

# THE SCOPE

Newsletter of the British Society for Gynaecological Endoscopy



**BOOK  
YOUR PLACE  
NOW**

## SPECIAL EDITION

**BSGE Annual Scientific Meeting 2018,  
'*Learning together to transform lives*'  
9th-11th May, Edinburgh**



# CONTENTS

DOMINIC BYRNE COMPLETES HIS TERM AS PRESIDENT .....	3
LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION .....	5
'LEARNING TOGETHER TO TRANSFORM LIVES.' Getting to know the Scottish Organising Committee .....	6
AN INSIDER'S GUIDE TO EDINBURGH .....	7
ALL WORK AND NO PLAY .....	8
DYNAMIC EARTH .....	9
LONDON TO EDINBURGH CYCLE RIDE FOR ENDOMETRIOSIS UK .....	10
SPECIALIST NURSE CONFERENCE .....	11
POSTER PRESENTATIONS AT THE ASM IN EDINBURGH .....	11
ALEC TURNBULL LECTURE 2018 PROFESSOR FABIO GHEZZI .....	12
INDUSTRY SUPPORT .....	12
PRE-CONGRESS MASTERCLASSES .....	13
NOMINEES FOR BSGE ELECTIONS 2018 .....	14
RESEARCH AND AUDIT .....	15
LANDMARK ENDOMETRIOSIS CENTRE COHORT STUDY PUBLISHED ON BMJ OPEN .....	16
AWARDS AND BURSARIES .....	18
VIDEO LIBRARY UPDATE .....	18
RIGS .....	19
FACEBOOK UPDATE .....	20
THE SCOPE MEETS... NEIL JOHNSON AND LONE HUMMELSHOJ .....	21
NOTEWORTHY ARTICLES .....	23
UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS .....	24
INCREASING AWARENESS OF BSGE AMONG STUDENTS AND JUNIOR DOCTORS .....	25
ASM PROGRAMME OVERVIEW .....	26

This year's BSGE ASM is rapidly approaching. Whether you've already secured your place or you're considering registering, this special edition of The Scope will tell you all you need to know about the meeting.

The Annual Scientific Meeting will run from 9th-11th May in Edinburgh. With a beautiful location, excellent transport links, fantastic accommodation, and a wonderful Scottish welcome, Edinburgh is going to be an unforgettable setting for ASM 2018.

The Scottish Organising Committee have put together a packed programme that includes state-of-the-art lectures, debates, educational demonstrations and research reports. In addition, there will be five pre-congress courses, a welcome drinks reception and a gala dinner.

Book now to join the debate and learn from your peers. It is one of the least expensive national medical society meetings in the country and fees for trainees are heavily subsidised. Check the website for further information and details at <https://www.bsge2018.org/>



# DOMINIC BYRNE COMPLETES HIS TERM AS PRESIDENT

BSGE President Dominic Byrne completes his term of office in May and hands over to current Vice President Sanjay Vyas. As his enormously successful tenure draws to a close, the Scope spoke to Dominic about his Presidency and his thoughts about the future of the BSGE.

We managed to catch up with Dominic Byrne as he juggled phone calls, e-mails and the mountain of messages that are part of the daily job of the BSGE President. As the Society has grown, so has the workload. It is a demanding but rewarding role and in the final weeks of his Presidency, Dominic shared his philosophy, his aims and his achievements.



*"Every President brings their own philosophy and personal emphasis to the Society. I took over from Ertan Saridogan, who had done a fantastic job in driving the Society forward. He had achieved an enormous growth in membership, and the BSGE was ready to move on to the next stage."*

*"By the time I became President in 2016, the BSGE was one of the largest specialist societies in Gynaecology. It was clear to me that the size of the society had grown so much that it needed to have a structure and philosophy that ensured its relationship with other organisations was consistently responsive, valued and reliable. I aimed to make the Society more professional, prominent and credible so that it could become a society with the power to influence change. I improved our processes by introducing standard operating procedures for Council and role descriptions for all BSGE positions, so duties are defined and there is transparency to our members and clarity for applicants of these roles."*

**Have there been other changes that members may not be aware about that have had a major influence on the progress for the development of the BSGE?**

*"Yes. The front of house for the BSGE is our website and publications and I felt that we had to embrace these wonderful resources. So from the outset I made sure that all*

*activities went through the website and that we changed all transactions, bookings and applications to a digital format. This presented challenges but has been achieved seamlessly by our superb Webcomms team. Members have probably now forgotten all the paper-based transactions of the past but it has been a big structural change. Also all our publications, like the Scope, guidelines, reports and public statements have all been carefully crafted by our publications team and they have consistently produced world class standards for the society. I am indebted to them all."*

**How would you describe your leadership style and how has it influenced your actions in the role as President?**

*"In any organisation, change comes from the leadership. My style is to lead from the front, getting involved with all the work of the Society. I work closely with each portfolio chair on active issues and have reorganised the structure of the council to increase communication, transparency and responsiveness. Each portfolio chair now has a subcommittee team. There is a requirement for them to meet regularly to set, and achieve, their goals and to report back to the council. This has created a much more robust structure that should allow developments and projects to be sustained, rather than be susceptible to loss when a council member leaves."*

*"I believe that the council is now more connected with the membership, more responsive and better able to react to the needs and training of members"*

**Looking through news reports and past issues of the Scope it is clear that the BSGE is increasingly being called on to collaborate, advise and create guidelines in the field of gynaecological minimally invasive surgery. So, it is clear that these structural improvements have helped external organisations view the BSGE as a serious and professional specialist society. With that status comes responsibility, Dominic added:**

*"Of course, the effect of being taken more seriously is that there is much more serious work to do. The BSGE's input is now highly valued. We are working continuously with organisations including RCOG, ESGE, WES and NICE on a variety of issues as well as with NHS England on commissioning and the WHO on ICD coding. The BSGE are linking, and enjoying good working relationships, with national, international and worldwide organisations and I hope this will benefit all our members. The increase in workload means portfolio chairs have to work harder than ever and we will need to develop our secretariat to grow capacity to meet increasing needs; this development is already planned."*

**Is there one particular achievement of the BSGE of which you are particularly proud?**

*"Yes. That would have to be the Endocentres project. This has gone from a good idea to an internationally recognised network of specialist endometriosis centres that work professionally to meet exacting standards and audit their outcomes, to the benefit of patients with severe endometriosis. When I took over the project my ultimate aim was to produce a publication from all endocentres describing laparoscopic surgical treatment of 1,000 cases of severe endometriosis with two-year outcome data. This achievement has been far exceeded, as the BMJ Open will soon to publish our paper describing the outcome in nearly 5,000 patients. It will be the largest published endometriosis surgery dataset in the world. All BSGE endocentres should, rightly, be very proud."*



**So, where does the BSGE go from here?**

*"Now that the BSGE has been established as an important voice on matters relating to gynaecological endoscopy, we need to both maintain what has been achieved and continue to evolve and develop."*

*Sanjay and I have worked hard, and work very well together. A president and vice-president need to have a hand-in-glove relationship, so that there is continuity and a smooth transition. I know that Sanjay will take good care of what has been achieved and also bring his own philosophy, flavour and individual flare to make the next developments happen. I would like to thank him for his support during my presidency and wish him all the best as he embarks on his."*





# LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

*"This is a city of shifting light, of changing skies, of sudden vistas. A city so beautiful it breaks the heart again and again."*

Alexander McCall Smith

With a towering castle, elegant Georgian terraces, narrow historic streets and a stunning skyline it is little surprise that poet laureate Sir John Betjeman described Edinburgh as 'the most beautiful of all the capitals of Europe.' However, the city offers much more than a pretty facade.

Edinburgh has been recognised as the capital of Scotland since at least the 15th century. It is home to the Scottish Parliament and is the seat of the monarchy in Scotland. Historically part of Midlothian, the city has long been a centre of education, particularly in the fields of Scots law, literature, the sciences, engineering and medicine, so it provides a fitting setting for ASM 2018.

Historic sites in Edinburgh include Edinburgh Castle, Holyrood Palace, the churches of St. Giles, Greyfriars and the Canongate, and the extensive Georgian New Town, built in the 18th century.

Edinburgh's Old Town and New Town together are listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, which has been managed by Edinburgh World Heritage since 1999.

Edinburgh is a capital of contrasts; the city and countryside, history and contemporary culture are all juxtaposed, making it an intriguing and exciting location for the ASM.

Edinburgh is a vibrant and cosmopolitan capital city. If you're interested in culture, cuisine, history, heritage or sport you should find something to interest and inspire. Whether you want to extend your visit to take advantage of your trip to Scotland or you're simply planning to make the very most of your few days at the ASM, you shouldn't run out of fantastic things to do.



# 'LEARNING TOGETHER TO TRANSFORM LIVES.'

## Getting to know the Scottish Organising Committee

Following on from the successful meetings in Cornwall and Hull, ASM 2018 will offer members the opportunity to hear the latest research, debate the hottest topics in minimally invasive gynaecological surgery and learn the techniques and ways in which colleagues from across the world improve the health and wellbeing of women.

Delegates will be learning together to transform the lives of the women they treat directly and those in the wider population, by influencing healthcare policy.

We spoke to **Prof. Andrew Horne**, chair of the Scottish Organising Committee together with some of the members of the SOC to find out more about the city and the meeting.

*"We chose the title 'Learning together to transform lives' because the overarching theme of the meeting is collaboration and multi-disciplinary working. However, there is also a strong subtheme of endometriosis and pelvic pain running throughout the meeting. This reflects the special interest of the department in Edinburgh."*



*Please don't ask me to choose a personal conference highlight. There are so many exciting sessions, I couldn't single one out. We've had lots of interest from BSGE members, which I think reflects the combination of an excellent programme, a beautiful location and the perfect venue."*

*We are restricted with numbers, once we reach capacity we are unable to accept any further bookings, so I would encourage members to book now or risk missing out."*

**Dr. Lucky Saraswat** is a Consultant Gynaecologist at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary. She is the lead for the Aberdeen Endometriosis Centre, which was the first Endometriosis Centre in Scotland.

