



**British & Irish Association
of Stroke Physicians**
*Advancing stroke medicine
1999 - 2024*

March 2025

BIASP Exec Message



Dr Mary Joan MacLeod
BIASP Honorary Secretary

Welcome to the March 2025 BIASP bulletin. Spring is definitely in the air, and the lengthening days very welcome as a balm to the uncertainty caused by the proposed changes to NHS management particularly in England.

I have now taken over from Ganesh Subramaniam as Honorary Secretary of BIASP. Anand Dixit has been elected as Honorary Deputy Secretary and has already been busy approving new BIASP members. His wealth of experience in stroke medicine and research will be very welcome at Exec meetings.

Our membership continues to grow, and we are pleased to have an increase in associate and affiliate members. Due to close working with NANSIG, we have also welcomed more student members, and hope that they will find the website and educational opportunities help inspire them to follow careers in Stroke medicine.

In this bulletin, you can read about the very successful trainees' meeting which was held in early March at Dublin Castle. Our thanks go to Shyam Kelavkar as Trainee sub-committee chair for organising, to Margaret O'Conner for enthusiastically facilitating at the Dublin end, and Fitwise for providing administrative support.

Given the burden of stroke, research remains underfunded compared to cancer or heart disease. Azmil Abdul-Rahim and Joseph Pybus give us an update on what BIASP is doing to support research in the areas of stroke care which make a difference to patients and their families. You can also read about the latest NIHR opportunities from Chris Price.

Finally, the UK Stroke Forum is coming to Aberdeen in November 2025. It would be great to welcome as many as possible of you to Scotland, and there is still time to make suggestions for the BIASP content by contacting Saugata Das, Chair of the T&E subcommittee.

BIASP Trainees' Meeting 2025 - Dublin



BIASP Trainees' meeting 6-7 March 2025 – Dublin

The BIASP Trainee Meeting 2025 in Dublin was a resounding success, marking the first event in Ireland since BASP's rebranding to BIASP in 2021, spearheaded by Prof Rustam Al-Shahi Salman and Prof Rónán Collins.

This achievement would not have been possible without the exceptional support of the local team, including Prof Rónán Collins, Prof Margaret O'Connor, Dr Owen Feely, Dr

Patrick Doyle, Sinéad Coleman, and Nora Cunningham. Their contributions were invaluable, from selecting the venue and coordinating accommodations to organising talks and hosting the post-conference dinner for our speakers.

Dr Shyam Kelavkar, Trainee Subcommittee Chair and organiser of the event has provided a report on the Trainee's Meeting, [CLICK HERE](#)

BIASP & NANSIG Summer Bursaries - 2025



BIASP and **NANSIG** are launching **summer bursaries for medical students** training in any UK or Irish University to undertake a period of attachment in any UK or Irish stroke unit or research group for a period of 4-6 weeks for the purpose of engaging in research, quality improvement or clinical experience to further their knowledge of the exciting specialty of stroke medicine.

There are up to 4 bursaries of £1000 available each year.

Closing date is 31 March 2025

If you are interested in hosting a bursary as a supervisor please contact
admin@biasp.org

[CLICK HERE](#) for the flyer
[CLICK HERE](#) for the application

UKSF 2025 - Submit a Session Proposal

Submit Proposals for a UKSF Session

Planning for the UK Stroke Forum 2025 in Aberdeen is underway. If you have a great idea for a session at the UKSF, we very much welcome proposals. These should include the overall topic, the session lead and suggested titles and speakers (ideally with the speakers knowledge and agreement). Each session would usually include 3 speakers.

BIASP led sessions usually form the backbone of the 'Scientific Programme' of UKSF, focussing on medical management, recent research and translation of research into practice. However, we also encourage suggestions for any type of sessions relevant to stroke care in the UK (from service delivery, to rehab approaches, to life after stroke) which can also feature in the rest of the programme.

[CLICK HERE](#) to submit a proposal
Deadline 12pm Monday 21 April 2025

BIASP Careers Page - FAQ's



Considering a career in stroke?

BIASP have produced a response to FAQs to guide you in your career choice.

[CLICK HERE](#) for information on:

Why should I consider career in stroke?

How do I become a stroke physician?

Who can apply for stroke sub-specialty training?

