



This issue of our newsletter contains details of the following:

1. How to join OPSYRIS,
2. OPSYRIS 2024 - Keynote Speakers, Registration, Abstract Submission, and Nominations for the OPSYRIS Rising Star Award,
3. Current Research Studies: Take Part in Research on Cognition and Mental Capacity!
4. Current Vacancies: Senior Research Fellowship at the University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) – **Deadline 30 April**
5. NEW Special Interest Group for Psychologists and other clinicians who have an interest in working with families around brain injury
6. World Congress of Neurorehabilitation 2024 OPSYRIS Special Interest Group meeting, **Weds 22 May**
7. The BPS DoN and BNS Neuropsychology International Fellowship Scheme (NIF) **Deadline Fri 31 May**
8. Stroke Psychologist Network

Warm regards,

The OPSYRIS Committee, <https://opsyris.org/>



Dr Stephanie Rossit



Dr Fergus Gracey



Dr Catherine Ford



Dr Tom Steverson



Dr Andrea Kusec

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## 1. How to Join OPSYRIS

The Organisation for Psychological Research into Stroke (OPSYRIS) is a Special Interest Group of the World Federation for Neurorehabilitation (<https://www.wfnr.co.uk/>). Our aims are to facilitate and disseminate research on psychological aspects of stroke, inform evidence-based clinical practice in stroke psychology services, and promote consideration of psychological factors in stroke research and clinical settings.

- **Join OPSYRIS by completing a short membership form here:** <https://opsyris.org/about-us/membership/>
- **Become the next OPSYRIS committee from Autumn 2024 to Summer 2026:** Email us to express interest and find out more: [s.rossit@uea.ac.uk](mailto:s.rossit@uea.ac.uk) [f.gracey@uea.ac.uk](mailto:f.gracey@uea.ac.uk) & [catherine.ford@uea.ac.uk](mailto:catherine.ford@uea.ac.uk) Benefits include getting to meet the wonderful OPSYRIS membership, free travel, and conference attendance, hearing the latest news in psychological research in stroke and more!



## 2. OPSYRIS 2024 - Keynote Speakers, Registration, Abstract Submission, and Nominations for the OPSYRIS Rising Star Award,

We are looking forward to OPSYRIS24 on **Friday 12 July** at **Bournemouth University** and our great line up of speakers!



**Jon Evans**, Professor of Clinical Neuropsychology, University of Glasgow, President of the International Neuropsychological Society

**Thinking outside the box: Novel interventions to address the cognitive and psychological needs of people recovering from Stroke.**



**Louise Clark**, Consultant Occupational Therapist, AHP Lead for Stroke, Dorset County Hospital Foundation Trust, SSNAP Associate Director, RCOT Stroke Forum and Intercollegiate Stroke Working Party Member.

**Implementing the CHIME model in a stroke rehabilitation unit**



**Caroline Ellis-Hill**, Senior Lecturer in Qualitative Research, Bournemouth University

**Humanising lifeworld-led approaches to research and practice after stroke**



**Sureshkumar Kamalakannan**, Associate Professor, Northumbria University.

### WORKSHOP

**Enhancing recruitment of underserved groups in stroke research**

- **REGISTRATION:** Register to attend in person or online via Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/opsyris-2024-tickets-736585385717>
- **ABSTRACT SUBMISSION:** Submit your abstracts by **Monday 29 April:** <https://forms.gle/rXG5ZhLxA3F1r85C9>
- You can also submit symposium, talk & poster proposals for OPSYRIS24 as well as travel award nominations!
- Nominate yourself or colleagues for the OPSYRIS24 Rising Star Award

Email nominations for the OPSYRIS24 Rising Star Award for early career researchers or clinicians with a brief (half page) justification to [info@opsyris.org](mailto:info@opsyris.org)

As well as the prestige of winning a commemorative award, the winner is invited to give an oral presentation of their work at the OPSYRIS24 meeting.



