

Scottish Council on Deafness

Annual Report 2009-10





Convenor JOHN DENERLEY

I was privileged to be elected the Convenor of the

Scottish Council on Deafness with its long, successful history of campaigning for a better quality of life for all deaf people living in Scotland. It is therefore a pleasure to present my first Convenor's Statement.

From this report you will see that it has been another good year for SCoD and member organisations, actively involved in working together to make sure that deaf issues remain high on the agenda.

Consistent representation on a number of Scottish Government and other statutory bodies' working groups and good quality

responses to consultation documents and draft policies have enhanced our reputation as the "voice of deaf people in Scotland".

One of the outcomes of the support network of member organisations was the successful application to the Heritage Lottery Fund to fund an important project to capture deaf people's memories on film so that younger generations can learn about their heritage and culture.

We must also not forget the importance of the information service to members because through monthly bulletins, parliamentary reports, the newsletter and consistently updated website, our members are kept very well informed of policy developments, legislation and new services.

This report would not be complete without acknowledging the support of everyone who helped to make the past twelve months such a success: members who attend our various sub-committees – their input is invaluable to the direction of SCoD; my colleagues on the Management Committee for the time they make available to attend meetings and the support they offer the staff and me; our Honorary Treasurer, Alan Macdonald for his attention to detail; the dedicated staff and most importantly, members of SCoD for their continuing partnership in promoting the issues that matter.

John Denerley
Convenor



I am pleased to report that due to our many years' experience of successful awareness raising, we have received regular invitations to work with statutory and other bodies to ensure that information and services are fully accessible to Deaf Sign Language users, deafened, deafblind and hard of hearing people. These partnerships are an endorsement of our role as the umbrella body for Scotland.

We spent the year engaging with deaf people all over the country through the Scottish Deaf Heritage Project's open meetings; workshops and events under the Access to Democracy and Counselling Awareness Projects workshops and the Policy & Research Officer's open meetings. This has given deaf people the opportunity to tell us about their experiences

accessing health, community care, housing, leisure, transport and emergency services. Working with our deaf volunteers has also afforded us a unique insight into their life experiences.

This crucial information informs our responses to consultations, policy and briefing papers and meetings with the Scottish Government and statutory bodies.

Despite a challenging financial year, we have managed to operate and deliver services within budget. Nevertheless, we are always grateful to the Scottish Government, Big Lottery Fund, Electoral Commission, Heritage Lottery Fund, trusts and individual donors for their support, without which we would have struggled to survive as an effective umbrella body.

We are also grateful for the work of the Management Committee and our National Council of members, which has allowed us to remain the voice of deaf people in Scotland.

Thank you for your continuing support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lilian Lawson'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Director

Honorary Treasurer ALAN MACDONALD

Year Ended 31 March 2010

	Restricted Fund	Un-Restricted Fund	Total 2010	(Restated) Total 2009
	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources	233,015	180,581	403,596	342,436
Resources expended	182,831	170,672	353,503	334,282
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources in year	40,184	9,909	50,093	8,154
Gross transfers between funds	(24,300)	24,300	-	-
Other recognised gains and (losses)	-	27,429	27,429	(39,567)
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Balance at 1 April 2009	15,884	61,638	77,522	(31,413)
	28,186	162,846	191,032	222,445
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Balance at 31 March 2010	44,070	224,484	268,554	191,032
	=====	=====	=====	=====

The summarised financial statements have been extracted from the full financial statements which were approved on 1 September 2010 and do not constitute the charity's statutory financial statements. The full financial statements have been audited and the auditors' opinion was unqualified.

The summarised financial statements may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the charity and do not constitute the charity's statutory financial statements. For further information, the full annual financial statements, the auditors report on these financial statements and management committee's report should be consulted. Copies of the audited financial statements can be obtained by writing to the Scottish Council on Deafness.

The Management Committee has decided that the reserves policy is equivalent to 50% of annual net expenditure. The unrestricted funds of the charity at 31 March 2010 are £224,484.

Approved by the Management Committee and signed on its behalf by John Denerley, Convenor and Alan Macdonald, Honorary Treasurer.

Balance Sheet		2010		(Restated) 2009
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets		106,545		81,397
Current assets	180,599		130,117	
Current liabilities	18,590		20,482	
	-----		-----	
Net current assets		162,009		109,635
		-----		-----
Net assets		268,554		191,032
		=====		=====
General fund		224,484		162,846
Restricted funds		44,070		28,186
		-----		-----
		268,554		191,032
		=====		=====

Independent Auditor's Report

We have examined the summarised financial statements of the Scottish Council on Deafness.

Respective responsibilities of The Management Committee and auditors

The Management Committee is responsible for preparing the summarised annual report in accordance with the recommendations of the charities Statement of Recommended Practice.

Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the summarised financial statements with the full financial statements and Management Committee's Report. We also read the other information contained in the summarised annual report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the summarised financial statements.

In our opinion the summarised financial statements are consistent with the full financial statements and Management Committee's Report of The Scottish Council on Deafness for the year ended 31 March 2010.

Opinion

We conducted our work in accordance with Bulletin 2008/3 *The auditors' statement on the summary financial statement* issued by the Auditing Practices Board for use in the United Kingdom.

Basis of Opinion



Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors, 61 Dublin Street, Edinburgh EH3 6NL www.chiene.co.uk

Activities and Campaigning

BSL Bill

Legal recognition and protection of our language

Following many months of discussion, the Cross Party Group on Deafness approved a consultation paper on the proposed BSL Bill at their meeting in the Scottish Parliament in December.

Cathie Craigie MSP will launch the consultation in July 2010.

Accessing Health

We were invited to join a number of working groups; NHS 24 Public Partnership Forum, NHS 24 Technical Solutions Working Group and NHS Health Scotland's Bowel Cancer Screening DVD Steering Group – to improve deaf people's access to their services.

We were also invited to attend meetings with NHS Health Scotland to discuss

communication issues and NHS National Services Scotland to discuss issues of recording deaf people and their language and communication needs.

We also campaigned for accessible information about swine flu and assisted NHS 24 to recruit two Deaf BSL telephone advisors for their new Breathing Space web-cam service.

Census 2011

A lengthy yet ultimately unsuccessful campaign aimed to persuade the General Register Office for Scotland (GROS) to include a question on sensory impairment which could at last provide accurate statistics on the number of deaf people in Scotland. These statistics would have helped local authorities and other service providers with budgeting and service planning, but it was not to be.

Instead, we were able to advise GROS on making their census forms more accessible. The questions have also been translated into BSL and can be viewed on the census website: www.scotlandscensus.gov.uk



Television

We maintained our links with Ofcom, the ITC and a number of television companies concerning unnecessary background noise and the poor standard of captioning. Red Bee Media Ltd invited us to see TV and DVD captioning in action and we were able to watch a live news programme captioned while transmitted.

Activities and Campaigning

citizens advice scotland and deaf access

We met with Citizens Advice Scotland to discuss how deaf people could fully access CAB services and advised them of the value of recruiting and training deaf people as volunteers.

Attending the Access to Justice Conference in November was an opportunity to voice concerns about access to legal advice & information, legal services and giving evidence.

Following our freedom of information research report on mental health and criminal justice, we visited HMP Glenochil to discuss issues affecting deaf prisoners. This resulted in a course of BSL tuition for Scottish Prison Service staff.

Access to Justice Criminal Justice

Lobbying the Scottish Government for a national mental health service for deaf people in Scotland continued. We were delighted to be invited to join the NHS National Services Division's Commissioning Panel to oversee the quality of inpatient mental health services for deaf people with a mental health condition. Our Mental Health and Deaf People Task Group continued to meet on a regular basis and invited professionals to talk to the group about their services: Dr Andreana Adamson of the Forensic Network, Dr Jane Morris, Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist and Shaben Begum of the Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance. Following Dr Morris' talk, the group agreed to set up a Deaf Children & Adolescents Mental Health Sub-group to look at gaps in the provision of mental health services for deaf children and adolescents.

Mental Health

We continued to raise transport issues with Transport Scotland and through the Scottish Accessible Transport Alliance (SATA). Transport Scotland invited us to join their Roads for All Forum which looked at pedestrian crossings, emergency telephone services on motorways and messages on motorways and major roads. We were also invited to attend consultation meetings with Strathclyde Passenger Transport. We continued to advise the new Riverside Transport Museum in Glasgow on accessibility issues through their advisory group meetings.

Successful and timeous lobbying of Culture and Sport Glasgow resulted in a selection of Winterfest events captioned and interpreted.



Transport

Transport Museum

Activities

Events

Sports

Deaf Connections and the Sports Council of Glasgow held a seminar on the Future of Deaf Sports to which we were invited. Our presentation, *Can Scottish Deaf Sports Organisations Work Together?* was well received. A Scottish Deaf Sports Federation Steering Group has now been established with SCoD providing the secretariat support.

Telecommunications

The Ofcom Advisory Committee for Disabled and Older People invited us to attend one of their meetings and as a result we helped to promote the pilot SMS Text Emergency Number service to deaf people through our bulletin, website and newsletter.



National Council: Meetings for all SCoD Members

Our National Council continued to meet on a regular basis with a series of interesting speakers. Falkirk in June welcomed Naeem Bhatti of the Scottish Government to discuss the Supported Employment Framework and Michael Tornow & Paul Barton of NHS Health Scotland discussed the Translation, Interpreting & Communications Strategy. Perth in October saw NHS 24's Tony McLaren explain the new Breathing Space service. At this meeting, the Director presented our Annual Members Survey results. Edinburgh in March welcomed presentations from Jane McCartney of NHS 24 and John Finlay of Transport Scotland. David Wilson and Iain Cameron also promoted the World Deaf Golf Championship to be held in St Andrews in August.

National Conversation

The National Conversation came to Glasgow in November. 110 people, including pupils from nine different schools came to put questions to Nicola Sturgeon MSP, Deputy First Minister. This event was filmed and can be viewed on the Scottish Government YouTube channel.

Annual General Meeting

The theme for October's AGM in Perth was **Deaf Friendly Theatre in Scotland**. Mairi Taylor from the Federation of Scottish Theatres, Ramesh Meyyappan of Little Beacon and Gerry Ramage of Solar Bear all presented, followed by a lively audience discussion. Presentations were filmed, edited and uploaded to **DeafScotland**, our channel on YouTube. A civic welcome and reception by the Provost of Perth, John Hulbert was extended to members, associate members and guests.





Policy & Research MANDY REID



The past year has been a busy one in terms of policy and research.

We submitted responses on behalf of our membership to the UK Government, the EHRC, the Scottish Government, the Scottish Ambulance Service and the BMA among others.

We were in contact with the UK Department of Health, the Scottish Government Health Directorate and NHS 24 asking why information about swine flu had not been made accessible for Deaf people. After many letters and emails, information was produced in BSL.

In partnership with Hearing Concern LINK, we held open meetings in Inverness, Thurso, Paisley and the Forth Valley. A key topic for discussion at these meetings was deaf people's experiences of the criminal and civil justice services in Scotland. Information gathered at these

meetings was sent to the Scottish Government Justice Disability Steering Group. As a result of this, we met with Dan Gunn, Governor of HMP Glenochil, to discuss access issues for deaf prisoners.

The Forum of Providers of Social Work Services in Scotland asked us to carry out a social work audit. All Social Work Directors in Scotland were sent a questionnaire to distribute to their staff. The findings were presented in a paper at The Summit that took place in Heriot-Watt University in October. A more in-depth paper will be available later in 2010 with information about other staff employed in the social work services in Scotland.

Countersigning disclosures is a service that we continue to provide. The total number of applications countersigned rose last year from 39 to 107.

In partnership with Hearing Concern Link Scotland, SCoD Director gave two presentations, one about SCoD and another about Deaf History Scotland to a large group of deafened people in Glasgow in November 2009.



Open Day

Our September Open Day was once again a success. Visitors came from all over Scotland to meet and talk with staff about their work.



Alan Macdonald's 35 years of service as SCoD's Honorary Treasurer were recognised and celebrated with a surprise presentation at our AGM.

Counselling Awareness

BARBRA WYLIE



This year counselling awareness workshops were held the length and breadth of Scotland to reach as many people as possible.

We visited lipreading classes in Ayrshire and Dumfries & Galloway, a tinnitus support group in Edinburgh, and set up independent workshops in Fife and the Scottish Borders.

We also worked with other deaf and deafblind organisations to deliver workshops specifically for their service users.

In a bid to include more young deaf people in the project, we visited Motherwell College and Donaldson's school to talk to students about counselling.

Part of the Counselling Awareness project is aimed at increasing the number of

accessible counsellors in Scotland by holding counselling training pathways workshops. Three of these were held this year, in Dundee, Aberdeen and Glasgow, where the Co-ordinator worked alongside tutors from local colleges and universities. As a result of attending these workshops, two people have entered training to become counsellors.

Nine training sessions were held in Aberdeen, Ayrshire, the Borders, Dumfries, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Inverness and Perth. These were aimed at GPs, health professionals, counsellors and social workers with the aim of improving their general deaf and deafblind awareness. All sessions have been a great success.

Details of all future workshops and training sessions will be posted on our website: www.scod.org.uk.

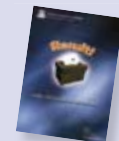
Access to Democracy

Ten deaf and deafblind trainers delivered a total of 51 workshops to deaf and deafblind people all over Scotland.

Participants learned how to register to vote, the importance of their vote and were also made aware of the many different voting systems. They also received a copy of the DVD Result!

At the Electoral Commission's request, DVDs were distributed to public and university/college libraries. In the run up to the European election in June, drop-in surgeries to assist voters were held in Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh and Glasgow.

As part of the National Deaf Democracy Day in September, deaf school pupils and their teachers toured the Scottish Parliament. They met and put questions to Cathie Craigie MSP and Jack McConnell MSP.



Deaf History: Presenting the Past

Several guided tours of the Scottish Parliament were also organised for deaf and deafblind people with BSL/English Interpreters provided and paid for by A2D.

The project closed on 31st March.

don't leave me out!

The A2D project funded the production of information sheets advising politicians on how to make sure that deaf people can access their surgeries, meetings, other events and their information material. These were sent to MSPs, MPs, MEPs and councillors as well as parliamentary candidates in Scotland.



The Electoral Commission

We were delighted when our application to the Heritage Lottery Fund successfully secured £47k to preserve the heritage of Scottish deaf people. By capturing memories digitally, future generations of d/Deaf and hearing people will be able to benefit.

The project formally started in October with the establishment of an advisory committee, the membership of which is made up of representatives from the British Deaf History Society, Deaf History Scotland, the Scottish Oral History Centre, Scottish Screen Archives, Heriot Watt and Edinburgh Universities, the British Deaf Association and Dumfries & Galloway Society for the Deaf.

January to March saw the SCoD Director visiting local deaf communities in Aberdeen, Dumfries, Dundee, Edinburgh, Falkirk, Galashiels and Kirkcaldy to talk about the project, encouraging deaf people to get involved and share their stories.

A group of deaf people was invited to a training day delivered by the Scottish Oral History Centre to hone their interviewing skills. Group sessions allowed them to practice their skills to camera. Deaf people will be asked about their "firsts": their first day at school, their first job, their first home, their first holiday.

A tight filming schedule was drawn up, which runs from April to September 2010. Filming will take place all over Scotland in a range of different locations. The aim is to film 50 deaf people who are 50 years old or over. Footage will be edited and reproduced on DVDs initially to younger Deaf people for them to learn about their own culture and heritage. The DVD will then be made available to deaf historians, sign language students, researchers and others. Master copies will be archived with Scottish Screen.



Supported by
The National Lottery
through the Heritage Lottery Fund

heritage
lottery fund

Information Service NICOLA NOON



We increased the number of pages in the newsletter from 16 to 20. Issues 20 and 21 were published and distributed to almost 6,000 individuals and organisations on our mailing list. Issue 21 celebrated the diamond wedding anniversary of associate members Dan and Esther Ogilvy.



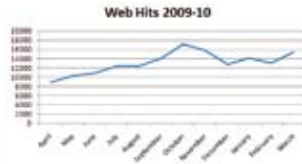
12 parliamentary digest reports, featuring digest questions, answers, motions and other relevant business in the Scottish Parliament, were prepared and distributed in print, email and via the website.



12 issues of the bulletin were prepared and circulated in print and by email to SCoD members, associates, supporters and all 129 MSPs. Our publications can be viewed and downloaded from our website: www.scod.org.uk



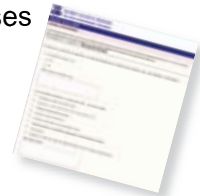
During 2009/10 our website received **157,046 visitors**, averaging **436** per day. The website calendar, which provides details of captioned cinema, theatre, BSL interpreted theatre, accessible courses, meetings and events throughout Scotland, offered **2,329 individual listings**. That averages out at **six** events per day.



At the Scottish Government's request, the Self Directed Support DVDs that we made inhouse were distributed to social work service providers.

A microsite featuring the full content of the DVD was then added to the SCoD website: www.scod.org.uk/sds/

For the first time we conducted our annual member survey online, making it easier to collect responses (and easier for members to complete). This approach was clearly preferred as it yielded our highest ever response!



Our YouTube channel, DeafScotland, was updated with filmed and edited clips announcing forthcoming events such as our AGM, Open Day and Elections.



We continue to represent SCoD on the Scottish Accessible Information Forum and the Ecommunication sub-committee.



List your accessible event with us. Email your copy to nick@scod.org.uk



We were delighted to receive a four month extension for our Counselling Awareness project, following submission of an application in December 2009. This will enable the project to continue until January 2011, focusing on the impact of the recession.

An application was also submitted to the 'Your Heritage' programme of the Lottery Heritage Fund in May 2009 for a new project entitled 'Presenting the Past: My Firsts'. The project will focus on oral history and involve working with the Scottish Oral History Centre. In July we received confirmation of a grant of £47,000 for the project.

We have been working successfully in partnership with Charitytrek to promote fundraising treks in Scotland. In May 2009, Hazel Galloway tackled Britain's highest peak. In September 2009, Wai-Yee Choy also climbed Ben Nevis for SCoD. We have been

very touched by the support, which for Wai-Yee Choy included match funding from her employer Morgan Stanley. Our rolling programme of trust applications has continued throughout the year. Though the recession has meant a reduction in grants, we have been grateful to have received funding from: Martin Connell Charitable Trust, Darroch Charitable Trust, Row Fogo Charitable Trust, A M Pilkington's Charitable Trust and Cruden Foundation.

We are continuing to work with Recycle 4 Charity, raising money through recycling used mobile phones and ink cartridges. We are indebted to everyone who has contributed financially towards our charity, including the many individuals who have been good enough to make regular donations over the years.

As you can see from this report, at SCoD we work hard to improve the lives of deaf people in Scotland: to help promote their rights as individuals and reduce their sense of exclusion. Only with your help can we continue this work. Please give generously.

Make cheques/postal orders payable to:
Scottish Council on Deafness.

I wish to make a donation of: £

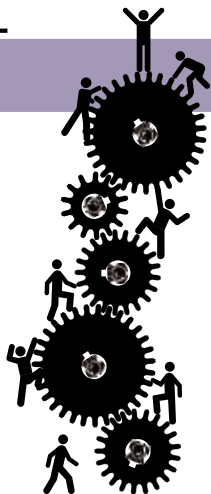
My Name:

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Make your gift go even further.
If you are a tax payer, for every pound you donate we can claim an extra 28p from the Inland Revenue - just tick the box below.
We'll do the rest!

thinking of supporting our work?
giftaid it

Please note: **all** money donated stays in Scotland



SCoD Membership

Becoming an associate member offers you the opportunity to get more involved in our work, receiving as you will invitations to our national council meetings and

AGM, a copy of our monthly bulletin, SCoDNEWS and reports on business at the Scottish Parliament.

Visit our website for more information and an application form in pdf which you can download. Alternatively, you can visit our office and join in person or contact us and we can send you a membership form.



New Members
 We were pleased to welcome: ISHARA, Grampian Society for the Blind and South Lanarkshire Council as new SCoD members.

Full membership (for organisations) offers all of the benefits of associate membership but additionally, as a full member you can stand for election to the Management Committee and vote at national council, annual and other general meetings. It represents a very real opportunity to shape and influence government policy.

Representations

Wide representation is essential to our awareness raising work so that issues affecting Deaf Sign Language users, deafened, hard of hearing and deafblind people remain high on the agenda. To this end, we continued our representation on the following committees and working groups:

Audiology Services Advisory Group

Equality Unit:

- BSL & Linguistic Access Working Group
- BSL & Linguistic Access BSL Sub-group
- Policy and Engagement Officers Network

Cross Party Groups:

- on Deafness
- on Mental Health

Representations

NHS 24 Public Partnership Forum
NHS 24 Technical Solutions Working Group
NHS 24 Equality and Diversity Impact Assessment Team
NHS 24 Service Improvement Working Group
NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde Sensory Impairment Mental Health Working Group
NES Training Advisory Group's Sensory Impairment Sub-group
NHS Health Scotland Bowel Cancer Screening DVD Steering Group
NHS Health Scotland Mental Health in Later Life Working Group
NHS National Services Division Commissioning Panel to oversee the quality of inpatient mental health services for deaf people with a sensory impairment



Scottish Accessible Information Forum
Scottish Sensory Centre Advisory Group
Moray House Deaf Achievement Scotland Working Group
SCVO's Policy Officers Network
Scottish Accessible Transport Alliance
Transport Scotland's Roads for All Forum
Signature's National Advisory Committee





Scottish Council on Deafness

Visit & Write

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