What does a typical training pathway look like for a stroke physician?

Careers for stroke physicians

Specialty and specialist doctors (SAS) career information

In October BIASP and NANSIG collaborated to run a half day webinar on

Stroke Careers: Shaping the Stroke Clinicians of the Future

[CLICK HERE](#) to view

UK & ROI Acute Stroke Simulation Course



The UK and ROI Acute Stroke Simulation course continues to go from strength to strength. In 2024 we trained over 100 healthcare professionals using simulation. The feedback from both candidates and faculty members continues to be extremely positive.

Candidates have stated: *"I think this kind of multidisciplinary course with varying levels of seniority attending is exactly what's needed to help develop stroke emergency/oncall skills."*

Faculty have stated: *"Comprehensive teaching for decision making in the acute setting. Lots of interactive learning and reflections Supportive environment for learning."*

There are a further 11 courses planned for 2025, including the first courses in Wales and Ireland. We are continuing to train new course centres across all five nations.

If you would like to be involved, please contact ukstrokesimulation@gmail.com

The course is multidisciplinary and open to anyone involved in acute stroke care.
[CLICK HERE](#) for all course information and registrations

Upcoming 2025 Dates and Venues are available to register on the BIASP website, these are in the Course Dates and Locations section

[CLICK HERE](#)

Upcoming locations with dates to follow:

Northampton, Ipswich, Liverpool, Wirral

We have developed a package that would include all the relevant materials including access to the scenarios and stroke simulation intranet.

Additional Sites:

We have identified other areas across the UK and ROI to deliver the course in 2025. If you would be interested in hosting a course please get in touch by emailing ukstrokesimulation@gmail.com

Regional Leads:

We are seeking to identify individuals interested in coordinating the development and delivery of the course in their region. If you would be interested in becoming a regional lead please email ukstrokesimulation@gmail.com



BIASP Medical Student Essay Prize 2025



The Training & Education Chair and subcommittee reviewed the **101** entries received this year and are delighted to announce the runner up entries. Click on each of the names to read their essay

[Adam Rajubally](#)
[Alexander Bampton](#)
[Anca Mihaela Vasilica](#)

[Arthur Graham](#)
[Isabelle Edwards](#)
[Yuki Kawamura](#)

Is your member profile up to date?



You can now access the new and enhanced BIASP membership system. This allows us to know and understand our membership better to tailor the benefits we can deliver.

Please check and update your details, ticking all options which are relevant to you, particularly any other organisations you may also be a member of.

With regards to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion please do complete these fields within your profile.

This will only take a few minutes.

[CLICK HERE](#) to login to the members area.

Member Benefits & Discounts

Benefit for Associate members moving to Full membership

We value your support as a member of BIASP and would like to offer **20% discount** for the first year of Full membership.

Benefit for Current and New Members - LTFT 20% Discount

This benefit is for members who work less than full time, if you work 8 PAs or less, when membership is due for renewal or when a new member joins.



Current members should send in their job plan to admin@biasp.org at least one month before their renewal date.

The 20% discount will be applied upon review of the job plan.

Other Association discounts available for BIASP Members

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information



ASSOCIATION
OF BRITISH
NEUROLOGISTS

NEW Reciprocal 20% Membership

Discount from 1 Feb 2025

Use code **BIASP20**

[CLICK HERE](#) for information, fees and to
join

Types of membership applicable to BIASP members are:

- Affiliate members (if a consultant or GP)
- Junior member (if a junior hospital doctor)
- Allied Health Professional membership (if a nurse, physician associate or other allied health professional)
- Ordinary and Associate membership are for Neurologists only

BIASP Mentorship Programme



**We are now going live with the new BIASP mentorship scheme.
CPD approved, 3 points**

Many of you have volunteered to become mentors, or have requested to become a Mentee.

As part of this scheme we have developed online training materials which may be of interest also to those of you who have not yet volunteered to Mentor, and are free of charge for all members to complete. CPD points on completion of mentor training.

If you already have experience of being a mentor and/or have completed an equivalent course, and wish to become a BIASP mentor, then please email admin@biasp.org to register your interest

[CLICK HERE](#) for the flyer
[CLICK HERE](#) to access the training materials

Are you interested in being mentored?

