THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF GYNAECOLOGICAL PATHOLOGISTS

NEWSLETTER 2024

Take a look at our 2024 accomplishments and explore what's ahead for 2025

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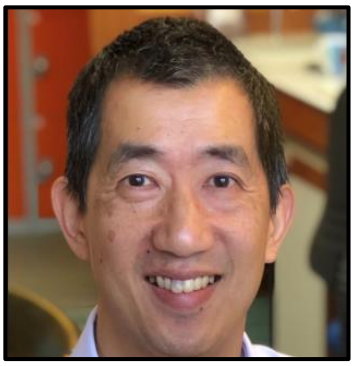
REMEMBER!! Early Bird registration for in person attendance at Annual Meeting until 4 May!

www.thebagp.org/event/bagp-21st-annual-meeting/

A Message from the President



Dear Members and friends,

On behalf of the BAGP, I wish to extend our warmest wishes to all of you for the New Year.

My tenure as president is drawing to a close, and I am delighted that Dr Rupali Arora has been chosen to succeed me. The BAGP could not be in safer hands as we move further into the era of digital and molecular pathology and, of course, learn to harness the power of AI in diagnostic practice. Rupali has been one of our Meetings secretaries for nearly 6 years and has played a pivotal role in the rapid expansion of our educational footprint, including the ever-popular monthly webinars, mock exam course, and other courses that we provide in collaboration with both UK and overseas partners.

Rupali will be supported by the Office Bearers (whose reports are included below) and our now full-time operational manager, Elsa Taylor, and her assistant, Louise Gascoyne. Together with our councillors, they provide the bedrock of stability which allows the BAGP to flourish. My thanks go to all of them for their hard work, as well as to all of you who have contributed to our courses, guidelines, and other activities over the past year. I am also delighted that two former presidents, Professors Glenn McCluggage and Raji Ganesan, have agreed to act as BAGP ambassadors and promote the objectives of the BAGP overseas.

Reflecting back on 2024, the BAGP finally become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, providing us with additional stability as well as opportunities for the future. A personal highlight for me was being part of the BAGP faculty invited to Singapore and Malaysia by the Singapore Division of the IAP. The hospitality we experienced was second to none and helped me realise that our meetings are not just about inviting the best speakers available from around the world. They are also about enhancing the face-to-face experience, providing the atmosphere and social activities that help delegates make new contacts, open dialogues, and build the long-term friendships that can only strengthen the gynaecological pathology community as a whole. With this in mind, I would like to invite you to Belfast in June 2025 for what I'm sure will be a fantastic 21st Annual Meeting.

Thank you for your continued support, and Happy New Year to all.

Jason Wong, President

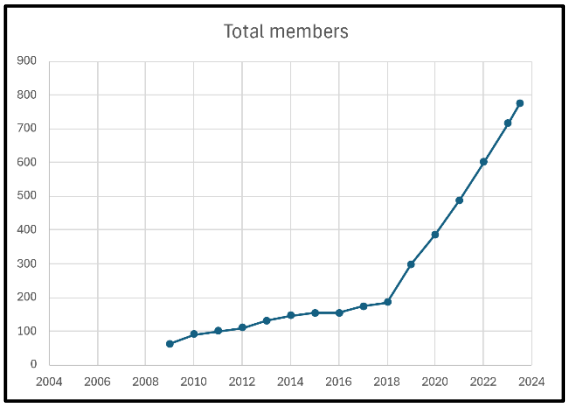
General Secretary Update



On 12 November 2024, the BAGP was registered as Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). It has been a journey of highs and lows to get our status approved. Our future as an organisation is now more secure. We have a new

constitution which is available on our website.

Our membership is strong and continues to grow within the UK and overseas (see graph).



We are in a good financial position and our reputation as an organisation continues to grow and this has opened a flood of requests for collaboration with other medical societies. Our CPD activities stand testimony to the good work being delivered by the BAGP.

