



Dear Colleagues,

Lots of things are happening in SCoD at the moment!

BSL (Scotland) Bill

The Bill is still a major focus for us in the office. Last week we were at the Parliament watching the evidence proceedings having supported and informed the process. There were three groups, lasting around an hour each, all filled with a good range of relevant people called to give evidence to the Education and Culture Committee. It was filmed and well worth watching. The Committee Members asked some very searching questions and really gave the impression they were well prepared on all the issues. It is on the Scottish Parliament Channel. Click [here](#) to view.

We have been sifting through all the written and Facebook evidence. Much of the information is really useful and will help to decide priorities within the plans, should the Bill be successful.



We will be working with Mark Griffin, MSP and others to consider preparations for the next stages. Please feel free to continue to give us your views!

Research

Related to the Bill we are doing some research with public bodies to see what they might need in the way of support, should it be successful. Even if it is not successful we will have built or updated relationships and can look at work to support their needs anyway. We engaged Dr Marian Grimes to assist us and the question set is ready to be sent out. We anticipate reporting on this work April/May 2015.

SCoD – Legal Changes



We are set to start trading as a Company and Charity from 1st April 2015. There will be some administrative requirements to let everyone know, sort out bank accounts and financial matters and take forward governance and leadership for the organisation.

In addition, we have made some budget savings by changing our telephone system and communications set up. We are developing the website, Facebook and twitter presence and saving money! We should be in a position to report more in BSL though Facebook now that the infrastructure has improved. As you know the themes of collaboration, communication and then capitalising on success will be running as our Connect and Thrive Programme develops over the next three years. It will take some time to operate the way we want to – please be patient with us. Also, please let us know if you have any issues with the website, social media or phones as we have experienced a couple of wee, unforeseen problems as the changes take place.

Thanks to everyone for their help and support to get us this far. We will be ready to move forward again by the AGM in the Autumn. We need a bit of time to let these changes settle.



Conference – Thursday 12th March 2015

We are exceptionally pleased with the response to our conference and all the bookings to date. We do hope this first one becomes an annual event. Remember it is “by you for you”. We are getting excited and nervous with only a couple of weeks to go. Check it out [here](#).

Cross Party Group on Deafness

The next Cross Party Group on Deafness is scheduled for Wednesday 11th March and is a lunch-time session. The agenda and papers have been circulated.



General Work

Like others we continue to worry about ongoing finance however are keen to support more strategic investment in the Deaf Sector. We hope to hear about some funding this month.

Our Big Lottery Investing in Ideas work has started: we received funds to look at the feasibility and planning of a “Hub”. Community Enterprise in Scotland, known more commonly as CEIS is helping with this project. We hope to feed any learning from it into a more robust business planning approach. Over the next year or so we would like to look at the organisation’s sustainability within a larger “Sector” plan. We anticipate you will be involved as this progresses.

The initial “Think Day” on the topic of a “Deaf Register” went well. The discussions will be written up and reported on in due course. It is fair to say that there is strong interest in better data collection and sharing with it being used to inform planning. There is hesitation to support a “Register” in relation to an entitlement approach. Further work will be necessary and there was broad agreement to support ongoing work in this area.

The “Training/Communications Think Day” is likely to be rescheduled to mid-May. We are struggling to find suitable dates from key players over the Easter holiday period.



Special Request from Janis

I am still keen to support the development of more strategic bids for funds to Big Lottery and others. Advice from Big indicates that some organisations have made unsuccessful bids and I would still be really keen to know about them and look at how we might collectively succeed.

Please get in touch with me (initially on a confidential basis) to try and take this forward!

Best wishes
Janis McDonald
Chief Officer



Equality and Access for Deaf People: Project Update – March 2015

We are now into the final month of the funded project supported by The Scottish Government Equality Unit, with a continued focus on improving equality and access in Education, Health and Social Care for Deaf people. We thought we would explain briefly on each topic regarding news / developments. SCoD is currently waiting on some news regarding future potential funding, to hopefully create more opportunities to build the work our project has been doing and to support public bodies in improving their ability and capacity to make sure they are fully inclusive for Deaf people. The three Project Officers – Rosie Rutherford, Stephen Joyce and Derek Todd have thoroughly enjoyed working together on this project. We have experienced challenges, however through networking, meetings, events, conferences, we have developed collaborations where we feel we have made an improvement in understanding on deafness, especially with Local Authorities and NHS Boards across Scotland.

Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC), Collaboration and Partnerships

The project team has continued to develop its relationship with ALLIANCE Scotland as it rolls out the training to enable the effective implementation of GIRFEC. This has resulted in bespoke training being delivered to the Deaf Sector where it offered the building of capacity to cascade awareness and knowledge in relation to GIRFEC, enabling the empowerment of parents, children and young people and improve equality and access to Education.



As a result of this ongoing collaboration and the influence of this project, there will now be resources and materials produced that are accessible to all, where there will be some information being delivered in British Sign Language. In making the materials accessible to Deaf BSL users there is a growing understanding that this does not mean simply producing a BSL version that is



signed by professional BSL / English Interpreters. This work is on-going.

The project met and supported the Centre for Bilingualism to consider how GIRFEC would be helpful to integrate into their training and resources both with other professionals and with the parents and young people accessing their services. They consider the needs of Deaf children and young people who use BSL to be a relevant part of their strategic considerations and principles, understanding that those using BSL will identify themselves in relation to linguistic access and not disability.

This dialogue is ongoing and the project has sought to make helpful introductions for the team at this Centre.

The relationship with the Education Scotland continues to be developed and there is on-going discussion in relation to the activities in collaboration with NDCS Scotland recent Deaf Learners' Conference for children and young people, and also Education Scotland Practitioners' Conference in late March 2015.

BSL (Scotland) Bill 2014

The project was actively involved in supporting the promotion of this Bill, in particular working with the Deaf Sector to engage with the call for evidence for the BSL (Scotland) Bill. We did this through attending many different events across Scotland, often organised by different Deaf Sector Organisations, promoting the resources and guidance on the process and expectations for this stage of the Bill that was developed by SCoD. These resources were posted on their website and Facebook page and the project were active in supporting the answering of many questions, offering constructive criticism on the most effective type of evidence and in encouraging and supporting different individuals and organisations to participate and offer their evidence.

SEEMiS

The project team have followed through, by meeting the project and development team of SEEMiS, to explore what the strategic significance this data base could have in supporting the effective implementation of GIRFEC for those children and young people who access their education in BSL.

The learning in the first year of the project highlighted the importance of accurate and meaningful data collection, analysis and application for The Scottish Government, Local Authorities and NHS Boards if they are to be able to plan effectively and make appropriate financial provision to enable equality and access for Deaf people using BSL.

As this is a database, owned and managed by all 32 local authorities, it offers an opportunity to develop greater quality control and consistency of data collection, management, analysis and application. This work is ongoing and will be developed strategically considering the work of COSLA and the Community Planning Teams.

Collaboration

The project will continue to collaborate where ever possible with other organisations – there are currently planned activities with NDCS Scotland, BDA Scotland and ALLIANCE Scotland.

Conference

The project team are actively involved in supporting the planning, design and delivery of the first joint conference with SCoD – Connect and Collaborate – on Thursday 12 March 2015 in Glasgow at Royal Concert Hall. The theme of the conference is “Equality and Access for Deaf People” with a wide variety of 12 workshops offered by other organisations from across Deaf, Third, Public and Private Sectors.

Stephen Joyce

Stephen Joyce finishes his Secondment part time employment with our Equality and Access for Deaf People Project via SCoD on Tuesday 31 March 2015. He returns to Deafblind Scotland full time as Training Manager from Wednesday 1 April 2015 onwards.



Full Report

We are currently working on our final full report, which will be uploaded on SCoD website in mid-April 2015.



Should you have any questions or would like more information about our work, please contact our full time Project Officer – Derek Todd: derek@scod.org.uk.

News:General



SISG is a Scottish Recognised Charity. We have been operating in Ayrshire for over fifteen years, helping older people with hearing impairment. Last year we carried out **5,083 visits to 1,781 individuals** throughout North, South and East Ayrshire.

