

# BRITISH BURN ASSOCIATION

## NEWSLETTER: December 2023



### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

2023 was a busy and productive year for the British Burn Association. The primary objectives of our association are burn care education, prevention, research and setting standards and during the past year the BBA has made significant advances in each of these areas.

Over the past number of years, many burn services across the UK had noted thermal injuries caused by nitrous oxide misuse, and the British Burn Association lent support to a campaign to prohibit nitrous oxide use outside of its intended purposes, such as in healthcare setting. This law has come into effect in November 2023. With reduced access we expect a reduction in this cause of injury.

Many services have also reported fires related to Lithium Batteries / Scooters and e-Bikes. We have also linked with the London Fire Brigade and lent our support to a parliamentary private members' bill to better regulate lithium battery use and improve safety.

Over the past year we have revised and updated the British Burn Care Standards. This has been a huge undertaking supported by the entire Board of Trustees and the burn care community. I was delighted to present Pete Saggars with an award recognising his services at the BBA meeting in Dublin.

Our annual meeting in June was incredibly successful. We welcomed attendees from 22 countries around the world, and every continent. There were almost 100 oral presentations and a further 100 poster presentations. We were delighted to sponsor the attendance of a surgeon from Ukraine while also providing online access to those joining from overseas. All of the presentations have been recorded and indexed, and we plan to upload them to the BBA Educational Platform website which is in an advanced stage of development. This will provide a significant amount of material which Members will be able to search and view.

For the first time we held a Consensus Day prior to the BBA Annual Meeting. We had discussion and achieved consensus on Fluid resuscitation, TENS, scar management and enzymatic management. This has resulted in agreement regarding a standard approach to fluid resuscitation and strengthens our voice for discussions with burn commissioners. We plan to write up these findings and prepare them for publication.

Our finances received a very significant boost from the Dublin meeting, we also gained a transfer of funds following the dissolution of a separate charity, the Association of Burn and Reconstructive Anaesthetists (ABRA), which, following its dissolution, elected to transfer its remaining funds to the BBA. We accepted and have established an Anaesthetics and Critical Care SIG, which offers a great opportunity for those interested. We continue to work with other organisations to determine potential agreement on appropriate standards in infection control within burn services, in addition to developing standard burn outcome measures, ongoing national burn awareness and improved scar outcomes.

Next year we will co-host our Annual Meeting alongside the International Society for Burn Injury (ISBI). This will be held in August, at the Birmingham International Convention Centre. This will be a great opportunity to strengthen our international networks and will hopefully bring new opportunities.

I would like to thank all of the BBA Board of Trustees who have been enthusiastic and untiring colleagues over the past year, who have each contributed to the great successes of our Association. I would especially like to thank our Manager, Nechama Lewis whose commitment to the BBA has underpinned our achievements.

With the shadows of conflict around the world, we can reflect on the contributions of the BBA as considered, constructive, and inclusive. On behalf of the entire Board of Trustees, I wish all our members every peace and happiness with friends and family at Christmas and in the New Year.

*Odhran Shelley, BBA Chair*

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#### EMSB National Organiser

Tania Cubison

#### Research Committee

Chair: Simon Booth

#### Overseas Committee

Chair: Preetha Muthayya

#### Fundraising Committee

Chair: Victoria Dudman

### CONTACT US

#### British Burn Association

38 – 43 Lincoln's Inn Fields  
London WC2A 3PE  
T: 020 7869 6923

E: [info@britishburnassociation.org](mailto:info@britishburnassociation.org)  
W: [www.britishburnassociation.org](http://www.britishburnassociation.org)

#### Membership email enquiries:

[info@britishburnassociation.org](mailto:info@britishburnassociation.org)

#### EMSB email enquiries:

[emsb@britishburnassociation.org](mailto:emsb@britishburnassociation.org)

The British Burn Association is operating as a  
Charitable Incorporated Organisation  
Registered Charity no. 1187794



## SAVE THE DATE



The International Society for Burn Injuries (ISBI)  
is partnering with the  
British Burn Association (BBA) to organize the

### 22nd Congress of the ISBI and the 55th Annual Meeting of the BBA

*“Exchanging Knowledge to Improve Burn Care  
Around the World - Facing the Future”*

**AUGUST 18-22, 2024**

*International Conference Center (ICC)*  
**Birmingham, United Kingdom**



[www.worldburn.org](http://www.worldburn.org)  
[info@worldburn.org](mailto:info@worldburn.org)

[www.britishburnassociation.org](http://www.britishburnassociation.org)  
[info@britishburnassociation.org](mailto:info@britishburnassociation.org)



## One World One Standard of Burn Care



We invite you to attend the combined 22nd ISBI Congress and the 55th Annual Meeting of the BBA in the vibrant and historic city of Birmingham, United Kingdom. The congress will be held on August 18–22, 2024 at the International Conference Center (ICC) Birmingham. This international burn care scientific congress, co-sponsored by the ISBI and the BBA, promises to deliver the latest advances in burn clinical care, research, and technology. Delegates from around the world will have the opportunity to discuss topics in burn care and participate in hands-on education and training. Industry Partners will have the opportunity to showcase their latest burn care products, services and technology and interact with medical professionals from around the world.

**EARLY REGISTRATION:** January 1, 2024

**CALL FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS:** January 1–March 31, 2024

Visit the ISBI Website ([www.worldburn.org](http://www.worldburn.org)) to register and submit abstracts online.

For more information about the 2024 ISBI Congress, please contact the  
ISBI at [info@worldburn.org](mailto:info@worldburn.org) or call +1 (346) 505-3528.



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*On behalf of the Local Organizing Committee:  
Naiem Moiemen, Chair of the Local Organizing Committee*



## Annual Conference Dublin 2023: Prizes

The BBA had the pleasure of awarding five paper and poster prizes this year in Dublin.

### Oral Presentation Prizes:

The Oral Presentation First Prize was generously supported by Scars, Burns and Healing Journal and awarded to Christia Huntington, University of West England for a presentation entitled “Developing online support for people affected by burn injuries”. The Oral Presentation Second Prize was awarded to Paul Harrison, University of Birmingham, for the presentation of a paper entitled “Measurement of Platelet Thrombus formation in severe thermal injury”.

### Poster Presentation Prizes:

The posters were once again divided into three categories. The best Burn Care Poster Prize was awarded to Sian Falder, Alder Hey Children’s NHS Foundation Trust, Liverpool for a poster entitled “What does capacity building in burns in resource poor environments really mean?”. The runner-up was Muhammad Hassaan Tariq, Burn Care Centre PIMS, Pakistan for a poster entitled “Reconstruction of paediatric post high voltage electric burn scalp defects with the orbitocheek flap”. The best Prevention Poster Prize was awarded to Sebastian Tullie, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham for a poster entitled “Pavement burns in the United Kingdom – an emerging but preventable phenomenon”. The runner-up was Jonathan Van, Mersey Regional Burns Centre, Liverpool for a poster entitled “Frostbite injuries resulting from the recreational use of nitrous oxide, a cause for concern”. The best Research Poster Prize was awarded to Hamzah Iqbal, St Helens and Knowsley NHS Trust, Liverpool for a poster entitled “The carbon footprint of burn care – strategies to assess and mitigate”. The runner-up was Laura Cappuyns, St Helens & Knowsley Teaching Hospitals, Prescot for a poster entitled “Comorbidities in the prognostication of major burn patients: A data-set of over 1000 patients from 54 burn centres, worldwide”.

## BBA Grants

Four different grants are available to BBA Members. These are:-

- ***The BBA Travel Grant***
- ***The Margaret Miller Travel Grant (for Nurses)***
- ***The BBA Research Grant***
- ***A Grant for Research into Methods of Preventing Burn Injuries in the Home***

The terms of the grants are that applicants need to have been a BBA Member for at least 12 months to be eligible to apply. The Travel and Research Grants will not normally exceed £1,000, The Margaret Miller Grant is capped at £1,500 and an open sum will be considered for the Grant for Research into Methods of Preventing Burn Injuries in the Home. Further details and application forms for each grant can be found within the ‘Education’ section of the website, under ‘Prizes and Grants’.

## Education Committee

The Education Committee members have been busy once again in 2023. The Committee was heavily involved in judging posters and papers at the Annual Conference, this year held very successfully in Dublin. The Laing Essay was again keenly contested and the Committee was pleased by the very high quality of entries submitted.

The EdCo has continued to meet online, most recently in early November. In very exciting news, our online Education Platform, designed to be accessed through the BBA website by all current members, is now built and in testing phase. We have plans in 2024 for more online Education Days, input at the combined BBA/ISBI meeting in Birmingham, and for launch of the new platform.

The Committee now consists of:

Andy Williams (Chair)  
Marcela Vizcaychipi  
Mariam Rela  
Sophia Opel  
Mary Kennedy  
Vicky Dudman  
Lindsay Shanks  
Rachel Mumford

In January we will be launching a recruitment drive for the Education Committee- we anticipate a need for further members to help with editing content on our new platform.

*Andy Williams, Education Committee Chair*

## Laing Essay Prize

**Laing Essay Prize 2023:** *'Multi-resistant organisms in burn patients: Is this the end or the beginning?'*. Congratulations to the winners Baljit Dheansa and Ahmed Hagiga, Queen Victoria Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, East Grinstead and to the Runner-Ups, Sindhoo Rangarajan and Luanne Li, South Tees NHS Trust, Middlesbrough.

**Laing Essay Prize 2024 opening soon to all involved in Burn Care:** The Essay title is TO BE CONFIRMED and should be of a maximum 5,000 words and in the style used by *Burns* Journal. Your Essay should use sub headings, contain an introduction, main body, discussion and conclusion as a minimum. The essay should be well referenced using the Vancouver referencing style. An abstract of up to 150 words should also be provided with your Essay and a list of up to 6 keywords. Three referees, appointed by the BBA, will judge and award the winner £500. The prize-winning Essay may be eligible for publication in *Burns* at the discretion of the Editor. **Closing date for applications: 5pm on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024.** The winner will be announced at the BBA/ISBI Annual Congress, August 2024.

Further information will be available shortly at`  
<https://www.britishburnassociation.org/laing-essay-prize/>. Enquiries to:  
[info@britishburnassociation.org](mailto:info@britishburnassociation.org)

## Emergency Management of Severe Burns (EMSB)

This year has been another busy one for the EMSB teams, many courses have been run and candidates benefited from the training. Our faculties continue to support this essential training although there are challenges with the peri Covid NHS environment.

The course continues to develop and there has been a real push to keep up to date with practice. Evidence from the international literature has been discussed at national level and the course adjusted to reflect the practice of UK burn care providers.

The international burns senate is now meeting regularly on the virtual platform and this has really facilitated discussions on fluid protocols and other parts of the course content.

The overarching aim to provide high quality education to all burn care providers has been moved forward with the decision not to restrict access to the electronic manual. The understanding is that it's the access to the multidisciplinary experienced faculties that is so valuable and what the candidates are buying when they book onto one of our courses.

Changes to our faculty selection process including the recognition of the GIC (Generic Instructors Course) is helping to facilitate progress along the instructor pathway. We would invite any interested people to contact their local faculty to find out how to join the EMSB team.

*Tania Cubison, EMSB National Organiser & Senate Chair*

## Research Committee

The Research SIG last met at the annual meeting in Dublin where units and universities presented short summaries of their current and up and coming studies. The Facial Burn Study, which is being led by Chris Wearn, is currently on hold. As Chair of the Research Committee, I have represented the Association at the Scar Free Foundation Research Group and participated in their stakeholders' meeting. The Scar Free Foundation is currently approaching donors to fund a "Form, Feeling and Function" group of work which will focus on living with scars. Several members of the Research Group have been involved in the collaboration with the Hospital Infection Society and their update to clinical guidelines. The BBA also continues to be a partner with the NIHR and can act as a peer reviewer for NIHR Awards. In 2024 we hope to create a directory of active researchers in the Association and host a face-to-face meeting in early spring, date to be announced.

*Simon Booth, Research Committee Chair*

## Prevention Committee

The BBA's National Burns Awareness Day was a great success with the key message on hot water bottle scalds as the main theme. It was lovely to see the BBA Prevention Committee support delivery of adult content this year and I hope this will continue in future years.

***Date for your diary: NBAD 16th October 2024***

Following the National Burns Awareness Day, it has been great to see an Increase in prevention messages on social media. Please remember to share if you see social media messages to increase the reach of these messages wider.

The Prevention Committee is keen to support campaigns. If you have a prevention campaign that you have been working on and would like BBA support, please email your campaign to the BBA Prevention Committee where the group will review, feedback and potentially support with BBA endorsement.

Over the last 6 months, the Prevention Committee has seen nitrous oxide being categorised as a class B drug which is an excellent result in helping to reduce cold burn injuries. It has been great to support the campaign and see the resulting change in drug categorisation.

The Prevention Committee supported an NHS England surgical fire reduction programme. This new educational programme was launched for staff to raise awareness of risk of fires and chemicals injuries from prep.

The Prevention Committee has run E bike awareness campaigns and plans to collaborate in support of an Electrical Safety Bill in the coming months.

*Nicole Lee, Prevention Committee Chair*

## Overseas Committee

As the Overseas Committee Chair, I have compiled a list of Overseas Fellowship opportunities available to UK trainees which is downloadable in the Overseas Committee folder within the BBA members area of the website. By no means is this an exhaustive list, as it has been compiled based on experiences of current and past UK trainees, most of whom are current Consultant Burn Surgeons in the NHS.

Any contribution to this list from the BBA membership would be useful. Please could the contributors include a short summary of the Fellowship and contact details for potential applicants.

Nurses, therapists and others from the Burns MDT are encouraged to get in touch with the contacts provided if they are interested in organising a training visit to the service.

*Preetha Muthayya, Overseas Committee Chair*

# Fundraising Committee

Over the past year, the Fundraising Committee has worked on various avenues to raise funds for the charity. We have had no large grants or contributions.

We continue to raise small amounts via EasyFundraising where at no cost to users a contribution is made to the charity by clicking through the EasyFundraising website when making online purchases. Members can sign up via this link or QR code:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/britishburnassociation/>



We also signed up to raise money via Amazon smile, however they have since changed their fundraising policy and we are no longer an eligible charity. We have set up a JustGiving account for which there is a Donate button on our website for one-off donations and this can be used in the future for specific fundraising events. **Please click here** to donate to the BBA through JustGiving.

We registered interest in having a charity place in the London Marathon 2023 but did not secure a place, however we will continue to explore this and similar events in the future. Please contact us if you know anyone who would like to raise money for the BBA in this way.

I was fortunate to attend a workshop run by the Appearance Collective on grant funding to develop my knowledge of applying for grants and have made links with other charities which will help us to develop new ways of fundraising.

*Vicky Dudman, Fundraising Committee Chair*



# Burns Therapist Interest Group

The BBA Therapies SIG has maintained a healthy membership of Occupational Therapists and Physiotherapists working with burn injured adults and children from across the UK this year, as well as a small number of BBA members from other professions with an interest in burns therapy and rehabilitation.

We began 2023 with an educational day held at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham in March. The focus of the day was “Research Participation for Burns Therapists” and we started with an interesting talk from Physio and Clinical Academic Lead for Nurses, AHPs & Midwives, Caroline Miller, on leading / participating in research alongside clinical practice. This was followed by presentations from colleagues on a Delphi study to gain expert consensus on chest physiotherapy management of ventilated smoke inhalation injuries, the SMOOTH AND BOSS-2 studies, and the Global Burns Research Prioritisation project, all of which generated lots of thought-provoking discussion. It was great to then see so many burns therapists presenting their own work at this year’s BBA conference which was held in Dublin. Congratulations to you all on your excellent work!

The Burns Therapy SIG meeting held at the BBA conference was very well attended, and was a great, albeit it brief, opportunity to discuss current matters. Those who attended the educational day prior to the BBA conference will have been involved in the initial discussions regarding establishing a national scar consensus. This will undoubtedly be a huge but very beneficial piece of work that we look forward to discussing further at our virtual meeting at the end of this month. We have a very exciting and packed agenda planned for this meeting, where we will also start planning for our next face to face educational meeting to take place early next year.

I am very grateful for the contribution of my therapy colleagues who have joined me in representing our professions during the revision of the National Burn Care Standards and BBA Outcomes documents, and in continuing to develop the Burns Rehabilitation Prescription.

The Burns Therapists Database has been fully updated this year and will be finalised and distributed at our meeting at the end of the month. If you are a therapist working with burn injured adults or children and would like your / your service’s details included in the database, or need to update details for your service, please get in touch.

*Janine Evans, BTIG Chair*  
*janine.evans@wales.nhs.uk*

## Anaesthetics / Critical Care Special Interest Group

The Anaesthetics / Critical Care SIG was established at the AGM in Dublin 2023 under the joint chairmanship of Brendan Sloan and Ascanio Tridente following the sad news of the closure of the Association of Burns and Reconstructive Anaesthetists (ABRA).

The remit of the Anaesthetics / Critical Care SIG is to establish a forum within the BBA to allow reciprocal support and exchange of views and information among anaesthesia and critical care colleagues involved in the care of burns patients, and collaborate in the areas of audit, quality improvement, research, education and innovation.

Please pass on news of the establishment of the SIG to your anaesthetist and critical care / intensivist colleagues as they may be interested in joining the Association and participating in the SIG's discussions.

*Brendan Sloan and Ascanio Tridente  
Anaesthetics / Critical Care SIG Joint Chairs*

## Pre-Hospital Special Interest Group

The Pre-Hospital Special Interest Group is keen to thank the outgoing Chair, Winston de Mello for his exemplary work in developing the Group. The incoming chair is Adam Young who can be contacted at [Adam.Young@shu.ac.uk](mailto:Adam.Young@shu.ac.uk). The SIG is continuing to work upon an online course regarding the pre-hospital management of burns and is keen to expand and recruit new members with an interest in the field.

*Adam Young, Pre-Hospital SIG Chair*

## Nurses Special Interest Group

The national Burns Nurses WhatsApp group has started up - if you would like your number added, please email your name and number to [Nicole.lee4@nhs.net](mailto:Nicole.lee4@nhs.net)

Preparation for a pre-conference Nursing workshop has begun and will look at hands-on skills for burns nurses to include the following:

Face care and airway management  
Dressings and graft care  
Initial management  
Simulation practice scenario  
Paediatric

Information on how to apply will be released with the conference applications.

**Call out to burns nurses** who are considering submitting a poster for the conference next year. Why not look to presenting? Following previous feedback that nurses find it too scary to present their work, we would like to extend an offer to mentor nurses in giving oral presentations. Mentor support will entail a one-to-one senior burns nurse mentor and an online panel presentation to practice the talk with feedback on how to improve your presentation. This will also open applicants to a burns nursing group during conference to be able to support each other during presentation. If you would be interested, please email [Nicole.lee4@nhs.net](mailto:Nicole.lee4@nhs.net) to be allocated a mentor.

*Nicole Lee, Nurses SIG Chair*

# Psychosocial Special Interest Group

## Overview

The BBA Psychosocial SIG continues to retain a healthy membership of psychosocial professionals working or researching in burns, as well as other professionals with BBA membership with an interest in psychosocial issues related to burns. The current Chair is Dr Katherine Nutt, Principal Clinical Psychologist at Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust, the outgoing Secretary is Dr Charlotte Wright, Clinical Psychologist at Sheffield Children's NHS Foundation Trust and the incoming Secretary is Dr Stephanie Farrar, Clinical Psychologist at Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust.

The SIG has met virtually twice over the past year, in addition to a further in person meeting at the BBA conference in Dublin. The SIG held its second annual CPD day for psychosocial professionals working clinically in burns. Topics this year included the new burns HealthTalk module, considering ethnicity in burns psychology services, the roles of psychological flexibility and self-compassion, psychosocial screening, transition and pain and the use of virtual reality. This was again received positively and it is planned to continue this annual event in recognition of the limited CPD opportunities available for psychological professionals working in burn care, specifically related to our professional disciplines.

## Focus of activity over the past year (Oct 2022 – Oct 2023)

The focus of the year has included:

- Sharing clinical practice and maintaining professional support
- Running our second Psychosocial SIG CPD day with presentations from London South East, Midlands, Northern, Wales/South West and Scotland networks
- Contributing to the Burns Care Standards update as part of the working group involved with this review
- Dr Rachel Mumford took on role of BBA psychosocial Education representative
- Dr Laura Shepherd was elected as a BBA Trustee
- Continuing to promote clinical and service development, and share and encourage research activity including an article on inpatient goal planning and audits relating to self-harm burn injuries and psychological input into outpatient burns clinics/scar clinic
- Dr Laura Shepherd guest edited a special issue of the European Burns journal titled 'Enhancing Psychosocial Burns Care' with 4 of the 5 articles being authored by members of the BBA Psychosocial SIG
- Maintaining links and developing collaborations with the Centre for Appearance Research in relation to burns-specific projects
- Consideration of reviewing psychology staffing levels document
- Promoting and supporting activities by burn care charities (Katie Piper Foundation, Dan's Funds for Burns and Children's Burns Trust) and maintaining links with Changing Faces
- Sharing resources and patient information (e.g. patient stories, videos, information leaflets) across services and supporting development of further burns specific patient information

## Call for new members

Anyone interested in joining the Psychosocial SIG would be welcome and should contact Dr Stephanie Farrar ([stephanie.farrar@nhs.net](mailto:stephanie.farrar@nhs.net)).

*Katherine Nutt, Psychosocial SIG Chair*

# Burns Camp SIG

## Why There is a Need to Support Burn Clubs/Camp and What They Need from You?

Across the country there are various Burn Clubs and Camps who provide support to babies, children, young people and their families following a burn injury. The support may be to organise get togethers, days out, therapeutic weekends for families as well as residential camps for the children and young people with the burn injury. In addition to local events, some clubs will come together at national events during the year.

One of these is the annual three night 'Jamboree', organised by Dave Webster and Karen Read of the Burn Camps charity and held during the last week of October at Grafham Water in Cambridgeshire.

This year 30 children from five different clubs across the UK attended the Jamboree, taking part in Sailing, Canoeing, Kayaking, Climbing, Archery, Biking, Problem Solving, 'Grafham Challenge' (a blindfolded obstacle course), Arts and Crafts, Swimming, and a Disco!

The few days were lots of fun, very tiring but extremely beneficial for those attending. The activities as well as boosting self-esteem, allow children with similar experience of a burn injury to spend time together, when conversations about injuries, scars and 'life' will happen naturally.

One volunteer commented that whilst on a sailing boat with two nine-year-old girls, the girls started talking about being bullied at school and telling each other how it had made them feel and what they had done to help deal with it. They gave each other advice on what they could do if/when it happened again – whilst at the same time learning about sailing and screaming with fear/fun when water splashed over the boat.

Another volunteer supporting the Jamboree for the first time, had themselves experienced a burn injury when they were a child but didn't have the opportunity to attend camps. They have shared some of their thoughts of the Jamboree.

*'Watching the children over the camp has been eye opening as it is amazing to see the children blossom over just a few days, with such an amazing opportunity available.'*

*It's an incredible chance for the children, for them to open up and feel safe and talk about their injury to each other and become more confident over a short period of time.*

*Sharing my experiences and my recovery journey to the children has helped me heal further and I believe helped them as well, they have been able to open up about their journey and relate to mine. The children were able to be ask questions about growing up with a burn injury, which would have been so beneficial for me when I was younger.*

*The best way for me to describe this would be that it's like having an older sister/brother you did not know you needed when growing up, giving you life advice and reassurance. Making you feel hopeful of the future ahead.*

*Reflecting on my journey I believe I would have benefited from attending camp, I would have been a more confident and comfortable within myself. I would have made irreplaceable friendships and experiences I would cherish forever.*

*Whilst volunteering and watching the kids open up, it makes me so proud and happy to see how far they've come. The children having the right role models around them and looking up to them.'*

Clare Thomas, Lead Nurse at the Burns Centre in Birmingham also added that there was such a benefit for the children they brought last year, that they knew as soon as they left they would be back this year and it was the children and young people themselves talking about 'camp' that promoted the experience to other children/families and professionals at the Hospital! Alison Thomlinson and the Manchester Burns Camp group have also just had their research **Psychological Evaluation of a Residential Children's Burns Camp Programme: A Ten-Year Evaluation** published in the European Burn Journal (Eur. Burn J. 2023, 4, 514-528)

The research concluded that

'Over a period of ten consecutive years, children attending a regional residential burns camp consistently reported the benefits of the programme to include meeting other burn injured children and developing confidence and self-esteem. This was echoed by both their parents/carers and the camp leaders. As with many other studies, the quantitative measures did not reliably match the qualitative data throughout but did provide corroboration in some years.



30 children and young people aged 8-13 who attended the 2023 Jamboree and 14 staff and volunteers who supported the weekend.



## Burns Camp SIG (Cont'd)

The staff and volunteers that have supported camps and clubs over the years have seen the first hand benefits for children and their families so what we need now from the burns community is

1. If you have a child or family, you think could benefit; please refer them to your local club
2. If possible please support Burn Camps/Clubs by volunteering/giving staff time
3. If possible help fundraise or donate to your local club.

If you are not sure how to get in touch with your local club/camp please email [martin.palmer@nhs.net](mailto:martin.palmer@nhs.net) chair of Burn Camps/Club SIG if you are interested in finding out more about the National Jamboree please contact Dave Webster [burncamps@outlook.com](mailto:burncamps@outlook.com)

*Martin Palmer, Burn Camp SIG Chair*

## Treasurer's Update

### Membership Fees 2024:

I am pleased to confirm that there will be no increase to membership fees for 2024 and fees will remain as follows:

Doctors and Consultant Nurses/AHPs	£75pa
All other staff	£50pa
Students studying for primary degrees or full-time and retired members	£30pa

### Income Tax Relief in Respect of Annual Membership Fees:

The British Burn Association has been approved by the Commissioners for HM Revenue and Customs under Section 344 of the Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003 with effect from 6<sup>th</sup> April 2014. The Association's name will therefore appear in the list of approved bodies.

### Group Membership:

The BBA is an association run by its members, for its members, and a strong membership is key to ensuring the Association's long-term viability in terms of both its activities and finances into the future.

The BBA Trustees would like to encourage new members to join the Association and have introduced a Group Membership package offering **20% discount for 10 + new members and 10% discount for 5 – 9 new members**. Please encourage your colleagues to join the Association either individually or as part of a group. Further details are available from Nechama in the BBA office.

### Fundraising:

We encourage you to support the Association by signing up to EasyFundraising for your shopping via the link:

[https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/britishburnassociation/?utm\\_campaign=raise-more&utm\\_source=social&utm\\_medium=facebook&utm\\_content=gs-f1](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/britishburnassociation/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_source=social&utm_medium=facebook&utm_content=gs-f1) kindly organised by Vicky Dudman, our Secretary and Fundraising Committee Chair.

*Andrew Williams, BBA Treasurer*

# International Burn Injury Database (iBID)

The Burn Care Informatics Group (BCIG) has met regularly and has welcomed new members to augment the representation of the BBA, the BAPRAS, data coordinators and surgical trainees. We now have a full complement of committee members.

Unfortunately, the negotiating representation by NHS England, which was progressing well until the early part of 2023, came to a halt as that part of the NHS reorganised itself yet again. It is to be hoped that progress can be made in the latter part of this year when the dust settles.

There have been regular BCIG communications with burn services about some of the changes and developments in our work programme. These were detailed in a lengthy communication in August 2023, which is too long for replication in this Newsletter. As an update for BBA members since August, I can report that we have given input to consideration of the burn care rehabilitation prescription as part of a CRG task and finish group and to the BBA revision of the outcomes document. These processes are ongoing but have reiterated how much of the required information is already covered by the iBID.

Also, in an effort to update iBID users about quite significant changes being made, we are arranging a series of open access Teams calls, starting on 20 November. They will be monthly on a rolling programme of week days at 16:30. Further details will be circulated closer to the time.

The iBID is currently involved in two very exciting projects. One, led by Emily Bebbington, is looking at designing an optimal dataset for recording burn care globally, while the other with Prof Suveer Singh at Chelsea and Westminster is focusing on the characterisation and quantification of inhalation injury.

I was honoured to be invited to deliver the annual Wallace lecture at the Dublin BBA Scientific Meeting. My lecture covered how correctly constituted burn care data could answer some of the fundamental questions posed by AB Wallace back in 1974 and my belief that no other approach will do so. I hope that with the type of work we are undertaking we might edge closer to those answers.

For further information on the BCIG and iBID update, please contact Ken Dunn at [kwd960101@gmail.com](mailto:kwd960101@gmail.com) and Anthony Sack at [Anthony.Sack@nbt.nhs.uk](mailto:Anthony.Sack@nbt.nhs.uk)

*Kenn Dunn, BCIG Co-Chair*

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE NEWSLETTER?

If you have a 'hot topic' to address or developments in your centre which you would like to share with colleagues via the BBA Newsletter, please email Nechama Lewis at the BBA Office: [info@britishburnassociation.org](mailto:info@britishburnassociation.org)

*The Board of Trustees and Staff of the BBA wish Members a very happy festive season and all the best for the new year.*



# The Scar Free Foundation (SFF)

The Scar Free Foundation has had a busy few months!

Summer saw the appointment of long-time Trustee, Lieutenant General (retired) Richard Nugee CB CBE CVO, to the position of Chief Executive. His passion and commitment to Foundation's mission of scar free healing within a generation, along with his warm relationships with institutions across the UK, has already begun to pay dividends. Exciting plans are underway to build on our research strategy and to celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary next year.

The Foundation also welcomed two staff members – one returning and one new – in July. Dr Lubna Arif-Schmidt and Jenni Herd introduced themselves on our website: [Meet the newest members of the Scar Free team](#)

Reaffirming and strengthening our relationships with our founding Partner Member Organisations was top of our to-do list in the last week of September. We held our PMO Forum in the Royal College of Surgeons, welcoming representatives from CFSGB&I, the British Burn Association, the British Psychological Society, the British Association of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons, the British Society for Surgery of the Hand and the British Association of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons.

In a workshop facilitated by burns survivor and Scar Free Ambassador, Pam Warren, we discussed how we could work together more closely to reach our shared goals and research objectives. It was an energising meeting – we're already looking forward to the next one.



Richard Nugee at SFF inaugural Ambassador Afternoon Tea.

Finally, The Scar Free Foundation hosted its inaugural Ambassador Afternoon Tea in the Royal College of Surgeons on the 18<sup>th</sup> October. This special occasion saw our Trustees and Ambassadors coming together over coffee and cake, sharing ideas and fostering friendships.

That evening, we held our Annual Update Event, where we heard presentations on ground-breaking projects by Professor Iain Whitaker, Dr. Oscar Peña Cabello, and David Wiseman. The event concluded with an Outstanding Achievement Award presented to Professor Naiem Moimen's team for their unwavering commitment to scar-free research over the last 11 years.



Naiem Moimen with Charlotte Coates, Bruce Keogh receiving Outstanding Achievement Award

Coming up, we're hosting our Christmas Scar Free Appeal with the Big Give. For one week between the 28<sup>th</sup> November and the 5<sup>th</sup> December, all donations to The Scar Free Foundation via the Big Give website will be doubled! The money raised will go towards fast-tracking the most promising discoveries in the field of scar free healing to rapidly develop and test new treatments for everyone living with life-changing scars.

If you're interested in supporting our Scar Free Appeal, you can [donate to our campaign](#) when it goes live on the 28<sup>th</sup> November, or follow us on social media to spread the word!

We are grateful for the ongoing support of BBA. Together, we will continue to push the boundaries of medical research and forge new pathways toward scar-free healing. We are eager continue to share our exciting plans with you as we move forward, confident in the knowledge that, with your support and expertise, we can turn our vision into a reality.

*Jenni Herd, Communications & Projects Manager, Scar Free Foundation*

# Articles from the Burn Community

*Opinions expressed in the articles below do not necessarily reflect the views of the BBA*

## New Burns Healthtalk Website

Researchers at the Centre for Appearance Research, Bristol and the Health Experiences Research Group at Oxford University have created a new online resource offering support for people affected by burn injuries.

The new resource is a burn-specific module on the award winning Healthtalk website ([www.healthtalk.org](http://www.healthtalk.org)) offering free access to other people's experiences of living with a burn injury, based on 80 hours of in-depth interviews with 36 people who shared their personal experiences of burns and the impact they have had on their lives. It features over 180 video clips, showcasing real-life stories covering topics including dealing with other people's reactions, managing the stress of treatment, returning to work or school after a burn injury, ways of coping, the impact of changes to appearance, and being a parent of a child with a burn injury. People of a variety of ages, ethnicities, and a range of burn injuries were involved, in an attempt to make the resource as relatable as possible.

Key Points about the Healthtalk resource:

- **Free of Charge:** It's entirely free for users, making it accessible to anyone seeking information and support related to burns - all that's required is an internet connection.
- **No Account Required:** It does not require users to create an account. It allows instant access to its contents.
- **Available 24/7:** It's available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- **Shareable Resource:** You can share the resource with anyone you think would benefit from viewing it.

To find out more, visit [www.Healthtalk.org/Burn-Injuries](http://www.Healthtalk.org/Burn-Injuries) and please share the resource with your patients, their families, and your colleagues.

We're currently running a short survey to gather people's feedback on the burns Healthtalk module – you, your colleagues, patients and their families can take part here

[https://uwe.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_2u81WX44Tu4Msp8](https://uwe.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2u81WX44Tu4Msp8). All respondents have the option to enter a prize draw for a chance to win a shopping voucher, as a thank you for giving their feedback.

We hope you and your patients will find the burns Healthtalk website useful. Thank you for helping to promote it to those who might benefit.

*Christia Huntington, VTCT Foundation PhD student, Centre for Appearance Research, UWE, Bristol  
Prof Diana Harcourt, Centre for Appearance Research, UWE, Bristol.*





**Do you have a burn injury of any size, and would like to access online support?**

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- Healthtalk is a website where you can watch, listen, and read about other people's experiences of health conditions, including burn injuries.
- It offers online support that is free to access and available 24/7.
- It's a good way to learn about living with a burn injury in your own time, and at your own pace.



**Scan this code to open our page!**

A burn injury can impact your life in many ways. Hearing about other people's experiences can help you to feel less alone.



**WWW.HEALTHTALK.ORG/BURN-INJURIES**

# Children's Burns Trust



The team at Children's Burns Trust have had a busy 2023 continuing to focus on their three main objectives.

- ***To offer support to children, parents and carers following burn injury***

We have supported 19 urgent support grants submitted from burn professionals at 6 burn services, plus a request from a community nurse predominantly to help families with the burden of costs associated with their child attending a specialist burns unit, often far from home.

- ***To offer rehabilitation opportunities to children and families following a burn injury***

We have run two family weekends, one with the Northern burn care services in April and one with London and Southeast burn care services in September. We welcomed a family and four staff from the burns unit in Birmingham to the April family weekend with a view to supporting a family weekend with the Midlands burn services in 2024.

We are also in early discussions with staff from the South West Burn Care Network to consider supporting a family weekend with them in 2024.

We supported a general grant request to contribute to the travel costs for children from Bristol to attend the jamboree in October.

- ***To raise awareness of burns prevention and first aid treatment***

National Burn Awareness Day on 11<sup>th</sup> October was a huge success with amazing engagement on social media and fantastic support from burn services nationally.

The theme 'hot water burns like fire' focused on all types of scald injury, particularly hot drink scalds, shower scalds and the increased incidence of hot water bottle scalds in all age groups over the last year. There has been national press coverage secured in The Metro, Daily Mail - as well as via ITV News.

We are grateful to our ambassadors who continue to champion the essential messages regarding prevention and first aid.

We were excited to launch our new [website](#) in July and are continuing to add new content to the site. We would welcome your feedback and any thoughts regarding additional content for the website if you have a moment to drop us an email at [info@cbtrust.org.uk](mailto:info@cbtrust.org.uk)

Fundraising continues to be a challenge for all charities and we are grateful to those that have supported the charity with fundraising events in 2023, with a special mention to Nicole Lee, Matron at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital who completed the Isle of Wight Ultra Challenge on behalf of the charity and Annette Maynard, play leader also from Chelsea and Westminster who selected the Children's Burns Trust as her chosen charity when competing in two marathons in America.

If you would like to fundraise for Children's Burns Trust please contact us at [info@cbtrust.org.uk](mailto:info@cbtrust.org.uk)

We are always delighted to hear from burn care professionals and add them to the database to share the quarterly newsletter and notification of events. Some NHS email addresses have changed in the last few years and not all contacts have updated their details. If you would like to be added to the database or to update your details, please email [info@cbtrust.org.uk](mailto:info@cbtrust.org.uk).

