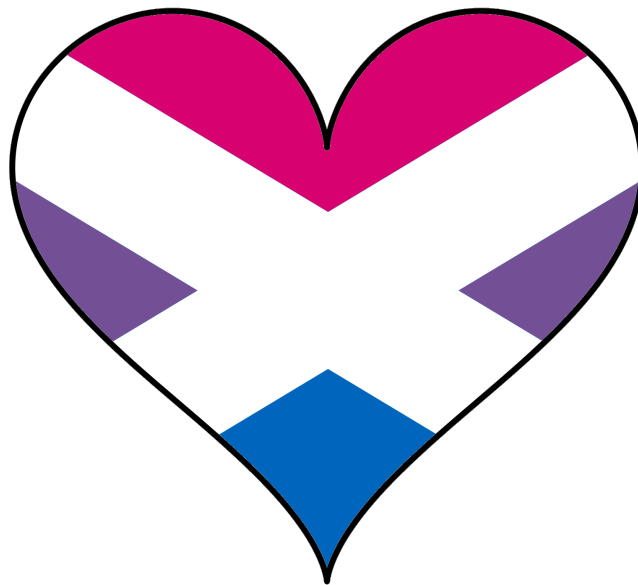


BiCon 2013

Handbook



University of Edinburgh
July 18th-21st 2013

Useful Numbers

In an emergency call: 999

NHS24: 08454 24 24 24

Police: 101

For first aid and assistance with accommodation call:

JMCC Reception Centre: 0131 651 2001

For urgent enquiries related to BiCon call:

BiCon 2013 Organising Team: 0845 287 2044

Helplines

Samaritans (24 hours): 0131 221 9999 and 08457 90 90 90

Breathing Space Helpline (6pm - 2am): 0800 83 85 87

Edinburgh Crisis Centre (24 hours): 0808 801 0414 / text: 07974429075

Saneline Phonenumber (1pm - 11pm): 0845 767 8000

Rape Crisis Scotland (6pm - Midnight): 0808 801 0302

Scottish Domestic Abuse Helpline (24 hours): 0800 027 1234

Parentline Scotland (24 hours): 0800 028 2233

Alcoholics Anonymous (24 hours): 0845 769 7555

Narcotics Anonymous (24 hours): 0300 999 1212

Local travel

City Cabs: 0131 228 1211

Central Taxis: 0131 229 2468

Traveline Scotland: 01236 634 361

National Rail Enquiries: 08457 48 49 50

Welcome

This is one of two handbooks to help you navigate BiCon: inside this one, you'll find information about the event and the local area. The other contains details about the workshops sessions, plenaries and evening entertainments.

BiCon has been run by volunteers for 29 years now, and it's changed a lot in that time, but every year it's an awesome event. We want this year to be no different, so please feel free to let us know how we're doing!

We would particularly like to thank our event partners the Equality Network, Edinburgh University and the Scottish Transgender Alliance for their support.

We hope you have a fantastic time!

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Meet the Team

These are the people to seek out if you want to help out, have not been able to find the help you need at the registration desk, or you have a serious BiCon related issue or concern. Most access and discrimination concerns will be regarded as serious. So please do not hesitate to contact a member of the team directly in relation to these, even if you think they are minor.

Team members wearing purple sashes are “on duty”.

Sam is the team co-ordinator. She’s been to three BiCons and has ten years’ experience in event management. When she isn’t running a BiCon, she works for the Equality Network, a charity that promotes equality and human rights for LGBT people living in Scotland.

Ian is Sam’s right-hand person, advising a team otherwise full of BiCon-organising newbies in how to make stuff happen.

Katie is our resident super-hero. She built the website, took charge of all the social media and newsletters, put together the workshop programme for the weekend and wrangled volunteer shifts on the reception desk. She’s also a full-time nursing student, works part time, and much to the admiration of the rest of the team, even finds time to sleep occasionally.

Elizabeth is our bookings officer. She's American by birth and Scottish by love. She's fannish and funny and prone to saying things like 'Fantastic!' If you see her, offer hugs.

Mat helped organise our entertainments, including the DIY Disco. He’s well and truly a BiCon veteran, having attended 14 times (or something like that). You probably know him from workshops like Live Action Cluedo of BiCons past.

Matt P is a seasoned BiConner of more than 10 years. This year he is in charge of making sure our lovely reception desk volunteers know what’s going on at all times, and liaising between them and the team during the event. When not doing BiCon stuff, he likes playing board games and speaking Esperanto, sometimes both at the same time.

What Is BiCon?

The first BiCon happened in 1984, although back then it was called “The Politics of Bisexuality”. It had 40 attendees, and was considered a great success, resulting in a second event occurring six months later: “Bisexuality and the Politics of Sex”.

BiCon went residential for the first time in Coventry, and it flip-flopped for a few years before becoming permanently residential in 1995. It has now been to 13 cities in all three countries of the UK’s mainland.

The academic conference BiReCon was created in 2008, and recurred in 2010 and 2012.

BiCon has acquired guidelines and procedures governing the event, and traditional workshops that repeat every year, along with the fancy dress BiCon ball on Saturday night. With all this said, **BiCon is what you make it**, so whether you want a holiday chilling out with your friends, an activist weekend, or days of sleeping and nights of dancing, it’s up to you.

BiCon is entirely volunteer led, from the people sorting out the venue to facilitating workshops and sitting on the reception desk to answer your questions. We’re all here to help you enjoy your weekend as much as possible.

What to Expect

Thursday is a travel and informal socialising day. You will be able to check in for your bedroom anytime from 2pm on Thursday 18 July onwards in the JMCC Reception Centre. You'll be able to relax in the downstairs bar, in the beautiful grounds and in common rooms in some of the accommodation blocks.

If you'd like to explore, the extinct volcano known as Arthur's Seat, which offers amazing views over the city, and the Royal Commonwealth Pool, are both close to the site - and of course, there's plenty more things to do in central Edinburgh as well.

Registration for BiCon 2013 itself will open at 8:30am on Friday 19th July and BiCon will officially begin at 9:30am with an opening plenary to welcome you. Thereafter, the programme will be in full swing for Friday and Saturday with workshops during the day and various evening entertainments at night.

Most workshops are 75 minutes long, with a break for lunch in the middle of the day. Although you have a session guide describing all the workshops, some things inevitably change during BiCon itself, so keep an eye out for updated information on the info boards in the JMCC reception area.

On Sunday 18th July there will be a day time workshop programme until 2pm, when BiCon will officially end with the closing plenary. However, we will have a BiCon comedown space from 2pm - 4pm, and anyone who is still around is welcome to help clean up during that time as well!

Getting to the Venue

John Macintyre Conference Centre (JMCC)

Pollock Halls
18 Holyrood Park Road
Edinburgh
EH16 5AY

By road:

If you are coming to Edinburgh from the South, take the A720; City of Edinburgh Bypass, then take the A7 Old Dalkeith Road exit at the Sheriffhall Roundabout going towards the City Centre. Continue straight for approximately 3 miles. Just past the Royal Commonwealth Pool at the lights, turn right onto Holyrood Park Road. Pollock Halls, including the John Macintyre Conference Centre, is the second turning on the right.

By taxi:

A taxi from Edinburgh St Andrew Square Bus Station or Edinburgh Waverley Railway Station to the John Macintyre Conference Centre in Pollock Halls will cost approximately Â£7 and take 5-10 minutes.

By bus:

From the shop side of Princes Street or the upwards traffic direction on North Bridge; take a Lothian Bus number 2, 14, 30 or 33 to the Royal Commonwealth Pool on Dalkeith Road. It is then a short walk down Holyrood Park Road to the John Macintyre Conference Centre in Pollock Halls. A single ticket is £1.50 and a day saver ticket is £3.50. No change is given on buses in Edinburgh.

About JMCC

The Reception Centre is open 24 hours and deals with all accommodation related administration, enquiries and problems. You can also find printed information about local attractions, WiFi and computers with printers. There are small charges for the use of these computers. Details are available in the Reception Centre.

On all days the JMCC Restaurant will be open as follows:

Breakfast: 7:30am - 10:00pm

Lunch: 12:30am - 2:00pm

Dinner: 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Breakfast is FREE for those who have booked on-site accommodation.

Lunch and dinner are both three course buffets. The restaurant has confirmed a **3 for 2 deal** on lunch and dinner for BiCon attendees: please wear your badge when you go to the restaurant to take advantage of this.

The JMCC Restaurant has been notified of all dietary requirements that you have informed us about. They are experienced and skilled in dealing with dietary requirements; however, should you have any questions or concerns please feel free to raise them with the BiCon team.

The downstairs bar in the JMCC is open every day from 11am - 11pm. Supervised under-18s are welcome until 9:00pm but will not be served alcohol. This bar is also open to other people staying in the on-site accommodation.

Please note that no food is allowed in the JMCC itself.

The pantries/ kitchenettes in accommodation may each differ slightly in equipment. Most should have a microwave, fridge and toaster and there will be **limited** cutlery and crockery available; you may want to bring some basic kitchen utensils with you. The pantries/kitchenettes, and where applicable common rooms, are shared with other rooms in your corridor. None of the accommodation areas have cookers or ovens.

A self service **free tea and coffee** service is available in the JMCC bar area (Centro). Please return used cups to the area provided.

Finding Your Feet

Enjoying yourself is the key to a good BiCon. That's true whether you're here to attend sessions, run sessions, revolutionise bisexual activism, find your spiritual home, pick people up or all of the above!

Take it easy! Because BiCon is such an exceptional experience, it can feel as though you don't want to miss a moment. We don't want to sound like your mum, but do remember to eat and sleep a reasonable amount. Most people don't go to things in every session, but take time to chat, snooze, call home, have a shower or go food shopping. It's not possible to do everything - if you didn't fit in everything you wanted to - well, you'll just have to come back next year!

If you've gone to a session expecting one thing and you've got another, do consider either just leaving it, or asking about it. Most session facilitators are happy to take on board suggestions, and most would rather you just said something, or left, than suffered in silence. By the same token, don't feel that you have to go to the parties and events: if they're not your cup of tea or you'd like to do something different like a trip to a local park or museum, please do.

Remember that your health and wellbeing should be your top priority and is ultimately your responsibility. BiCon will of course try to assist in making your experience as comfortable and enjoyable as possible. However, please note that BiCon 2013 is not responsible for anyone's personal care. Take care of yourself first and foremost, take time out when you need it, and then if you have the capacity to help others - great! We can all do with a little help sometimes.

Meeting New People

Most years, about a third of BiCon are first-timers. So although everyone around you may look as though they know lots of people already, in many cases that's an illusion. There are probably people nearby who would be delighted to discover a fellow newcomer or friendly person to chat with. The tricky bit (especially if you're shy, and many of the most confident-looking people at BiCon are!) is finding them. But even if you can't spot them, don't forget that they're around. Try to take the plunge and chat to nearby people who are similar to yourself and also those who aren't.

What does that mean? Coming to BiCon can be quite a learning curve in terms of different worlds. BiCon draws its audience from a dazzling variety of communities, and you might meet people who define as trans*, Deaf,

disabled, and belong to different faiths, cultures and subcultures. You might also hear words and abbreviations like polyamory, BDSM, genderqueer and so on. Towards the back of this booklet you'll find a "jargon buster" for some of the words you might hear at BiCon that aren't necessarily in common use. It's not an exhaustive list, and they're not official definitions by any means, but it should be a good start.

The Fitting & Misfitting session is well worth attending if this is your first time here. See the session guide for more information.

Am I bi enough?

In short, yes. Perhaps because there are so many different ways to be bi, it seems to be a common thread among bi people to worry sometimes that they don't qualify as a "real" bi person. Let's just say that we're not going to be asking for some mythical certificate of bisexual authenticity. Besides, as we already mentioned, BiCon is open to people who don't even consider themselves to be bi. So don't worry - if you can respect the diversity of others then you're welcome at BiCon, whatever the element of bisexuality in your life.

Many bisexual people have experienced forms of prejudice and intolerance because of their sexuality (and other aspects of our identities), and know first-hand how difficult it can be to accept yourself when others do not. As a result, people at BiCon try to be accepting and non-judgmental.

Not necessarily bi!

Not everyone who comes to BiCon identifies as bisexual, but may attend as the partner, friend or relative of a bi person. Some visit as part of questioning their sexuality. Some might be labelled as "bisexual" by mainstream culture but actually prefer a different label (such as queer or pansexual) and other non-bi people just feel at home here thanks to the accepting nature of the event. There may also be a few people with a professional interest in bisexuality, e.g. academic researchers or workers in the LGBT equalities sector. Anyone at BiCon who is a journalist must identify themselves and will have a different coloured badge on. In short, don't assume that everyone you meet at BiCon is bi.

Who are those people in strange clothes?

One of the wonderful things about BiCon is that it's a very non-judgmental place and many people take the opportunity to dress up in ways they might not in their everyday life. Corsets, latex, PVC, body paint and flowing superhero capes: BiCon has seen it all (and then some). Sometimes, it's easy to get the impression that these dressed-up people are of a different cooler

species, or indeed strange alien weirdos. However, we're mostly much the same as anyone else, as you'll find out if you get chatting to us. In a spirit of true BiCon diversity, you'll see plenty of people in their favourite ordinary comfy clothes too, especially in the daytime but even on the dance floor.

Sex and no sex

Just like in life outside BiCon, there are those who like to talk about their sexual activities, those who don't and those who vary. BiCon is certainly a sex-positive environment, but you'll also find plenty of people who would prefer to chat about other topics. BiCon provides the option to be more open than usual about various aspects of sexuality and if you want to learn more, you will probably find many people and workshops exchanging knowledge. Although it's fair to say that there is some crossover between the bisexual and "kinky" communities, if you are not interested in kink or fetish that's just as valid.

What's your pronoun?

Although the majority of people at BiCon are conventionally gendered, it also attracts a lot of gender diversity. BiCon is also a space in which people often feel safe experimenting with their gender presentation. Some people identify (and may live full time) as a gender that you wouldn't necessarily have predicted from their appearance; others are playing with a different role for an evening. To be respectful, use the pronouns (he, she, they, per, etc) that people indicate they prefer for themselves.

How do you know which those are? Sometimes you can guess from a person's name or appearance, but sometimes the only way to know for sure is to ask. Don't feel that you ought to know from some secret sign, and don't worry if you get it wrong sometimes, as long as you were doing your best to be polite. By the same token, if you want to be known by a different pronoun than someone's guessed for you, let them know.

Volunteering

Volunteering at BiCon is a great way to meet people, and a great way to help out the team. If you'd like to donate a couple of hours of your time, there are lots of ways you can help out. Chat with team members about how you can do your bit to:

Assist with access: Everyone needs a helping hand sometimes. Some attendees and members of the team would appreciate assistance with carrying heavy loads.

At the registration desk: The registration desk is the hub of BiCon. Volunteers at the registration desk help people register for BiCon and answer general BiCon related enquiries.

Set up and tear down: We're always happy to hear from people who can help the team prepare and clean-up workshop rooms.

Run a session: There are some evening slots available for self-organised workshops.

BiCon Comedown

A lot of people have a sense of post-BiCon comedown a day or two after the event ends. It's also common to be fired up with inspiration and feel that you can't wait to hook up again with some bit of the bi community. It can be useful to think in advance about how you might feel when you get home, and build in a few plans to take care of yourself.

Some people book a day or two off work after BiCon finishes to unwind and catch up on sleep. If you're not out as bi, it can be good to stay a night with a friend where you can talk freely and let off steam. You might want to fix up your next bi social event before you leave BiCon, to have something to look forward to. If there's nothing going on where you live, you could still plan to stay in touch with people by phone, or to join one of the internet groups.

To make returning to "real life" a bit easier, we've programmed a couple of hours of "BiCon comedown" after the closing plenary on Sunday, and there's space on the BiCon website for those using public transport to share travel plans:

<http://www.bicon2013.org.uk/2013/05/sunday-trains-now-available/>

Jargon Buster

Like most communities, BiCon has its own language. The jargon BiCon uses comes from academia, fandom and sub-cultures, mainly in the UK. We can't provide an exhaustive list here, but we hope you find these brief definitions useful. We have also included some non-BiCon specific terms here that you may read in the Session Guide or hear during the event.

We recognise that many words, including these terms, have different definitions. Language is always in flux, disputed and used by different people in different ways at different times. We are not suggesting that these are the most important words or the only definitions for these words. We are only offering a few suggestions as just one point of reference. Please feel free to explore other definitions and terms.

Activism: campaigning for societal or political change.

Asexual person: someone who does not experience sexual attraction.

Ally: a person who positively engages with communities without necessarily having that identity themselves.

Black and Minority Ethnic (BME): one of the umbrella terms used to refer to a wide range of people who are not of “the ethnic majority”. This includes, but is not limited to, people who may be described as Black, Asian, Jewish, Roma, Mixed Race, Migrants, Asylum Seekers and Refugees.

BDSM: Bondage and Discipline and/or Dominance and Submission and/or Sadism and Masochism.

BCN: Bi Community News: The UK bi scene’s newsletter/magazine. It's issued every other month. Also frequently available is Bike Immunity News, an indie humour zine produced by a member of the bi community.

BiCon Continuity Ltd: the entity set up to look after BiCon's money.

BiFest: a one-day event, a bit like a mini BiCon.

Biphobia: the irrational hatred, fear and/or intolerance of bisexual people.

Bisexual erasure: the act of ignoring, explaining away, or removing evidence of bisexuality, especially in LGBT activism and the media.

Bisexual person: someone who experiences romantic or sexual attraction to people of the same and different genders.

BiUK: the UK national organisation for bisexual research and activism.

Cisgender: having a gender identity that is considered to “match” the biological sex assigned at birth.

GSM: Gender and Sexual Minorities, an alternative to LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender) that some consider more inclusive.

Heteronormativity: a cultural and societal bias in favour of opposite-sex relationships.

Intersectionality: Identities, experiences or approaches to equality work that fall into more than one equality strand at the same time. For example: Muslim lesbians.

Kinky: a catch-all term to describe people who enjoy BDSM and fetish.

Kinsey Scale: a scale of 0-6 representing the continuum of human sexuality, with 0 being ‘exclusively heterosexual’ and 6 being ‘exclusively homosexual’. X is used to denote asexuality. The scale was first published in 1948.

Munch: Low/no pressure social gathering attended by people into BDSM.

Polyamory: a word used to describe having romantic love for more than one person (and being open and honest about it).

PolyDay: like a BiFest, a one day event focussing on polyamory and non-monogamies. OpenCon is a similar, weekend-long event.

Safe space: a space where people can expect to be free from harassment, judgement and intimidation.

Spoons: roughly speaking, “spoons” is a slang term for energy levels, especially when that energy is related to a physical or mental health condition. An excellent resource for more information is <http://www.butyoudontlooksick.com>

Trans*: a way to describe people who feel they don’t fit into the gender/sex they were given at birth. The * indicates that it’s an umbrella term covering many different forms of trans identities, from transgender and transsexual to transvestite.

BiCon 2013 Code of Conduct

By signing for your pass you agree to follow this code of conduct.

Why do we need a Code of Conduct?

It is important that while we are at BiCon we have a common understanding of acceptable behaviour. This promotes mutual respect, equality and safety for us all. All BiCon attendees, including the organising team and volunteers, are to abide by this code.

Everyone is responsible for themselves

Everyone is responsible for themselves, their actions, their health and their own belongings. Everyone has the right to leave any session at any time. Everyone has the right to leave BiCon at any time.

Passes

BiCon passes need to be worn to all sessions. Passes are numbered and non-transferable. A fee is payable to replace lost passes.

Session restrictions

BiCon supports safe spaces and recognises their value. Therefore some sessions have restrictions, e.g. only people aged 18 or over or those with a particular identity. Do not breach safe spaces you are not eligible to be in. If you are eligible, don't be afraid that you aren't "enough" of whatever group to go.

Confidentiality

Everyone's privacy is to be respected. Do not share information about someone else unless they have given their explicit permission, including information about people's sexuality, health and gender background. Ask permission before identifying anyone publicly. 'Public' includes personal websites and social networking sites, e.g. Facebook.

BiCon will not share information about attendees with each other or other organisations unless this is necessary to meet the needs of attendees or the administration of the event.

Photographs and Recordings

Do not take any photos or recordings of people without their explicit permission. It is your responsibility to make sure everyone in shot is happy to be photographed. If you give permission for your photo to be taken, assume it may end up online linked to you by name, as people may not remember your preferences after BiCon. If you believe someone has taken your photograph

without your permission you may ask them to delete the image or ask the desk or a volunteer to do so for you.

Members of the press must identify themselves to the desk and at any sessions they attend, and wear a different coloured badge to non-press attendees.

Consent

Always ask someone if they would like to do something before entering their personal space, e.g. “Would you like a hug?”. If they say no, continuing to ask is unacceptable and will be viewed as harassment. Do not put any pressure on anyone to do anything, and if someone asks you to leave them alone, do so.

In public, “no”, “stop”, “don’t do that” or similar words and phrases will be taken at face value by the BiCon organisers and volunteers regardless of context. Consent includes any audience. This includes venue staff and the general public.

Public behaviour

Everyone at BiCon deserves to be respected and feel safe. No one deserves to be shouted or sworn at or made to feel threatened. This includes venue staff, volunteers and the organising team.

BiCon should be a place where people feel free to express themselves and their sexuality, but it is not a sex or fetish party. General public behaviour and displays of affection are to be kept within what is normally publicly acceptable. Overtly sexual behaviour is to be kept out of the public areas. Public areas include pantries and common rooms that are shared with non-BiCon attendees.

BiCon attendees should remain fully clothed in all public areas, all nipples, genitalia and bums must be securely covered by clothing. Some closed sessions are counted as private areas - check with the facilitator if you’re not sure.

It is illegal to smoke anywhere indoors including on-site accommodation. Abide by the smoking zones which will be clearly marked and explained in the handbook.

Alcohol is not to be consumed in the daytime sessions or the film or games rooms. BiCon team organisers or venue staff may ask overly intoxicated individuals to retire if necessary.

Weapons

No weapons (inc martial arts weapons) are permitted on-site.

Animals

No animals are permitted on-site, except for pre-registered assistance animals.

Respecting equality and challenging discrimination

BiCon should be a safe space for all attendees, regardless of sexuality, race, ethnicity, nationality, class, gender, disability, religion and belief, age or lifestyle. Discriminatory and excluding behaviour of any kind will not be tolerated.

We accept people's self-identified gender for all purposes at BiCon including single-gender spaces. People who attend BiCon may define their gender in a range of different ways which are not always easy to spot. If you are unsure of the pronoun someone uses ask them or avoid gendered language, e.g. use "they" instead of "he" or "she".

Avoid negative comments, assumptions or stereotyping people on the basis of their physical features, accent, beliefs or clothes, e.g. "No, where are you really from?" Avoid making negative comments about any aspect of a people's cultures, including their faiths. Do not fetishize cultural markers or physical features, e.g. "Your dreadlocks are amazing, can I touch them?"

Respecting our host venue

All people attending BiCon are to respect and protect our host venue and their staff. Any person attending BiCon who damages any venue property will be responsible for damages.

What happens if the Code of Conduct is broken?

BiCon is committed to making the event as safe, respectful and enjoyable as possible. If you experience or witness anything that makes you feel uncomfortable or unwelcome, or you believe may be in breach of the Code of Conduct, **please** let us know. Even if you do not want us to do anything about it, or feel it is your fault, please let us know. This information is vital in helping us to support you and making BiCon better for everyone. The organisers will try to deal fairly and respectfully with any issue that is brought to us.

You can tell us:

- in person at the BiCon registration desk
- through the rainbow box at the BiCon registration desk
- by texting the BiCon phone: 0845 287 2044
- by email: enquiries@bicon2013.org.uk

Examples of things we can do:

- listen to you in a private space
- talk to the others involved
- ask for an apology
- ask them to leave you alone
- require them to not be where you are
- exclude them from the rest of BiCon
- pass their detail to future BiCon organisers

Breaches of the Code of Conduct will be dealt with at the discretion of the BiCon team. We may also make reasonable requests that are not specifically included here or take other action if necessary.

This Code of Conduct does not override the venue's rights of admission. The venue can still ask people who breach their rules to leave.

Local Facilities

Parking

There is very limited parking on site. If you hold a Blue Badge, please contact Elizabeth at registration@bicon2013.org as soon as possible to book a space in advance.

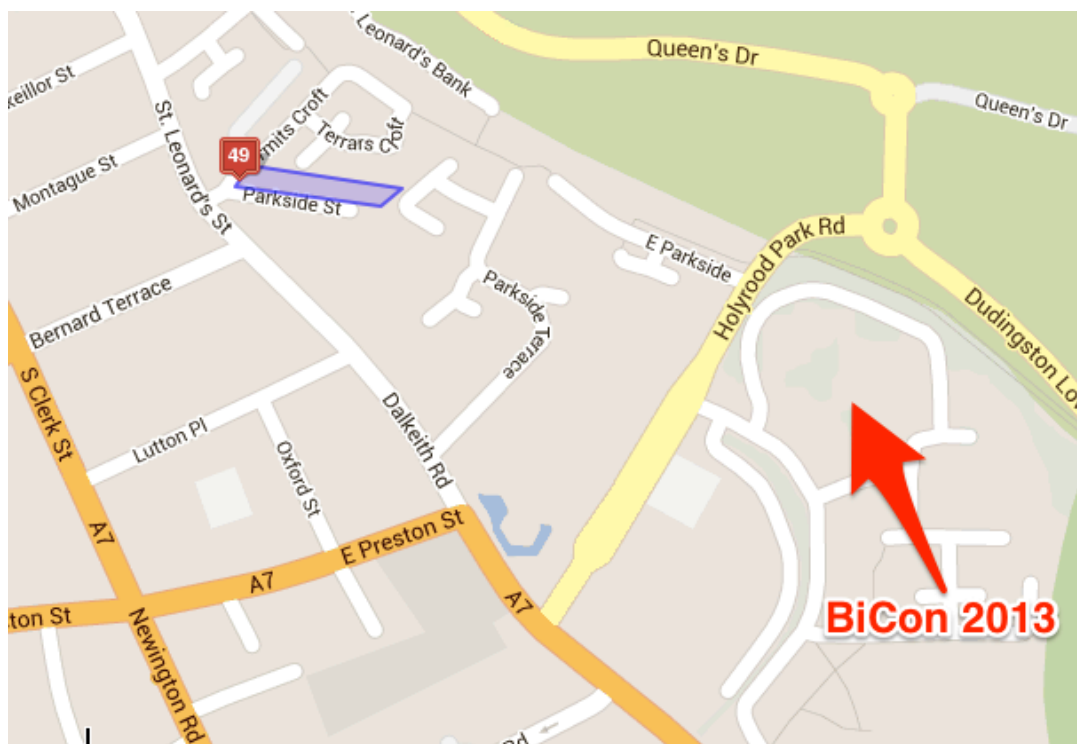
The closest car park is:

St Leonard's Street Car Park
62 St Leonard's Street
EH8 9SW

The entrance to this car park is in Hermit's Court, off St Leonard's Street. It is staffed from 8:00am - 8:00pm, although cars *can* be parked overnight. **This car park is not open on Sundays.**

Prices

0-1 hrs	£1.90
1-2 hrs	£3.90
2-4 hrs	£5.90
4-6 hrs	£6.90
6-8 hrs	£7.90
8-10 hrs	£8.90
10-12 hrs	£9.90
24hrs	£13.90



There are a variety of on street parking bays in the area, especially on the streets off Dalkeith Road. (See map on previous page.)

The location of other car parks and on street parking options can be found at: <http://en.parkopedia.co.uk> - however, we cannot be held responsible for the content of this website. Please check information provided by car parks before leaving your car.

Edinburgh Bus Information

The closest bus stop is a short walk up Holyrood Park Road to the Royal Commonwealth Pool where you can catch Lothian Bus numbers 2, 14, 30 and 33.

The main bus service provider in Edinburgh is Lothian Buses

<http://www.lothianbuses.com>

First Edinburgh also operate some buses in Edinburgh

http://www.firstgroup.com/ukbus/scotland_east

You can't use Lothian day tickets on First buses, and vice versa.

Lothian Buses single tickets currently cost £1.50 and daysaver tickets cost £3.50. No change is given.

Online and mobile access to **real time bus information** in Edinburgh:

<http://www.mybustracker.co.uk>

Shops and Services

Sainsburys Local: South Clerk Street, 7am to 11pm

<http://tinyurl.com/sainsburys-southclerkst>

Post Office: South Clerk Street

Thurs - Fri: 8:45am - 5:30pm (closed for lunch 1-2pm)

Sat: 8:45am - 1pm



Sainsburys is very slightly north of the A on the map (on the corner of South Clerk Street and Bernard Terrace). The Post Office is next door.

Food/drink: West Preston Street

Happiness Chinese

0131 662 1133 or order online: <http://tinyurl.com/happinesschinese>

Thu/Fri/Sat: 12 noon - 2:30pm and 5pm - 11pm

Sun: 5pm - 11pm

Hanedan Turkish Restaurant

Lunch: 12 noon - 3pm

Dinner: 5:30pm til late

Reservations can be made by phone: 07985 726 585

Drouthy Neebors pub

Very cheap and cheerful bar meals.

Franco's Fish and Chip Shop

Sun - Thurs: 4pm - 1am

Fri and Sat: 4pm - 2am

<http://www.just-eat.co.uk/restaurants-francosfishandchips-eh9/menu>

Argentine Steakhouse

0131 668 3111

3pm - 11pm

<http://www.losargentinossteakhouseinedinburgh.co.uk/> (warning: the website auto-plays music)

Food/drink: Newington Road

Metropole café

0131 668 4999

<http://www.metropolecafe.co.uk/>

Pizza Hut

0131 667 3434

12 noon - 11pm

<http://www.pizzahut.co.uk/>

The Steamie

Bar meals

<http://www.steamieedinburgh.co.uk/>

Voujon South Indian Restaurant & Takeaway

0131 667 5046

12 noon - 2pm and 5.30pm - 11.30pm

<http://www.voujonedinburgh.co.uk/>

The Reverie

Wine, meals, malt whiskies and 3 different real ales.

<http://www.thereverie.co.uk/>

Food/drink: Dalkeith Road

Salisbury Arms Pub

Thu/Fri/Sat: 12 noon - 10pm

Sun: 12.30pm - 9.30pm

<http://www.thesalisburyarmsedinburgh.co.uk/>

New Garden Grove

Chinese takeaway

0131 668 3879

Food/drink: St Leonards Street

Karen Wong

Chinese restaurant - 0131 662 0777 & 0131 662 0772

4pm - 11pm

<http://www.karenwongchineserestaurant.co.uk/>

Rice Terraces

Filipino restaurant, Open until 11pm, deliveries offered.

0131 629 9877

Blonde restaurant

European/Scottish cuisine

<http://www.blonderestaurant.co.uk/contact/>

Kismot Restaurant

Booking required: 0131 6670123.

4:30pm - 11.30pm

<http://www.kismot.co.uk/>

Auld Hoose

Bar meals and real ales.

Thu/Fri/Sat: 12 noon - 9.30pm

Sun: 12:30pm - 8pm

<http://www.theauldhoose.co.uk/>

Food/drink: Clerk Street

Flip!

Healthy fast food and sandwich bar

0131 667 2727

<http://www.flipfun.co.uk/>

Wee Boulangerie

French style bakery

Thu/Fri/Sat: 9am - 6pm

0131 629 31 34

<http://www.theweeboulangerie.co.uk/home>

Food/drink: South Clerk Street

Papa Johns Pizza

Thurs: 4pm - 11.30pm

Fri/Sat: 12 noon - 12am

Sun: 12 noon - 11.30pm

<http://www.papajohns.co.uk/Stores/edinburgh-south-clerk-street/pizzas.aspx>

Elaine's Cuppa cake

Thu/Fri: 8am - 6pm

Sat: 9am - 5pm

Sun: 9:30pm - 5pm

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Elaines-Cuppa-Cake/169545103151845>

Choco-Latte

Sweet cakes, tray bakes, sweeties - 0131 667 0091

<http://www.choco-latte.co.uk/>

Southern Bar

Pub with food and real ales

<http://www.thesouthern.co.uk/>

Chilli Connection

Takeaway - curries, kebabs and pizza

5pm - 11pm, delivery offered - 0131 668 1171

<http://www.chilliconnection.com/>

Peckhams

Deli and fancy booze

<http://www.peckhams.co.uk/>

Chicken Club

Halal takeaway

Thurs/Sun: 12 noon - 1am

Fri/Sat: 1pm - 2am

<http://www.just-eat.co.uk/restaurants-chickenclubandpizzas/menu>

Noor Indian Takeaway

12 noon - 12am, 0131 6670404 and 0131 6672323

<http://www.noortakeaway.co.uk/>

Bona Deli

Polish deli

Thu: 10am - 7:30pm; **Fri:** 10am - 8pm; **Sat:** 10am - 7pm; **Sun:** 11am - 6pm

The Abbey

Pub. Shows football on TV regularly.

<http://www.abbeybar.co.uk/>

Potatoland

Baked potatoes shop

0131 667 6712

Newington coffee shop

0131 667 0044

Jane's takeaway

Coffee, cakes and rolls

Food/drink: Causewayside

Snax takeaway

Breakfast rolls and cooked breakfasts/sandwiches - 0131 557 8688

Mon - Fri: 6.30am - 5pm

Sat: 7am - 5pm

Sun: 7.30am - 5pm

Getting Help

The BiCon Registration Desk

The BiCon Registration Desk is in the reception area of the JMCC.

The registration desk is the place to come if you need help during the event. It's the best place to find out about changes to the timetable, hear the latest news, and ask any questions you might have. Please note that the registration volunteers are here to help you with issues and concerns relating to the event itself, including access.

The desk will be open between:

8:30am and 8:00pm on Friday

9:00am and 8:00pm on Saturday

9:00am and 4:00pm on Sunday.

If you need to urgently speak to a member of the team outside these hours, please call 0845 287 2044.

Accommodation enquiries

Remember that the Reception Centre is the place to go for accommodation related enquiries.

Safer sex supplies

A variety of safer sex supplies are available by the registration desk. Please help yourself. There are also a small number of safety scissors for sale.

Listening Service

During some previous BiCons trained and experienced volunteers provided a listening service during the event. They did amazing work over a number of years, and we will always be grateful for their contributions. Unfortunately, this year, no-one with the skills and experience required to run such a service is available.

If you require a listening service please see call one of the following listening services:

Samaritans (24 hours): 0131 221 9999 & 08457 90 90 90

Breathing Space Helpline (6pm - 2am): 0800 83 85 87

Edinburgh Crisis Centre (24 hours): 0808 801 0414 Text: 07974429075

Specialist Helplines:

Saneline Phonenumber (1pm - 11pm): 0845 767 8000

Rape Crisis Scotland (6pm - Midnight): 0808 801 0302

Scottish Domestic Abuse Helpline (24 hours): 0800 027 1234

Parentline Scotland (24 hours): 0800 028 2233

Alcoholics Anonymous (24 hours): 0845 769 7555

Narcotics Anonymous (24 hours): 0300 999 1212

Should some attendees wish to self-organise a listening service, they are welcome to do so and advertise this on the information board in the JMCC registration area. Please note that if such a service is provided that this service will be self-organised and not an official part of BiCon 2013.

First Aid

Again, the first aid service provided at previous BiCons is unfortunately not available as we have no-one with the skills and experience required to run such a service. **However**, the venue does have trained first aiders on hand.

Should you need first aid on-site, please call the Reception Centre Help desk:
0131 651 2001

Pharmacies

Boots Pharmacy

28/30 Newington Road - 0131 667 3008

Thu/Fri: 8:45am - 5:45pm

Sat: 9am - 5pm

Sun: CLOSED

Southside Pharmacy

79 Nicolson Street - 0131 667 4032

Mon - Fri: 9am - 1pm; 2pm - 7pm

Sat: 9am - 1pm; 2pm - 6pm

Sun: CLOSED

Newington Pharmacy

46-48 Clerk Street - 0131 667 2368

Mon - Fri: 8:30am - 6:30pm

Sat: 9am - 6pm

Sun: CLOSED

NHS 24

NHS 24 provides a confidential telephone health advice and out-of-hours urgent GP services.

Phone: 08454 24 24 24

Text phone users: 18001 08454 24 24 24

<http://www.nhs24.com/>

Minor Injuries Clinic

Western General Hospital

Crewe Road South, EH4 2XU

The Minor Injuries Clinic is open every day from 8am to 9pm. No appointment is necessary. It offers treatment for a wide range of injuries, such as cuts, burns, sprains, and simple fractures for patients aged over one year.

Emergency Dental Treatment

Lothian Dental Advice Line - 0131 536 4800.

<http://tinyurl.com/bicon-dentist>

Sexual Health Emergencies

If you think you have been exposed to HIV in the last few hours, you have been sexually assaulted, or you are HIV positive and feel seriously unwell, you should contact **NHS24** or the nearest **accident and emergency department**.

If you need advice about emergency contraception you should phone NHS24. The sooner you take it the more effective it is - so don't delay.

www.lothiansexualhealth.scot.nhs.uk

Reporting Crime

If there is a risk of personal injury, a crime is in progress or someone suspected of a crime is nearby, call **999**.

For all non-emergencies and general enquiries, call **101** to contact local police.

Space for Your Notes

We would like to offer extra special thanks to the Equality Network and University of Edinburgh for their support in making BiCon 2013 happen.