We are also looking for mentees to participate in this programme. This opportunity is open to those enrolled in early specialty training, including IMT3, in a stroke parent specialty.

Register your interest by completing the form via the link [HERE](#)

National Clinical Impact Awards 2025

The National Clinical Impact Awards 2025 award round will open on 1 April 2025

Closing date is 5pm, 27 May 2025

[CLICK HERE](#) for guidance and the timetable

While BIASP is no longer registered as a supporting organisation, we strongly encourage members to apply for these awards which are relevant to consultants working in England. There are up to 600 awards a year, and full awards are available for less than full-time applicants. Awards last for five years and are worth between £20,000 and £40,000 a year.

Impact is assessed by different domains reflecting the positive national impacts that result from the activities of senior clinicians, and those from all specialties are encouraged to apply. Given the huge effort being made to improve stroke care across the country, BIASP knows that among the members there are many worthy potential applicants and are happy to provide support and advice from previously successful applicants.

Neurological Alliance



THE NEUROLOGICAL ALLIANCE

The UK Neuro Forum is being established following the #BackThe1in6 campaign, which was supported by 19,000 people and 100 organisations, including BIASP. The forum is proof that when we work together, we can achieve real change.

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about this landmark initiative

Help shape the involvement policy
We're developing a new policy around how we involve people living with or affected by neurological conditions in shaping our work as an alliance.
[CLICK HERE](#) to complete the survey

10 Year Health Plan Survey

A new survey has been published on [Change.NHS.uk](https://www.change.nhs.uk) focussing on ideas that have emerged from the engagement process to develop the 10 Year Health Plan.

You can view and take part in the survey via the following link on the [10YHP portal](#).

Closing Date, 5pm 14 April

Different Strokes



Different Strokes have new services and events coming up in the next few weeks

NEW service - Carers support virtual meetings, [CLICK HERE](#) for information and dates

Recently redesigned and developed children's resources FREE to order for survivors and healthcare professionals, [CLICK HERE](#)

Different Strokes Charity for younger stroke survivors have a series of webinars every fortnight to engage with beneficiaries and health care professionals.
Webinars are accessible for all to see, [CLICK HERE](#)

Bursary fund for private physiotherapy and rehabilitation, [CLICK HERE](#)

Research Updates & Opportunities



If you have any research opportunities you would like us to promote please email admin@biasp.org

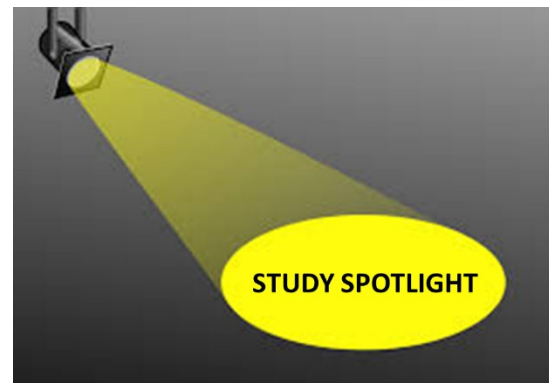
Updates

TARGET: Health virtual twins for the personalised management of stroke related to atrial fibrillation

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the article

COMbAT Fatigue: COproduction and evaluation of a self-MANagement intervention for post-stroke Fatigue

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the report



Surveys

Pre-thrombectomy optimisation survey

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. It shouldn't take more than 5 minutes to complete. There are no right or wrong answers; we are simply canvassing

practice and individuals will not be identified. We hope the answers will be helpful for us to understand current clinical practice across the membership and develop important research questions around pre-thrombectomy management. We are considering whether to develop a trial further testing the interventions discussed below. A summary will be included in a future BIASP newsletter.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the survey link

Closes 30 April



**Opportunity to take part in research for
Healthcare Professionals advising
patients with visual impairments**

The University of Liverpool are looking to engage healthcare professionals in the UK who advise patients with visual impairments on DVLA/DVA driving vision standards, as part of their role.

We would like to ask these professionals to take part in a short, online survey

[CLICK HERE](#)

What is the purpose of the study?

Previous studies have highlighted that knowledge of DVLA/DVA guidelines can be limited, and therefore patients with vision conditions often do not receive consistent and reliable information. It is vital that healthcare professionals understand the guidelines and can relay this to patients, in the interests of public/road safety and improving/maintaining their independence.

