Dear All,

We know that with the reinvigorating effects of the past weekend fading, and the anticipated joys of the next one still two days away, hump days can be tough! And so we come to the rescue with what we hope is a welcome and useful distraction from weekday obligations, delivered in the form of a multicomponent email.

**Message from OPSYRIS Chair**

*Hi everyone.*

*This is the last OPSYRIS Newsletter from the Glasgow team. Although its only a few weeks since our conference, we already have loads to share with you – see below.*

*On a personal note, I want to thank everyone who has helped build up the OPSYRIS membership and generally raise the profile of the psychological issues in stroke.*

*There is still a lot of work to be done, but I think the OPSYRIS family can be proud of what we have achieved so far. You will see from the Stroke Association report below that we are entering challenging times for stroke and for research. Let’s continue to look out for each other and if OPSYRIS can help in anyway let us know.*

*My final words have to be a massive thank you to our secretary and treasurer Bogna and Satu, without their input our meetings, newsletters, prizes would not have happened.*

*I am off to sit in a dark room and recover from the stress of running a live zoom meeting - Nele and team Oxford, its over to you!*

*Best wishes*

*Terry*

**OPSYRIS 2020 Virtual Meeting**

A big thank you to our Members for supporting the OPSYRIS 2020 Virtual Meeting - from your enthusiastic response to the idea, through spreading the word about the event among colleagues, to attending the webinar. Our disappointment with cancelling the annual face-to-face conference was rewarded manifold by what turned out to be the biggest meeting in OPSYRIS history, bringing together speakers and attendees from all over the world.

For those of you who missed part of the webinar, were not able to join us at all, or would just like to re-watch their favourite talks - we have some great news! The recording from the meeting is now available to watch here:

<https://uofglasgow.zoom.us/rec/share/SVvo06YB71EDiI7CMqoLgpv4D8edv1WB68XrzlqhuL0EIAbod7igIdJpl2cyREDk.gfY7cPorqZYBruVY?startTime=1600415968000>

Presented talks certainly sparked a lot of interest, reflected in an impressive number of questions for our speakers. If you were disappointed that not all could be answered on the day or felt that the busy chat was tricky to follow, the next section is worth a read!

**OPSYRIS website**

As announced during the meeting, OPSYRIS has a new website:

<http://opsyris.org/>

Development is still underway, but there is already plenty information about OPSYRIS, including past meetings, newsletters, and Rising Star profiles (with our newest on this year's winner, Dr Emma Patchwood, to be added soon).

We also plan to use the website for posting regular updates on job opportunities, conferences, ongoing studies and useful materials. Regarding the latter, we will start by providing a transcript from the Virtual Meeting Q&A, complete with additional answers that our speakers provided offline.

If you would like to suggest any other content, please let us know on **info@opsyris.org**.

**Stroke Association Report**

We encourage you to have a look at a recent report on how COVID-19 has affected the recovery of stroke survivors:

[https://www.stroke.org.uk/stroke-recoveries-at-risk-report](https://www.stroke.org.uk/stroke-recoveries-at-risk-report" \t "_blank)

If you would like to help, please consider signing an open letter to the UK government:

[https://e-activist.com/page/67633/petition/1](https://e-activist.com/page/67633/petition/1" \t "_blank)

**Upcoming (virtual) meetings**

European Stroke Organisation and World Stroke Organisation meeting, 7th - 9th November

[www.eso-wso-conference.org](http://www.eso-wso-conference.org/" \t "_blank)

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Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow Annual Stroke Meeting, evenings of 10th, 12th & 16th November

The session on the 12th is dedicated to psychological issues and will feature talks from Prof. Audrey Bowen and Prof. Nele Demeyere.

[https://rcpsg.ac.uk/events/Stroke-2020-11-10-386](https://rcpsg.ac.uk/events/Stroke-2020-11-10-386" \t "_blank)

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StrokeCog & Stroke Clinical Trials Network Ireland Joint Conference, 27th November

Please register your interest here: [http://www.strokecog.ie/conference/#registerinterest](http://www.strokecog.ie/conference/" \l "registerinterest)

**Ongoing studies seeking participants**

Questionnaire on the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic on assessment of cognition:

[https://oxford.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/impacts-of-covid-19-pandemic-on-assessment-of-cognition-2](https://oxford.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/impacts-of-covid-19-pandemic-on-assessment-of-cognition-2" \t "_blank)

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Survey on fatigue management (additional information in attachment)

*Dear colleagues,*

*Apologies for a mass email!*

*We have been funded by the UK Stroke Association to do a survey on fatigue management in the UK- both****post stroke fatigue****and for****other conditions****. To date, the response has been good, but we want to have a final push in the last month.*

*We need more medics, more psychologists, and more nurses- but are also keen to have more OTs and PTs if possible. We also need more clinicians from Scotland, Wales, and N.Ireland!*

*If you have not done so already, please would you complete the survey below and/or pester your mates?*

*Many thanks indeed.*

*With best wishes,*

*Avril*

*(on behalf of the NotFAST2 - Nottingham Fatigue after stroke- team)*

***Professor Avril Drummond***

*Professor of Healthcare Research and*

*Lead for Rehabilitation Research Group,*

*School of Health Sciences,*

*University of Nottingham*

[https://nottingham.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/nottingham-fatigue-study-notfast2-copy](https://nottingham.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/nottingham-fatigue-study-notfast2-copy" \t "_blank)

|  |
| --- |
| [Nottingham Fatigue Study (NOTFAST2)](https://nottingham.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/nottingham-fatigue-study-notfast2-copy" \t "_blank)  Online survey BOS  nottingham.onlinesurveys.ac.uk |

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Survey on goal setting with stroke survivors with aphasia

*Dear OPSYRIS members,*

*This is a gentle reminder to consider participating in our survey about goal setting with stroke survivors with aphasia. The survey is open now and closes on****Tuesday 13th October 2020.****Please see further information and survey link below.*

*We are conducting a survey to find out how healthcare professionals set goals with stroke survivors with aphasia and the training and support they have received. Your participation will help us to****improve the rehabilitation experiences of stroke survivors with aphasia****and the****support available to healthcare professionals****in future. We would very much appreciate your help!*

*You can take part if you are:*

* *a****healthcare professional****(e.g. occupational therapist, physiotherapist, speech and language therapist, social worker, psychologist, dietician, rehabilitation/healthcare/therapy assistant)*
* *providing****rehabilitation****to****stroke survivors****in any setting*
* ***setting goals****with stroke survivors*
* *based in****Ireland****, the****UK****,****Canada****,****New Zealand****, and****Australia***

*The survey is ethically approved, takes 10-15 minutes to complete, and closes on 13th October.*

*To complete the survey, click on the following link:*

*[https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/goalsettingaphasia/](https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/goalsettingaphasia/" \t "_blank)*

*Please consider sharing the survey with colleagues who may be interested.*

*Sophie Eleanor Brown (PhD Researcher) | Glasgow Caledonian University, UK*

*Dr Lesley Scobbie | Glasgow Caledonian University, UK*

*Professor Linda Worrall | University of Queensland, Australia*

*Professor Marian Brady | Glasgow Caledonian University, UK*

*If you have any queries, please contact [sophie.brown@gcu.ac.uk](mailto:sophie.brown@gcu.ac.uk" \t "_blank)*

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...the last email had to be a big one. Thank you for making it to the end!

Very best wishes,

Bogna