### 3. Current Research Studies: Take Part in Research on Cognition and Mental Capacity!



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**OXFORD**

## Take part in our research on cognition and mental capacity!



Are you a **healthcare professional** in the **United Kingdom**?



Do you or your team have experience assessing **mental capacity** in clinical practice?

#### What is the aim of the study?

- A person's freedom to make an independent decision depends on their **mental capacity**.
- Mental capacity is closely linked to **cognition** (thinking skills).
- This study will explore how **healthcare professionals** consider/assess cognition when making decisions on a person's mental capacity.

#### What does the study involve?

You will be invited to:

- Complete a brief **online consent form**.
- Take part in a short **online interview** (30-60 minutes) with a member of the research team.

Central University Research Ethics Committee Approval Reference: R91126/RE001 Version number: 0.2 Date: 20/02/2024

Visit the Translational Neuropsychology Group website for more information and how to sign up to participate:

<https://www.demeyerelab.org/for-the-public/participate/>

Join OPSYRIS here: <https://opsyris.org/about-us/membership/>

#### 4. **Current Vacancies: Senior Research Fellowship at the University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) – Deadline 30 April**

##### **Senior Research Fellow**

**Job Reference:** 1143-23

**Application Closing Date:** Tuesday 30 April 2024

**School / Service:** Stroke Research Team, School of Nursing and Midwifery

**Location:** Preston Campus

**Job Category / Type:** Academic / Research

**Salary:** £48,350 to £56,021 per annum

**Basis:** Full Time

**Contract Type:** Fixed Term for 24 months

**Hours:** 37 hours per week

**Interview Date:** Thursday 9 May 2024

**Link to full details and application:** [Senior Research Fellow - 1143-23 - UCLan](#)



#### 5. **NEW Special Interest Group for Psychologists and other clinicians who have an interest in working with families around brain injury**

We are a group of psychologists, neuropsychologists, family therapists and nurse consultants who work in various NHS and independent settings across England. We meet three times a year via MS Teams (March, June & September) and once in person at Kings College Hospital in London (December). Each meeting has a different focus, including linking systemic theory to clinical practice, a case presentation, developing clinical skills to use with families / couples and bringing a family focus to service development.

Anyone who is interested in finding out more is very welcome to contact me.

Best wishes,  
Jocelyne Kenny,

Principal Clinical Psychologist, Systemic and Family Psychotherapist  
Kent Clinical Neuropsychology Service (Canterbury & Swale Stroke)  
[Jocelyne.kenny@nhs.net](mailto:Jocelyne.kenny@nhs.net)

## SOME REMINDERS!

### 6. World Congress of Neurorehabilitation 2024

#### OPSYRIS Special Interest Group meeting – Weds 22 May

If you are attending the World Congress of Neurorehabilitation 2024 conference in Vancouver in May, please join us on Wednesday 22 May for an OPSYRIS Specialist Interest Group meeting at 16.30-18.00 in Meeting Room 5.



### 7. The BPS DoN and BNS Neuropsychology International Fellowship Scheme (NIF) - Deadline: Friday 31 May 2024.

Applications are welcomed for the BPS DoN and BNS Neuropsychology International Fellowship Scheme (NIF), which provides £6,000 for one candidate per year to pursue a small-scale research project in a host institution of their choice within the UK. The scheme encourages postgraduates from under privileged countries wishing to further their neuropsychology and research experience in the UK, or people from the UK wishing to develop and share their neuropsychology knowledge and skills, as part of a project to develop resources in countries with limited neuropsychology services. **For more information see the website: <https://www.the-bns.org/nif>**



### 8. Stroke Psychologist Network

We are in the early stages of forming a UK wide network of clinical psychologists and clinical neuropsychologists working in stroke services, with an aim to aid communication and support between clinicians and services, and to raise the profile of psychology in stroke services at local, regional and national levels. For further information or to join the network, please contact Steve Green on [steven.green@qehkl.nhs.uk](mailto:steven.green@qehkl.nhs.uk)