Funding

**The Stroke Association - Research
Funding Opportunities**

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information



**NIHR Local Authority Academic Fellowship Programme and Associated
Opportunities**

New opportunities from NIHR for people working in local authorities, social care setting and 3rd sector. There are a range of funding opportunities from short placement up to PhD and advanced.

[CLICK HERE](#) for information

**The Stroke Association -
New Stroke Support Pack for hospitals**



New Stroke Support Pack for hospitals

Created with stroke survivors and health professionals, the new pack consists of a 'hello' folder, handy wallet sized card, and two health information guides - one for people who have had a stroke, and one for the people supporting them. The Stroke Association is encouraging those working in hospitals in the UK to [order the packs](#) (free of charge) and give them out before discharge.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the full order link

Stroke Association, Saving Brains Campaign



Thrombectomy saves brains, saves money and changes lives. It's one of the most effective medical interventions ever discovered. But most people who need this treatment don't get it. It's subject to availability.

Find out about the Stroke Association's campaign across the UK nations by clicking on the report for each nation:

Saving Brains in [England](#)

Saving Brains in [Northern Ireland](#)

Saving Brains in [Scotland](#)

Saving Brains in [Wales](#), [Welsh version](#)

Thrombectomy in Republic of Ireland:

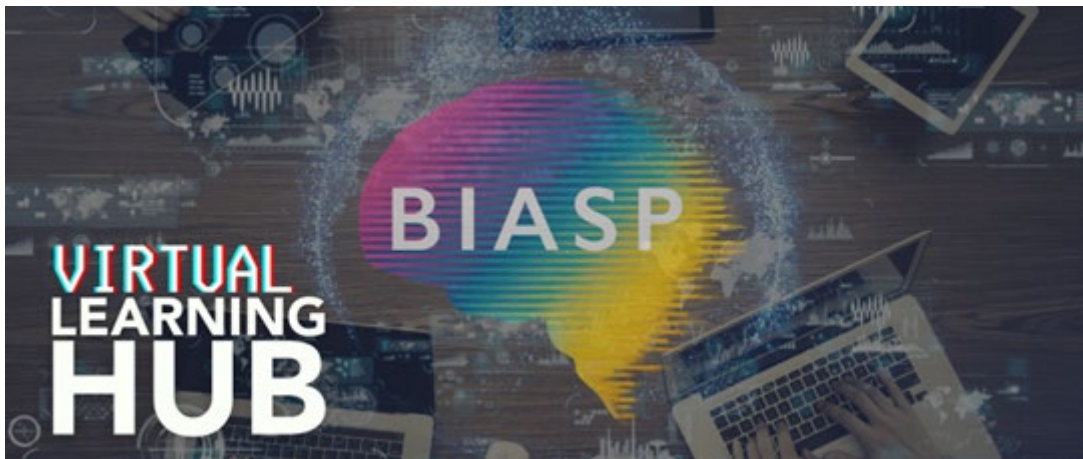
[Republic of Ireland](#)--the National Stroke Strategy 2020-2025 Endovascular thrombectomy p.27

Community Rehabilitation Alliance (CRA)

The CRA would like to highlight a new report from CRA partner The Stroke Association, '[Unlocking potential: a bold vision for stroke care in England](#)', which calls for better support to help stroke survivors make the best recovery possible and reduce their risk of another stroke.

They warn of postcode lotteries faced by patients and set out a number of steps the government should take to improve care, with several mentions to the importance of delivering high quality community rehabilitation.

Virtual Learning Hub



BIASP are hosting monthly 1-hour webinar sessions with the opportunity to ask the presenters questions at the end of each session. The live webinars will also be uploaded to the Virtual Learning Hub in the BIASP Members-only section for you to watch any time afterwards.

Each webinar is **free** to attend, you must register in advance for each live session. A certificate will be issued for those who attend more than 75% of the session, and complete a short evaluation that appears on the screen directly after the session.

Click [HERE](#) to view past webinars on the BIASP Virtual Learning Hub.

