



Happy New Year!

We are all facing challenging times and so we most sincerely hope that 2012 will bring all the success that you wish for.

Dates for your new diaries

We have booked venues and dates for our National Council Meetings and AGM as follows:

National Council Meetings	Thursday 29th March at 2pm at Touchbase
	Thursday 7th June at 2pm at Deaf Action
	Tuesday 23rd October at 10.30am at Forth Valley Sensory Centre
Annual General Meeting	Tuesday 23rd October at 2pm at Forth Valley Sensory Centre

Cross Party Group on Deafness

The Cross Party Group on Deafness (CPGD) met on Wednesday 7th December and enjoyed short presentations from Andrew Jackson and Patrick O'Hogan, Scottish Government about Older People and Telecare. Following their presentations, Mark Griffin MSP updated the CPGD on the Proposed BSL Bill consultation. The CPGD agreed to look at the second draft consultation paper and feedback to Mark Griffin before the CPGD Sub-group meeting on 23rd January.

National Sensory Impairment Strategy

The National SI Strategy Working Group met in Glasgow on 13th December and discussed what would be included in the national sensory impairment strategy. The next meeting would take place in Edinburgh on 24th January.

NHS 24

Lilian Lawson, SCoD Director attended NHS 24 BSL Online Interpreting Pilot Project meeting on 21st December and was informed that interviews for interpreting posts had begun and tenders from third party providers had been received. More NHS health boards had expressed interest to join this project. It is now hoped to have the pilot starting in March 2012.

Mental Health

The SCoD Director attended the Sensory & Mental Health Network meeting at St Andrew's House in Edinburgh on 16th December. Dr Debbie Innes gave a very interesting progress report on the Scottish Deaf Mental Health Service. It was agreed that the network group should meet every six months.

Lipreading

The new lipreading sub-group will meet for the first time on 16th January.

Another Date for Your Diaries: Deaf History Scotland AGM

The Annual General Meeting for DHS will take place on Sat 17th Nov from 11am - 3pm. Venue tbc.



Challenge Yourself in Twenty Twelve

Our treks offer a fantastic opportunity to escape from the pressures of daily life and enjoy the splendour of the Scottish countryside. Why not come along and improve your personal fitness, while supporting SCoD at the same time?

You could climb Ben Nevis, the UK's highest peak in September, tackle the John Muir Way or even the West Highland Way - we're giving you the chance to do so in support of our charity. For more information, visit our website: www.scod.org.uk and click 'Support SCoD' or contact our fundraiser directly: linda@scod.org.uk.

General News and Events



Stakeholder Events- Rail 2014 Consultation

The Scottish Government is inviting you to take part in its Rail 2014 consultation which was launched in November. Rail users and stakeholders are being asked to play their part in creating a rail industry which has passenger interests at its heart.

In 2014, both the current contract for rail passenger services (ScotRail) and the funding arrangements for Network Rail in Scotland are due to be reviewed. The consultation document provides details of how the railway in Scotland operates today and sets out the questions and options being considered for the future.

The closing date for the consultation is **February 20th**. The outcomes of this consultation will be published later in the year.

The consultation considers a variety of issues affecting the delivery of rail services in Scotland, including rail fares, how to improve reliability, train and station facilities, and environmental factors.

Visit: <http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk/strategy-and-research/publications-and-consultations/j203179-00.htm> to find out more and download the consultation documentation.

Here are some interesting facts...

There are around 78 million passenger journeys a year on ScotRail services, with a further 6 million passenger journeys across the border to and from England. Demand for ScotRail passenger services has increased by 25.5 per cent over the last seven years and this demand is expected to grow.

The Scottish rail network is extensive - around 2,800 kilometres of track, a quarter of which is electrified, and 350 stations. It is a mixed use railway with both passenger and freight services. Scottish Ministers specify and contract for ScotRail passenger services and fund the maintenance, renewal and investment activities delivered by Network Rail within Scotland.



Department for
Work and Pensions

Launch of the Disability Strategy Facilitation Guide - Tell Your Stakeholders

As you will know the Disability Strategy discussion document 'Fulfilling Potential' was launched on 1st December. Stakeholders have three months to take part in this public discussion, to help shape the new Disability Strategy. A facilitation guide has been produced to help organisations run their own engagement activities.

This guide is now live on the ODI website: www.odi.gov.uk/fulfillingpotential

Direct link to the guide: <http://odi.dwp.gov.uk/docs/fulfilling-potential/disability-strategy-facilitation-guide.pdf>

There is some money available to support events. This can be used to meet travel costs, hire a venue or cover the cost of personal assistants or interpreters. We can also help by providing speakers or printed copies of the Easy Read document.

Why is it important?

We want to encourage as many different people as possible to take part in the discussion, so that the Disability Strategy captures the lived experience of disabled people and the expertise of people that support them.

We will be announcing the launch of the guide to our stakeholders and we would like you to let your stakeholder contacts know that this is now live on the website and encourage them to apply.

Applications for this fund must be made by **20th January** to fulfilling.potential@dwp.gsi.gov.uk - full details on how to apply are in the links above.



Stagecoach New Help for Disabled Bus Users

Disabled bus travellers in the Highlands are set to benefit from initiatives aimed at making public transport easier.

Stagecoach in the Highlands hopes the Journey Assistance Card will help people with hearing, sight, mobility or speech problems get the help they need when using busses. The card lets a bus driver know the passenger is disabled, and therefore make them more likely to be able to help.

The driver is advised to face the passenger and speak clearly without covering their mouth and to repeat or write down information if necessary.