*"Apart from the exciting and stimulating programme offered by the ASM, my highlight includes a brand new 'Laparoscopic suturing and morcellation' preconference masterclass. This one day course held in the state of the art Cuschieri Skills Centre in Dundee will include simulation of common scenarios on live tissue models such as laparoscopic suturing of vaginal vault, intra-corporeal and extra-corporeal knot tying, myomectomy, supracervical hysterectomy and morcellation of tissues. This is a unique course designed specifically to meet the needs of the new generation of minimal access gynaecologists. Book early to avoid disappointment!"*



**Prof Kevin Cooper** is consultant gynaecologist at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, a recognised BSGE Endometriosis and RCOG advanced laparoscopic training centre. He specialises in minimal access surgical treatment of benign gynaecological conditions.

*"Like Lucky, my conference highlight will be the pre-congress course in the Surgical Skills Centre in Dundee, with state of the art equipment and novel models to allow realistic operating scenarios for myomectomy, subtotal hysterectomy and much more"*



**Dr. Kirsty Munro** is a Consultant Gynaecologist at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh with a special interest in endometriosis.

*"My unmissable sight in Edinburgh is the view of the city and beyond from Carlton Hill."*

Whether you want to extend your visit, or you're planning to make the very most of your few days in Edinburgh, Kirsty has shared a few of the capital's hot spots on the next page.







# AN INSIDER'S GUIDE TO EDINBURGH

## The foodie capital

If you're imagining plates groaning with haggis, neaps and tatties-well, you'll find those in Edinburgh and a whole load more. The capital is overflowing with fabulous eateries for every price and palate.

- Martin Wishart's at Leith: Michelin-starred fine dining in the historic port of Leith.



- Rollo: Casual, intimate and atmospheric
- Dine: For authentic and high-quality Scottish specialities
- Chophouse: Some of the best grills and steaks in the city
- Online: For fabulous fish and seafood

## The great outdoors

Our Dynamic Earth is located in Holyrood Park, next to Arthur's seat. Take a hike, or a stroll, up to the top for breath-taking views of the castle and the city. It's an easy walk and the Scottish Organising Committee will be organising a group tour, for anyone who is worried about getting lost!

Scotland is known as the home of golf, and for good reason, there are no fewer than nine courses within easy reach of Edinburgh city centre. So, whether you want the challenge of the links at Bruntfield or the parkland of Prestonfield, you should find a course that suits. The SOC are planning to organise a BSGE members golf session, so why not pack your clubs and head to the driving range in preparation?



## Fringe benefits

The Edinburgh festival and fringe are world famous, with people flocking from across the globe to watch the world-class comedy, theatre, dance and music. But Edinburgh is an artistic hotspot throughout the year, not just in August. So, if Hull 2017 awakened your inner culture-culture, then don't miss all that Edinburgh has to offer.

Check out the Scottish National Gallery or visit one of the many theatres, concert halls and comedy clubs that offer diverse entertainment, from mainstream touring musicals to opera, ballet to burlesque.

## A wee dram

Whether it's whisky or wine that whets your whistle, Edinburgh will have a venue that suits.

- Tigerlily: A super-cool bar in a beautiful boutique hotel



- The Dome: Located in an amazing building in central George Street in the heart of Edinburgh's New Town
- Panda and Sons: A speakeasy, with a twist, enter via a secret library door
- Bon Vivant: A bar and restaurant, with many champagnes by the glass. Perfect for BSGE members who enjoy the finer things in life



## History and heritage

Although it is cosmopolitan and buzzing with energy, Edinburgh is a city that is steeped in history. From the splendour of Holyrood Palace, to the iconic Castle and the Royal Yacht Britannia in Leith there are glimpses of its heritage down every avenue and alleyway.

Have a look at Edinburgh's 101 Objects Itineraries. They suggest a curated list of objects located around the city, so that you can learn more about Scotland's capital and its history – exactly where it took place. There are suggested routes around the Old Town, the New Town, The Dark Side and there's even a pub crawl!



## A place to stay

Edinburgh offers a variety of accommodation ranging from Georgian serviced apartments, to historic hotels and affordable Airbnbs. The Society has negotiated favourable rates from a number of convenient hotels, to make the process easier practically and financially.





# ALL WORK AND NO PLAY

The ASM is for sharing knowledge and learning from your peers – but it's also about getting together with colleagues and having fun. The SOC has put together an excellent social programme to compliment the scientific one. Lynne Robinson shared the highlights:

## Arthur's Seat Walk

Dynamic Earth is located in Holyrood Park, next to Arthur's seat. There will be a group hike, or stroll, up to the top to enjoy the breath-taking views of the castle and the city. It's an easy walk and we plan an afternoon departure so that there is plenty of time to get back in time for the drinks reception. Enthusiastic runners can take the same route and start at same time, this should allow time to have a shower and be back at drinks reception around same time.



## Reception Drinks

A drinks reception at Dynamic Earth will welcome all delegates to Edinburgh on Wednesday, 9th May. This year you will be able to toast the intrepid BSGE cyclists who are completing their sponsored ride from London to Edinburgh at 6.00 pm and enjoy drinks and canapés with your friends and colleagues at 6.15 pm until 7.45 pm in the 'Earthscape Galleries'.



## BSGE Gala Dinner

The annual Gala dinner is the social highlight of the BSGE year. This year's event will be held on Thursday, 10th May in the stunning surroundings of the National Museum of Scotland. It will have a very Scottish flavour, with welcome drinks, entertainment and a ceilidh after the meal, so pack your dancing shoes. Don't forget to book your tickets, this year's event looks set to be unmissable.

## Reward Passport free to all delegates

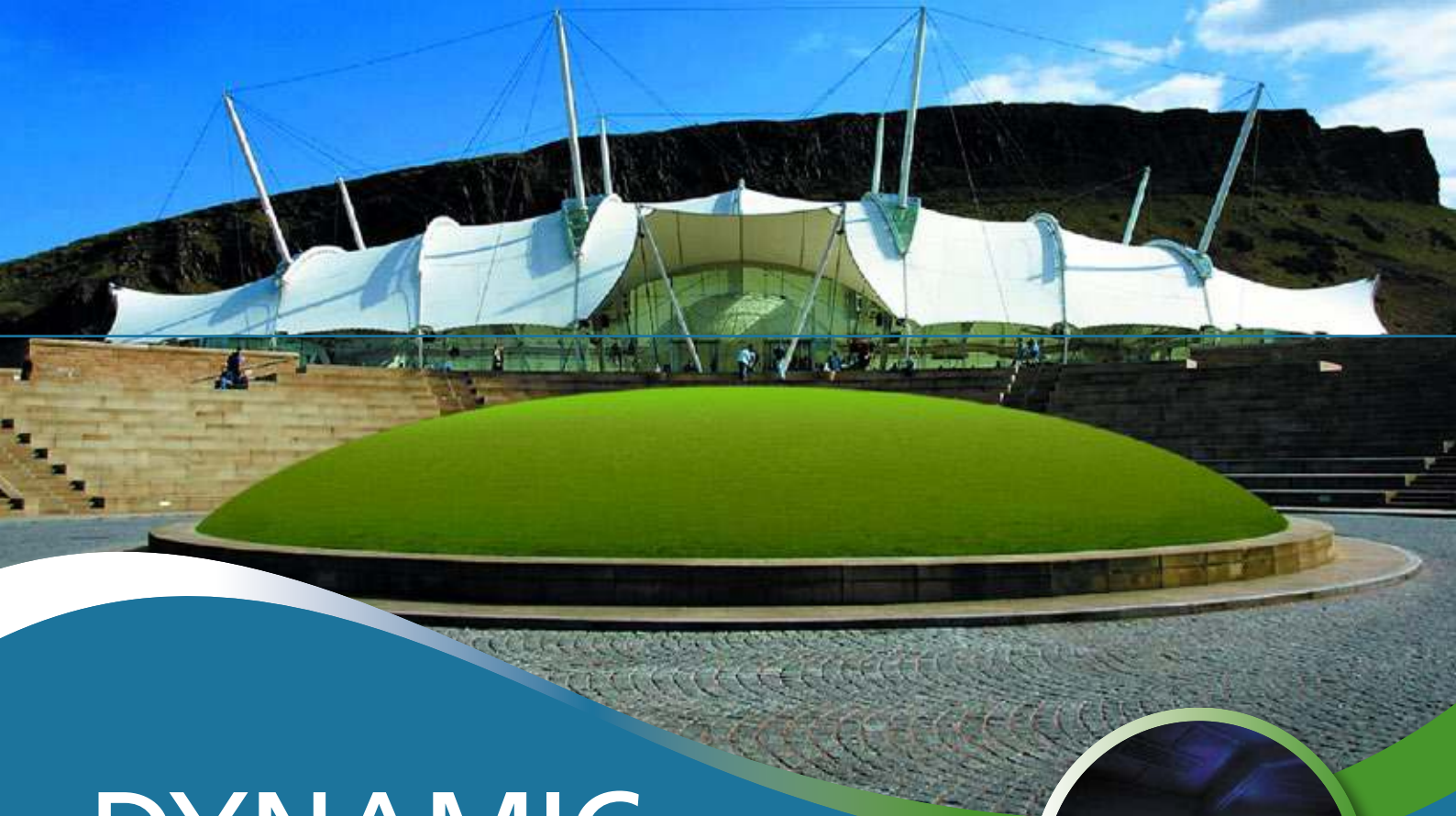
To ensure you make the most of your time in the capital, the Edinburgh Reward Passport will be given free to all conference delegates. It gives access to over 100 discounts and exclusive offers at a selection of the city's restaurants, bars and tourist attractions. It can also be used for pre-booked taxis, if you're planning your transport from the station, or a night out on the town.

Details of the exclusive discounts and a city map to show their locations are featured on the website [www.edinburghrewards.com](http://www.edinburghrewards.com) and will also be shown on the printed passport you will receive.



Click here  
for city offers





# DYNAMIC EARTH

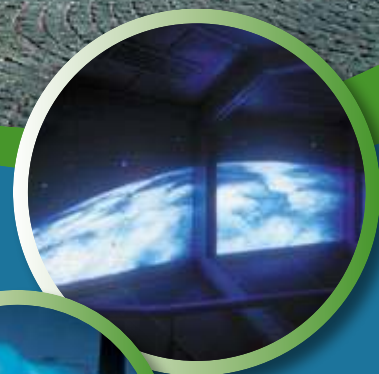
ASM 2018 has an extraordinary location at Dynamic Earth. It is situated in the beautiful landscape of Holyrood Park, yet is still right in the heart of Edinburgh making it convenient for travel, bars, restaurants and the historic sites of the capital city.

*"A visit to Dynamic Earth is like nothing else on Earth. It's a chance to experience the primeval forces of nature as they shaped our planet, to journey through space and time and even go on an adventure around the world."*

Dynamic Earth is a 5-star visitor attraction situated in Edinburgh's World Heritage Site. Sitting within an award winning and iconic tented structure at the foot of Salisbury Crags in the Holyrood area of the city, the venue has welcomed over 4 million visitors since opening.

When it opened in 1999, Dynamic Earth was the UK's first Millennium Commission funded project to open to the public. Dynamic Earth tells the story of planet Earth and how our Earth works, how life has evolved on its differing environments and the future challenges faced by the planet. It was built as a celebration of the life of James Hutton, the father of Modern Geology who studied and worked in this area of Edinburgh throughout the enlightenment period.

Dynamic Earth is situated on the grounds of an old brewery bottling plant and its development was an important catalyst for the economic regeneration of the Holyrood area. Equipped with the latest technology and supported by a highly professional events team, the historic and picturesque surroundings will offer BSGE members comfort and style in a totally unique venue.



# LONDON TO EDINBURGH CYCLE RIDE FOR ENDOMETRIOSIS UK



In the last Scope, BSGE member Lutfi Shamsuddin reported on the BSGE London to Edinburgh Cycle Ride. From May 5th, a group of BSGE surgeons will be cycling their way to the ASM to raise funds for Endometriosis UK and increase awareness of Endometriosis. As training reaches its final stages, #TeamEndo member Simon Phillips gives us an update on his progress:



A 200km bike ride from Oxford? How far is that exactly and more importantly (since most cycling effort is pushing air out of the way) which direction will the wind be blowing? We chose Oxford because it was central and close to home for one of us. As it turned out, this was probably life-saving.

On January 6th, four committed surgeons looked to tackle their first 'audax' ride together in preparation for the London-Edinburgh bike ride over 4 days in May. We chose a ride named 'The Poor Student', a triangular route heading west to Malmesbury, then north to Chipping Campden in the heart of the Cotswolds before returning to Oxford. At 8am, in the dark of a Park 'n' Ride car park (with the temperature at -2°C) there were of course, no students to be seen at all. It wasn't even term time, but there were about 200 riders who clearly looked like they had done this sort of thing before. At the check-in, we asked for any important beginner's advice, to be answered with, 'Yes, you're on your own'.

'Audax' rides continue a heritage of long distance riding from the early days of cycling. The focus is on self-reliance. These are certainly not commercially organised trips with mechanical and nutritional support, nor are they organised during the longer (and warmer) days of summer. Neither are they races. A minimum speed is required (somewhere around 15kmh/10mph) but how fast you chose to ride and how long you chose to stop is up to you. Incidentally there's also a 'maximum' which no one looked close to reaching apart from a group of skinny 20-year olds who sped past speaking Italian.

With a North-Easterly wind and a flat-ish route, the first 80k to Malmesbury sped by. We were in daylight and the temperature had risen to almost zero. Our first cafe stop was with other riders. It seemed a little early for lunch so coffees and cake all round. Everyone else seemed to be ordering full breakfast including black pudding- something told us that they knew something that we didn't...



We overheard a couple of mumbled warnings: 'hills.', 'Compton Abdale...' but it was warm and cosy in the cafe and there were selfies to be taken. Outside wasn't warm and cosy and it's always hard to recover energy after a stop, especially since the next leg of the route was directly into the North-Easterly and carrying a little rain.

We'd barely left Malmesbury before a puncture slowed the group down. On a normal day, changing a tube and tyre should be child's play. With 2 pairs of gloves preventing frostbite this was a different affair but the heroic strength of 4 middle-aged men eventually prevailed, and we were on our way.

We then found ourselves largely in the middle of nowhere and the roads took on gradients that gnawed away at the strength. With the wind, and perhaps the effort of changing a tyre, it proved too much for one of our group. Luckily there was mobile phone reception and a distress beacon was sent to Oxford to collect bike and rider from a dreary bus stop in a layby on the A40.

Chipping Campden is a charming, idyllic Cotswold town by all accounts, but by then it was dark. The Co-Op seemed strangely appealing for food and water and so it was. We'd cycled 145k (90 miles) by then and getting home seemed a good idea.

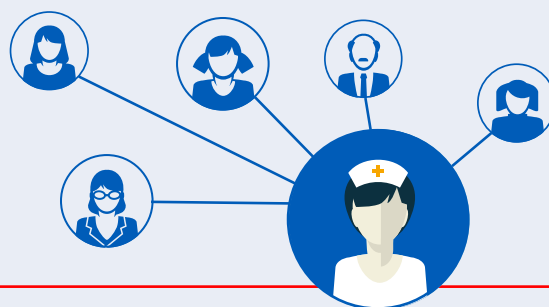
The final stretch was 3 hours in pitch blackness. Riding at night seemed much quieter and the bike lights showed only a black and white shape to the roads. It was an oddly contemplative experience until the bumps in the road shocked you back to reality. Audax rides supply routes printed on paper but on a moonless night that's unhelpful, so we relied on gradually failing 'Garmins' to steer a course home.

After avoiding the pub traffic in some smaller Oxfordshire villages, we gradually re-entered the lights of the City and returned in triumph to the Park 'n' Ride- except there was no one there. This confirmed that there's no glamour to be had with audax rides, but there is a sense of accomplishment against adversity, and self-reliance although of the modern, mobile phone kind. Shivering, we exchanged a quick shake of the numb hands before a cup of tea and a trip home.

You can congratulate the cyclists on their triumphant arrival in Edinburgh at the ASM welcome drinks. If you would like to donate to their cause, their webpage is [www.virginmoneygiving.com/TeamEndoUK](http://www.virginmoneygiving.com/TeamEndoUK).



# SPECIALIST NURSE CONFERENCE



This will be the ninth year of the Nurse Conference and over that time it has continued to grow and evolve. This year, the Edinburgh team has worked hard to produce two stimulating and thought-provoking days working on the conference theme 'Learning together to transform lives'.

On the Thursday, the Nurse Hysteroscopist training programme echoes the ASM theme by presenting audits looking at how other units work and discussing what's next for the Nurse Hysteroscopist.

On the Friday, the Endometriosis Nurse programme also offers the opportunity to hear about the continual development of the role, managing symptoms and lifestyle and hearing the patient's perspective.

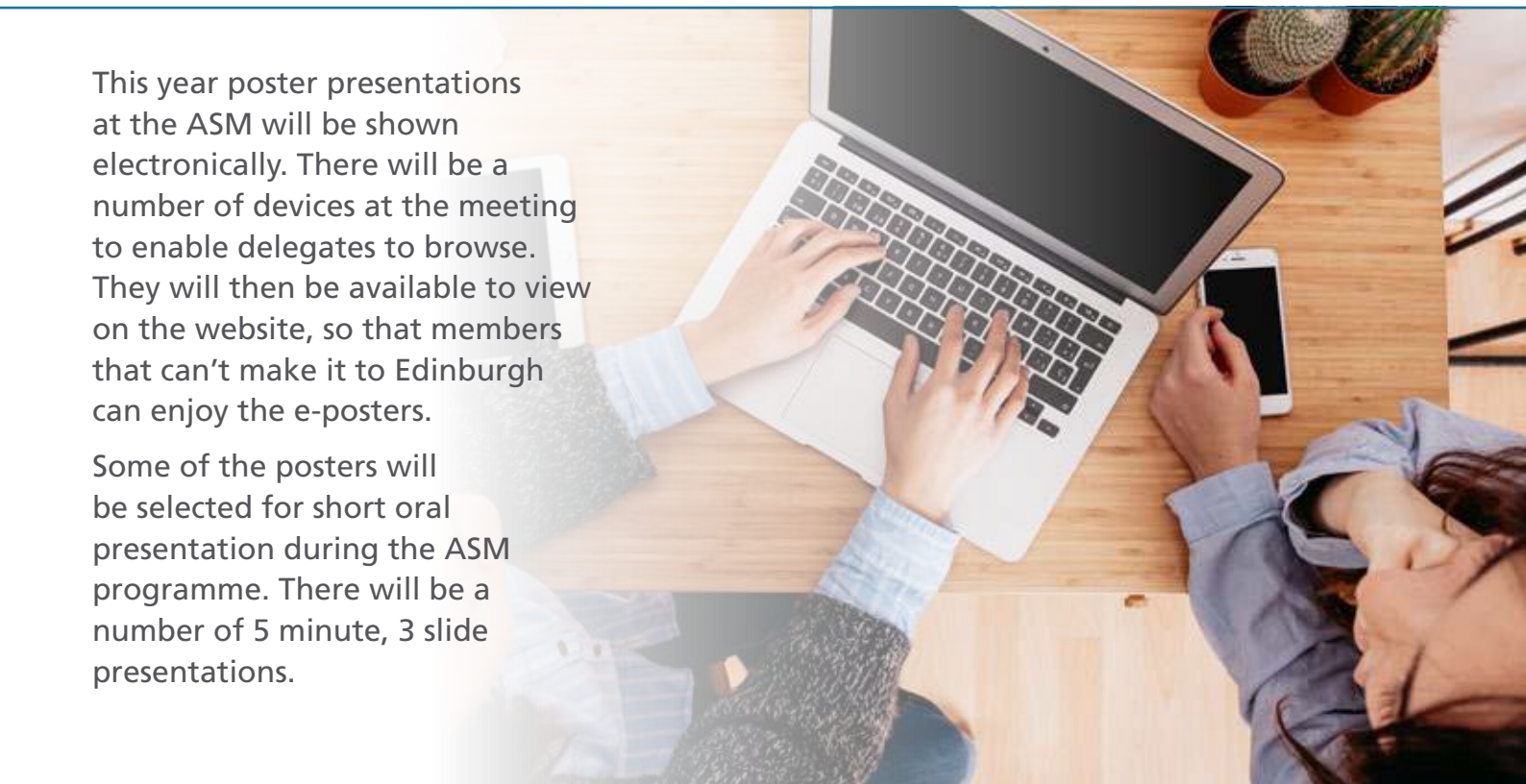
Find out more and book your place on the website [here](#).

## POSTER PRESENTATIONS AT THE ASM IN EDINBURGH



This year poster presentations at the ASM will be shown electronically. There will be a number of devices at the meeting to enable delegates to browse. They will then be available to view on the website, so that members that can't make it to Edinburgh can enjoy the e-posters.

Some of the posters will be selected for short oral presentation during the ASM programme. There will be a number of 5 minute, 3 slide presentations.



# ALEC TURNBULL LECTURE 2018

## PROFESSOR FABIO GHEZZI



Fabio Ghezzi, from Università degli Studi dell'Insubria, Varese, will deliver the prestigious Alec Turnbull Lecture at the upcoming ASM in Edinburgh. The keynote talk on the first day of the conference is always one of the highlights on the schedule.

The Scope met with the inspiring surgeon to learn a little about his practice. Fabio said that his team strives to 'simplify all the minimally invasive gynaecological operations so that we always follow the same steps from the beginning to the end. What do I mean by simplicity? I mean that you can perform very sophisticated operations with just three instruments. If you only use three instruments you will be very familiar with these instruments and use them more easily. We perform most of our operations including oncology, endometriosis and urogynaecology with just a few instruments.

The most important instrument we have in our hands is the brain. I see surgeons performing a simple salpingo-oophorectomy using four disposable instruments and I ask why? Using expensive instruments doesn't mean good surgery'.

If that has whetted your appetite, then you can find out much more at Dynamic Earth on 10th May.



## INDUSTRY SUPPORT

Arvind Vashisht, BSGE council member and Chair of industry relations subcommittee reported on industry presence at the upcoming meeting:

*"Industry support for the ASM has been excellent again this year. We received significant interest such that sponsorship is already closed. The platinum packages went particularly quickly with Medtronic, Stryker UK and Boston Scientific as the lead sponsors. We look forward to learning from industry partners at the meetings and at other BSGE events throughout the rest of the year"*

Arvind also showed his appreciation to the team saying: 'Thanks to the hard work of the team including Tyrone, Suruchi, Ertan, Dominic and the professional and smooth coordination by Atia'

This strong relationship with industry allows the BSGE to keep costs to ASM delegates down. The two-day meeting continues to be one of the least expensive national medical society meetings in the country.



Arvind Vashisht

**Medtronic**  
Further, Together

**stryker**<sup>®</sup>

**Boston  
Scientific**



# PRE-CONGRESS MASTERCLASSES

Make an early start to ASM 2018, at one of the five pre-congress courses. The courses have been organised by the BSGE, the Scottish Organising Committee, ESHRE and Endometriosis UK. They will be held on Wednesday, 9th May and spaces are limited, so pre-registration and payment is required in order to secure your place.

- **Joint ESHRE/BSGE course on *Advances in reproductive endoscopic surgery: robotics and new classifications*.**

This course will be held at Dynamic Earth and is open to anyone who would like to know more about endoscopic surgery and new classifications in benign gynaecology. The day will involve talks from a range of international experts and will cover robotic surgery for endometriosis and fibroids and new classifications for adenomyosis, endometriosis and tubal disease.



- **GESEA Exam:** The BSGE in collaboration with the ESGE is launching the Gynaecological Endoscopy Education and Assessment (GESEA) Programme in the UK. This is a structured training programme set up by the ESGE and the European Academy of Gynaecological Surgery. As part of the GESEA Programme, Level 1 certification will be running for the first time in the UK in Edinburgh on 9th May 2018.
- **Endometriosis Information Day:** This course is open to anyone who would like to know more about endometriosis, including women who have the disease, their partners, family and friends. The day will involve talks from a range of experts working in the field of endometriosis treatment, as well as the opportunity to attend workshops that cover the many aspects of endometriosis.

- **BSGE Workshop on Surgical Video Production:** This fun, interactive and practical session is primarily aimed at those wishing to begin producing videos of their surgery. Skill in surgical video editing is becoming increasingly important in gynaecology. In addition, Endometriosis Centres are required to submit an exemplar surgical video for laparoscopic excision of severe endometriosis each year.
- **Laparoscopic suturing and Morcellation course:** This brand new one day programme simulates scenarios encountered in laparoscopic surgery (knot tying, vaginal cuff closure and morcellation of specimens) using animal tissue models. It will be held in the state of art Cuschieri Skills centre in Dundee with coach transfers between Edinburgh and Dundee included in the fee.



**REGISTER  
HERE**

**These sessions are always well received, so register quickly to avoid disappointment.**



# NOMINEES FOR BSGE ELECTIONS 2018

It's BSGE election time again. This year the BSGE will elect a new Vice President. Sanjay Vyas will move up to the role of President of the BSGE and Dominic Byrne will stand down after completing two very successful two years as President. Mark Whittaker has completed his term as Honorary Secretary, so this post is also up for election.

## Vice President Nominees



**Justin Clark**  
Birmingham Women's Hospital



**Thomas Ind**  
St George's & Royal Marsden Hospitals, London



**Mark Whittaker**  
Gloucestershire Hospital NHS Trust

## Nominees for Honorary Secretary



**Oudai Ali**  
West Cumberland Hospital



**Shaheen Khazali**  
Ashford & St. Peter's Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust



**David John Rowlands**  
Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

## Nominees for Senior Representative



**Oudai Ali**  
West Cumberland Hospital



**Donna Ghosh**  
Worcestershire Acute Hospitals



**Chris Hardwick**  
Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Glasgow



**Dimitris Miligkos**  
Princess Anne Hospital, Southampton



**Funlayo Odejinmi**  
Whipps Cross Hospital



**David John Rowlands**  
Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS FT



**Tom Smith-Walker**  
Royal Cornwall Hospital

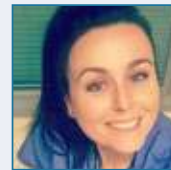
## Nominees for Trainee Representative



**Mez Aref-Adib**  
Newham General Hospital



**Tereza Indrielle-Kelly**  
Burton on Trent, Queens Hospital



**Angharad Jones**  
University Hospital of Wales



**Vicky Minns**  
St Helier Hospital



**Joanne Ritchie**  
Princess Royal Hospital, Telford



**Caryl Thomas**  
University Hospital of Wales

**Click here**   
to vote now

**Voting has been opened online in the dedicated members' section of the website. So, sign in and get voting. It is your Society, help to shape its future by choosing the Council members you believe can best represent your interests and drive the BSGE forwards.**





# RESEARCH AND AUDIT

## Research news

I am delighted to report that BMJ open have accepted and are imminently to publish the BSGE Endometriosis Centres paper "Laparoscopic excision of deep rectovaginal endometriosis in BSGE Endometriosis Centres: A multicentre prospective cohort study of over 5,000 women". By the time I see you all in Edinburgh this will be published (we are lining up some media attention to go with publication) and I would love to receive your comments and yes!!! also your criticisms. Be under no illusion that I am acutely aware how much work inputting data has been done by pioneering BSGE endometriosis centres and also by the scientific advisory committee which Dominic Byrne set up and which I chair. I am so proud of the BSGE for realising this project because the whole ethos of our society has been to promote endoscopic surgery to improve clinical outcomes for our patients. There have been many past and present members of the BSGE who in my mind are true 'greats' for their vision and drive to realise this project.

You are shortly to receive a survey of potential research studies in gynaecology. I sit on the National Institute of Health Research Panel for Women's and Children's Health and I'm determined to get studies relevant to our society funded for the benefit of the women we care for. Having tangible support from the society is necessary to succeed so your views about research priorities in our speciality are of key importance.



Justin Clark

## Even more exciting audit news

The BSGE Surgical Information Collection System (BSGESICS) launched to BSGE members at the Hull ASM in May and is going from strength to strength. I hope those of you using it 'day-to-day' to input your operative and post-operative data are spreading the word! We designed the system to be flexible; to satisfy the needs of trainees, nurse hysteroscopists and consultant surgeons. You can be anally retentive and record everything you do OR be selective and input data you want to audit / present at your appraisal. Believe me I know what a 'pain in the you know what', data collection / audit can be and it's for this reason we have developed the system as it is – simple, flexible and for use on a variety of platforms (smart phones, iPad, tablets, PCs etc.).

Oh, and another thing..... outpatient hysteroscopy. A common and in many ways, a simple intervention but one that has received some adverse publicity. The NICE heavy menstrual bleeding guideline update in which I and other BSGE members have been involved, was released on the 14th March and I am keen to receive your feedback. The guidance has recommended an enhanced role for outpatient hysteroscopy. Moreover, the well-read and referenced "Best practice in outpatient hysteroscopy" green top guideline 59 (<https://www.rcog.org.uk/globalassets/documents/guidelines/gtg59hysteroscopy.pdf>) is being updated to incorporate operative outpatient procedures. For these reasons, it is timely that we are about to send you a 'survey monkey' regarding the practice of outpatient 'office' hysteroscopy. We will present your data in Edinburgh at the BSGE ASM. Oh, and finally .....My current research fellow and I, with valuable input from BSGE members, have also developed a bespoke patient satisfaction questionnaire for dissemination immediately following outpatient hysteroscopy – we anticipate this will be a universally adopted tool allowing comparisons across the UK. Watch this space.....



## And finally

I just happened to be in Edinburgh at some high-brow (obviously!) academic thing and Ertan and Atia invited me to join them on their reconnoitre of the Dynamic Earth venue in Edinburgh. Unfortunately, and disappointingly for me, there was no menu for me to sample on your behalf but I have to say it's a fantastic venue and it is a brilliant vibrant city. I want to encourage all of you reading this to attend – it will be brilliant!!! See you there.

# LANDMARK ENDOMETRIOSIS CENTRE COHORT STUDY PUBLISHED ON BMJ OPEN

The BSGE Endometriosis Centres Scientific Advisory Group has just published ground-breaking research in BMJ Open. Laparoscopic excision of deep rectovaginal endometriosis in BSGE endometriosis centres: a multicentre prospective cohort study, is the largest study of its kind in the world. Using data from the BSGE's network of Endometriosis Centres, the study looked at nearly 5000 patients who had surgery for severe endometriosis, performed by more than 100 different surgeons in 51 different hospitals.

Launching the paper, BSGE President Dominic Byrne said *"The BSGE has worked for over a decade to establish and accredit a network of specialist Endometriosis Centres, so patients with severe endometriosis can have access to specialist laparoscopic surgery. This paper is the culmination of this enormous effort and reports the outcome of nearly 5,000 patients. It is a landmark moment."*





The study looked at women with deep and complex endometriosis. Women treated in a BSGE Endocentre who underwent laparoscopic excision of deep rectovaginal endometriosis, which required dissection of the pararectal space and gave written consent for data collection, were included in the study. The results showed that six months after the surgery the women experienced significant reductions in premenstrual, menstrual and non-cyclical pelvic pain, deep dyspareunia, dyschezia, low back pain and bladder pain. In addition, there were significant reductions in bowel frequency, urgency, incomplete emptying, constipation and passing blood. These reductions were maintained at 2 years. There were also significant improvements in quality of life scores and decreased use of analgesia, with opiate usage falling from 28.1% prior to surgery to 16.1% at 6 months. Dominic summarised:

*“This is largest paper ever published on laparoscopic surgery for severe endometriosis and patients confirmed that their symptoms, and quality of life, improved after surgery and these improvements were sustained at two years”*

The study highlights the importance of surgery in specialist centres and the Endocentre project. Half of the women studied had undergone previous surgery for endometriosis, mostly in non-specialist centres, and were still symptomatic. As BSGE members will be very aware, surgical management of deep endometriosis is technically challenging and can be associated with serious complications. However, the study reported reassuringly low rates of major complications. The overall incidence of complications was 6.8%, with gastrointestinal complications in 1.1% of procedures and ureteric/ bladder injury or leak in 1% of operations. Justin Clark, Chair of the Research and Audit portfolio and lead researcher on the project said:

*“This paper demonstrates the success of the BSGE Endometriosis Centre project. By training surgeons and accrediting specialist endometriosis surgical centres, the BSGE aimed to improve access and clinical outcomes for women with severe pain from extensive endometriosis. By mandating prospective outcome data collection from all accredited centres the BSGE have been able to produce this series of nearly 5000 women, by far the largest in the world. The results support the safety and effectiveness of laparoscopic surgery when conducted in specialist BSGE endometrial centres. This information will help inform women about their treatment decisions for this disabling condition.”*

The BSGE has grown and developed to become an influential specialist society, of which members can be proud. Justin highlighted this evolution:

*“The BSGE has come of age. No longer simply a society for ‘boys with toys’ but a specialist society committed to harnessing technological advances, training surgeons, setting up networks of quality assured specialist BSGE Endometriosis Centres and importantly publishing outcome data to improve the clinical outcomes of the women we look after’. Dominic also highlighted the achievement, as he comes to the end of his tenure as BSGE President saying ‘The paper represents 8 years of hard work to get endometriosis centres properly set up and working to produce quality data. To accomplish this enormous dataset from our Endocentres is a tremendous achievement.”*

The paper can be accessed on [BMJ open](#)

# AWARDS AND BURSARIES



With the ASM fast approaching, it's a busy time for the Awards and Bursary Portfolio.

The budget for awards and bursaries has been increased to £30,000 and instead of judging applications just once per year, we will now be holding three judging committee meetings each year. This means members can apply all year around. Closing date for the next round is 5pm on 23rd April, however any late applications will be considered in the next meeting.

We aim to reach many more members. Awards are given to each of 3 sections: Consultants, Staff grades and GPs, Doctors in training and Nurses and Paramedics. There has been a particularly disappointing response amongst nurse members. Too many people feel that it is difficult to be granted an award but there is a better than one in two chance of winning, so follow this advice and you could add a BSGE bursary to your CV.

My tips are:

- Check the fine detail, to ensure that they have the very best chance of winning.
- Stick to the criteria.
- Forward all the relevant supporting documents, we cannot consider applications without references etc.
- Talk to previous award winners to find out what they did, they have a history of proven success.
- But the most important thing is to apply. You have an excellent chance of succeeding.

Looking forward we are planning to run an audit on previous awards and bursaries rounds to learn from previous experience. We will share the findings with the membership and hope this will encourage quality applications for the next round of awards.

I am pleased to welcome Tony Chalhoub, Ying Cheong and Donna Ghosh to the Awards Subcommittee. We are working together to increase transparency and plan to run a survey over the next few months to find out more about member opinion.

Let me also remind you about one of the BSGE's most popular contests. The BSGE Surgical Video Competition 2018 is open for applications. The submission deadline is midnight on 16th April 2018. Cash awards will be available for 4 trainee winners and one year free membership for a senior member. The results will be announced at the ASM, so get your videos in now.

I look forward to seeing you all at the ASM,  
Kirana Arambage, Awards and Bursaries Portfolio Chair

[Click here](#) to find out more about BSGE awards and bursaries.



Kirana Arambage



## VIDEO LIBRARY UPDATE

Webcomms subcommittee member Suzi Hutt shares the latest news about the BSGE online video library.

We are continuing to try to expand the video library. With the ASM approaching, we are excited to see this year's video submissions. These will be available on the video library afterwards. Alongside this we would like to encourage trainees to get editing and submit videos that may demonstrate excellent technique in more intermediate procedures, commonly made mistakes or any interesting cases. Make them as educational as possible – when you were starting out in your training, what kind of videos would have helped you to learn? You could even make skills videos on a box trainer. Don't forget that if you feel you need help with editing and preparing your films, there is a dedicated pre-congress masterclass in Edinburgh to help streamline your technique.



Suzi Hutt







Donna Ghosh



James McLaren

## PECHA KUCHA

After a very successful launch at ASM 2017 in Hull, the Pecha Kucha is back! This year's title is 'Rage against the machine', which should not only elicit frustration and anger, but hopefully also offer some healthy solutions.

The competition was open to any medical student or junior doctor- and five people have already been selected to do battle at Dynamic Earth. The topic was their own choice, will it be training, the NHS, robots or kit? You'll have to wait to find out. Each competitor will give a fast-moving and entertaining presentation featuring 20, 20-second slides. At the end, the live audience in Edinburgh will decide the prize- winner. Make sure you're there to vote.



## SECOND ANNUAL RIGS DINNER

The 2nd Annual Registrars in Gynaecological Surgery (RIGs) Dinner will be held on Wednesday 9th May at 19:00 at Ghillie-Dhu Restaurant in the heart of beautiful Edinburgh.

The event will coincide with the BSGE conference in Edinburgh and hopefully prove just as successful as last year's inaugural event.

Donna Ghosh and James McLaren, BSGE Trainee representatives, announced the dinner saying:

*"We are delighted to announce that our guest speaker is the internationally renowned Professor Benoit Rabischong who will provide an after-dinner talk titled 'Nature or Nurture- Do you have what it takes?' He is currently Head of Training at the International Centre for Endoscopic Surgery and sits on the executive board for the European Society for Gynaecological Endoscopy.*

*Tickets for the dinner can be purchased at a subsidised cost of £20. We recommend early booking as spaces are limited."*

[Please click here to register](#)



Registrars In Gynaecological Surgery  
Training and Support in Endoscopy



BRITISH SOCIETY for GYNAECOLOGICAL ENDOSCOPY

**RIGS Annual Scientific Meeting Dinner**  
**Wednesday 9th May at 19:00****Guest Speaker: Prof. Benoit Rabischong**

**Ghillie Dhu**  
2 Rutland Street,  
Edinburgh EH1 2AD

**Tickets: £20 - Spaces limited**

**Please register at: [www.surgicaltrainingnetwork.org](http://www.surgicaltrainingnetwork.org)**

supported by  
**STORZ**  
KARL STORZ—ENDOSCOPE

# FACEBOOK UPDATE

## JOIN THE BSGE FACEBOOK GROUP TODAY

Watch surgical videos and lectures, or post your own.  
Join the discussions and debates.

Create a new account dedicated to the BSGE group,  
or adjust your settings to maintain your privacy.

### **Tereza Indrielle-Kelly, ST4 West Midlands reports on the BSGE Facebook group:**



Tereza Indrielle-Kelly

It has been more than 6 months since we launched the BSGE Facebook group and more than 300 members have joined so far. Even before the discussions to offer membership to professionals overseas, our Facebook group opened its “doors” to the whole world.

There have been concerns over the addictiveness of social media and this “fear of the unknown” might have made some members hesitant to get involved and participate in the lively group discussions. Let me put your mind at ease and take you through the world of the current psychosocial research...

Facebook was launched in 2004 as a network for Harvard students and by 2006 it was available to anyone with a valid email address. By 2017 this network had 2 billion users in the world. Users loved it – you only add your friends hence surround yourself with people that like you and you present only the best parts about your life and yourself. With every message or “like” you get the nice feeling through a little dopamine rush. Dopamine is responsible for the addictiveness of sport or gambling and just like those cases even social media users will go back for more.

There is nothing wrong with a little dopamine here and there, you might think, and you are completely right, as long as those dopamine surges last and your Facebook friends still like you. The most vulnerable have always been teenagers (and children although they should officially not be on Facebook). Studies have shown that users can experience “FOMO”, or Fear of Missing Out, when they can see clearly all the occasions to which they weren’t invited. Also, reading about others’ amazing lives can lead to a negative social comparison, leaving the users feeling low. Since teenage years are a key developmental stage for social interactions and learning coping mechanisms, spending it on social media can lead to a failure later in social life.

BSGE Facebook members should however not fear missing out on any of our events since we post everything in very timely fashion and everybody is invited. Even if you do miss out on courses and conferences, there are loads of pictures and sometimes materials from the lectures available afterwards.

We also don’t accept any cyberbullying so the admin members, like myself, make sure the posts aren’t repeated, are relevant and interesting, so you can feel safe and at ease in our space. Please don’t hesitate to join and share your views and opinions with others.



**Click here to join  
our Facebook group**



# THE SCOPE MEETS... NEIL JOHNSON AND LONE HUMMELSHOJ



The Scope Editor, Shaheen Khazali travelled to the 6th congress of the Asian Society of Endometriosis and Adenomyosis in Shiraz, Iran. He spoke to two of the most influential people in world endometriosis. Neil Johnson from Auckland, New Zealand, the current president of the World Endometriosis Society (WES) and Lone Hummelshoj, CEO of WES, co-founder of the Danish Endometriosis Society 20 years ago and one of the people that was instrumental in getting centres of expertise established in Denmark back in 2001.



**The Scope:** *I've been following the work of the World Endometriosis Society and I am very impressed with what you've been doing. What do you think sets WES apart from similar societies?*

**Neil Johnson:** Part of the key is in the first word, which is World. We try to be the overarching society, perhaps, that under which all of the regional societies are nested. For example, we're attending the Asian Society meeting here and we feel that we've got a very strong collaborative relationship with the Asian Society, as well as with the European Societies.

**The Scope:** *Concentrating on a single disease is an interesting concept. Have you found that this has helped you being able to achieve more?*

**NJ:** I think so, because I think the focus of some of the other organisations does get a little bit diluted in dealing with multiple diseases.

**Lone Hummelshoj:** I agree, the global reach allows WES to have a seat at the table when it comes to the World Health Organisation, for example, and we also have an affiliation with the International Federation of Gynaecology and Obstetrics. So, by focusing on a single disease, we can collaborate with ESHRE, with ASRM, with FIGO and be the ones that help shape the endometriosis or sessions at their meetings.

**The Scope:** *In the last few years some excellent pieces of work have come out of WES, particularly the consensus statements. Can you tell us a little more about those?*

**NJ:** We started looking at the possibility of doing consensus statements eight or nine years ago. The first one came to

fruition in 2011 in Montpellier at the 11th World Congress on Endometriosis and was published in 2013. This tells you a little bit about the life cycle of these documents because they do take a lot of work to put together; it's a little bit like herding cats! The idea of the first one was to draw together a number of different guidelines that were all subtly different to come up with a series of consensus statements – and overall consensus – on the current management of endometriosis.

At the 12th World Congress of Endometriosis in Sao Paulo we had two consensus initiatives: one was classification, which was published in 2017, and the other one was diagnosis which is going to press, and was the one that I presented to you at the Asian Society of Endometriosis and Adenomyosis meeting.

We moulded the methodology to fit around the evidence. It is much less clear-cut but we feel that we have come up with a suitable methodology that is gaining a little bit of acceptance and a bit of traction.

**The Scope:** *Lone, you gave a talk on an interesting topic in endometriosis: patient-centred outcomes. I felt that it was a very appropriate and clear message to us all. Would you mind telling us what that was about?*

**LH:** Patient-centred outcomes were the focus of our fourth consensus. When we start looking at the actual evidence in the literature, it is often pretty poor. Many conclusions are based on small studies, low numbers, lack of diversity, and with no clearly defined outcomes, so we can never categorically say that if we do X, Y, and Z this will affect dysmenorrhoea or dyspareunia, because all these studies have different primary outcomes and sometimes the secondary ones are not even looked into.



That lack of evidence makes it difficult when we have to provide evidence-based care, in line with what NICE is trying to do. So, rather than having the clinicians and the scientists determine what the important outcome is, I try to say, let the patients do that. It is very easy to have a woman in your clinic, who might have a big nodule or an endometrioma. For you, as a clinician, it is obvious she needs to have surgery – but does she, if she does not have pain? If what she has come in with is actually a different issue or concern, is that then the solution? We often forget the step of asking the patient ‘what are you trying to get out of this?’ There are a number of initiatives underway to address that under the CROWN initiative.

#### ***The Scope: What is the Crown Initiative?***

**NJ:** It stands for CoRe Outcomes in WomeN's health

**LH:** It is a group of people trying to develop a core set of outcomes in endometriosis. They have done that previously in miscarriage and pre-eclampsia. By going through the patient communities, they identify primary outcomes, so that in future whenever you design a new clinical trial there is a core set of outcomes to work to.

**NJ:** In research jargon therefore this will reduce heterogeneity of the studies.

**LH:** Exactly, exactly, and then it is going to increase the ability to validate each other's studies as well and to replicate these. So, it is all about standardisation and harmonisation in a globalised world where there is now no excuse not to collaborate, because we have all the tools to do so: we have the Internet, we have phones. No individual institute can claim that they are the endometriosis experts, we are all experts if we do it the same way and pool our data.

#### ***The Scope: Just to change the subject slightly, do you think we are going in the right direction when it comes to empowering patients and giving enough information to patients, in England specifically and then worldwide generally?***

**LH:** I firmly believe that each and every one of us is responsible for our own health and health decisions. But we cannot make

those decisions, we cannot take that responsibility, if we do not have the correct information available. Dr Google is not always that reliable and therefore the clinician does need to make sense of what these women go out and find on the internet. We have to recognise that the population with endometriosis is an increasingly young one, it is a different generation, they communicate differently and they are all pretty well educated. These women understand the risk and benefit analysis and by involving them in the decision-making process, I actually do believe – and I think this has been documented as well – that outcomes are better.

WES is working on a set of tool boxes to provide information that can be translated and adapted to different countries' cultures, acknowledging what is possible in one country may not be possible in another.

**NJ:** I think that the enlightened ones amongst our community really are putting the patient at the centre of all considerations now. When I came on to the board of WES in 2008, I was really struck by what a great emphasis was laid on the woman herself and that has always been one of the principles of the World Endometriosis Society: that it has always been a partnership between the doctor and the scientist and most importantly the woman herself.

#### ***The Scope: What do you think the future holds for the endometriosis community and the WES?***

**NJ:** Well I sense an increasing spirit of collaboration in all of our partners throughout the world. I really think that in terms of creating genuine new knowledge that it is the big global multi-centred randomised trial that we need to engage in.

Our next World Congress is in Shanghai from 8 to 11 May in 2020. In the meantime, we have teamed up with some of the regional societies so we will be having a meeting in which WES is collaborating with the European Endometriosis League at the 4th European Endometriosis Congress in Vienna in November 2018 ....and there'll be more to come!

#### ***The Scope: Thank you both very much.***

The 4th European Congress on Endometriosis takes place in Vienna, 22 – 24 November 2018. Abstract submission is open until 31 May 2018.

[www.eec2018.com](http://www.eec2018.com)



The World Endometriosis Society advances evidence-based standards and innovations for education, advocacy, clinical care, and research in endometriosis and related disorders, in collaboration with its stakeholders and global partners to improve the lives of all affected women and their families.

[www.endometriosis.ca](http://www.endometriosis.ca)

**Abstract submission**  
is now open!

**Deadline:**  
**31 May 2018**







# NOTEWORTHY ARTICLES



Rebecca Mallick

If too much surgery and socialising have left you behind with your reading, don't worry. Webcomms team member Rebecca Mallick has searched the journals and picked out some key articles to keep you up-to-date.

Byrne D, Curnow T, Smith P, et al. **Laparoscopic excision of deep rectovaginal endometriosis in BSGE endometriosis centres: a multicentre prospective cohort study.** BMJ Open 2018;7:e018924. doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2017-018924  
<https://www.bsg.org.uk/bsge-paper-in-bmjopen/>

Saridogan et al. **Joint ESGE/ESHRE/WES Recommendations on Surgical Treatment of Endometriosis. Part 1. Ovarian Endometrioma.** Joint publication in Human Reproduction Open and Gynecological Surgery.  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5735196/>

Lim et al. **Cadaveric surgery in core gynaecology training: a feasibility study.** Gynecol Surg (2018)15:4  
Interesting article highlighting the benefits of cadaveric surgery. This article is also dedicated to Mark Roberts, second author of the paper, who sadly passed away shortly before publication.  
<https://gynecolsurg.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s10397-017-1034-0>

Munro et al. **Diagnosis and management of tubo-ovarian abscesses.** The Obstetrician & Gynaecologist. 2018; 20:11-19  
Useful review on the diagnosis and management of tubo-ovarian abscesses. Nice summary and a must read for all those preparing for the MRCOG.  
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/tog.12447/full>

Maccio et al. **Feasibility and safety of total laparoscopic hysterectomy for huge uteri without the use of uterine manipulator: description of emblematic cases.** Gynecol Surg (2018)15:6  
Fascinating paper with tips on how to safely perform a TLH in the absence of uterine manipulation.  
<https://gynecolsurg.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s10397-018-1037-5>

Bouillon et al. **Association of Hysteroscopic vs Laparoscopic Sterilization with Procedural, Gynecological, and Medical Outcomes.** JAMA 2018. 23;319(4):375-387.  
The largest study to date comparing hysteroscopic and laparoscopic sterilisation. This piece of work adds to the growing data regarding adverse long-term outcomes associated with hysteroscopic sterilisation and is a well worth a read.  
<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/article-abstract/2670255?redirect=true>

Vilos et al. **Safe Veress Needle Intraperitoneal Placement and Safer Laparoscopic Entry.** JMIG 2018. (Epub ahead of print)  
Must read for all trainees! Tips and techniques on safe entry and to avoid visceral injury at the time of primary port insertion.  
[http://www.jmig.org/article/S1553-4650\(18\)30104-3/fulltext](http://www.jmig.org/article/S1553-4650(18)30104-3/fulltext)

Blodt et al. **Effectiveness of app-based self-acupressure for women with menstrual pain compared to usual care: a randomized pragmatic trial.** Am J Obstet Gynecol 2018; 218:227.e1-9  
An interesting RCT highlighting the holistic approach to managing dysmenorrhea and the benefits of using technology.  
[http://www.ajog.org/article/S0002-9378\(17\)32335-9/pdf](http://www.ajog.org/article/S0002-9378(17)32335-9/pdf)

Giovanni et al. **Combined Transvaginal/Transabdominal Pelvic Ultrasonography Accurately Predicts the 3 Dimensions of Deep Infiltrating Bowel Endometriosis Measured after Surgery: a Prospective Study in a Specialized Center.** JMIG 2018. (Epub ahead of print)  
Another noteworthy article to add to the debate surrounding the best imaging modality in diagnosing endometriosis.  
[http://www.jmig.org/article/S1553-4650\(18\)30155-9/pdf](http://www.jmig.org/article/S1553-4650(18)30155-9/pdf)

Yu et al. **Irrigation after Laparoscopic Power Morcellation and the Dispersal of Leiomyoma Cells: A Pilot Study.** JMIG 2018. (Epub ahead of print)  
Hot topic that often stimulates interesting discussion between minimal access surgeons. This novel study looks at the use of copious irrigation (saline vs sterile water) and the dispersal of leiomyoma cells following power morcellation.  
[http://www.jmig.org/article/S1553-4650\(18\)30078-5/fulltext](http://www.jmig.org/article/S1553-4650(18)30078-5/fulltext)

Sizzi et al. **Assessing the risk of laparoscopic morcellation of occult uterine sarcomas during hysterectomy and myomectomy: Literature review and the ISGE recommendations.** European Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Reproductive Biology 2018; 220: 30-38  
Another hot topic article on power morcellation. A review of the literature and ISGE recommendations and a must read for all.  
[http://www.ejog.org/article/S0301-2115\(17\)30501-8/fulltext](http://www.ejog.org/article/S0301-2115(17)30501-8/fulltext)



# UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS



Nadine di Donato

## April 2018

### **Figo Regional Conference of Middle East And Africa 2018**

11 – 13 April 2018  
Dubai Festival City, United Arab Emirates  
<http://www.figodubai2018.com/>

### **Isge-Afsge International Congress**

23 – 27 April 2018  
Conference Centre Yaoundé, Cameroon  
<https://www.isge.org/home-3/isge-afsge-international-congress-april-23-27-2018/>

## May 2018

### **British Society for Gynaecological Endoscopy 28th Meeting 2018**

9 – 11 May 2018  
Edinburgh, United Kingdom  
<https://www.bsge.org.uk/bsge-asm-2018/>

### **European Laparoscopic Anatomy Course on Cadavers**

17 – 18 May  
Belgium  
<http://www.esge.org/event/european-laparoscopic-anatomy-course-on-cadavers/>

### **The Laparoscopic Intensive Practical Suturing Course. The European Academy of Gynaecological Surgery**

23 – 25 May 2018  
Belgium  
<http://www.europeanacademy.org/events-and-courses/laparoscopic-intensive-practical-suturing-course/>

## Upcoming Courses

### **Winners Meeting 2018**

7 – 10 June 2018  
Budapest, Hungary.  
<http://www.esge.org/event/winners-meeting-2018/>

### **RCOG/BSGE Hysteroscopy Workshops**

14 – 15 June 2018  
RCOG, London

### **Basic Hysteroscopy/Laparoscopy Mattu Course**

27 – 29 June 2018  
Guildford, Surrey

### **European Society Of Human Reproduction And Embryology 34th Annual Meeting 2018**

1 – 4 July, 2018  
Barcelona, Spain

### **British Gynaecological Cancer Society Annual Scientific Meeting 2018**

5 – 6 July 2018  
London, United Kingdom

### **RCOG/BSGE Benign Abdominal Surgery**

17 – 19 September 2018  
RCOG, London

### **Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists Annual Scientific Meeting 2018**

16 – 19 September 2018  
Adelaide Australia, South Australia  
<https://www.ranzcogasm.com.au/>

**1st World Congress on Neuropelveology “Exploring The Mystery of the Pelvic Nerve Interactions”**  
27 – 28 September 2018  
Zurich

**ESGE 27th Annual Congress**  
7 – 10 October 2018  
Vienna, Austria  
<http://www.esge.org/>

**22nd Figo World Congress of Gynaecology And Obstetrics 2018**  
14 – 19 October 2018  
Rio De Janeiro Brazil  
<https://figo2018.org/>

**Advanced Laparoscopy Mattu Course**  
1 – 2 November 2018  
Guildford, Surrey

**47th American Association of Gynecologic Laparoscopists (Aagl) Global Congress on Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery (Migs)**

11 – 15 November 2018  
Las Vegas, Nevada

**RCOG/BSGE Diagnostic and Operative Hysteroscopy**  
27 – 29 November 2018  
RCOG, London

**BSGE Meeting – Contemporary management of heavy menstrual bleeding (HMB) in primary and secondary care:**

How does new NICE Guideline affect our practice?  
7 December 2018  
Nuffield Hall, RCOG



# INCREASING AWARENESS OF BSGE AMONG STUDENTS AND JUNIOR DOCTORS



A subgroup of the BSGE Trainees' Committee hosted a fantastic stand at the RCOG Medical Student's Day in February 2018 and Career's Day for Junior Doctors in November 2017. The workshop consisted of multiple laparoscopic simulators each with a different task. The stand stimulated huge interest as the junior doctors and medical students attempted challenging tasks including stacking sugar cubes! The practical and fun aspect attracted many delegates and feedback from the RCOG was excellent!

A big thank-you to Jess Preshaw, Tereza Indrielle-Kelly, Georgiois Grigoriadis and Christine Foster for their efforts and giving up their Saturdays.

**Abdelmageed Abdelrahman**, Urogynaecology Clinical Fellow  
Princess Anne Hospital, University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust



**Abdelmageed  
Abdelrahman**

1st World Congress  
on Neuropelveology

Zuerich – Switzerland  
September 27-28, 2018

*„Exploring the Mystery  
of the Pelvic Nerve Interactions“*

**2018 Inaugural  
Scientific Program**

Scientific Program Chair  
Axel Forman, MD, PhD, DMSc

President  
Marc Possover, MD, PhD

[www.theison.org](http://www.theison.org)

BSGE stream RCOG  
Northern APD Conference  
15-17 May 2018

The first ever RCOG Northern Annual Professional Development (APD) Conference will be held at the Lowry in Manchester from 15-17 May 2018.

This inaugural event will include a dedicated BSGE stream to deliver updates on the latest advancements in the specialty. The Conference will also include sessions on workforce support, developments in training, meeting RCOG Officers and patient perspective.

Places are limited, so to secure your place visit: <http://bit.ly/2t1BnKZ>



BRITISH SOCIETY for GYNAECOLOGICAL ENDOSCOPY

# ASM PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

## THURSDAY 10 MAY



08:00	Opening of day 1 and registration					
	Biosphere Green	Biosphere Blue	Salisbury Suite	Hutton Room	Board Room	Turret Room
08:45-09:00	<b>Welcome address</b> <i>Andrew Horne and Cameron Martin</i>		<b>BSGE Nurse Hysteroscopist training programme</b>	<b>Video Poster viewing</b>	<b>E posters viewing</b>	<b>BSGE Endocentre database training</b> <i>Conor Byrne, CEO of ICE ICT</i>
09:00-09:20	<b>Nerve sparing in deep endometriosis surgery: Feasibility and results</b> <i>Benoit Rabischong</i>					
09:20-09:40	<b>Evidence based management of endometrioma(s)</b> <i>Abha Maheshwari</i>					
09:40-10:00	<b>ESGE/ESHRE/WES Recommendations on surgical techniques for treatment of endometriomas</b> <i>Ertan Saridogan</i>					
10:00-10:20	<b>The BSGE Endometriosis Centres database-an update on outcomes</b> <i>Dominic Byrne</i>					
10:20-10:30	<b>Discussion</b>					
10:30-11:00	<b>Tea, Coffee and Refreshments</b>					
11:00-11:30	<b>Platinum sponsored Lecture 1 MEDTRONIC</b>	<b>Meet the Expert</b> Endometriosis Fertility Index explained <i>Carla Tomassetti</i>	<b>BSGE Nurse Hysteroscopist training programme</b>	<b>Meet the Expert</b> BSGE Surgical Information Collection System (SICS): Training for new users of the BSGE App; programme includes introduction and how to use the programme. <i>Zahid Raza Khan</i>	<b>E posters viewing</b>	<b>BSGE Endocentre database training</b> <i>Conor Byrne, CEO of ICE ICT</i>
11:30-12:30	<b>Pecha Kucha (Chit Chat) Presentations 1-5</b>	<b>Video Step by Step</b> TLH <i>Fabio Ghezzi</i>				
		<b>Video Step by Step</b> Hysteroscopic management of the challenging submucous fibroid <i>Justin Clark</i>				
12:30-13:00	<b>DEBATE: Is there a role for surgical excision in the management of peritoneal endometriosis-associated pain?</b> <b>FOR:</b> <i>William Morton Hair</i> <b>AGAINST:</b> <i>Sanjay Vyas</i>	<b>Meet the Expert</b> Update on robotic surgery <i>Thomas Ind</i>	<b>12:30-13:30 Lunch</b>			



# ASM PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

## THURSDAY 10 MAY



	Biosphere Green	Biosphere Blue	Salisbury Suite	Hutton Room	Board Room	Turret Room
13:00-14:00	Lunch		BSGE Nurse Hysteroscopist training programme	UCON Trial meeting <i>By invitation only</i>	E posters viewing	BSGE Endocentre database training <i>Conor Byrne, CEO of ICE ICT</i>
14:00-14:30	Sir Alec Turnbull Lecture The Path to Excellence: Knowledge, Commitment, and Context <i>Fabio Ghezzi</i>					
14:30-15:30	Free Communications 6-11 FCO01 to FCO06 Oral	Video Step by Step Laparoscopic oophorectomy after previous hysterectomy <i>Andrew Kent</i>	Meet the Expert How to train laparoscopic surgeons to do a TLH <i>Ertan Saridogan</i>	Meet the Expert Innovation in patient information and consent <i>Oliver O'Donovan</i>		
		Meet the Expert Ovarian transplantation <i>Richard Anderson</i>	Meet the Expert BSGE/RCOG Morcellation consent and information guidance <i>Edward Morris</i>	Meet the Expert Patient complaints and litigation <i>Arvind Vashisht</i>		
15:30-16:00	Tea, Coffee and Refreshments					
16:00-16:30	Platinum sponsored Lecture 2 BOSTON SCIENTIFIC	Video Step by Step Ovarian cystectomy <i>Fevzi Shakir</i>	Meet the Expert Chronic pelvic pain: The evidence for management <i>Seema Anushka Tirlapur</i>	Meet the Expert BSGE Surgical Information Collection System (SICS): Troubleshooting for existing users of the programme. Bring your questions and problems to the expert. <i>Zahid Raza Khan</i>	E posters viewing	BSGE Endocentre database training <i>Conor Byrne, CEO of ICE ICT</i>
		Video Step by Step Laparoscopic myomectomy <i>Stuart Jack</i>				
16:30-16:50	Laparoscopic incontinence surgery <i>Rohna Kearney</i>	Meet the Expert The new NICE HMB guidelines: your questions answered <i>Justin Clark</i>	Meet the Expert Chronic pelvic pain: Analgesic options <i>Natasha Curran</i>			
16:50-17:10	Current controversies: what a 'mesh' <i>Natalia Price</i>		Discussion <i>Seema Anushka Tirlapur and Natasha Curran</i>			
17:10-18:10	BSGE AGM 2018- For BSGE members only					
19:15-20:00	Drinks Reception at the National Museum of Scotland					
20:00	BSGE Gala Dinner at the National Museum of Scotland					

# ASM PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

## FRIDAY 11 MAY



08:00	Opening of day 2 and registration				
	Biosphere Green	Biosphere Blue	Salisbury Suite	Hutton Room	Board Room
08:30-08:50	<b>The role of hysteroscopy in the investigation and treatment of infertility</b> <i>Tarek El-Toukhy</i>	<b>BSGE Endocentre CNS Training programme</b>	<b>RIGS Meeting</b> <i>Donna Ghosh and James McLaren</i>	<b>Video Poster viewing</b>	<b>E posters viewing</b>
09:00-09:20	<b>The ESHRE/ESGE classification of female genital anomalies</b> <i>Grigoris Grimbizis</i>				
09:20-09:50	<b>DEBATE: First line management of heavy bleeding in secondary/Tertiary care should be surgery</b> <b>FOR:</b> <i>Kevin Cooper</i> <b>AGAINST:</b> <i>Hilary Critchley</i>				
09:50-10:00	<b>Discussion</b>				
10:00-10:30	Tea, Coffee and Refreshments				
10:30-11:00	<b>Platinum sponsored Lecture 3 STRYKER</b>	<b>BSGE Endocentre CNS Training programme</b>	<b>Meet the Expert</b> Use of MRI in the management of endometriosis <i>Siobhan McLaughlin, Judith Anderson and Stuart Jack</i>	<b>Meet the Expert</b> Simulation training in laparoscopy <i>Oliver Milling Smith and Christy Burden</i>	<b>CSG meeting</b> <i>By invitation only</i>
11:00-12:30	<b>Free Communications 12-20 FCO07 to FCO15 Oral</b>		<b>Meet the Expert</b> BSGE Gynaecological Endoscopic Surgical Education and Assessment (GESEA) examination explained <i>Karolina Afors</i>	<b>Meet the Expert</b> Applying for the Advanced laparoscopic ATSM? Top tips <i>Kirsty Munro</i>	
			<b>Meet the Expert</b> Critical evaluation of the ESHRE/ESGE classification of mullerian anomalies <i>Davor Jurkovic</i>		
		<b>12:00-13:00 Lunch</b>			
12:30-13:30	<b>Lunch</b>				



# ASM PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

## FRIDAY 11 MAY



	Biosphere Green	Biosphere Blue	Salisbury Suite	Hutton Room	Board Room
12:30-13:30	Lunch	BSGE Endocentre CNS Training programme		Video Poster viewing	E posters viewing
13:30-13:45	Presidential address				
13:45-14:00	Travelling fellows update <i>Seema Anushka Tirlapur</i>	BSGE Endocentre CNS Training programme	Meet the Expert The multidisciplinary team in a BSGE Endocentre; how to make it work effectively <i>Alfred Cutner</i>		
14:00-15:00	Free Communications 21-26 FCV01 to FCV06 Videos		Meet the Expert The role of the colorectal surgeon in an endometriosis centre <i>Mark Potter</i>		
			Discussion <i>Alfred Cutner and Mark Potter</i>		
15:00-15:30	Tea, Coffee and Refreshments				
15:30-15:50	Investigation of chronic pelvic pain: What have we learned from the MEDAL trial? <i>Jane Daniels</i>	BSGE Endocentre CNS Training programme	Meet the Expert Ultrasound diagnosis of endometriosis; myth or reality <i>Davor Jurkovic</i>	Endometriosis Centres team meeting <i>Chris Guyer</i>	Breakout meeting opportunity
15:50-16:10	Practical management of EIN (atypical hyperplasia) for fertility conservation and in the morbidly obese woman <i>Nithya Ratnavelu</i>		Meet the Expert Laparoscopic incontinence fertility sparing surgery <i>Natalia Price</i>		
16:10-16:30	TLH for malignancy: what is appropriate for the ‘generalist’? <i>Scott Fegan</i>				
16:30-17:00	Awards for best presentations and closing remarks				
17:00	Close of BSGE ASM 2018				

# CARING FOR WOMEN WITH ENDOMETRIOSIS

## MODULE FOR HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS

Minimal Access Therapy Training Unit (MATTU), Guildford Surrey  
3rd – 7th September 2018

This intense 5 day training course will cover all aspects of the disease, management and patient experience.

HCPs will have the opportunity to improve their knowledge and gain an understanding of how this life changing disease impacts on 1 in 10 women.

Experienced lecturers will deliver presentations and learning will incorporate endometriosis nurses and patients talking about their experiences.

The aim of this module is to encompass the learning required to enable a high standard of care to be shared with colleagues within the multidisciplinary team and most importantly provide a positive impact on patient care.

**For more information, please contact Wendy-Rae Mitchell,  
Endometriosis Clinical Nurse Specialist on [Wendymitchell1@nhs.net](mailto:Wendymitchell1@nhs.net)**



# PRE-CONGRESS MASTERCLASSES



**Book one of the five pre-congress courses. These courses have been organised by the BSGE, the Scottish Organising Committee, ESHRE and Endometriosis UK.**

- Advances in reproductive endoscopic surgery: robotics and new classifications
- GESEA Exam
- Endometriosis Information Day
- BSGE Workshop on Surgical Video Production
- Laparoscopic suturing and Morcellation course

**Masterclasses will be held on Wednesday, 9th May and spaces are limited, so pre-registration and payment is required in order to secure your place.**



# ASM EDINBURGH SEE YOU THERE...

**BOOK**  
YOUR PLACE  
**NOW**



BRITISH SOCIETY for GYNAECOLOGICAL ENDOSCOPY

## Contact Information

Correspondence address:

BSGE Secretariat, Royal College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists,  
27 Sussex Place, Regent's Park, London NW1 4RG

Tel: 0207 7726474 Email: [bsge@rcog.org.uk](mailto:bsge@rcog.org.uk)



**The BSGE**



[www.bsge.org.uk](http://www.bsge.org.uk)