BIASP Webinar 38

Topic: Carotid Artery Disease and Stroke

Date: 16 April 2025

Time: 17:30 - 18:30

Speaker: Shane MacSweeney

[CLICK HERE](#) to Register

Dates for your diary, further details will follow:

[Upcoming Webinars](#)

Webinar 39: MT for acute stroke “ with latest evidence-based trials and our current pathway at NUH, Luqman Malik, **21 May 2025**

Webinar 40: 18/06/2025 - tbc

Education

Master of Research in Stroke Cardiff Metropolitan University Start date 29 September 2025

Stroke Hub Wales, a collaborative hub for stroke research, innovation, and education based out of Cardiff Metropolitan University.

Our course was designed to build a candidate's stroke knowledge and combine it with research methods and skills to give a better understanding of how to undertake stroke-based research within their current role.

[CLICK HERE](#) for information

[CLICK HERE](#) for the MRes flyer

[CLICK HERE](#) for short course flyer

[CLICK HERE](#) to visit Stroke Hub Wales

Stroke MSc Programme at UCL

We are excited to be looking for applicants from all disciplines (nursing, medicine, therapies) for the **2025 Stroke Medicine MSc programme at UCL**.

There is a fees only bursary of £5000 available which will be competitively allocated. The course can be taken full or part time (over two years).

Applications are now open for 2025.

[CLICK HERE](#) to access this link

Neurotorium, Neurobehavioral Consequences of Stroke (NBCS) is now online
Five educational slide decks have been published (the 6th deck, stroke syndromes, is being developed at the moment), illustrations, an article on post-stroke language impairments, and the educational expert videos are available, [CLICK HERE](#)

These educational materials are free

Events

Upcoming events will be listed here in future, if you have an event you wish to promote please contact admin@biasp.org

UK
STROKE FORUM

Hosted by
Stroke
Association

 Stroke & Head Association
of British Association
of Neurologists

SAVE THE DATE

UK Stroke Forum 2025

25-27 November 2025
From early till late

P&J Live Aberdeen
E Burn Rd, Aberdeen AB21 9FX



2025 marks the 20th anniversary of The UK Stroke Forum to be hosted by the city of Aberdeen in its brand new, cutting edge P&J Live exhibition and conference centre adjacent to the airport and abundant accommodation options. Aberdeen offers the opportunity to experience the warm hospitality of the north east of Scotland and with Royal Deeside on its doorstep, discover some of the most beautiful, unspoilt scenery Scotland has to offer.

Join us in the Granite city as we celebrate our 20th year and bring you the very latest in stroke care **#UKSF25**

Click here for more information:
stroke.org.uk/professionals/uk-stroke-forum



2025 BGS Spring Meeting

Date(s): 9-11 April 2025

Location: Belfast and online

Early bird closed

[CLICK HERE](#) for information and to register

Abstracts closed

Management of Acute Dizziness and Vertigo Course

Acute vertigo course run jointly by Neurology, Audiovestibular Medicine and Physiotherapy.

Date: 25 April 2025

Location: St George's University of London, Tooting, London or Online

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information and to register

THE INTERNATIONAL
BNA2025
FESTIVAL OF NEUROSCIENCE

27th-30th April 2025 | Liverpool, UK

BNA British Neuroscience Association

Register today and save! Early bird registration is now open

International Festival of Neuroscience (BNA2025)

Date(s): 27 - 30 April 2025

Location: ACC Liverpool

[CLICK HERE](#) or more information and to register

BGS

Trainees in Geriatric Medicine Meeting 2025

15 - 16 May 2025

Hybrid - Leeds & online

ATTEND IN PERSON OR ONLINE

www.bgs.org.uk/25Trainees

2025 Trainees in Geriatric Medicine Meeting

Date(s): 15 - 16 May 2025

Location: Leeds

[CLICK HERE](#) for information and to register
Early bird closed

RCPE Online
Edinburgh International Course in Medicine of the Older Adult
Date(s): 20 - 21 May 2025

The 2025 course will concentrate on what is new, and in development, in various areas of Geriatric Medicine, including the clinical management of the older adult with Parkinson's disease//Acute stroke//Osteoporosis//Heart disease//Diabetes//Kidney disease.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the programme and to register

Hot Brain 3: Climate Change and Brain Health, organised at UCL jointly with The Lancet Neurology
Online or In person

Date: 20 May 2025

Location: UCL Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health

[CLICK HERE](#) for information and to register
Please note - last booking date 19 May

For write ups from the previous 2 events click on each title below :

