



**33rd Annual General Meeting  
and Conference  
of the  
Myotonic Dystrophy Support Group**

**Holiday Inn Bristol Filton  
Filton Road  
Bristol  
BS16 1QX**

**16th and 17th May 2025**



# Provisional Conference Programme

(these details are correct at time of going to press, but may be subject to change)

## Friday 17 May Evening

**6.30pm** Evening Meal

followed by

**Annual General Meeting** chaired by MDSG Patron  
**Professor David Brook**

(Registration will be open for those attending the AGM)

## Saturday 18 May Morning

**8.30am** Registration and refreshments on arrival

**9.30am** Welcome by Michael Walker Chair of the Board of Trustees

Chair for the Day Professor David Brook

**9.40am** The Peter Harper Memorial Lecture: Dr Ian Bowler  
"Peter referenced" anaesthesia

**10.05am** Research Update: Professor David Brook

**10.30am** Short 15 minute break

**10.45am** Research: Myotonic Dystrophy and the Eyes: Professor Alice Davidson

**11.15am** Registry Update: Ms Helen Walker, Curator

**11.30am** Refreshments (during which the auditorium will be partitioned for workshops)

**11.50am** Workshops Session One

**12.35 for 12.45pm** Lunch

## Saturday 18 May Afternoon

**2.00pm** Workshops Session Two

**2.50pm** Workshops Session Three

**3.45pm** Short Break (during which the partitions in auditorium will be removed)

**4.10pm** to be confirmed

**5.00pm** Goodbye's

**Workshops:** There will be three workshop sessions,  
one before lunch and two after.

The following workshops are being planned;

Falls and Orthotics—**Sinead Croghan (London)**

Voice Projection/Speech Intelligibility —**Jodi Allen (London)**

Research—**Professor David Brook (Nottingham)**

**and Professor Alice Davidson (London)**

Gastro—**Dr Chris Turner (London)**

Cardiology—**Dr Bob Ballantyne (Glasgow)**

Questions and Answers—**Dr Saam Sedehizadeh (Nottingham)**

Exercise and Management—**Lindsay Maidment (Sheffield)**

**and Dr Valeria Di Leo (Newcastle)**

## **Annual General Meeting**

This will take place on Friday Evening after the meal.

This year, two Trustees have completed their Term of Office, Claire McAlonan and Michael Walker. Both are willing to serve for a further three years and offer themselves for re-election.

**Dr Valeria Di Leo** who was co-opted by the Board part way through the year, has put her name forward to be a full Trustee for a term of three years. Valeria has helped raise the profile of MDSG through social media.

## **Forms**

Enclosed are the menu choices and workshops.

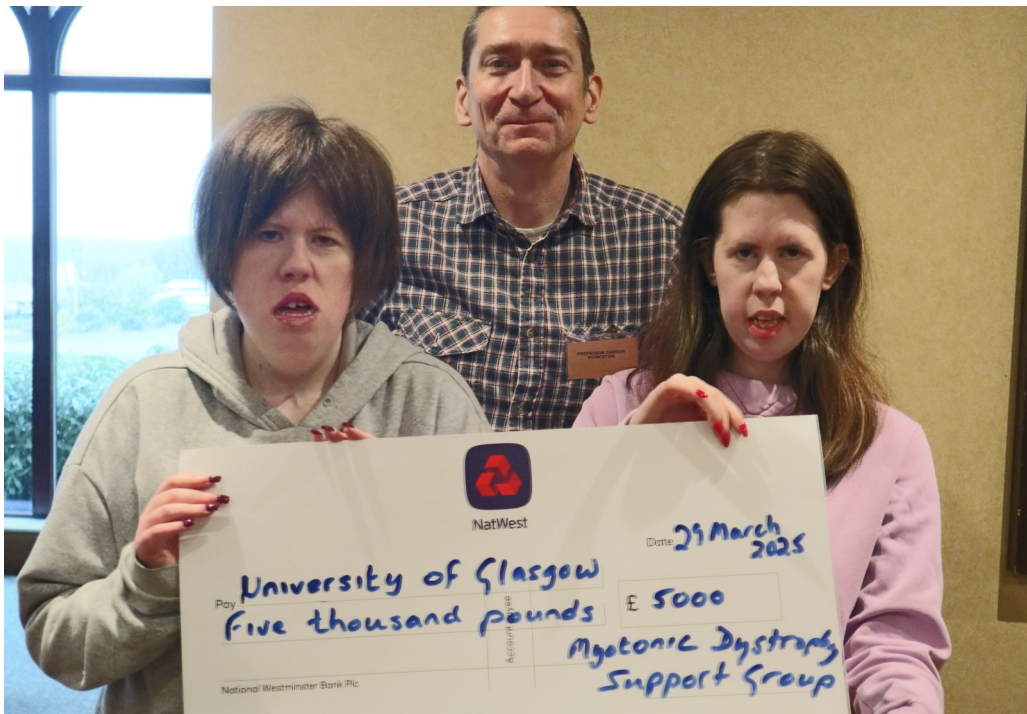
Please return the forms by **5 May 2025**. You may scan, email or post your choices.

# Scotland



Saturday 29 March 2025, saw 105 delegates, (some travelled 200 miles) with the help of eight speakers, three Trustees and two helpers, gather together for the First Patient Information Day held in Scotland at the Westerwood Hotel, Cumbernauld.

We record our thanks to all the speakers who gave up their Saturday to be with us all. Talks on Research, trials, Registry, Exercise, Sleep, Speech, Brain and the work of Dr Bob Ballantyne the neurologist for the West of Scotland, holding clinics, some 80 miles from his base at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Glasgow.



*A donation from an anonymous Scottish member was matched by MDSG, to enable Esther and Beth Kneafsey to present to Professor Darren Monckton a cheque for £5000 to help towards research of Myotonic Dystrophy in his Glasgow laboratory.*

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