Underpinning all this good work is a group of amazing hard-working individuals in the BAGP Council and the magic duo of Elsa Taylor and Louise Gascoyne who make most things possible. I would like to thank the BAGP Council and outgoing Council members especially my predecessor Dr Bruce Tanchel for helping me settle into the post. It would be amiss not to mention our past Presidents Professor Raji Ganesan and Professor Glenn McCluggage who continue to give support to the organisation, and our membership without whom there would be no BAGP. I hope you all have some time out from your busy lives and have a restful festive season.

The Council has seen some changes this year. Earlier in the year we welcomed Dr Katherine Vroobel, Dr Laura Casey and Dr Mahfooz Basha to the Council. Recently we welcomed Professor Blake Gilks. The Council is in a strong position to continue the work of the BAGP in advancing knowledge and practice in gynaecological pathology. There will be some changes also with office bearers. Dr Jonathan Crook will take over as joint meetings secretary from Dr Rupali Arora and will work with Dr Sarah Bell. Thank you Rupali for the fantastic CPD events you and Sarah have organised in 2024 and congratulations on your nomination as President elect.

The BAGP thrives on members contributing to its activities. Please consider submitting your application for vacancies on the Council when we advertise.

2025 promises to be another exciting year for the BAGP with a busy CPD schedule already set out. Please look out for the emails and on social media.

I hope to meet some of you in Belfast for our annual meeting in 2025.

Pinias Mukonoweshuro, General Secretary

An Update from the Treasurer



Having now held the position of treasurer for just over a year, I can undoubtedly say that it has been a privilege to be an office bearer for the organisation, supporting the fantastic work of my colleagues who have undertaken a range of activities - delivering a thriving educational programme, updating national guidance, enhanced quality assurance and supporting research to name but a few.

The financial position of the organisation has remained healthy over the course of the year and will continue to fund the ongoing work of the BAGP. The major developments of commencing the build of the new website and the recruitment of a full-time time operational manager (Elsa) have been extremely exciting and will enhance the experience of members going forwards. Both these have and will require an additional financial commitment over the next few years. The risks associated with these have been mitigated by careful cash flow planning and close ongoing monitoring. Cash flow planning has also allowed the BAGP to take advantage of higher interest rates on deposits which will serve to further support activities for the benefit of members and the wider public over the next several years.

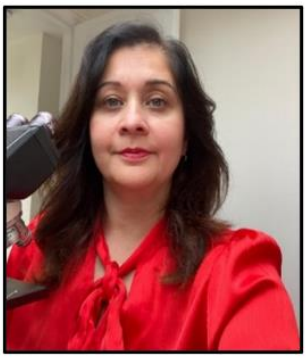
Finally, it would be remiss of me to not mention the achievement of becoming registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. We anticipate this will significantly help the financial position of the BAGP to achieve its goals of enhancing the healthcare of women. Being a relatively recent development, we have only undertaken the very early stages in understanding how best to structure our financial activities to take advantage of our charity status and this will be a major part of my aims for the organisation over the course of next year.

Wishing all our members, without whose continued vibrant participation to the organisation would not have a reason to exist, a very healthy and happy holiday season.

Nirav Gandhi, Treasurer

BAGP Meetings Matters





Building on the strength of our ongoing educational activities including our free webinars, we had a strong and successful 2024.

Our events included:

- **March** – Practical Updates in Endometrial Cancer (1-day virtual meeting)
- Annual e-poster competition
- **June** - 20th Annual meeting (2-day hybrid conference)
- **June** - Meet the Experts (full day hybrid meeting)
- **June**- Basic Cervical Histo Course (1-day virtual meeting partnered with BSCCP)
- **September** - Mock examination workshop (half day virtual course)
- **September** – Week-long course (virtual course)
- **November** – Vuvlo-vaginal meeting (half day virtual meeting)
- Monthly webinars (virtual)

For our March meeting we combined talks on good old-fashioned morphology including interesting case-based discussions with impact of the 2023 FIGO staging of endometrial cancer. The meeting was attended by 362 delegates who benefited from talks by national and international speakers. The March meeting saw our

delegate numbers increase by more than 100 over last year's attendance.