[Hot Brain 1](#)
[Hot Brain 2](#)



THE VOICE OF STROKE
IN EUROPE

11th European Stroke Organisation Conference

21-23 May 2025
Helsinki, Finland



ESOC 2025

11th European Stroke Organisation Conference

Date(s): 21-23 May 2025

Location: Helsinki, Finland

The conference will feature a high-calibre scientific programme, including pivotal clinical studies and the latest research breakthroughs.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the flyer

[CLICK HERE](#) to register



Save the Date

NIHR UK Stroke Research Workshop

Registration will open in Spring 2025

Date(s): 3 - 4 September 2025

Location: David Shaw Lecture Theatre, The Medical School, Newcastle University

Abstract Deadline 13/06/2025

[CLICK HERE](#) for information

1st German Stroke Congress (DSG2025)

Date(s): 4 - 6 September 2025

Location: Henry Ford Building in Berlin

Topics of the congress:

Tenecteplase: First clinical experience in Germany

Prehospital stroke management: organisation and implementation

Surgery for intracerebral hemorrhage: Have you already arrived in the routine?

Endovascular Stroke Care: Possibilities and Limitations

Stroke Networks: Organization of Stroke Care

Telemedicine for stroke: Where is the journey heading?

Further information and details for registration to follow.

European Stroke Science Research Workshop (ESSW)

Applications Close 25 April 2025

Date(s): 20-22 November 2025

Location: Garmisch, Germany

An opportunity for BIASP trainees for mid-career stroke researchers to apply to ESSW

Eligible ESO members are encouraged to apply for this unique opportunity to present their work and engage with experienced peers and mentors.

[CLICK HERE](#) for information

Career Opportunities

BIASP lists NHS jobs on their website free of charge, to list your advert

contact admin@biasp.org

Here are the latest adverts for NHS stroke jobs. Click below for further information.

[Consultant Physician in Stoke Medicine](#), Newport- Isle of Wight, closes 1 April

[Consultant in Stroke Medicine](#), Blackpool, closes 1 April

[Locum Consultant - Stroke](#), Worcester, closes 1 April

[Consultant in Stroke Medicine](#), Norwich, closes 10 April

HEE Podcast

New podcast - Health Education England (HEE) releases podcast discussing stroke careers

The HEE Stroke Careers Podcast series takes an in depth look into stroke medicine careers including real life experiences, the career pathway and how we deliver care across the country.

This episode is jointly hosted by Dr Deborah Lowe, National Clinical Director for Stroke Medicine at NHS England and Dr Jon Cooper, Stroke Consultant in Yorkshire and the Humber and Postgraduate Dean at Health Education England. They discuss their career pathways, the benefits of a career in stroke, and opportunities for the future workforce.

You can listen to this podcast on HEE's [Anchor FM channel](#).

If you would like to learn more about Health Education England's work around stroke you can email: ltp@hee.nhs.uk or visit the [stroke page on the HEE website](#).

Training Opportunities

To find information on training resources [CLICK HERE](#)

Excellent and **free online stroke brain imaging training resources** at the University of Edinburgh:

- Acute cerebral CT evaluation of Stroke Study (ACCESS)
- BASP CT training lecture
- Acute CTA for thrombectomy in Stroke (ACTATS)

[CLICK HERE](#) to access the training

Free Neurology/Stroke Learning Resource

Neuropodcases is a free, podcast learning resource on clinical neurology and stroke, suitable for students, trainees, consultants and allied health professionals. These have been created by a team of Neurology trainees and consultants.

Podcasts are available to download on Apple/Spotify or via the website

<https://www.neuropodcases.co.uk/>

@NPodcases

If you have any suggestions please get in touch with us contact@neuropodcases.co.uk

Online training 'Hyperacute Stroke Treatments Including Thrombolysis & Thrombectomy' - STARS Advancing Module

[CLICK HERE](#) to access this resource for free. A certificate is awarded on successful completion of both the module and the module test.

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Seafield, Bathgate, West Lothian, EH47 7AQ

Tel: 01506 292046

Email: admin@biasp.org

Website: www.biasp.org

Registered charity number: 1134589

Please note that if you unsubscribe you will no longer receive updates for events that may be of interest to you. To unsubscribe, click [here](#)