We have **hearing aid drop-in services in fifteen locations throughout Ayrshire**, where you can have your NHS hearing aids cleaned, ear mould tubing renewed and batteries replaced. You can also receive advice and information.

We also visit **nursing homes, sheltered housing complexes, people in their own homes and hospitals.**

These services are mainly volunteer led, so if you are interested in helping, we are always looking for new volunteers.

We have an **Information and Resource Centre** in the Kyle Shopping Centre in Ayr where you can try out equipment and specially adapted telephones.

Our other free services include:

- Weekly Communication Classes (Lipreading) in Ayr, Largs, Cumnock and Girvan
- Weekly Communicating Together Support Groups
- Active Living Classes
- Joint Sensory Support Groups for people with sight and hearing loss

All of the services are free of charge for people with sensory loss.

For more information, please check our website www.sisg.co.uk or contact Denise McClung, Project Manager: denise@sisg.co.uk



SISG (Ayrshire Hearing Support) Charity
Beresford Court
6/8 Beresford Lane
Ayr KA7 2DW
Tel: 01292 266791



The Royal Scottish National Orchestra (RSNO) in partnership with Drake Music Scotland (DMS) have been awarded funding from Creative Scotland's YMI fund to run a pilot youth orchestra for young deaf people of upper primary secondary school age for both young people who currently play an instrument and those who currently do not.

The project will launch in Glasgow in September 2015.

To register your interest, please email engage@rsno.org.uk or phone 0141 225 3584.

A new government initiative launch – Act against Harm

What the Act does:

The Adult Support and Protection (Scotland) Act 2007 is a piece of law to try to protect people from being harmed.

This is because some people may find it more difficult to stop harm happening to them. The Act calls people in this situation 'adults at risk'.

The Act defines adults at risk as people aged 16 years or over who:

- are unable to safeguard themselves, their property (their home, the things they own), their rights or other interests;
- are at risk of harm; and
- because they are affected by disability, mental disorder, illness or physical or mental infirmity, are more vulnerable to being harmed than others who are not so affected.

Having a particular condition such as a learning disability or a mental health problem does not automatically mean an adult is at risk. Someone can have a disability and be perfectly able to look after themselves. For an adult to be considered at risk, all three parts of the definition must be met.

The Act

The Act introduces new measures to identify and protect individuals who fall into the category of adults at risk. These measures include:

- requiring councils to make the necessary enquiries and investigations to see if action is needed to stop or prevent harm happening;
- requiring specific organisations to co-operate with councils and each other about adult protection investigations;
- the introduction of a range of protection orders including assessment orders, removal orders and banning orders; and
- a legislative framework for the establishment of local multi-agency Adult Protection Committees across Scotland.



National roll-out for sign language interpreting service New video call service for deaf people is UK first



A nationwide roll-out of a new online interpreting service will allow deaf people across Scotland to use sign language to contact public sector services.

The Scottish Government has announced today the extension of the current NHS 24 online British Sign Language (BSL) Video Relay Interpreting Service pilot to the rest of the public sector in Scotland.

contactSCOTLAND

The new Scottish Government-funded service, contactSCOTLAND, will mean deaf people can now speak to public services, such as their local council, doctor's surgery and the Scottish Government, without the need for someone to call on their behalf.

For the financial year 2014/15 the Scottish Government has provided £184K in funding to NHS 24, which includes the cost of selected members of the NHS 24 workforce studying for the MA in BSL offered by Heriot-Watt University.

This project is unique in the UK and is the first nationally funded public sector Video Relay Service.

Minister for Sport, Health Improvement and Mental Health, Jamie Hepburn, welcomed the new contactSCOTLAND service which will be available from today.

He said: "There are estimated to be around 6,500 people living in Scotland who use sign language and these people deserve to have the same access to services as everyone else.

"By extending this programme to cover all public sector services in Scotland, we are removing the barriers that some deaf people face when trying to get in contact with their local services.

"For the majority of people who rely on sign language to communicate, they need to arrange to have someone to call on their behalf. This new project will mean deaf people can video call an interpreter at contactSCOTLAND directly who will then speak to the relevant public sector organisation and act as an intermediary for the deaf person.