Our 20th annual meeting was once again a hybrid meeting, hosted at the iconic Royal College of Physicians (RCP) in London. Over 400 delegates joined the annual meeting with over 140 delegates attending the meeting face to face. For delegates who could not attend the meeting in person, the hybrid format gave 260 delegates the opportunity to attend the meeting virtually. Due to the success of the hybrid format and excellent delegate feedback, we plan to retain the hybrid format for 2025. Due to the popularity of last year's post annual meeting entertainment, we once again this year offered our in-person delegates a drink's reception and pizza party, to a background of live jazz music. It was lovely catching up with friends and colleagues face to face at the meeting.







Our 'Meet the experts' meeting was very well received by in person and virtual delegates. This year 140 delegates attended the meeting. Our delegates benefited from a full day meeting where the top 10 e-poster competition winners were able to present their projects live for the first time. The face-to-face component of this hybrid event was held at the Royal College of Physicians (RCP) in London. Professor Raji Ganesan interviewed some of the meeting presenters and our twitters followers were able to inspired by these uploaded interviews! Below are links to a selected few.

https://vimeo.com/1042938719/cea5e0e72e

https://vimeo.com/1042940147/cafec1c1a1

https://vimeo.com/1042940490/f6c4300cbe

https://vimeo.com/1042941856/3f7bdfd44d

https://vimeo.com/1042942262/7fd02957ec



This year we organized our first basic cervical pathology course together with the BSCCP. We were pleased that more than 90 delegates benefited from this course which was aimed at pathologists and colposcopists.

By popular demand and due to consistent oversubscription, we expanded our delegate numbers to 87 for the week-long course. The virtual format of the course allowed us to engage eminent international and national speakers, who provided scanned slides for delegates to preview prior to the course. On day 3 of the course, we hosted a zoom social event where delegates networked with speakers and organisers.

The free virtual mock exam workshop expanded this year to accommodate over 140 delegates which was more than triple the delegate numbers from the previous years. This is a testament of the resounding success of this workshop. Scanned slides for long and short cases were made available to the delegates prior to the workshop. Exam techniques and tips for all cases were shared by Dr William Boyle and Dr Mahfooz Basha, who helped organise the workshop.

In November, we celebrated the 4-year anniversary of our free monthly webinars which are now an established feature in the BAGP calendar and continue to attract more than 200 UK and international delegates every month.

Our half day virtual autumn meeting 'Vuvlo-vaginal meeting' highlighted epithelial and mesenchymal vulvo-vaginal pathologies. With Dr Carlos Para -Harran as our guest speaker, the meeting attracted 336 delegates which is more than double the number of delegates from last year!

As we write, we are finalising our 2025 educational events which is going to a very busy year for the BAGP educational calendar! Our 21'st annual meeting is being scheduled as a hybrid meeting based in Belfast, hometown of Professor Glenn McCluggage.
https://vimeo.com/998618877/e252079e04

We have organized a great educational program and a fabulous entertainment program including a gala dinner at the Titanic Museum and visit to the Game of Throne attraction. We hope to see many of you there is person!

Scan the below QR Code to see all our upcoming events or you can visit our website www.thebagp.org/events/list/

After serving as a meeting secretary since 2019, I now hand over the reins to Sarah Bell and Jonathan Crook as joint meeting secretaries. I know they already have big educational plans for the forthcoming years.

Thank you for your continued support this year and we look forward to seeing you at our meetings in 2025!

