



**BACG**

***British Association for Crystal Growth***

*Registered Charity No. 261780*

**BACG AGM meeting**

**2<sup>nd</sup> July 2025 17:30**

**In person, BACG Annual Meeting 2025, Leeds**

## **AGENDA**

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| 1. Welcome from the president                                  | Sally   |
| 2. Organization introduction (committees, membership benefits) | Grahame |
| 3. Finance update  | Zarrin  |
| 4. Membership update   | Zarrin  |
| 5. Student committee update                                    | Frank   |
| 6. Problem Statement   | Amy R.  |
| 7. New BACG president nomination                               | Sally   |
| 8. Committee members and future opening/nomination procedure   | Elena   |
| 9. Questions/Feedback from members                             |         |

Elena Simone

Secretary

28<sup>th</sup> June 2025



# **BACG**

## ***British Association for Crystal Growth***

*Registered Charity No. 261780*

**BACG ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2024 18:30**  
**during the BACG Annual Meeting, Loughborough University**

### **Minutes**

Prof. Sally Price Chaired the Meeting, which was quorate. General welcome and thanks to Ghazala Sadiq and Linda Seton for helping with the transition of the new chair, secretary and treasurer.

1. Minutes of the AGM held on Wednesday 22<sup>th</sup> September 2023 6pm during the combined ISIC22 and BACG meeting at the University of Strathclyde, were proposed by Kevin Roberts and accepted by Karen Robertson
2. Matters arising. There were no matters arising.
3. Grahame Woolame, presented the Chair's report below.

The association remains in a healthy state. This follows a strong BACG/ISIC joint meeting in Glasgow 2023, which hosted a sizable number of national and international attendees, resulting in a record profit.

The BACG's core mission is to encourage national and international scientific and technological communication and dialogue of the theory and practice of crystal growth, crystallisation, and the appraisal of crystals.

The committee ensure that the BACG is well placed to serve our members.

Expending our good fortune, we advertised the possibility for travel grants prominently for BACG 2024, two applied and one received it (learning: visa applications require time to process).

For BACG 2024, 10 of the registrations received a membership discount, and one retiree received complimentary registration.

This exemplifies some of the membership benefits: discount to the annual meeting; access to YSA; and the possibility to join the newly formed Student Committee who magnificently chaired the dedicated Researcher Day, having 75 registered delegates.

BACG 2024 has over 130 registrations and all dinner tickets sold (95).

The committee would like to thank the organising team for all their efforts in putting together such a high-quality programme and the University of Loughborough for hosting the event.

This year's annual meeting is again supported by a selection of invited speakers coming from across the international community covering academia and industry. The committee also thanks our sponsors for supporting our main conference and the Researcher Day.

For BACG 2025 we have two excellent bids, to be decided following the AGM (details stored in the relevant folder within Teams). This will be another standalone event to maintain our identity and grow BACG membership.

Joint meeting opportunities: we have numerous requests to run a combined conference e.g., BCA, ICCGE, Dutch & Italian Crystal Growth Associations.

Since the last meeting the Chair, Secretary and Treasurer positions have been filled by a new constellation, bringing with it challenges and opportunities (across CH, IT, UK). I would like to thank the BACG committee for their dedication and patience during this period of flux.

Our association is indebted to Ghazala Sadiq, Linda Seton & Nick Blagden for their unyielding contributions over numerous years – they formed the backbone of BACG.

We have established a Microsoft account and Teams channel to centrally store information and attempt to capture know-how, in support of continuity for future core role replacements.

The website, email drops with Newsletters, X (formerly Twitter) & LinkedIn have continued to be effective in communicating with members and reaching the broader community of crystal growers.

We will continue to update the website and the member registration. We invite members to recommend news items or vacancies that would be relevant to the BACG community.

We are committed to embody EDI into the BACG, dedicating time and space to hold important discussions and educate ourselves.

#### 4. Brief report from Elena Simone

Suggestion to schedule the EDI event during the main event instead of parallel session. This will be indicated in the Annual Meeting Organization Manual, which has been compiled by the secretary.

New committee members were presented and approved by the AGM:

- Tariq Mahmud (Leeds)
- Karen Robertson (Nottingham)
- Mingzhong Li (Leicester)
- Cameron Brown (Strathclyde)
- Ashwin Rajagopalan (Manchester)

There are no opening at the moment for elected members but co-opted members Ghazala Sadiq and Linda Seton are stepping down after the end of their term. This means that 2 co-opted positions will be available.

The president is also at the end of her term and a new candidate will be identified and announced at the next AGM.

After a discussion with Ghazala Sadiq few suggestions for potential benefits for BACG members were made:

- BACG mentorship scheme
- BACG member periodic open lab day for members to visit
- BACG member workshops for early career development, EDI
- Travel grants to attend conference
- Student committee
- Conversation with senior scientists

The attendees seem keen to implement them. The modalities will be discussed in the next committee meetings.

5. Zarrin Ansari presented the treasurer's report

- The balance in the BACG accounts is positive
- BACG 2024 was a few thousands pounds in the negative but considering the profit from last conference we could still pay for the way, plenary speakers, travel grant and prizes.

The interim report is approved by the AGM attendees.

6. Fragkoulis Theodosiou presented the Membership Secretary's report on behalf of Petros Neoptolemou.

We changed the way we manage the memberships, stopping relying on a third party service and building the registration within our website. The number of new membership in this year will need to be checked but we surely had much interest especially with the institution of the student committee. Frank suggests to have a survey at the end of the conference to check also the interest in the society. Huaiyu Yang replies data will be provided after the conference.

7. Fragkoulis Theodosiou presented the Communication report

The chair thanks Frank and the student committee for the great work done with the website, newsletter and social media (Linkedin, Twitter). As Petros Neoptolemou stepped down as communication manager, members of the student committee has been selected to take his place in the communication duties.

8. The president compliments on the PhD day and suggests to keep it in the programme for future years. Tariq Mahmud suggests more event should be supported BACG, especially training courses. The support could be sponsoring student attendance. The president points out that the AGM should be attended by more students, also not part the committee, to proposed these ideas.

9. Any other business. There was no further business to discuss

10. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be at the BACG 2025, Annual meeting, which will be held in Leeds.

Elena Simone  
Secretary  
4<sup>th</sup> July 2024