"This is a fantastic project and gives British Sign Language users equal access to public sector services, allowing them to enjoy greater participation in daily and public life."

Andrew McCafferty, lives with his wife in Greenock, who are both profoundly deaf and recently used the video relay service to call NHS 24 – receiving treatment that saved his life.

He said: "My wife and I are profoundly deaf and use British Sign Language to communicate. It can be really difficult and frustrating to communicate with doctors, police officers and workman from the council that come to carry repairs in our home.





“Recently I took seriously ill and contacted NHS 24 through the online BSL interpreter service. The online interpreter assisted me throughout the call and later when I received treatment at the hospital, the doctors said the treatment saved my life. Being able to use contactSCOTLAND is amazing - it means my wife and I can understand what is being said, which makes us feel much more confident. This is a great service which Deaf people can use when they need it, no matter where they live in Scotland.”

Janis McDonald, Chief Officer, Scottish Council on Deafness (SCoD), said: “SCoD is proud to have been involved from the early days of the pilot work and sees many benefits to Deaf People wishing to access services that are readily available to hearing peers. It is terrific; accessible, discreet and confidential, designed with people in mind. Many have already received information and treatment because of it.

“We can see this type of access would have wider benefit - to help interaction with other public bodies and could be applied to many other situations of day to day life. It greatly reduces the inequality and access barriers Deaf, BSL Users face daily.

“We therefore welcome that the service is now being extended to all national and local public bodies ready to promote and support BSL and Deaf Users across Scotland and that Deaf users have access to public services like everyone else.”

Background

The service is free and can be used to contact all public sector bodies in Scotland. It is not for emergency 999 calls. More information on how the BSL Video Relay Interpreting service works can be found on the contactSCOTLAND website www.contactsotland-bsl.org.



See Hear Highland Education & Learning Services (SHHELS)

SHHELS has been commissioned by the Scottish Government to produce the following training materials for national use:

E-Learning

30 min hearing loss awareness module
30 min sight loss awareness module
30 min communication module (incl. communicating with those with a hearing loss)

Classroom Curricula

1/2 day - hearing/sight/dual loss awareness
1 day - hearing/sight/dual loss awareness
2 day- hearing/sight/dual loss awareness

Accompanying Resources

The online and classroom courses will be backed up with a range of learning materials, including filmed resources.

The e-learning will be made available to local authorities, health boards and key third sector organisations. At the moment, SHHELS gathering information on who wants the materials and what learning platforms (e.g. LearnPro) they use. Copyright will remain with SHHELS, but local links information will be added for each area. Organisations will

be permitted to use the training materials providing that this is **not** done for commercial purposes.

For more information contact:
Jenny Liddell,
See Hear Highland Education & Learning Services,
NHS Highland
16 Kenneth Street
Inverness
Tel: 01463 248100
Fax: 01463 226937
SMS: 07765 898689
Email: jenny.liddell@nhs.net

Vacancies

Scottish Council on Deafness

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title : Cloud Awareness Project Manager

Place of Work : Scottish Council on Deafness
Central Chambers Suite 62
93 Hope Street
Glasgow
G2 6LD

Accountable to : Management Committee

Line Manager : Chief Officer

Salary Scale : £7.85 Per Hour/35 HPW - flexible

General Statement: The Scottish Council on Deafness (SCoD) is the national co-ordinating body for organisations, which cater for a wide range of needs of Deaf, deafened, deafblind and hard of hearing people. SCoD has a membership of organisations, public bodies and businesses from all over Scotland. The Membership Worker will have a key role to play in SCoD's membership development and operational support services.

Main Tasks and Responsibilities:

1. To research and understand the potential of Cloud Technology and support the use of Cloud (Office 365) within Scottish Council on Deafness and its services.
2. To support staff training and practical application of "Cloud" facilities.
3. To provide support to the SCoD Team on ICT matters. Developing the shared diary, building shared contacts and suchlike.
4. To contribute to the cleansing and accuracy of SCoD data/ records. Support plans to grow membership and suggest/devise electronic ways to develop the "membership offer" and support the membership engagement, involvement,



and participation in SCoD and other planning systems including those on a National and Local basis.

5. To link and liaise with other SCoD team members to ensure good internal and external communications.
6. To assist the team in basic administrative functions, mail, reception etc and organising conferences, open days and other events, including the booking of venues, catering, communication services, etc. as and when required, under supervision.
7. Under supervision, to deal with various enquiries and support the administrative and electronic processes: for example - incoming and outgoing mail, incoming calls, faxes, e-mails, visitors. To contribute to the currency, accuracy and circulation of information.
8. To support the development and compliance of health and safety, HR and other SCoD infrastructure requirements. Contribute to the ICT infrastructure development and ensure policies and procedures are current and relevant.
9. To be a First Aider/Appointed Person at Work.
10. To deliver any agreed workplans, take responsibility for recording work achieved and develop skills, knowledge and experience of practical office based activities.
11. To carry out his/her responsibilities with due regard to SCoD's Equal Opportunities Policy.
12. To carry out any other duties as requested by the Chief Officer commensurate with the position



Working Conditions:

35 hours per week

The postholder will be required to be flexible in his/her working hours as some meetings may occur outside office hours and/or involve an overnight stay. The postholder may have to travel around Scotland. The office is generally open between 08.30 and 18.30 or later, weekdays.

The postholder will be expected to undertake training in Deaf Awareness

Applications need to be via Job Centre Plus referral ONLY. Closing date: 15th March 2015.

Scottish Canals are currently seeking a new Board Member.

Full details can be accessed on our website at: https://applications.appointed-for-scotland.org/pages/job_search_view.aspx?jobId=786&JobIndex=2&categoryList=&minsal=0&maxsal=150000&workingPatternList=&keywords=&PageIndex=1&Number=7

HR Public Appointments

Events



INVITATION TO A WORKSHOP ON ENGAGEMENT WITH THE INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS SYSTEM

Scotland's National Action Plan for Human Rights (SNAP) is a roadmap for the realisation of all internationally recognised human rights. It is based on evidence and broad participation. It has been developed by a Drafting Group from across the public and voluntary sectors and overseen by an Advisory Council whose members reflect the diversity of Scottish civic life.

Our vision is of a Scotland in which everyone is able to live with human dignity. SNAP will coordinate action by a wide range of public bodies and voluntary organisations towards achieving this vision. It includes agreed outcomes, priorities and a process for working together from 2013 – 2017 to progressively realise the potential of human rights in all areas of life.

One of the outcomes of SNAP is that Scotland gives effect to international human rights obligations at home and abroad, and work on this is being coordinated by a multi-partner Action Group on Our International Obligations. Action steps under this outcome include:

The development of effective cross-government coordination by the Scottish Government of the implementation of all human rights obligations, with the participation of civil society.

The Scottish Government, the Equality and Human Rights Commission, Scottish Human Rights Commission and disabled peoples organisations working together to develop a best practice approach to implementing the UN Disability Convention in Scotland.

The Equality and Human Rights Commission and Scottish Human Rights Commission supporting Scottish civil society organisations to engage in treaty reviews through increasing understanding and ability.

We are keen to explore ways to better achieve these objectives, and would like to invite you to a participative discussion on how we might do so. Speakers will include representatives of Government, National Human Rights Institutions and civil society organisations. The aim of this session is to help us develop our approach in a way that works for everyone, and to develop the support for civil society in engaging with the international human rights system.

The event will take place on Tuesday 21 April 2015, 13:00-16:00 at New Register House, the Dome (off Princes Street, opposite Waverley Station), Edinburgh. Should

you wish to register your interest, please do so [here](#) by 21 March. Spaces are limited, and following the closing date will be allocated in a way as to ensure balanced participation and range of views.

Workplace pensions reform briefing – Don't leave it until it's too late!



Glasgow
Council
for the
Voluntary
Sector

Make sure your organisation is ready!

2012 saw the introduction and rollout of major new laws on workplace pensions that will affect every organisation that employs paid staff. