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WELCOME Welcome to the
Summer/Autumn Edition of the IDSc
journal.

So we are back to 'normal' if you listen to the government, however Covid still causing all sorts of issues. The 'pingdemic' has affected an awful lot of departments at a time when the work in SSDs and EDUs is ramping up and the expectations from customers ("we want everything back yesterday") has placed a great deal of stress and excess workload on the staff. This will bring about its own issues so we will have to wait and see what the next couple of months brings.

A decision on the annual conference for 2021 will be made shortly. If it goes ahead in 2021 it will be a virtual conference and we will inform our membership and suppliers at the earliest opportunity. Other options are being considered and these will be published as soon as feasibly possible.

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Our first *Paper* focuses on the matter of 'Unique Device Identification.' This was written by **Christopher Ogden**, Laser Marking Specialist at Sciamed Ltd. We highlight this process in the news section and this paper covers the subject in great depth.

Our second paper, '*Disinfectant Trials in Hospital*' is written by yours truly! I work for a subsidiary at North Tees and Hartlepool Trust and innovation is key to what we do. We have produced our own broad spectrum disinfectant, Hypochlorous Acid. I think this could be a game changer when deep cleaning wards etc due to an enhanced turn-around time.

Our "*Interview with*" is provided by another member of the Board and Council, long serving member **Damien Charnock**, North West London Decontamination Project Customer Contract Manager, and is a very interesting read.

Unfortunately, our Technical Director, **Meredith Smart**, had a serious bout of Covid and is still suffering the after affects so no input from the R&D side of things for this edition.

The effects of Brexit seems to be hitting home with suppliers having delays on getting shipments which has a knock on effect to the end users. I would suggest keeping an eye on how quickly your deliveries are arriving or your machines are being repaired!

There has been a distinct lack of articles provided for this edition. The journal exists thanks to papers sent in by our members so I would actively encourage all of our membership to contribute to it. As shown in previous editions, member contributions make for fantastic and interesting inclusions to our content. If you would like any particular subject to be 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 for strength to strength and once the structure and legal side of things are resolved no doubt the future of IDSc will have a secure future. Remember, this is your journal, and we're all working to the same goal, so let's make it work for us!

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Thanks.

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