Sarah Bell & Rupali Arora, Meetings Secretaries



Hilary Buckley Poster Competition Award Winner 2024



A heartfelt thank you to the BAGP team for this incredible opportunity and recognition! Presenting my audit was such a rewarding experience, and I truly valued the chance to learn from the insightful talks and presentations of other experts and speakers. The process of preparing and writing up the audit/poster was both enjoyable and educational, and I am deeply grateful to my supervising consultant for her ever-present support and guidance. Winning the prestigious Hillary Buckley Award not only affirmed the effort I put into the project but also inspired me to continue pushing forward in my professional journey with even more passion and determination.

Jerry Htwe, ST2 Histopathology Trainee
Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital



Naveena Singh Research Award Winner 2024



Whilst discussing logistics of a translational project using the INTERLACE cervical cancer biopsies it was mentioned that the BAGP have a call out for the Naveena Singh research grant which could help fund the first steps of this work. Having completed some training posts at Barts I immediately knew the name and subsequently the importance of this grant. The application process was clear and straightforward with a simple summary of the suggested topic needed. All communication that I had with the BAGP team was prompt and helpful. Having completed the necessary synopsis of the BIO-INTERLACE project I sent the email and thought little more. I was therefore delighted to be contacted and invited to attend the BAGP annual meeting to receive this award. I was subsequently humbled and absolutely honoured to be presented the award by Naveena's husband who despite his lack of medical background expressed keen interest in the details of my project. Since then, I have not stopped nagging my pathologist to continue with the BIO-INTERLACE project so that we can produce some fantastic data in Naveena's memory. Thank you so much to BAGP for funding the start of this project and I look forward to presenting some data to you in the near future!

Gemma Eminowicz
Consultant Clinical Oncologist, UCLH



A view from our Councillor



The BAGP's goals are to advance the knowledge and practice of gynaecological pathology, thus benefiting our patients and the wider public. I've been a BAGP councillor for two years now and it has been an enormous privilege to join a fantastic team of people working towards these common aims.

In this role, I have been working on having a new BAGP website commissioned. This will allow our educational resources such as guidance documents, previous lectures and webinars and our E-Learning to be better organised and more accessible as well as helping us to better automate tasks such as issuing CPD certificates and collecting feedback. There will also be a mobile device friendly app for accessing our resources on the go.

Furthermore, councillor Dr Mahfooz Basha and I have started running the monthly BAGP webinar series, taking over from the outstanding job that Dr Sudha Desai and Dr Sarah Bell had been doing prior. These are targeted particularly at earlier career pathologists and I've found them to be a very valuable educational resource. Even if you've missed some, all of our previous webinars are recorded and available to view on the website for BAGP members.

From January, I am very honoured to have the opportunity to join Dr Rupali Arora and Dr Sarah Bell as a meeting secretary. This will be a rather daunting task, as they alongside Elsa have been doing such a superb job working tirelessly to organise many of the best events in gynaecological pathology. I have much to learn, but am excited to get stuck in and do my best contributing to organising these events in the future.

With burgeoning reach in terms of increasing attendees at BAGP events and growing membership combined with the acquisition of charity status, I really feel that the BAGP has been going from strength to strength and am looking forward to seeing it continue on this trajectory in to 2025 and beyond.

I'd like to wish you all a very happy new year and hope to see you at the BAGP 2025 annual meeting in Belfast!

Jonathan Crook, London

Trainee Representative Update



This time last year, I set myself a New Year's Resolution to do more for charity. So I raised money running 100km over the course of a month, and had a terrifying experience abseiling 100ft down the side of the Education Centre at Tunbridge Wells Hospital. Most excitingly of all, I found myself sitting on the council as the BAGP

achieved charitable status. I couldn't be prouder to be a part of this fantastic organisation. I watched it grow in membership and rise to the challenges of the last few years, only to come out stronger.

The monthly webinars are more popular than ever and are regularly attended by BMS's, trainees, and consultants alike, from the UK and overseas.

The hybrid 'Meet the Experts' meeting was a sterling success as always, with the poster competition a particular highlight.

The free half day Mock Exam aimed at advanced practitioners and trainee pathologists enjoyed excellent engagement.

The BAGP continues to provide educational bursaries for research and education, offers a very helpful cervical e-learning module, and the BAGP website is a great resource for guidelines and updates covering all areas of gynaecological pathology.

The coming year boasts an exciting line-up of learning opportunities, promising more webinars studded with pearls of wisdom, a virtual event covering Everyday Dilemmas in Gynaecological Pathology, and the much-anticipated 21st Annual Meeting in Belfast. We also have a new and improved website in the pipeline which will make keeping up to date with events, and finding your way through resources even easier.

We're thrilled to see so many trainees engage with these learning opportunities, and we're grateful for the feedback we receive as this helps us do more to address your training needs (which I believe makes for an excellent New Year's Resolution!)

Wishing all our members a wonderful 2025!

Nataliya Piletska, BAGP Trainee Representative

Educational Bursary Recipient

I am deeply grateful to the BAGP for awarding me an educational bursary to attend their 20th Annual Meeting virtually. This generous support reflects their commitment to advancing the education and professional development of pathologists in gynecology, and I truly appreciate the opportunity to benefit from this initiative. In my country, we don't have a specialized educational system for training in gynecological pathology, so this meeting was extremely valuable and provided excellent learning opportunities for pathologists like me who are interested in this field. The Annual Meeting lasted two days and covered updates on various aspects of gynecological pathology, including both neoplastic and non-neoplastic conditions. The presentations were engaging and inspiring, delivered by international experts, whose name I usually only read in text books or journals. Prior to it, there was a "Meet the Expert" session for early career pathologists and trainees. This one-day session featured international experts in gynecological pathology who shared interesting cases in a highly interactive format. Additionally, we have the option to view recorded sessions for one month afterward. I highly encourage anyone, especially early career pathologists and trainees interested in gynecological pathology, to attend this meeting. It is a wonderful opportunity to learn from many leading experts without having to travel. I hope to attend the meeting in person someday!

Fresia J. Wongkar Bethsaida Hospital, Indonesia

EQA Organiser's Report



Learning is not attained by chance; it must be sought for with ardour and diligence. BAGP and The National Gynaecological EQA scheme events in the past years and going forward aim to provide these learning platforms by sharing the knowledge base from our UK based and international colleagues so that we learn to think continentally.

It gives me a great joy to look back and reflect on the educational opportunities and courses run by the BAGP in 2024 and the wealth of knowledge that was offered to trainees, biomedical scientists, associate practitioners and consultant colleagues. A range of face to face, hybrid and virtual national/ international meetings were organised and all of these were a huge success. The BAGP annual meeting and weeklong course serve as crash courses for gynaecological pathologists to update their skills and invest in knowledge, reaping the great rewards. These courses are now gaining huge international interest, and the demand is constantly on rise. The association is making big leaps empowering trainees and biomedical scientists by providing free monthly webinars, mock exams, special events like meet the expert's hybrid meetings, and cut-up webinars. The awards in honour of revered gynae pathologists (Naveena Singh Research award and Hilary Buckley poster) incentivises younger generation and gives us role models to look up to. I congratulate the entire team of BAGP for its wonderful achievements in spreading the knowledge.

The National Gynaecological EQA scheme ran two circulations in 2024, with over 515 participants. Our November review meeting online, was a huge success. It was a masterclass on difficult uterine epithelial and mesenchymal lesions. Professor Carlos Parra Herran and Dr Katherine Vroobel shared their unparalleled knowledge and experience via 6 difficult educational cases. The discussions on these cases were truly comprehensive and impressive imparting clarity on dealing with the difficult scenarios and their pitfalls in day-to-day practice. I encourage the membership to support their trainees to present educational cases for next Gynae EQA circulation and also to apply to advertised council positions and contribute to the spreading of education.

The great aim of education is not knowledge but action. I look forward to seeing many of you at Belfast and as the council members contributing to the EQA and BAGP.

Save the dates for 2025:

- **4th June:** review meeting (hybrid) in conjunction with the BAGP annual meeting in Belfast.
- **14th November:** Guest speaker Professor Raji Ganesan: Virtual Meeting.

Baljeet Kaur, EQA Organiser

A Year in Review by the Operational Manager



As the operational manager for BAGP, I am delighted to reflect on our organisation's significant achievements in 2024. This year has been marked by growth, innovation, and collaboration, all dedicated to advancing gynaecological pathology education and practice.

Dr Jason Wong's presidency will come to a close, with Dr Rupali Arora stepping into the role for 2025. With her extensive experience as a meetings secretary and her pivotal role in expanding our educational footprint, Dr Arora is poised to lead BAGP into an exciting future.

BAGP has also solidified its operational foundation this year with my appointment as full-time operational manager, supported by Louise Gascoyne. Together with the Council and Office Bearers, we have worked to ensure the organisation's continued stability and growth. Notably, BAGP achieved Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) status in 2024, which enhances our ability to pursue our mission.

This year's calendar was filled with educational activities, continuing BAGP's tradition of delivering high-quality CPD opportunities.



As we look to 2025, I am particularly excited about the 21st Annual Meeting, which will take place in Belfast over three days in collaboration with ISGyP. For the first time, we are introducing a Consultant-specific Masterclass with the Experts, a one-day event that promises to offer in-depth learning opportunities. Early booking discounts are available for both the full three-day event and individual days (in person), ensuring greater accessibility for all attendees.

Our virtual educational activities will also continue, further broadening BAGP's reach and impact. In addition, our ongoing collaborations with other medical societies will help us share gynaecological pathology education on an even wider scale.

Our new website development is progressing well, with a planned launch in summer 2025. This upgraded platform will include many new features, such as:

- Automated payments and reminders
- A dedicated member portal
- A delegate portal for event management
- CPD certificate downloads
- An associated mobile app

These enhancements will provide members with streamlined access to resources and services, making it an invaluable tool for the BAGP community.

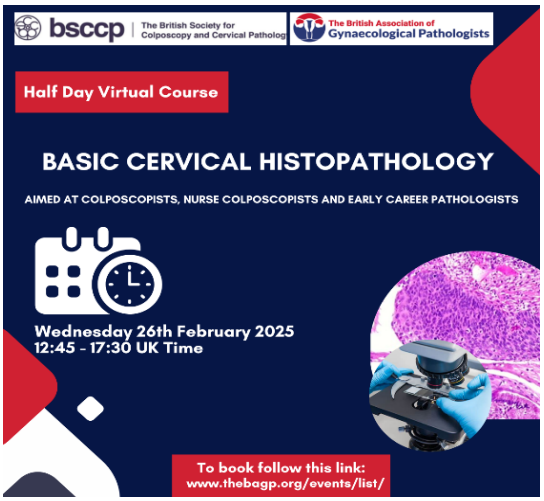
As we close 2024, I want to thank all of you for your continued support, engagement, and contributions to BAGP's success. I look forward to seeing many of you at our events in 2025 and to another year of progress in gynaecological pathology.

Wishing you all the best in the year ahead!

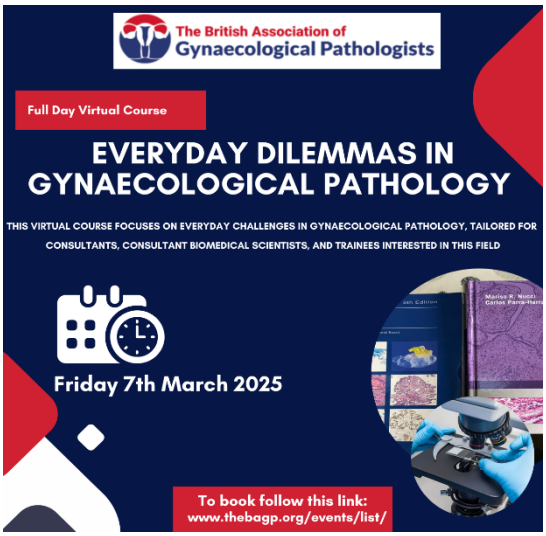
Elsa Taylor, Operational Manager

Upcoming Events

REGISTRATION OPEN! BAGP BSCCP Basic Cervical Histopathology Course (Half-Day – Virtual): 26th February 2025
www.thebagp.org/event/basic-cervical-histopathology-virtual-course-half-day/



