliness, very much in focus at the moment, it seems somethings never change (Sterile World Journal June 1979).

**Something Different: Phil Hadridge's** 'DEE-cision' explores ideas to radically redesign meetings to reduce the need to travel, in light of health and carbon and cost concerns.

**IDSc Interview:** Our 'Interview with' section is done by **Lara Jane Clary**,

National Decontamination Lead for Ramsay HealthCare UK. Currently working back in Theatres as an OPD assisting in the fight against COVID-19.

Our Technical Director, **Meredith Smart**, has been extremely busy assisting in the testing of COVID-19 samples so her report is a follow on update on the Corona virus.

The Technical and Research group are involved in various subjects and in this edition we highlight the support on offer to our members.

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You can find us on Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter  
**@IDSccommunicat1**

As always I would actively encourage all our membership to contribute to the journal, as shown in this edition contribution has been fantastic, if you have particular subjects you wish to see covered please let me know, the Technical working group are looking at up and coming R&D across the world of Decontamination, the Education side of things is going from strength to strength, all very promising for the future of IDSc, remember it's your Journal and we are all working to the same goal so let's make it work for us.

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