Steve Walker, managing director of Stagecoach in the Highlands said: “Stagecoach is committed to working with disability groups throughout the north of Scotland to ensure access to our routes and services for all. We already have extensive staff training programmes which specifically highlight disability and mobility issues and these new initiatives will be adding to the training.

“Stagecoach has already been involved with other projects in the area including free travel for guide dog trainers and our continued investment in wheelchair accessible vehicles and fleet development, spending almost £2.2 million this year”.

Jean Pentland, Community Advocacy Officer of north of Scotland British Deaf Association: “The new users assistance initiative will really help solve a lot of frustration for profoundly Deaf people like myself. Previously, Deaf people without speech couldn’t tell the driver where they wanted to go, which could cause some embarrassing and frustrating communication breakdowns. This new system will help both passenger and driver to communicate easily and discreetly.

Busses will also be fitted with a sticker which advises passengers with a hearing problem to point at it, while the reverse, which the driver can see, offers tips on how they can help.

A leaflet explaining the card and stickers can be obtained from Inverness Bus Station or at www.stagecoachbus.com.



ÚDARÁS
CRAOLACHÁIN
NA NÉIREANN

BROADCASTING
AUTHORITY
OF IRELAND

New Rules on Television Subtitling, Sign Language and Audio Description Proposed in Ireland

The Broadcasting Authority of Ireland (BAI) has launched a public consultation on proposed new rules to govern the level of subtitling, sign language and audio description that Irish television broadcasters must offer to the public.

The new rules will update the current Access Rules. The proposals are aimed at making television more enjoyable and accessible for people who are deaf, hard of hearing, partially sighted or blind.

The new rules have been developed taking into account a review of the existing rules and changes in

broadcasting schedules and technology.

The consultation has launched and will remain open for 7 weeks. The BAI is looking for responses from the general public, representative groups and the broadcasters. Speaking at the launch of the public consultation, the Chief Executive of the BAI, Michael O’Keeffe, said:

“The Access Rules have been in place since 2005 and there have been significant changes to the amount of home produced and live content available on Irish Television. Advances in technology and the switch over to Digital TV in 2012 also provide new methods by which broadcasters can provide programming to the Irish viewing audience which includes those with hearing or sight difficulties. The BAI has undertaken significant research and consultation to develop a proposed new set of rules, which we expect will be more fit-for-purpose and will – ultimately – offer greater access to better quality programs for people who are deaf, hard of hearing, partially sighted or blind.”

One of the central objectives of the proposed rules is to enhance the reliability and quality of subtitling. The BAI is now proposing that, rather than seeking to simply ensure a designated target quota of subtitled program is provided, broadcasters should be encouraged to enhance the subtitles available.

Also included in the proposed new rules is a change in the timeframe set out for the achievement of targets for the provision of subtitling. Under the 2005 Access Rules, there was a 10-year timeframe for achieving targets, but a five-year timeframe with a two-year review is now being proposed.

“This proposed approach to setting subtitling targets will – we hope – encourage broadcasters to invest more time and resources into producing better-quality results for the viewer. The proposal acknowledges that it takes more time and resources to produce live subtitling, so if a broadcaster places particular emphasis on giving access to live programs, they may be permitted to aim for the lower end of the range. Equally, where broadcasters invest heavily in ensuring subtitles are in sync with a broadcast and are of very good quality, they may be permitted to opt for the lower target,” said Mr. O’Keeffe.

The proposed access rules also look at issues such as the inclusion of sign language in children’s programming; use of captions; audio description; the impact of Digital TV on access services; ongoing consultation between broadcasters and users on access; and the monitoring of compliance with the new rules. For the purpose of the public consultation, a range of facilities have been developed to enable people who are deaf, hard of hearing, partially sighted or blind to offer their feedback. A consultation document that outlines the scope and context of the proposed rules has been developed and will be available in a range of formats from the BAI. Interpretation facilities will be available for people wishing to ask questions, and submissions can be made through a designated text message number; lo-call number; or by post and email.

The proposed rules and consultation document are available at www.bai.ie.

The deadline for submitting responses is 5pm on January 24th.

As part of promoting the consultation, the BAI is undertaking briefing meetings with stakeholders from user-groups and broadcasters. In addition, it will undertake a mail-out to wider stakeholders and will use social media, as well as traditional media, to promote the consultation around the proposed rules.

Websites: www.facebook.com/BAIreland or <http://twitter.com/BAI> tweets.

Source: www.worldwithouthearing.com

World’s Biggest Social Enterprise Event

Social Enterprise UK and the Scottish Social Enterprise Coalition (SSEC) have joined forces to host what will be the world’s biggest social enterprise event. The Social Enterprise Exchange will take place on Tuesday 27th March at the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre in Glasgow so get the date in your diaries because you really don’t want to miss this!

The Social Enterprise Exchange will host over 1000 delegates and 150 business exhibitors in one pavilion in this iconic Scottish venue, providing a platform for “exchange” of, knowledge and best practice and a unique opportunity to trade and do good business. The event will also cater for those working in the public, private and voluntary sectors interested in social enterprise policy and practice. The Social Enterprise Exchange is being delivered by the Scottish social enterprise, CEiS Events

and the event manager's ambition is to set a new standard for social enterprise supply chain engagement. The organisers will soon be promoting opportunities to social enterprise members of SEUK and SSEC. Find out more by visiting the Scottish Social Enterprise Academy website: <http://www.theacademy-ssea.org/>



Apply to Join the Scottish Association of Sign Language Interpreters (SASLI) Register

The SASLI Board of Directors is delighted to announce the date for intake interviews to join Scotland's register of BSL/English Interpreters.

Application forms are available from Louise in the SASLI office by emailing: mail@sasli.co.uk

Please complete and return the application form with two recent passport style photographs to the SASLI office.

Closing date for applications: **Fri 20th January**

Interviews will be held on **Fri 27th January** in the SASLI offices in Glasgow.



Charity Calls on Employers to End 'Uncaring Culture'

Action on Hearing Loss is calling on employers to end their 'uncaring culture' and remove the major barriers that prevent people who have hearing loss from progressing with their careers, forcing many out of work.

In a report entitled *Unlimited Potential?*, Action on Hearing Loss is revealing what it calls the disturbing impact that bad practice by some UK employers is having on the working experiences of people with hearing loss. According to the charity's survey of 4,000 members, more than one in three (36%) respondents said they took early retirement and one in seven (14%) changed jobs because of their hearing loss. The survey also found that 40% of respondents said losing their hearing made them less confident, which could explain why 33% of respondents didn't tell their employer or colleagues about their hearing loss.

Employees with hearing loss should be protected from discrimination by the Equality Act 2010 says AHL, which requires employers to make reasonable adjustments to enable a disabled person to work. The Government's Access to Work (AtW) scheme supports employers by helping fund the adjustments needed to enable disabled people to work, but the charity's research found a general lack of awareness about the legal requirements and Access to Work amongst both employees with hearing loss and their employers. Antonia Bond, 51, from Burton-on-Trent wears two hearing aids and took part in the research.

Antonia says: "I've only ever managed to secure agency work and, unfortunately, got appropriate support for my hearing loss in just a couple of jobs. Companies just don't want to know when they think equipment to help me will start costing money and, when I raised the issue with my recruitment agency, they suggested that I pretend to hear 'because there are plenty more people who want jobs I've had some shocking experiences with one employer shutting me away in a filing room for eight hours when top management were visiting and the same company reprimanding me for not hearing a fire alarm! I'm now doing voluntary work and doubt I'll experience paid employment again because, without proper support, it'll be completely unbearable!"

Jackie Ballard, Chief Executive for Action on Hearing Loss, says: "There are 3.7 million people of working age with hearing loss and our research shows that organizational culture has a huge impact on their experience in the workplace. It is unacceptable that people feel they cannot continue in their jobs because their employer has failed to put clear procedures in place to support staff with hearing loss. With people expected to work longer and UK unemployment at its highest level for 17 years, the Government has a vital role in raising awareness of Access to Work funding and employers' legal responsibilities to ensure that people with hearing loss are fully supported to stay in work and gain the same opportunities as other staff to fulfil their career potential."

For a PDF version of '*Unlimited Potential?: a research report into hearing loss in the workplace*' visit: www.actiononhearingloss.org.uk/unlimitedpotential.

Source: www.worldwithouthearing.com



Focus Groups for Deaf BSL users

In order to improve access to our service for BSL users, NHS 24 is hosting focus groups in Glasgow and Edinburgh, to consult with BSL users and discuss plans for proposed improvements for NHS 24 and potentially other NHS Boards.

There are 20 spaces available on each group and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Glasgow

This focus group will take place on Mon 23rd January at the Go Group, which is located at 53 Bothwell Street (2nd Floor), Glasgow, G2 6TS, between 11.00am - 2.00pm.

Edinburgh

This focus group will take place on Fri 3rd February at 2-4 Waterloo Place, Waverly Gate, 2nd Floor, Edinburgh, EH1 3EG between 11.00am - 2.00pm

Lunch will be provided at both sessions.

If you would like to take part in one of the groups, please email Alison Deakin on alison.deakin@nhs24.scot.nhs.uk to reserve a place.



Empowerment for Equality - A Framework for Action in Scotland

Deaf Connections Ishara project is seeking to increase the understanding of deaf BME people's needs and improve services available to them, their families, carers and communities.

The launch event will take place on Tues 31st Jan from 11am – 12.30pm

Where? The Lounge in Deaf Connections, 100 Norfolk Street, Glasgow, G5 9EJ

Lunch will be provided.

The main aims of the event?

- To explain the purpose of the Framework
- To inform what is in the framework and why the content
- To gather any initial responses towards the framework
- Promote encouragement to respond to the individual consultation themes
- How Ishara will try to address barriers and issues raised with government from this collective process of engagement
- Who should attend?
- Representatives from deaf communities and deaf community groups or agencies from Scotland
- Representatives from minority ethnic (ME) communities and ME community groups or agencies from Scotland
- Representatives from public services from Scotland.

For more information , please contact Maryam Imran or Tasnim Sharif on Email: Ishara@deafconnections.co.uk Tel:0141 4202819 SMS: 07749211524



Breathing Space BSL Resumes Twice Weekly Webcam Service

The Breathing Space BSL webcam service has recently resumed its twice weekly facility. It is available:

**every Thursday from 6pm to 10pm
and
every Sunday from 6pm to 9.30pm**

The BSL webcam service can be accessed by visiting www.breathingspacescotland.co.uk then clicking on the BSL webcam service and logging in with your user name and email address. The service is not only targeted at BSL users but can be used by hard of hearing or deafened people using the text mode facility via webcam.

Breathing Space BSL webcam service supports those who are lonely or isolated, feeling low or depressed as well as other emotional issues. It is a confidential and private service funded by NHS24. It is important that anyone would be able or wanting to talk to an experienced advisor as it can be a positive step in getting help or support.

Any queries or problems please email: Paul.McCusker@nhs24.scot.nhs.uk

Requests for Paul to come and deliver a short talk to promote the Breathing Space webcam service in your area would be most welcome!



Inclusion Scotland Launches Human Rights Toolkit for Disabled People

Inclusion Scotland launched their human rights toolkit at the Scottish Parliament.

The toolkit has been developed in consultation with disabled people from around Scotland. Its key purpose is to provide disabled people and their advocates with the tools they need to realise their human right to live independently. It will be freely available from Inclusion Scotland's website www.inclusionScotland.org

If anyone has any questions on the toolkit please contact Pauline Nolan: pauline@inclusionScotland.org or telephone 0141 221 7589



**the 8th annual
third sector event**

The Gathering

29th February & 1st March, SECC, Glasgow

The 8th annual Third Sector Gathering is the largest event of its kind in the UK. The Gathering returns to the SECC in Glasgow. This even bigger venue means even more opportunities to bring people together to network, share knowledge and raise the profile of the third sector in Scotland. If you'd like to keep up to date with the latest news for this free event, including information on workshops, exhibitors, events and more register for updates here: <http://www.gatherscotland.org.uk/>.



BDA Scotland: BSL Day Evening Dinner

Sat 17th March at 6pm.

Fairfield House Hotel, Fairfield Road, Ayr, KA7 2AS.

Entertainment includes:

BSL Factor; BSL fingerspelling, jokes, storytelling and poems; Games and raffle.

Over 18s only

Tickets: £30.

For more information or to book tickets, contact Kathleen Cameron, c/o North East Sensory Services, 21 John Street, Aberdeen, AB25 1BT; email: sda.enquiries@gmail.com, fax: 01224 891425, sms: 07414 119011. On the morning of the dinner there is an optional visit to the new Burns Museum.



BSL Day: Evening Celebration "Francis Maginn" Grand Banquet

Sunday 18th March from 7pm – 1am

Holiday Inn Bloomsbury Hotel, Coram Street, London WC1N 1HT.

A black tie event featuring:

3 course meal and half a bottle of wine per person, Deaf Community Awards, top-class entertainment, auction and raffle.

Cost: £50 (members) £60 (non-members)

Accommodation available at the hotel – special rate of £120/night (2 people per room). Book online: www.holidayinn.com quoting reference 'BH7' or call 0871 423 4876. Price guaranteed until 20th Feb. Register for the event by telephone: 020 7405 0090



The BSL Symposium

Launching a national BSL Strategy and the BSL Alliance: After Recognition – The Way Forward Monday 19th March at the Holiday Inn Bloomsbury Hotel, Coram Street, London WC1N 1HT Further information and booking forms will be available on the BDA website: www.bda.org.uk Register for the event by telephone: 020 7405 0090

Edinburgh BSL Group

The Southern: 22-26 South Clerk Street **every Thursday 7pm – 8pm.**

The first Thursday of each month takes place in South Bridge Resource Centre.

Use your signing skills in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere.

Have a chat with some other BSL learners and users. Come to our group events, games nights, quizzes, outings and Deaf awareness nights. This is a group for anyone who signs whether you are Deaf, hearing or hard of hearing. All levels of learning are welcome and there is no charge for this group.

Contact Rachel on: 07814198715 or rachel@edinburghbsl.co.uk; Visit the new website!

www.edinburghbsl.co.uk There is also a Facebook group – Edinburgh BSL Group.



Deaf Parenting UK

The Search for a Lifetime Achievement Deaf Parent Award 2012

Do you know of any Deaf parents in the last 10-100years who have:

- Supported other Deaf parents/ families?
- Created opportunities for Deaf parents/ families?
- Improved the quality of life and access for Deaf parents and families?

Your nominations are sought NOW!

More information can be found:

<http://www.deafparent.org.uk/2011/10/the-search-for-a-lifetime-achieving-deaf-parent-award-2012/>

Download a nomination form: <http://www.deafparent.org.uk/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/DPUK-Award-2011-Lifetime-Achievement-Awards-nomination-form1.doc>

The deadline for nomination is **Friday 2nd March.**

Lifetime Achievement Award winner will be invited to a stunning reception in London.

Please email your nomination to media@deafparent.org.uk or post it to:

Deaf Parenting UK, c/o Gary Morgan, 49 Gordon Square, London, WC1H 0PD

Please spread the word and get nominating!



Fun Friday Events

Suitable for 12-18year olds with hearing loss. Attendees can bring along a sibling or friend. If you are interested in taking part or finding out more, please contact Kaz: kaz.langlands@deafaction.org



Fresh Fruit and Vegetables Stall

EVERY Thursday from 10.30am to 12.30pm at
Deaf Connections – in Room 2

Starting from – 19th January

Why? To make you eat healthier also think about being green and look after the planet using less waste and packaging - bring your own bags please!

Fruits and vegetables will be selling very cheap – you pick and choose!

For more information, contact Paul McCusker, paul@deafconnections.co.uk or sms 07707959297



Residential Arts Retreat for People who are Transgender, Bisexual, Gay or Lesbian, and also Disabled and/or from a Minority Ethnic Background



Mon 12th March to Thurs 15th March

Badaguish Education Centre, Aviemore, PH22 1QU

Creative Intersections, Scottish Transgender Alliance, EveryoneIN and Out to Access are jointly organising an accessible Free Residential Arts Retreat for people who are transgender, bisexual, gay or lesbian, and also disabled and/or from a minority ethnic background.

Join them for an exciting arts based residential in a fully-accessible lodge in the Scottish Highlands! This is your chance to creatively share your experiences of accessing services and explore how to make services better in a fun and relaxed way.

The residential will have a programme of workshops on visual arts, music, creative writing, photography and film to help participants tell their stories in ways that are most enjoyable for them. These stories will then be put together in a document published online, and parts of the process will be filmed and distributed to organisations as a DVD. Appearing in the DVD is completely optional so you can take part in the residential without being filmed.

Places are limited to 20 people, so please apply online at www.creativeintersections.eventbrite.co.uk or contact lynne@equality-network.org or 0131 467 6039 for a place by 16th February.

Applications will be assessed and possible participants notified by 20th February.

All access requirements will be met, and all accommodation and travel costs will be paid for participants and any personal assistants.

Renfrewshire Hard of Hearing Support Group

The group meets at 1.30pm on the first Thursday of every month. If you live in or around Renfrewshire why not pop in. We use speech to text on an overhead screen to make sure the session is accessible. The group meets in the Conference room of the Mile End Centre 30 Seedhill Road. Paisley PA1 1SA. Meetings last about an hour and a half and tea/coffee is available. Find out more: phone: 0141 847 4979, fax: 0141 847 4981, textphone: 0141 848 7232, SMS: 07799477108 ... or just call in at the meeting.

BDA Tartan Hands Youth Forum Aged 14 to 25? Then get involved!

The next meeting is on Tuesday the 17th of January at the Arches Theatre practise room in Glasgow from 6.30pm-8.30pm. There will be a range of activities and guest speakers. For more information, please contact Sally on sallym@bda.org.uk or text 07795822102

Future dates (all at the same time and in the same venue)

Tues 7th Feb, Tues 6th March, Tues 10th April



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[About WWF's Earth Hour](#)

[Get Involved](#)

[What's Next](#)

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WWF'S EARTH HOUR OUR WORLD IS BRILLIANT

Help keep it that way

[Switch off your lights at 8.30pm on Saturday 31 March](#)



60
EARTH HOUR

Training / Workshops / Courses / Conferences

Self Directed Support in Scotland

Choice, control and independence

Are You Being Served?

Tues 21st Feb at Norton Park Conference Centre, Edinburgh.

This is a one day event, hosted by Self Directed Support Scotland (SDSS), to explore the value and effectiveness of Disabled People's Self Directed Support Organisations working with Local Authorities on local Self Directed Support Implementation Strategies.

The event will be an opportunity for Local Authority representatives, Disabled People's organisations and disabled people to identify and discuss key aspects of SDS and personalisation plans to ensure that, in line with the SDS Bill co-production principles, these plans can achieve better outcomes for all.

The event will be attended by Local Authorities, Disabled People's Organisations, and disabled people.

As part of the day, SDSS are hoping to offer a 'question time' style session for the audience and have the Minister for Public Health, Michael Mathieson, opening the event as a guest speaker.

To express interest in attending contact Fiona: info@sdsscotland.org.uk or telephone 0141 887 0117.



Scottish Human Rights Commission Online Seminar Series

The Scottish Human Rights Commission is holding a series of free online seminars that will relate to the Disability Convention. The series will begin with an exploration of disability equality and human rights in the context of public spending cuts and welfare reform. Later seminars will consider issues such as access to justice, independent living and children and young people. Each seminar will only last an hour and will be between 12pm and 1pm so you can watch or listen, and join in over your lunchtime sandwiches! You can be part of the live online seminars on your own or

you may want to see if any of your colleagues or friends want to get involved too and join as a small group.

Although you don't need to register for the seminar, please let the SHRC know if you plan to join in. You can do this by emailing hello@scottishhumanrights.com or telephoning 0131 240 2985.

The provisional dates are:

- 16th January, 12 – 1pm: Getting Justice
- 13th February. 12 – 1pm: Independent Living
- 12th March, 12- 1pm: Children and Young People



Deafblind Scotland Hands-On Signing in Visual Frame for LSPs

One Day Training Course

For language service professionals who may work or interact with people whose first language is BSL and have a visual impairment.

When: **Sat 14th January.**

Class will start at 9.30am and finish at 4pm.

Where: Deafblind Scotland Training Office, 19 Alexandra Avenue, Lenzie, G66 5BG

Morning Session: 9.30a,m – 12.30pm: Visual Frame

Afternoon Session: 1pm – 4pm: Hands-on signing

Cost of the course: £100. All participants will receive a certificate of attendance.

If you are interested in joining the class email trainingadmin@deafblindscotland.org.uk or write to: Deafblind Scotland, 21 Alexandra Avenue, Lenzie G66 5BG.



Actual Signs - Glasgow Winter Workshops - £75 inc vat

Actual Signs has exciting new NVQ and Language Development courses available for booking now! Check out the website www.actuallsigns.com for new courses. There are language development and NVQ courses from Level 3 BSL up to Interpreter level and also a programme of new workshops every month. Book your place today!

Actual Signs has also launched its very own e-learning service, now accessible through their website.

If you or someone you know wants to learn basic British Sign Language, the first part of their online training has been activated. Actual Signs' BSL Awareness Training teaches you more about the visual language that is BSL and how to use it.

At only £10.00, why not start 2012 by learning a unique and exciting new language in the comfort of your own home, or encouraging a friend, family member or colleague to take part.

For more information, please visit the Actual Signs website: <http://actuallsigns.com/E-Learning-i-128.html>. This page will feature more online courses and will soon become a rich and valuable source of online BSL training with Introduction to British Sign Language and British Sign Language Level 1 planned for early 2012.

Scottish Mental Health Service User Research Network Conference

University of Stirling: 10am - 4pm, Tues 14th February

Cost: Free; Service User Travel Cost will be reimbursed

Building Service User Capacity in Research

The Network aims to encourage people with personal experience of mental health problems get involved in the development of mental health research in Scotland. This conference will explore the role of service users in research, and how to promote, develop and build capacity for service user research in Scotland.

The conference will showcase good practice in service user research. Workshops will explore some

of the key issues relevant to service user research.

Speakers include:

Michel Syrett - Honorary Fellow. Spectrum Centre for Mental Health Research
Naomi Campell - CAPS Advocacy
Professor Stephen Lawrie - Director SMHRN
Dr James McKirdy, SMHRN
Further speakers to be confirmed

Who should attend?

Anyone interested and involved in mental health research in Scotland
Please visit www.smhrn.org.uk for a programme, registration and poster abstract forms or email info@smhrn.org.uk or call 0131 537 6542 for further information.

Mental Health 2012 Conference

A New Approach to Mental Health: Improving Outcomes for All
Thurs 22nd March at Manchester Conference Centre.

From both a wellbeing and economic perspective, there is no doubt that mental health issues need to be addressed with the same urgency and vigour that physical health problems receive. For many people, recovery from mental illness is closely linked with other social factors such as income, housing, education, employment and social care and support. The new health and wellbeing boards will have a key role in integrating more effective commissioning so that it includes a social model of recovery and not just clinical care. With the NHS having to find £20bn in efficiency savings, future commissioning in the NHS still shrouded in confusion, and leading mental health experts expressing concerns that mental health is still 'largely invisible', what does the future hold for mental healthcare?

Find out more: <http://www.publicserviceevents.co.uk/203/a-new-approach-to-mental-health>

Access to the Arts: In the Loop



Gallery events for visitors with a hearing impairment.
An fm portable loop system will be available at all events.

Anna Barriball, Weds 29th Feb, 2-3pm

The Fruitmarket Gallery

Anna Barriball makes work which moves between the languages of drawing and sculpture. Barriball often uses the practice of drawing to create something which might be understood as sculpture. Sheets of paper pressed insistently by her pencil up against windows, walls and doors become heavily material objects. Things in the world – windbreaks, found photographs, a fireplace – are redrawn as artworks through subtle alteration.

Join a tour of the exhibition for visitors who are hard of hearing led by Education and Outreach Manager, Caitlin Page.

For further information and booking please contact Susan at Artlink susan@artlinkedinburgh.co.uk or phone 0131 229 3555 option 1.

National Galleries of Scotland

The National Galleries have a programme of tours for visitors with a hearing impairment. For further information, please contact the gallery on 0131 624 6560.

Accessible Theatre: Performed in BSL

Dream or Not?

Sat 21st Jan at 7.30pm.

Scottish Storytelling Centre, 43-45 High Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1SR.

The performance lasts for just over an hour and includes three acts on a related theme.

You are advised to book in advance to reserve a place as there are only 99 seats in the theatre.

This storytelling theatre performance is a representation, using a visual language, of sexuality within adult relationships. A fun, flirty and highly-charged play delivered by male and female sign language users who cleverly show both perspectives of this adult theme. The expression used within the performance relates to the use and meaning of signed languages and exposes parts of the language usually well-hidden. The team include a BSL storyteller and an university lecturer, who present three different short stories in three different settings to illustrate how men and women think when they have one thing on their minds. For both Deaf and hearing audiences.

There will be a brief opportunity to discuss the show afterwards.

This performance would benefit anyone who uses BSL, people who are learning BSL or those interested in visual communication and/or the arts.

Please pass this information on to others who you think may be interested. Or just tell them to come along!!

Tickets: £10 Adults (18+)

Box Office: 0131 566 9579

Email: reception@scottishstorytellingcentre.com | www.scottishstorytellingcentre.co.uk

Through New Eyes

Sat 17th March: 7pm to 9pm with a 15-minute break

An evening of storytelling in British Sign Language. This performance will be a mixture of new perspectives on old favourite stories and some innovative signed stories for both children and adults. Some of these stories will combine live performance with film.

The evening will celebrate the eve of 'BSL Day' which is taking place throughout the UK on 18th March and will introduce the audience to a wide range of signing styles, from 'plain' BSL to richer and more visual forms of the language.

This show will be performed in BSL. Only the introduction and closing remarks will be interpreted into English. The show will therefore be most suitable for people with some interest in or knowledge of BSL, including those attending BSL classes.

Tickets: £8 (adults), £6 (children) | Box Office :0131 566 9579 | Email:

reception@scottishstorytellingcentre.com | www.scottishstorytellingcentre.co.uk

Scottish Storytelling Centre, 43-45 High Street, Edinburgh EH1 1SR.

Accessible Theatre: Interpreted



Aberdeen | Signed

Grease, Thurs 9th Feb at 7.30pm

His Majesty's Theatre, Rosemount Viaduct, Aberdeen, AB25 1GL.

Box Office Tel: 01224 641122, Fax: 01224 337632, Website: www.hmtaberdeen.com

Rambert Dance Company, Weds 15th Feb at 7.30pm

His Majesty's Theatre, Rosemount Viaduct, Aberdeen, AB25 1GL.

Box Office Tel: 01224 641122, Fax: 01224 337632, Website: www.hmtaberdeen.com

An Appointment with the Wicker Man, Fri 24th Feb at 7.30pm

His Majesty's Theatre, Rosemount Viaduct, Aberdeen, AB25 1GL.

Box Office Tel: 01224 641122, Fax: 01224 337632, Website: www.hmtaberdeen.com

Dirty Dancing, 23rd March at 8.30pm
His Majesty's Theatre, Rosemount Viaduct, Aberdeen, AB25 1GL.
Box Office Tel: 01224 641122, Fax: 01224 337632, Website: www.hmtaberdeen.com



Dundee | Signed

Abnormally Funny People, Thurs 19th Jan at 10pm.
Dundee Rep Theatre, Tay Square, Dundee DD1 1PB.
Box Office Tel: 01382 223530, Textphone 01382 342 611 Mon-Sat 10am-6pm.
Or email info@dundeereptheatre.co.uk for enquiries only.
These comedians are the new, emerging disabled comedy talent.

Edinburgh | Signed

The Lyceum Theatre has made a commitment to ensure that at least one performance per run of every show is BSL interpreted. www.lyceum.org.uk

Swallows and Amazons, Fri 3rd Feb at 7pm.
Festival Theatre, 13/29 Nicolson Street, Edinburgh, EH8 9FT. Tel: 0131 529 6000.

The Infamous Brothers Davenport, Weds 8th Feb at 7.45pm
Lyceum Theatre, 30b Grindlay Street, Edinburgh, EH3 9AX
Box Office: Tel: (0131) 248 4848; Group Tel: (0131) 248 4949; Box Office Opening Times:
Mon 10am-6pm; Tue-Sat 10am-7pm for advanced booking; until 7.45pm for tickets for that evening's performance. (Otherwise, 10am- 6pm on non-performance days)

Of Mice and Men, Weds 7th March at 7.45pm
Lyceum Theatre, 30b Grindlay Street, Edinburgh, EH3 9AX
Box Office: Tel: (0131) 248 4848; Group Tel: (0131) 248 4949; Box Office Opening Times:
Mon 10am-6pm; Tue-Sat 10am-7pm for advanced booking; until 7.45pm for tickets for that evening's performance. (Otherwise, 10am- 6pm on non-performance days)



The Marriage of Figaro, Weds 11th April at 7.45pm
Lyceum Theatre, 30b Grindlay Street, Edinburgh, EH3 9AX
Box Office: Tel: (0131) 248 4848; Group Tel: (0131) 248 4949; Box Office Opening Times:
Mon 10am-6pm; Tue-Sat 10am-7pm for advanced booking; until 7.45pm for tickets for that evening's performance. (Otherwise, 10am- 6pm on non-performance days)

The Steamie, Sat 14th April at 2.30pm
Festival Theatre, 13/29 Nicolson Street, Edinburgh, EH8 9FT. Tel: 0131 529 6000.

Calendar Girls, Sat 28th April at 2.30pm
Festival Theatre, 13/29 Nicolson Street, Edinburgh, EH8 9FT. Tel: 0131 529 6000.

The Lieutenant of Inishmore, Weds 9th May at 7.45pm
Lyceum Theatre, 30b Grindlay Street, Edinburgh, EH3 9AX
Box Office: Tel: (0131) 248 4848; Group Tel: (0131) 248 4949; Box Office Opening Times:
Mon 10am-6pm; Tue-Sat 10am-7pm for advanced booking; until 7.45pm for tickets for that evening's performance. (Otherwise, 10am- 6pm on non-performance days)

Glasgow | Signed

Betrayal, Weds 14th March at 7.30pm.
Citizens Theatre, 119 Gorbals Street, Glasgow, G5 9DS. Box Office: 0141 429 0022.

King Lear, Weds 2nd May at 7.30pm.
Citizens Theatre, 119 Gorbals Street, Glasgow, G5 9DS. Box Office: 0141 429 0022.

Krapp's Last Tape / Footfalls, Weds 6th June at 7.30pm.
Citizens Theatre, 119 Gorbals Street, Glasgow, G5 9DS. Box Office: 0141 429 0022.



Perth | Signed

Perth Theatre: The last Saturday matinee of each show at Perth Theatre is BSL interpreted.
www.horsecross.co.uk; Perth Theatre, 185 High Street, Perth, PH1 5UW.
Box Office Tel: 0845 612 6324

Someone Who'll Watch Over Me, Sat 25th Feb at 2.30pm.
Perth Theatre, 185 High Street, Perth, PH1 5UW. Tel: 0845 612 6324.
Box Office Opening Times: Mon 10am-5pm; Tue-Sat 10am-7pm; Sun 10am-6pm.

Moonlight and Magnolias, Sat 31st March at 2.30pm
Perth Theatre, 185 High Street, Perth, PH1 5UW. Tel: 0845 612 6324.
Box Office Opening Times: Mon 10am-5pm; Tue-Sat 10am-7pm; Sun 10am-6pm.

Accessible Theatre: Captioned

The Federation of Scottish Theatre www.scottishtheatres.com/ oversees captioning in Scotland's theatres. Contact your local theatre and ask to be added to their mailing list.



When booking tickets, ask for seats suitable for viewing the captions!

Aberdeen | Captioned

An Appointment with the Wicker Man, Sat 25th Feb at 7.30pm
His Majesty's Theatre, Rosemount Viaduct, Aberdeen, AB25 1GL.
Box Office Tel: 01224 641122, Fax: 01224 337632, Website: www.hmtaberdeen.com

Dirty Dancing, Sat 24th March at 2.30pm
His Majesty's Theatre, Rosemount Viaduct, Aberdeen, AB25 1GL.
Box Office Tel: 01224 641122, Fax: 01224 337632, Website: www.hmtaberdeen.com

Sister Act, Sat 12th May at 2.30pm
His Majesty's Theatre, Rosemount Viaduct, Aberdeen, AB25 1GL.
Box Office Tel: 01224 641122, Fax: 01224 337632, Website: www.hmtaberdeen.com



When booking tickets, ask for seats suitable for viewing the captions!

Edinburgh | Captioned

The Infamous Brothers Davenport, Sat 11th Feb at 2.30pm
Lyceum Theatre, 30b Grindlay Street, Edinburgh, EH3 9AX
Box Office: Tel: (0131) 248 4848 Group Tel: (0131) 248 4949 Box Office Opening Times: Mon 10am-6pm; Tue-Sat 10am-7pm for advanced booking; until 7.45pm for tickets for that evening's performance. (Otherwise, 10am- 6pm on non-performance days)

Of Mice and Men, Sat 10th March at 2.30pm
Lyceum Theatre, 30b Grindlay Street, Edinburgh, EH3 9AX
Box Office: Tel: (0131) 248 4848 Group Tel: (0131) 248 4949 Box Office Opening Times: Mon 10am-6pm; Tue-Sat 10am-7pm for advanced booking; until 7.45pm for tickets for that evening's performance. (Otherwise, 10am- 6pm on non-performance days)

The Steamie, Thurs 12th April at 7.30pm
Festival Theatre, 13/29 Nicolson Street, Edinburgh, EH8 9FT. Tel: 0131 529 6000.

The Marriage of Figaro, Sat 14th April at 2.30pm
Lyceum Theatre, 30b Grindlay Street, Edinburgh, EH3 9AX
Box Office: Tel: (0131) 248 4848 Group Tel: (0131) 248 4949 Box Office Opening Times: Mon 10am-6pm; Tue-Sat 10am-7pm for advanced booking; until 7.45pm for tickets for that evening's performance. (Otherwise, 10am- 6pm on non-performance days)

Calendar Girls, Thurs 26th April at 7.30pm
Festival Theatre, 13/29 Nicolson Street, Edinburgh, EH8 9FT. Tel: 0131 529 6000.

The Lieutenant of Inishmore, Sat 12th May at 2.30pm
Lyceum Theatre, 30b Grindlay Street, Edinburgh, EH3 9AX
Box Office: Tel: (0131) 248 4848 Group Tel: (0131) 248 4949 Box Office Opening Times: Mon 10am-6pm; Tue-Sat 10am-7pm for advanced booking; until 7.45pm for tickets for that evening's performance. (Otherwise, 10am- 6pm on non-performance days)

Oliver, Thurs 14th June at 7.30pm
Edinburgh Playhouse, 18-22 Greenside Place, Edinburgh, EH1 3AA.
Enquiries (v): 0131 524 3301; Box Office(v): 0870 606 3424
Access bookings(v): 0800 587 5007 Email edinburghgroupsales@theambassadors.com



When booking tickets, ask for seats suitable for viewing the captions!

Glasgow | Captioned

Grease, Thurs 26th Jan at 7.30pm
King's Theatre, 297 Bath Street, Glasgow G2 4JN.
Tickets from theatre Box Office on Bath Street (open 10am-6pm, Mon-Sat) or tel(v) 0844 871 7648 Option 4; text relay calls 18001 0844 871 7677 or email specialistsales@theambassadors.com.

Betrayal, Thurs 15th March at 7.30pm.
Citizens Theatre, 119 Gorbals Street, Glasgow, G5 9DS. Box Office: 0141 429 0022.

King Lear, Thurs 3rd May at 7.30pm.
Citizens Theatre, 119 Gorbals Street, Glasgow, G5 9DS. Box Office: 0141 429 0022.

Krapp's Last Tape / Footfalls, Thurs 7th June at 7.30pm. Citizens Theatre, 119 Gorbals Street, Glasgow, G5 9DS. Box Office: 0141 429 0022.

Perth | Captioned

Someone Who'll Watch Over Me, Fri 24th Feb at 7.45pm.
Perth Theatre, 185 High Street, Perth, PH1 5UW. Tel: 0845 612 6324.
Box Office Opening Times: Mon 10am-5pm; Tue-Sat 10am-7pm; Sun 10am-6pm.

Moonlight and Magnolias, Fri 30th March at 7.45pm
Perth Theatre, 185 High Street, Perth, PH1 5UW. Tel: 0845 612 6324.
Box Office Opening Times: Mon 10am-5pm; Tue-Sat 10am-7pm; Sun 10am-6pm.



Captioned Films at the Cinema

Keep up to date with the latest captioned releases by visiting our web calendar: <http://www.scod.org.uk/calendar.php> regularly to see captioned films (and details of other accessible shows) in Scotland at a glance. Listings are updated very frequently!

Edinburgh: Filmhouse, 88 Lothian Road, Edinburgh EH3 9BZ

Shame, Sun 29th Jan at 1pm

Glasgow: Glasgow Film Theatre, Rose Street, Glasgow, G3 6RB

The Descendants, Tuesday 31st Jan at 6pm, Thurs 2nd Feb at 1.20pm and Tues 7th Feb at 8.25pm

Martha Marcy May Marlene, Fri 3rd Feb at 4pm, Mon 13th Feb at 6.15pm and Thurs 16th Feb at 5.45pm

The Smurfs, Sat 4th Feb at 11.30am

Inverness: Eden Court, Bishops Road, Inverness, IV3 5SA

Another Earth, Thurs 26th Jan at 6.15pm

More listings on our website: <http://www.scod.org.uk/calendar.php>



Copy Deadline for the Next Issue

As always, the deadline is the end of this month.

Please forward your contributions for the next bulletin to the editor: editor@scod.org.uk with the subject "Bulletin".

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