REGISTRATION OPEN! Everyday Dilemmas in Gynaecological Pathology (Full Day - Virtual): 7th March 2025 (early bird rates available)
www.thebagp.org/event/everyday-dilemmas-in-gynaecological-pathology/



REGISTRATION OPEN! Masterclass with the Experts (Belfast & Virtual Option): 4th June 2025 (early bird rates available)
www.thebagp.org/event/bagp-21st-annual-meeting/



REGISTRATION OPEN! Meet the Experts Meeting for Trainees and Early Career Pathologists (Belfast & Virtual Option): 4th June 2025 (early bird rates available)
www.thebagp.org/event/bagp-21st-annual-meeting/



REGISTRATION OPEN! BAGP 21st Annual Meeting (Belfast & Virtual Option): 5th – 6th June 2025 (early bird rates available)
www.thebagp.org/event/bagp-21st-annual-meeting/



SAVE THE DATE! BAGP Long Gynae Pathology Course (5 days -Virtual): 15th – 19th September 2025
Registration will open soon!

SAVE THE DATE! Mock Exam (half day -Virtual): 24th September 2025
Registration will open soon!

SAVE THE DATE! Syndromic Tumours in Gynaepath (half day -Virtual): 14th November 2025
Registration will open soon!

Registration Open! Free monthly webinars
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_0YFcUYMRRESpu_U9-CWm3Q

Research Bursary

Invitation to apply for the Naveena Singh Research Bursary of £1500 (2025) is now open
www.thebagp.org/trainee-section/bagp-research-award/guidelines/



Poster Competition

Hilary Buckley Poster Award: Invitation to submit an abstract for the BAGP e-poster competition
www.thebagp.org/trainee-section/bagp-poster-competitions/poster-competition-guidelines/



Education Bursary for BAGP Members

Application deadline for Annual Meeting and Long Course 2025 is 1st March 2025. Click here to find out more.

Webinars and Symposia on Clinical Utility of Pathology Data and Macroscopic Examination

BAUP and BAGP had conducted a series of webinars on the clinical utility of pathology data (GYN, GU, GI and breast) in November 2022 as well as a separate series of webinars on macroscopic specimen examination (GYN, GU, GI, breast and head/neck) in October 2024. These were based on separate symposia published in the *Journal of Clinical Pathology* [Clinical utility of path data: August 2022 (https://jcp.bmj.com/content/75/8); Macroscopy: March 2024 (https://jcp.bmj.com/content/77/3)]
All the papers in these symposia have been made open access till the end of January 2025. The webinars are also available to view till the end of January 2025 with the following links:

Clinical utility of path data:
https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/geu6coq9g2nfmdcw6xvf1/APOK6PssP6JUx42arcpSpTw?rlkey=xdcdwls3i6gqypjmt5fu63kie&st=m6wqietf&dl=0
Macroscopy:
https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/ay9azlnvx3gb07yagsudg/ADo33O9qTM-_h_DLEN767Ik?rlkey=diznbbrkvu70e1mj4epks8xos&st=n2z1mtxc&dl=0

This provides a short window of opportunity to read the papers and then hear the authors discuss key points and answer queries from the audience. Straight from the horses' mouths!
Bonus feature: a robust debate on the role of the pathologist in oncological multidisciplinary team meetings included in session 1 of the clinical utility webinars.

Scan QR code here to book any event: