

THE
MOYNIHAN
ACADEMY
PURSUIT OF SURGICAL EXCELLENCE



YEARBOOK

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ABOUT US

Who are we?

The Moynihan Academy includes:

>650 members of Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland (ASGBI) who are non-consultants (students, trainees, locally employed doctors and specialty doctors) with 21 Council Members



What do we do?

As an official branch of ASGBI, we provide support, training opportunities and educational resources to our membership and beyond.

Why do we do it?

The MA is for all aspiring and established Surgeons, unified in the pursuit of excellence in General Surgery, Emergency General Surgery and Trauma Surgery.

We aim to continually improve surgical training as well as promote inclusivity, fairness, equal opportunity, and excellence to help future surgeons meet their personal and professional goals.

SAVE THE DATE



12TH NOVEMBER 2025

BIRMINGHAM AND
ONLINE



12TH - 14TH MAY 2026

BRIGHTON
METROPOLE



FOREWORD

ASGBI PRESIDENT

Mr Christian
Macutkiewicz



It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the Moynihan Academy Yearbook. As President, and previously as President-Elect, it's been so wonderful to help grow and nurture this amazing group of Residents into such a vibrant and exciting community. The achievements this year show the breadth of talent and ingenuity and the collaborations this year have really stood out from the crowd. The Behind The Knife collaboration showcased the differences between the USA and UK training systems and what career pathways you can expect in the different systems. The MA has had a very busy year with webinars from all aspects of trauma, endocrine, gynae, careers and transplant emergencies for the general surgeon. Kellie has had a particular emphasis on Wellbeing Wednesdays and I think this is where the MA really shines, and the newest addition of Women Wednesdays I'm sure will enthuse the next generation of women surgeons in this fantastic career. The year comes to a close with the MA EGS and Trauma On-Call Masterclass which has had excellent feedback, and finally the ASGBI Congress in Edinburgh this May, where I look forward to welcoming you all.

I want to thank Kellie and all of the MA Council, without your input, energy and ideas, this Association would not be relevant to the needs and aspirations of the surgeons of tomorrow. I congratulate you all on all your achievements this year and I look forward to working with Jared and the new Council for another exciting and productive year.

All my best wishes,
Christian Macutkiewicz
President, ASGBI



FOREWORD

MA PRESIDENT

Kellie Bateman



It has been my absolute honour to serve as President of the Moynihan Academy over the past 12 months, supporting our incredible council in all their fantastic achievements! It has been a busy and rewarding year, during which we delivered over 20 webinars on Medall, and in collaboration with RCSEd and ASGBI, recorded 5 Behind the Knife podcasts, disseminated 5 newsletters and maintained an active presence on X and Instagram (@asgbi_MA) through our educational initiatives, including #MRCSSunday, #WellbeingWednesday, and #FRCSFriday posts.

Behind the scenes, I have attended more than 50 meetings with the MA council, ASGBI executive, ASiT, The BJS Academy, FSSA, StatPearls, wider industry representatives, and other key stakeholders to advocate for and support surgical training. I have also contributed to numerous conferences and educational events, assisting the council with research projects, abstract submissions, and publications—particularly those focused on improving equity, standardisation, and the quality of surgical education and training. Additionally, I was delighted to support Garima, Rosie and Gita in organising our highly successful MA EGS and Trauma On Call Masterclass in Birmingham to provide an interactive and engaging educational day. Plus we've already started plans for a bigger and better event next year – so watch this space!

What's your proudest achievement in your role this year?

With so many collaborative achievements this year, it is hard to pick just one, but I most proud of being able to watch the committee grow, overcome their own challenges and reach their own achievements. It is so hard to balance surgical training, a personal life and a committee role, and despite this the committee have navigated busy schedules, tight budgets and conflicting priorities, to show tremendous resilience in overcoming hurdles and promote EGS and Trauma Training and Research. I am so proud of everything they have achieved within the MA and have been so glad to support their ambitions. A big thank you to my council!

Describe something you have learned from any of the MA educational sessions:

I always love reading our newsletters and the diverse educational content provided by our council. I am often signposted to interesting papers and new perspectives that I always eagerly anticipate the next one. Make sure you read our January one ([click here](#)).

What is your hope for the future of MA?

I hope the MA continues to grow and is supported in providing more educational content both online and in-person to support those interested in a general surgical career. I am excited to see what ideas the new council generate and how the community grows.

Welcome to the new committee, I wish Jared and the whole council an exciting and productive year from 2025-2026 and can't wait to see them achieve even more next year!

Good Luck, and most importantly, have fun!





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MOYNIHAN ACADEMY

COMMITTEE
PROFILES

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NIHA
DEMY



Jared Wohlgemut

Joint Vice President



My goal as Joint Vice President was to support the President, Ms Kellie Bateman, who tasked me with supporting several ASGBI Moynihan Academy leads, including Research, Trauma, EGS, SAS, LED, CST, and IT Leads. I was fortunate to join the President to help coordinate and interview experts in a podcast series with the brilliant minds at Behind the Knife. We have recorded four episodes comparing UK and USA surgical training, careers, research and sustainability, with more planned in the future.

Participating in ASGBI webinars was gratifying, including joining Mr Giles Bond-Smith and Mr Phill Pearce (Oxford) in a webinar focused on performing cholecystectomies safely. Recently, I joined Ms Cleo Kenington and Dr Kate Joash (London) in a webinar focused on emergency general surgery in the pregnant patient (led by Ms Faiza Soomro).

I enjoyed collaborating with colleagues on several studies, including a protocol for a Delphi study about the bellwether procedures in trauma (Mr Mike Bath leading), a survey focusing on barriers to trauma surgery training (Mr Matt McKenna leading) and a survey on consent process and practice of using animal products in surgical care (Ms Marwa Jama leading). We conducted a human factors analysis of >250 CORESS cases using the NOTSS framework (Ms Elizabeth McLennan leading). Several of these projects have been submitted as abstracts to the upcoming ASGBI meeting in Edinburgh.

What's your proudest achievement in your role this year?

I am proud of the MA Council for working together to manage various challenges throughout the year. We are a group of surgeons from different backgrounds, at different stages of their training, living across the UK and Ireland, who have come together to better the surgical community. We have done this through the MA's relentless focus on education and training, utilising all means of modern communication available, including webinars, podcasts, conferences, and multiple social media platforms.

Describe something you have learned from any of the MA educational sessions:

I have learned a great deal about the nuances of how surgical training, practice, and academic surgery measure up in the UK compared to other healthcare systems. I also learned that some gallstones that form during pregnancy may resolve/disappear post-partum!

What is your hope for the future of MA?

To inspire general surgical trainees to pursue excellence in surgical education, research, and training pertaining to General Surgery and Trauma. Doing so will create a community of dedicated colleagues who can encourage each other throughout our careers.

Rosie Simson

Joint Vice President



My main role this year has been to support the education sub-committee in the planning and organisation of this year's "EGS On-call Day". Those involved have worked hard to produce a fantastic timetable with some brilliant speakers, aimed at trainees of all stages. It has been great to take lessons from last year's EGS weekend to create an even better educational day. For me, the highlight has been supporting Garima (educational lead) in the logistical challenge that was the VIVA examination stations which hopefully left the delegates attending the day, better prepared to take on the FRCS.

I have also enjoyed helping out with #MRCsmondays and of course one of my main highlights was co-chairing a brilliant webinar on "(In)fertility in Surgery" during the Women's Month webinars run as a collaboration between the EGS, Education, Wellbeing and Inclusivity leads. It was an inspirational set of speakers that highlighted the importance of talking about infertility in women in surgery and the support available.

What's your proudest achievement in your role this year?

I have been immensely proud to see, what was the EGS weekend, evolve into something new and improved, learning from feedback last year. We have made an effort to make it more interactive, useful to all grades of trainees and have an even more diverse group of expert speakers. It has also been great to see each committee member embrace their role and not be afraid to try something new! We have worked brilliantly as a team under the fantastic leadership of President Kellie.

Describe something you have learned from any of the MA educational sessions:

The (In)fertility webinar emphasised how common struggles can be for women in surgery and that they are not alone. It is important to know how we can best support our colleagues who may be going through difficulties.

What is your hope for the future of MA?

Under the new presidency of Mr Wohlgemut, I have no doubt the MA will continue to go from strength to strength. I would love to see the EGS day grow into one of the leading trainee conferences for General Surgical trainees in the UK.

Elizabeth McLennan

Secretary



As Secretary of MA this year, I have taken an active role in ensuring the smooth running of the society. My key responsibilities have included maintaining clear and effective communication between committee members, coordinating meetings, and keeping accurate minutes. Beyond the administrative aspects, I have also worked to improve engagement within our membership by streamlining the newsletter, giving it a fresh editorial-style revamp to make it more visually appealing and informative. Additionally, I have played a role in supporting the planning and execution of events, ensuring they run efficiently and provide maximum value to attendees. It has been incredibly rewarding to contribute to the society's growth and help strengthen its presence within the wider surgical community.

What's your proudest achievement in your role this year?

One of my proudest achievements has been leading the research project in collaboration with CORESS (with the help of Jared Wohlgemut). Our work, which examines human factors in surgical incidents using the NOTSS framework, is now completed and has been accepted for presentation at the upcoming ASGBI Congress.

Describe something you have learned from any of the MA educational sessions:

For me, a highlight of our educational content this year was attending the EGS and Trauma On-call Masterclass. The talks were incredibly engaging, and even as a more junior registrar, I found them invaluable in preparing for the FRCS. They provided insight into the level of questioning and topics I'll need to be familiar with in the coming years, giving me a strong foundation for future learning. I can't wait to see what next year's event can bring to the table!

What is your hope for the future of MA?

Having been involved with Moynihan Academy since its inception, I have had the privilege of watching the society grow immeasurably in both reach and impact throughout that time. Looking ahead, I hope to see MA continue to thrive as a platform for professional development and academic collaboration. I am excited for the society to expand its opportunities even further, providing our membership with greater access to research, education, and leadership opportunities in surgery.



Gita Lingam

Treasurer



For the past two years, I have had the privilege of being the Treasurer of the Moynihan Academy. It has been incredibly rewarding to contribute to the Academy's financial growth and sustainability. I am proud to say that each year, we have successfully increased our income, ensuring that we can continue to provide exceptional resources and opportunities to our members.

This year, my primary focus was securing sponsorships from industry partners to support key events, including the On-Call Masterclass, educational webinars, and social media initiatives. These partnerships have allowed us to offer our members high-quality learning materials at significantly discounted prices. Additionally, I expanded our range of Moynihan Academy merchandise, including an extensive selection of scrub caps, to further promote our brand and community spirit.

What's your proudest achievement in your role this year?

Without a doubt, my proudest achievement has been tripling the Moynihan Academy's income! This financial growth has enabled us to invest more in educational resources and expand our offerings, ultimately benefiting our members.

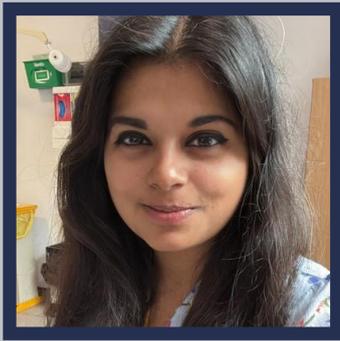
Describe something you have learned from any of the MA educational sessions:

Where do I even begin? The wealth of knowledge I've gained from our webinars, in-person congresses, and MA Days has been incredible! However, a standout experience for me has been the X MRCS Mondays and FRCS Fridays sessions. These weekly educational posts, meticulously organised by our dedicated committee, have been an absolute game-changer. Each session provides fresh insights, and I walk away having learned something new every single time!



What is your hope for the future of MA?

My vision for the future of the Moynihan Academy is to expand our range of free, high-quality educational resources for our members. While there are many resources available elsewhere, what sets MA apart is our commitment to delivering only premium, expert-led learning materials. I hope to see the Academy continue to grow, ensuring that every aspiring surgeon has access to the very best educational support—without financial barriers.



Garima Govind

Education Lead



A big part of my role this year has been organising the MA EGS & Trauma On Call Masterclass, and it was incredibly rewarding for the day to be a success at the end of March in Birmingham, and it was definitely worth all the hard work we put into it. I have been very involved with webinars this year - I had the opportunity to co-host some ASGBI Webinars with Mr Ben Griffiths, the ASGBI Education Lead, which were really interesting and enjoyable. I also organised and hosted several MA webinars this year, including Maximising your ISCP, Surgical Ergonomics and Transplant Emergencies.

I enjoyed learning about how to use social media to encourage resident doctors and consultants to engage with the MA through contributing to our new #FRCSFriday tweetorials.

Finally, I attended the ASGBI EGS Symposium in Manchester in November where I presented my own work on elderly patients undergoing emergency laparotomies, chaired a session and helped represent the MA at our stall (and enjoyed an excellent Presidential Inaugural Dinner at Manchester Art Gallery!)

What's your proudest achievement in your role this year?

Authoring the #FRCSFriday tweet that got over 600k views!

Describe something you have learned from any of the MA educational sessions:

The online MA Careers Inspiration Day in January had some brilliant speakers who were very inspirational to listen to, and have made me reflect a great deal on my own leadership skills and where they can take me in the future.

What is your hope for the future of MA?

I hope the MA keep rising to whatever new challenges trainees face, and continue to make General Surgery Training enjoyable and accessible.





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Atreya Mukund Subramanian

SAS Representative



During this year we conducted some exciting and well received webinars on management of common paediatric surgical emergencies as well as pathways for doctors who are not in a training program.

It's been rewarding assisting and aiding IMG doctors who want to excel in their respective fields by allowing them to network with more senior and accomplished people in those domains.

What's your proudest achievement in your role this year?

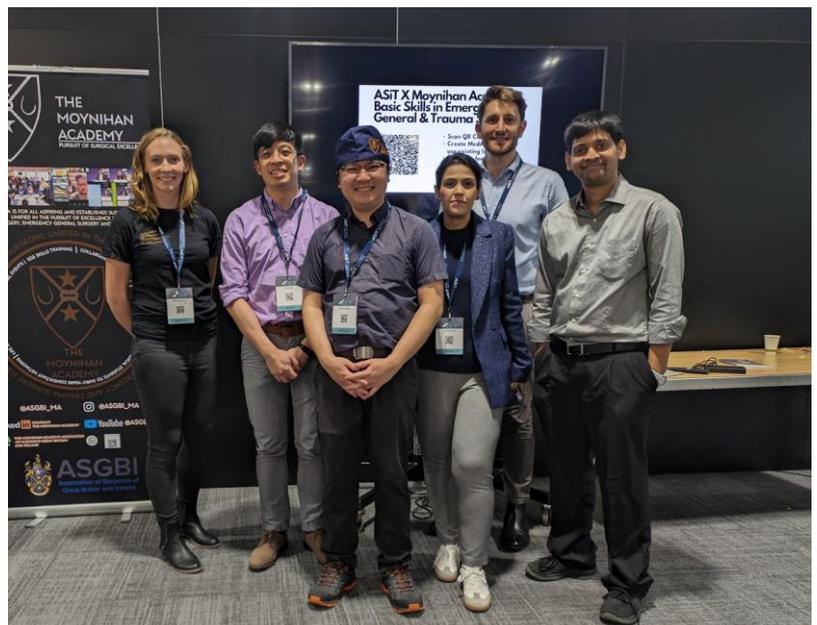
Completing the ASIT preconference trauma course and receiving praise from candidates who truly enjoyed the experience.

Describe something you have learned from any of the MA educational sessions:

There is always a path to success. We just have to find it!

What is your hope for the future of MA?

It becomes more global and will soon have members from outside the UK sharing their experiences in surgical training.



Fuad Abid



SAS Representative
for ASGBI



For the last 4 years, I was privileged to represent SAS (Speciality, Associate Specialist, Specialist) Surgeons at ASGBI and Moynihan Academy (MA). During this time we have ensured that SAS Surgeons are integrated into every facet of education activities, and all opportunities are open to SAS Surgeons including fellowships and leadership roles. Through the EDI committee we have enhanced inclusion of SAS Surgeons and recognised SAS as an equally respectable alternate career choice with parity of esteem.

It has been a pleasure to work with all the council members in the last 12 months. In collaboration with LED and SAS lead of MA and RCSEd SAS and LED committee, we delivered a webinar on SAS careers which was well attended and received. With recent changes to CESR legislation, a route to specialist registration; we have identified a need to deliver a session on "Portfolio Pathway" formerly known as CESR. This has been planned as a parallel session in the upcoming ASGBI Annual Congress in May 2025.

What's your proudest achievement in your role this year?

It is difficult to identify a single achievement. For me, it is about the shift in perception about SAS careers and the inclusion at all levels. Recognition that SAS has to be visible and have a voice.

Describe something you have learned from any of the MA educational sessions:

I have found social media initiatives like MRCS Mondays, FRCS Fridays and Wellbeing Wednesdays very useful in enhancing knowledge and a well rounded approach to professional development.

What is your hope for the future of MA?

I hope it becomes a "household" name for any General Surgeon. I hope that we continue to see SAS inclusion at all levels, on all occasions and that MA is recognised as an exemplary association for SAS doctors.

Mike Bath

Research Lead



It has been an absolutely fantastic year with the MA. As the Research Lead, I have led our Trauma Systems Delphi Process project, which culminated in over 400 initial responses from trauma experts from around the world. Results from this are expected to be published later this year. In addition, throughout the year, I have supported multiple research projects within the group and have provided regular research updates through the MA newsletter.

In October, we ran a webinar on Good Evidence Based Practice, in partnership with the IDEAL Collaboration; we ran this with support from multiple pan-speciality surgery groups, including Roux Group, Dukes Club, British Neurosurgical Trainees' Association (BNTA), British Orthopaedic Trainee Association (BOTA), Rouleaux Club, BAUS Section of Trainees, and Paediatric Surgery Trainee Research Network.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as Research Lead with the MA has been and I cannot wait to see the group continue to go from strength to strength.

What's your proudest achievement in your role this year?

As a key project with the MA this year, the group's international Delphi process on trauma care has allowed us to work with multiple collaborators across the globe. This project aims to identify key measures of trauma care globally - we had fantastic with the project, with support from several international surgical and healthcare groups. The initial round received over 400 initial responses and the results from this project should provide a substantial shift in how we assess trauma care globally.

Describe something you have learned from any of the MA educational sessions:

The joint webinar with the IDEAL collaboration provided clear guidance on how to run and conduct good clinical research. The session received an excellent attendance and received great feedback from the session by all attendees.

What is your hope for the future of MA?

That the group's research capacity continues to grow and we can provide excellent educational and academic benefits to its members



SJ Horne

Core Training Representative



I have been blown away by the MA Committee members this year, particularly by their passion and commitment to improving the experience of surgical trainees. The amount of work this committee has put in over the last 12 months has been immense and inspirational. Working with this committee has been the highlight of my tenure with the MA - thank you all for everything you have done and for everything you have achieved this year.

As CST representative, I have led on our weekly social media posts #MRCSMondays, I have delivered a webinar on Preparing for Core Surgical Training Applications as part of September Careers Month, for which I also helped to co-ordinate content for our website and social media posts on How to Undertake an Audit, How to Write an Abstract and How to Get the Most out of Surgical Rotations as a Medical Student/ Foundation Doctor.

I also organised a Career Inspiration webinar in January, with six very accomplished speakers who have had very varied surgical careers.

What's your proudest achievement in your role this year?

I really enjoyed our Career Inspiration webinar, and I don't think it would have been possible to organise an event with such distinguished speakers without the support of the MA and ASGBI.

Describe something you have learned from any of the MA educational sessions:

Being at my stage in surgical training, I found the webinars on Maximising ISCP and Navigating the ST3 National Selection for General Surgery particularly useful.

What is your hope for the future of MA?

I hope the enthusiasm and drive of the MA committee continues, and I hope the MA continues to grow in support from enthusiastic members too. I hope the MA continues to focus on Trauma and EGS, as these fields require pushing to the forefront of surgery, particularly amongst surgical trainees.



Michal Kawka

Foundation Doctor Rep



I have had the privilege of contributing to the Moynihan Academy's mission by supporting foundation doctors with an interest in emergency general surgery. My key contributions include:

- Leading the development of the early career section of the MA website, providing articles on core surgical training recruitment, portfolio building, and getting involved in research.
- Contributing to the MRCS Mondays Tutorials, offering case-based discussions for those preparing for surgical exams.
- Co-organising and co-chairing The MA January Careers Inspiration Talks, which provided valuable insights into career pathways in surgery beyond traditional training routes.

Overall, I focused on helping foundation doctors, navigate early career challenges, and preparing them for successful CST applications.

What's your proudest achievement in your role this year?

My proudest achievement has been the co-organisation of The MA January Careers Inspiration Talks. This event had excellent attendance and successfully showcased a vast array of subspecialty interests within emergency surgery, including leadership, academia, and expedition medicine. Seeing the enthusiasm and engagement from junior doctors reinforced the importance of these discussions in shaping career aspirations.

Describe something you have learned from any of the MA educational sessions:

One of my favourite sessions was about research opportunities and landscape within emergency general surgery. Specifically, I have learned about national initiatives and collaborative studies aiming to advance the care of EGS patients and how trainees at various levels can actively contribute to research projects that shape the future of this field.

What is your hope for the future of MA?

I hope that the Moynihan Academy continues to be a hub for aspiring and trainee surgeons alike, fostering a community where members across all grades – from medical students to senior trainees – can learn about the varied career paths in EGS. By providing high-quality educational resources and opportunities for involvement, MA can continue to support the next generation of EGS surgeons and researchers.

Sai Kotecha

Foundation Doctor Rep



Over the course of this year, we have run our weekly MRCS Monday quiz across social media and released several articles with top tips for medical students and foundation doctors, with the hopes of giving students and doctors the opportunity to start strong with their foundation training.

Additionally, I have organised and led our Moynihan Academy multi-deanery Surgical Skills series, which has included teaching basic suturing, laparoscopic skills, microsurgery, and simulation training. The purpose of the series was to equip incoming and current foundation doctors with some of the essential surgical skills to undertake core surgical training jobs in EGS and trauma. Our sessions had a great turnout overall with some fantastic facilitators sharing their time and expertise.

What's your proudest achievement in your role this year?

We've had tremendous success with our skills series and look forward to presenting the results at the upcoming ASGBI conference (look out for our oral presentation on the day!)

Describe something you have learned from any of the MA educational sessions:

As a current CST applicant, having access to a surgical interview session from such a knowledgeable team was a huge help to my own preparation, and helped me shape my approach to preparation over the coming weeks.

What is your hope for the future of MA?

I'm looking forward to seeing MA expand and becoming an increasingly common name amongst surgical trainees. I hope I'll get the opportunity to work with the council again in the future as another role.

Michael Wong

Locally Employed Doctor
Representative



I was thrilled with my role as Locally Employed Doctor (LED) Lead of Moynihan Academy (MA). I enjoyed working with all our members and developing new and innovative ways to help them improve their personal development and education. I am delighted that we successfully organised an insightful webinar entitled “Alternate Career Pathway - SAS as a Lifelong Fulfilling Career” (<https://app.medall.org/event-listings/alternate-career-pathway-sas-as-a-lifelong-fulfilling-career>) conducted in collaboration with the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and MedAll. On behalf of Moynihan Academy, I would like to express my gratitude to Mr Lasitha B Samarakoon and Mr Majid Mukadam and thank my colleagues, Mr Fuad Abid and Mr Atreya Subramanian, who have made the event possible.

What’s your proudest achievement in your role this year?

I am proud to be able to connect with others and organise all the targeted MA events.

Describe something you have learned from any of the MA educational sessions:

Where to begin, I learnt a lot!

What is your hope for the future of MA?

As stepping down as LED lead from this ‘big’ family of MA, I would also like to thank everyone in MA. I hope MA will continue to grow as a community and represent not only surgical trainees but also surgeons who are either still in practice or have retired. If you have any ideas about how we can continue to improve or support our members, please get in touch with us.



Marwa Jama

Inclusivity & Diversity Lead



During this year we have launched the diversity podcasts together with the ASGBI. This series broached on topics that are often not discussed and allowed us to ask questions that rarely get asked! Through this podcast, we so far have had chats with 10 different surgeons on topics such as advocacy for Black patients, caring for LGBTQIA colleagues, navigating religious dilemmas, and experiencing illness or disability as a surgeon.

In addition to giving an initial allyship training to the committee, I also tried to position myself as point of advice for my fellow council to ensure inclusivity in their own events/tasks. I am proud to say all our events have had diverse speakers, and our social media accounts acknowledged many religious and historically important days!

We run the Women's Month webinars as a collaboration between the EGS, Education, Wellbeing and Inclusivity leads.

Furthermore, I have led the survey on practices surrounding the use of animal and human materials in (Emergency) General surgery. This has led to work that is currently being considered for publication!

What's your proudest achievement in your role this year?

The Women's Month webinar series to me were the epitome of Diversity in PRACTICE. We were able to highlight and educate on topics that affect our patients and surgeons in practice and can be changed on both the short and long term.

Describe something you have learned from any of the MA educational sessions:

The Disability and illness episode of the podcasts made a great impression on me. The prevalence of (work-related) injuries limiting you at some point in your career was eye-opening and we really need to get better at signposting and knowing the system.



What is your hope for the future of MA?

I hope it becomes a "household" name for any General Surgery Trainee. Emergency General Surgery and Trauma is something almost any general surgeon will deal with at some extent and showing interest in it should become the norm to be proud of!

Rute Castelhano

Wellbeing Lead



I had such a great time with MA, this year! As the Wellbeing Lead, I continued the #WellbeingWednesday posts on X and Instagram, aiming to provide reminders and resources to support our members' wellbeing. I have also organised multiple webinars on important topics such as Conflict Resolution in Surgery and Infertility in Surgery, introducing discussions on issues and challenges that impact surgeons both personally and professionally.

What's your proudest achievement in your role this year?

One of my proudest achievements has been creating meaningful wellbeing content that resonates with our members and seeing the engagement it generates, for example with the Infertility webinar. The positive feedback from colleagues who found support and reassurance through our initiatives has been incredibly rewarding. Additionally, the webinars I organised created important conversations and helped to break down barriers around challenging topics in surgical careers. Knowing that these initiatives are making a difference, even in small ways, is what made this role so fulfilling.

Describe something you have learned from any of the MA educational sessions:

I've learned that wellbeing isn't just about big, structural changes—it's also about the everyday conversations and small acts of support that make a huge difference in the long run. The educational sessions have really reinforced how important it is to create a culture where people feel comfortable talking about the challenges they face. It's okay not to be okay!

What is your hope for the future of MA?

I hope MA continues to grow as a space where trainees feel supported, not just in their surgical training but in their overall wellbeing too. Expanding the wellbeing initiatives and integrating them further into surgical education will be key in developing a healthier, more sustainable career path for future surgeons. We're stronger as a profession when we look after each other, and I'd love to see that ethos continue to be a core part of MA.

Final comments:

It's been an absolute privilege to serve as Wellbeing Lead this year and contribute to a community that values both professional excellence and personal wellbeing. I'm excited to stay involved and take on a new role as Secretary for MA—I can't wait to keep working with this fantastic team and help MA grow even more!



Matthew McKenna

Trauma Lead



Over the last year I've had opportunities to engage with the MA's online revision resources including the MRCS Monday and FRCS Fridays and been able to use the MA and ASGBI's social media platform to disseminate out 'Barriers to Trauma' Survey which has highlighted the issues trainees and SAS doctors are facing when seeking training in trauma surgery. This has highlighted some very important points and I look forward to sharing them with you all!

I've also had the opportunity to write for our newsletter and share the developments and evidence in trauma surgery that shape our current practice. Also, I've been able to lean on the network of the MA to construct a comparison of trauma training between the UK, South Africa and America which highlights the differences in structure and resources.

Mostly, I've been able to attend the MA meeting and be a part of the committee .. Sitting amongst such a highly motivated and impressive group of surgeons has been as humbling as it has motivating, and I've considered myself very lucky to be a part of it!

What's your proudest achievement in your role this year?

The development of the 'Barriers to Trauma Training' survey which has been supported by the ASGBI Survey Support. This couldn't have been possible without the whole committee, especially our EDI and Research Leads and the ASGBI committee. This has shone a light on the issues we are facing when trying to access formal training in trauma surgery (boo!) and intends on highlighting ways we can improve this (yay!)

Describe something you have learned from any of the MA educational sessions:

Whilst the educational resources have been a constant source of learning, one that stands out is learning about how unconscious bias develops, presents and has shaped out practice. This was very eye opening and I think an invaluable resource for all surgeons (Thank you Marwa!)

What is your hope for the future of MA?

To keep growing and cement itself as the EGS trainee committee. The next committee is in great hands and I have every confidence this will happen

Faiza Hashim Soomro

EGS Lead



I have been a part of the Moynihan Academy for the last two years, and it has been an absolute pleasure to contribute to its growth and success. As the EGS Lead, I have played an active role in shaping educational content and engaging trainees in meaningful discussions. My role has allowed me to collaborate with various teams within MA, contributing to a range of educational initiatives and events.

One of my key contributions this year was conducting a highly successful webinar titled 'Navigating the ST3 National Selection for General Surgery', which has become the most-watched video on the MA MedAll platform, with over 4,450 minutes of views. This webinar provided crucial insights and guidance for trainees navigating the competitive selection process, demonstrating the Academy's commitment to supporting aspiring surgeons.

In addition to this, I had the privilege of serving as a trainee representative for the ST3 recruitment process for General Surgery (see our yearbooks and activities for more information). Beyond recruitment, I contributed as faculty for the MAxASiT Pre Conference Course on Trauma and EGS, which provided hands-on learning opportunities for trainees.

What's your proudest achievement in your role this year?

My proudest achievement has been spearheading the Women's Month Webinar Series. This initiative, held every #WomensWednesday, consisted of four webinars covering key topics such as EGS in pregnancy, infertility, ergonomics, and gynaecological emergencies. This series was a testament to the values of inclusivity and diversity in surgical practice and a true representation of women's empowerment in surgery. The idea was something I nurtured from its inception, and I am incredibly grateful to my fellow Education Lead, Inclusivity & Diversity Lead, and Wellbeing Leads, who helped bring it to fruition.

Describe something you have learned from any of the MA educational sessions:

One webinar that stood out for me was 'Cutting Through the Tension: Mastering Conflict Resolution in Surgery.' This session, led by an experienced surgeon and conflict resolution expert, explored common causes of conflict in the surgical environment, strategies for de-escalation, and real-life case studies. It provided invaluable techniques for turning conflict into collaboration, which is an essential skill in high-pressure surgical settings.

What is your hope for the future of MA?

The future of MA looks incredibly bright. We have an exceptional team of dedicated individuals who are committed to pushing the boundaries of surgical education and training. MA continues to be at the forefront of its development, inspiring both current and future surgeons. With our collective passion and relentless efforts, I am confident that we will continue to expand our impact and contribute meaningfully to the surgical community.

Richard Mak

Representative to ASiT



I have been the link between ASiT and Moynihan Academy. I have also organised the MA x ASiT pre-conference course at ASiT Conference 2025.

What's your proudest achievement in your role this year?

This year the MA continues its strong presence at the ASiT pre-conference. We had a full delegate subscription to the programme! This year we had more skills in the course including emergency airways and chest drains alongside trauma call simulations and laparotomies. The session was very well received.

Describe something you have learned from any of the MA educational sessions:

The women's month webinars strengthened my understanding of the unique challenges women face in surgery and we as a specialty must continue to better lives for our surgeons!

What is your hope for the future of MA?

As emergency general surgery continues to develop as a distinct specialty field in the NHS, I hope MA is at the forefront of its development and inspire current and future surgeons!





Lily Mills

Engagement and Social Media Officer



Through this role, I've generated plenty of social media content hopefully you've all seen (!!!), creating a standardised look across our social media platform. I've helped advertise the upcoming MA events and weekly, I have helped put out the Instagram and X content.

What's your proudest achievement in your role this year? Although I joined the committee late, I have absolutely loved becoming part of the MA family. My proudest achievement has been in making a good first impression with the MA family and earning the role of wellbeing officer in the next committee.

Describe something you have learned from any of the MA educational sessions:

I got some invaluable advice from the CST interview prep webinar and ended up doing well in my CST application so thank you MA!

What is your hope for the future of MA?

I hope the future of Moynihan Academy continues to be one of growth, innovation, and community impact. Ideally, it would maintain its commitment to providing quality education and fostering an inclusive and supportive environment



Penelope Herschel

Medical Student Representative



As a new role in the Moynihan Academy, I have started to make a move to increase the accessibility of surgery training to medical students. Opportunities for student to attend the MA on call EGS trauma day has been the first steps to encouraging student to partake in the MA and the access the resources they supply.

In the short time I have acted as the medical student representative I feel I have encouraged people to engage with the Moynihan academy and all associated activities.

I hope the MA becomes an organisation which can run events tailored to students and give students the opportunity to partake in research and network into the field of general surgery.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time working with the team and hope the next student representative has a great experience, just like I have!

Naim Slim

Website Lead



As the website lead, I focused on maintaining and updating MA's digital online presence, ensuring accessibility and consistency across the MA and ASGBI websites and MedAll platform. Though much of my work was 'behind the scenes', I helped keep things running smoothly online, and supported the committee by uploading content and materials throughout the year. Aside from the webmaster role, I had advisory input into the scope of practice statement for MAPs, and also stepped in at short notice to deliver a teaching session on Trauma for ASIT in Bournemouth!

What's your proudest achievement in your role this year?

Implementing the Knowledge Base backend to the website—a subtle but significant change that will bring indexing functionality and the creation of a searchable repository for M/FRCS content and other associated media ([click here](#)).

Describe something you have learned from any of the MA educational sessions:

I really enjoyed the MA Careers Inspiration Day. The speakers were amazing and I took away some very useful tips for my future practice.

What is your hope for the future of MA?

I hope MA continues to grow as a collaborative space for budding surgical trainees interested in a career in Trauma and Emergency General Surgery.



Upcoming Events

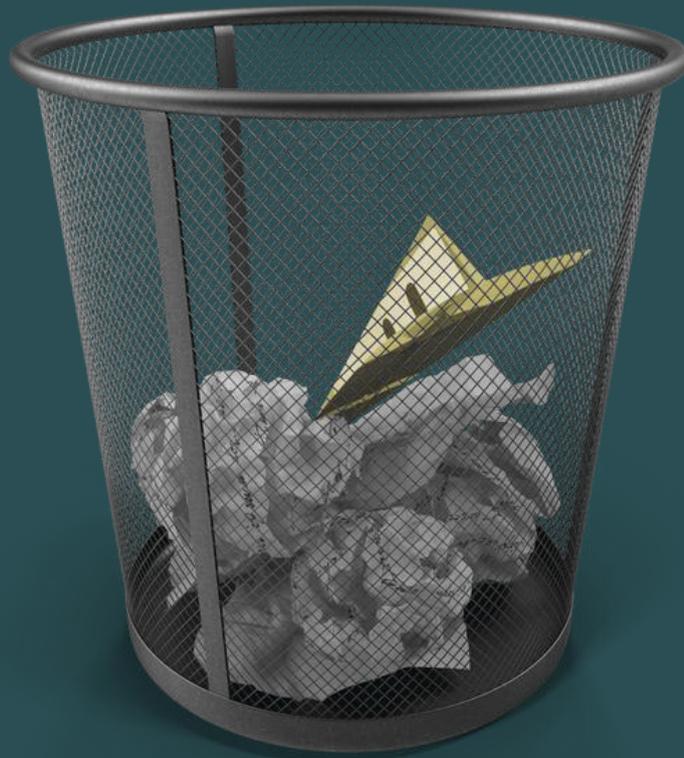


EGS & Trauma Oncall Masterclass



Council Members

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*Only put the unused ones in the bin. Don't go crazy.



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SUMMARY OF 2024 - 2025 ACTIVITIES

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HIGHLIGHTS



Key Events:

- **Careers Inspiration Talks**
- **ASiT x Moynihan Academy EGS and Trauma skills course**
- **MA EGS & Trauma On Call Masterclass**



11 Medall Webinars
9 RCSEd Webinars



Most popular Medall webinar:

Navigating the ST3 National Selection for General Surgery



WhatsApp Community has
284 members



Our Instagram has
>500 Followers

Most popular Instagram post:
Advertising our MA oncall day



>3,500 Followers on x

Most popular #FRCSFriday:
Appendicitis - Not as boring as it sounds

Most popular #MRCSSMonday:
Gallstones - Which test is the best?

Most popular #WellbeingWednesday:
Promoting trainee happiness by becoming agents of change



THE
MOYNIHAN
ACADEMY
PURSUIT OF SURGICAL EXCELLENCE

Most read newsletter:
January 2025



7 Podcasts on Podbean and Spotify
5 Podcasts recorded with Behind the Knife
for our US vs UK series



BEHIND
THE
KNIFE

GENERAL SURGERY ST3 RECRUITMENT IN THE UK

Report on the National Selection Programme

Introduction

The ASGBI Moynihan Academy recently supported junior doctors by delivering a highly successful webinar on the ST3 General Surgery recruitment process, with a focus on maximising interview performance. The event, featuring expert speakers Mr. Nick Watson and Mr. Alan Askari, was well-attended and became the most-viewed surgical recruitment webinar on MedAll. Following this, our EGS Lead Miss Faiza Hashim Soomro participated as a trainee observer in the national selection process, gaining insight into its rigorous structure.

Stage 1: Portfolio Shortlisting

The selection process was divided into two key stages. The first stage involved portfolio shortlisting, which spanned two days. Over 650 applicants were initially longlisted based on person specifications before progressing to shortlisting.

- ◆ Scoring Process:

- Each portfolio was independently reviewed by two consultant assessors working in pairs.
- Documents were meticulously verified, with discrepancies resolved by recruitment leads Ms Deborah Markham and Mr. Nicholas Watson.
- Notably, teaching, leadership, and management roles were not scored at this stage but were reserved for the interview phase.

Following assessment, 288 candidates were invited to the interview stage.

Stage 2: Interview Process

The interview phase was a three-day event led by Mr. Watson and Ms Markham, with quality assurance overseen by lay representatives and ASGBI trainee observers.

- ◆ Interview Structure:
 - Duration: 45 minutes per candidate, divided into three stations:
 - i. Clinical Scenario – Assessing clinical decision-making.
 - ii. Management Scenario – Evaluating leadership and problem-solving.
 - iii. Portfolio Station – Reviewing teaching, leadership, and management achievements.
 - Scoring: Each station was scored out of 40 (total 120).
 - Fairness Measures:
 - Scenarios were refreshed mid-day to ensure consistency.
 - Two consultants scored each candidate independently, with discrepancies reviewed by recruitment leads.
 - Pre-set scoring descriptors enhanced objectivity.
 - Communication skills were embedded into each station.

Final Scoring and Selection

The final ranking was determined by:

- ◆ 25% – Portfolio score (from Stage 1).
- ◆ 75% – Interview performance (Stage 2).

Final Comments

The process adhered strictly to equality and diversity principles, ensuring a transparent, standardised, and error-minimised selection system.

From our observations, the ST3 General Surgery recruitment process seemed a meticulously structured, two-stage system designed to select the highest-calibre candidates. The involvement of multiple assessors, independent scoring, and continuous quality checks ensure fairness and objectivity. We hope that Moynihan Academy's webinar played a pivotal role in preparing our member applicants, and hope to run similar events next year to aid further.



ASGBI
EVENTS

International
Surgical Congress

12TH - 14TH MAY 2025
EICC, EDINBURGH

EMBRACING TRADITION - DELIVERING INNOVATION

Join the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland (ASGBI) at their flagship International Congress in Edinburgh from 12th to 14th May 2025.

CONGRESS HIGHLIGHTS

- National and international guest speakers
- Royal College Lectures
- Short paper and poster presentations
- Hands-on training in our Training Village
- Careers advice at the Breakfast Academy
- In-depth Masterclass sessions NEW!!
- Gala Dinner at Mansfield Traquair



PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

- Medicolegal: Mock Trial
- Supporting Surgical Training
- Hernia Controversies with BHS
- Surgical Adhesions with ACS
- Humanitarian Surgery
- SAS/LED Doctors: the new portfolio pathway
- Robotics
- Trauma
- Research
- Innovation
- Student Symposium
- SAGES: How I get out of Trouble
- Colorectal with ACPGBI
- Patient Safety & Human Factors
- Update on National Trials
- Upper GI with AUGIS
- Excellence in Perioperative Care
- Endocrine with BAETS



SCAN ME



PRE-CONGRESS COURSES

Sunday 11th May

- Laparoscopic Skills for Emergency Surgery
- CBD Exploration
- SAGES: Minimally Invasive Acute Care Surgery
- David Nott Foundation

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: 14TH APRIL

EGS AND TRAUMA ON-CALL DAY

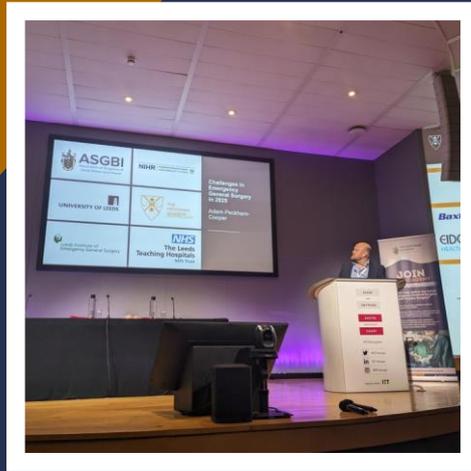
After much planning, we were delighted to host our MA EGS & Trauma On Call Masterclass. The MA committee had worked hard, both in the run up to the event, and on the day itself, and we were also grateful to all our speakers and sponsors for making it a success.



It was a bright, sunny spring morning at Austin Court in Birmingham when we welcomed our delegates and faculty to a day of case-based discussions, breakout sessions and an inspiring keynote talk round off the day.

Our talks focused on common and complex EGS and trauma presentations that we may see during our on calls and they generated healthy debate about risk stratification, management, and ultimately gave us the chance to see how decision making in these scenarios can play out. Topics included, bowel obstruction, diverticulitis, trauma resuscitation and acute biliary disease.

We had three concurrent breakout sessions: EGS Research in Practice, Leadership in Surgery and FRCS Viva Preparation. There was also the chance to visit the Arthrex bus stationed outside the venue to practice some very valuable laparoscopic skills for all levels of surgeons, be it basic handling and transferring, or laparoscopic suturing.



It was finally time to all meet again in the lecture theatre to hear Mr Adam Peckham-Cooper's closing talk about the future of EGS workforce planning, and how we can support and champion our EGS trainees as they progress throughout their careers. We ended the day by announcing our three lucky raffle winners, who won exclusive Moynihan Academy merchandise, with one lucky person winning a free registration to the ASGBI Congress in Edinburgh in May!

Highlights included:

- ◆ Max Marden's fast paced Mentimeter Trauma quiz (congratulations to the winner, going by the alias "Sakura")
- ◆ MA Co-VP Rosie Simson's bellringing skills for ensuring tight timekeeping!
- ◆ The assistance and social media interview videos by our Medical Student delegates

We are looking forward to this event next year, and feel confident that the incoming committee will pull off a stimulating and engaging day to rival this year's.

WOMEN IN SURGERY SERIES

In honour of International Women's Day 2025, our Wellbeing Wednesdays were changed to "Women's Wednesdays" for the entire month of March. Every Wednesday, we hosted a series of webinars dedicated to either women's health issues in General Surgery or topics related to the work environment of women surgeons.

The series kicked off with a webinar on Emergency General Surgery (EGS) in the pregnant patient. Dual presentations from a consultant obstetrician and a consultant general surgeon taught us how to approach this complex patient group as part of a multidisciplinary team (MDT).

We also aimed to tackle issues our female members may face in their roles and daily tasks. Literature suggests that while all surgeons experience ergonomic stress and subsequent musculoskeletal issues at high rates, these risks are likely increased in women, yet are less frequently studied. Therefore, during our second webinar, Prof. Hallbeck, an expert in ergonomics for surgeons at Mayo, took us through recent research on this topic. Rupa Sarkar, a General Surgery consultant then went through the practical implications of this.

For the 3rd episode, we invited 3 speakers to discuss their personal journeys as medical professionals/surgeons undergoing fertility treatment and pregnancy-related difficulties. This session also covered available policies, rules, and protocols that can be referenced by not only surgeons undergoing these challenges but also by colleagues, supervisors, and educators who wish to become active allies. We sadly learned that the current climate is not very accommodating to those on this journey, and we hope we shone a spotlight on this.

The final episode focused on emergency gynaecology for the general surgeon. Ms. Egbase, a consultant gynaecologist, discussed causes of lower abdominal pain with gynaecological causes, as well as frequently encountered incidentalomas. Subsequently, Mr. Winter-Roach, a consultant gynae-oncologist, presented on bowel obstruction in ovarian cancer patients. This is a scenario many general surgeons encounter during emergency work, and he provided insights on considerations and treatment possibilities from both gynaecological and oncological perspectives.

The series offered a wonderful opportunity for us to learn from colleagues outside of our specialty, as our speakers' included experts from obstetrics and gynaecology, paediatrics, and even engineering. It was a great success, with over 250 individuals tuning in and a lot of positive interaction on social media! It also saw strong team collaboration, with many of the MA council members chairing sessions and showcasing how women's issues in general surgery are relevant to us all!



**Moynihan Academy
Webinar Series
Women's Month**

  	EGS in pregnancy 05/03/25 20:00
  	Ergonomics 12/03/25 20:00
  	(In)fertility 19/03/25 20:00
  	Gynaecological emergencies in EGS 26/03/25 20:00

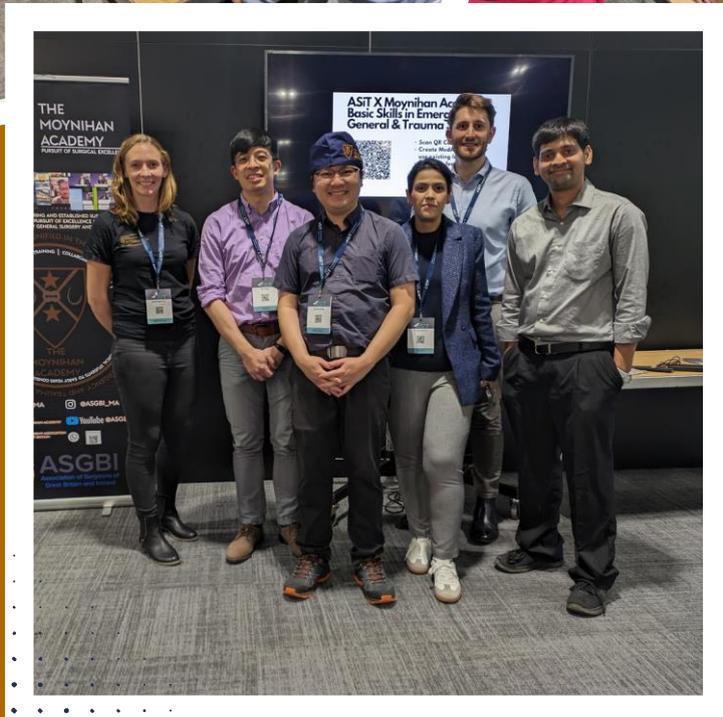
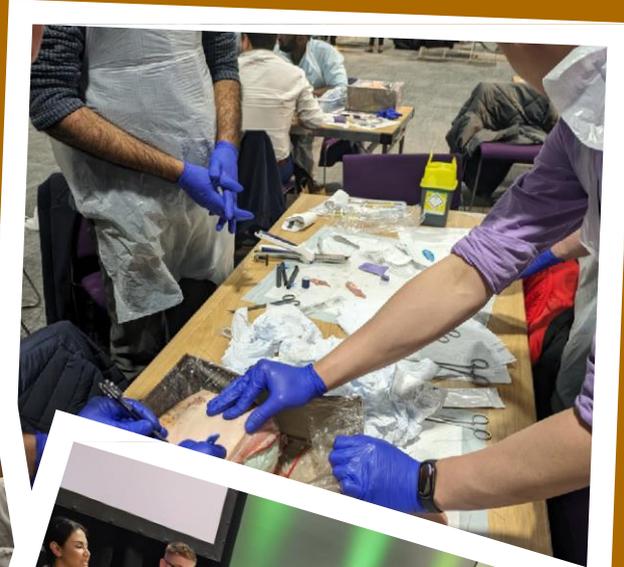
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PURSUIT OF SURGICAL EXCELLENCE

 **THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN IRELAND**

 **ASGBI**
Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland



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RESOURCES



PODCASTS

<https://asgbi.podbean.com/page/2/>

WEBINARS

<https://app.medall.org/c/the-moynihan-academy-association-of-surgeons-great-britain-and-ireland>

WHATSAPP

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/BWAofvv8nXK1TTPbbGnFYK>

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A big Thank you to the ASGBI Executive and Council for their support and to all our members for the engagement and participation!

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