Many thanks for your continued support and engagement.



Families and staff enjoying the beach at the family weekend in Littlehampton – September 2023

*The Trustees and Team at Children's Burns Trust*

# The Burns Game:

## Educational Board Game to Improve Core Burn Care Knowledge



The Burns Game was developed by **Focus Games Ltd.** in partnership with the **British Burn Association** and **Birmingham City University**. The purpose of the game is to bring key information about acute burns management in an engaging and interactive format. The game matches the core burn care competencies and knowledge requirements, which can be used for initial staff induction and follow up team training updates. The content covers the initial approach to management of burns of various aetiologies, severe and minor burn injuries, as well as the requirements for referral and transfer to a specialist burn service. The Burns Game is reflective of the advances in burns first aid, burn shock, inhalation injury and burn fluid resuscitation in line with EMSB and ATLS principles, and is attentive to the key elements of burn assessment and wound management.

The Burns Game delivers awareness, knowledge and practical burn care skills through face-to-face, reflective discussions, stimulated by questions and scenarios presented in the game. These conversations allow participants to explore and discuss new ways of working amongst their peers and to share their knowledge and experience to learn from each other.

*'The Burns Game is an exciting and innovative way of broadening the knowledge base of anyone working with burn-injured patients. Everyone, from fire service personnel and first-aiders through to specialist hospital staff will find it challenging. The BBA is proud to have helped develop the game and hope players everywhere find it both educational and entertaining.'* **Peter Drew, Chairman of British Burn Association.**

The game is simple to play and manage. It is a competitive, discussion based game for between 4-12 players and games usually last between 45 and 60 minutes. It can be played with or without a facilitator. It can be used for informal workplace learning, or as part of more structured training programmes, everything you need is in the box! The game allows the players to be selective about the learnt content and be adapted to suit the training needs of the burns team.

*'As a Burns and Plastic Surgeon, I am all too familiar with the misery that burn injuries cause families throughout the country every year. Birmingham City University has used its expertise in medical education to develop this game together with the British Burn Association and Focus Games Ltd in order to improve the initial management of burn injury, which can greatly improve the final cosmetic and functional result for the individual patient.'* **Professor SLA Jeffery, Consultant Burns and Plastic Surgeon, The Birmingham Burns Centre.**

More information: [www.burnsgame.com](http://www.burnsgame.com) == Twitter: [@BurnsGame](https://twitter.com/BurnsGame)  
== Price: £60 (exc. VAT, P&P).

<http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/2059513117690012>

Whittam AM and Chow W. An educational board game for learning and

teaching burn care: A preliminary evaluation. *Scars, Burns & Healing*, Volume 3, 2017. DOI: 10.1177/2059513117690012





# CHARITY CORNER

Burn Charities do invaluable work in supporting patients. Catch up on the work of a UK Charity



## Interburns

Interburns, the International Network for Training, Education and Research in Burns is a UK registered charity that focusses on improving the quality of burn prevention and care in low resource settings. Since 2006, Interburns has worked with multi-disciplinary burn professionals from Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the US, to develop and implement a 'comprehensive integrated approach' towards improving burn care that includes operational standards, assessment tools, and training programmes that are built 'from the ground up' to meet local needs.

This approach targets initiatives where they are most needed and has had proven results. From villages in Nepal which have seen a dramatic fall in the number of burn injuries, to hospitals in Ethiopia, India, Malawi and Mongolia which self-assess their burn service to highlight strengths, identify gaps, and measure change from year to year.

Training programmes for community level health workers and multi-disciplinary staff working in burn units include *Basic Burn Care (BBC)*, *Community Burn Prevention (CBP)*, *Essential Burn Care (EBC)*, and *Advanced Burn Care (ABC)* with modules in Surgery, Nursing and Rehabilitation. Guidelines and tool kits support training of trainers for local roll out, and an active faculty development programme is in place to identify and support new faculty, more than 80% of whom are surgeons, nurses and therapists from low resource settings. An active programme of Fellowships is ongoing at Interburns' Training Centres (ITCs) in Nepal.

We have delivered programmes in over 15 countries, including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Iraq, Malawi, Mongolia, Nepal, Nigeria, OPT, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, the UAE, and Uganda. We have developed and delivered training for EU Burn Assessment Teams in the context

of mass casualty burn disasters, and we work closely with a range of partners including the WHO, the European Union, the ISBI, UK Med), Interplast (Australia and New Zealand) and other national and international organisations.

Many of Interburns resources are freely available online at [www.interburns.org](http://www.interburns.org) including the *Delivery Assessment Tool (DAT)*, *Essential Burn Care Online* and three modules of *Advanced Burn Care (Nursing)* along with supporting handbooks and publications. We will be adding more in 2024.



A simulation of a mass casualty burn disaster to train EU Burn Assessment Teams 2022-2023



Advanced Burn Care (Rehabilitation) delivered to therapists from 13 countries in the Africa region. Accra Ghana 2023

We look forward to strengthening our partnership with the BBA in future, this follows a very successful training involving members of the Psychosocial Special Interest Group in Gaza and the West Bank in 2022 and active participation in our programmes by BBA members.

Tina Bajec, CEO  
[office@interburns.org](mailto:office@interburns.org)  
[www.interburns.org](http://www.interburns.org)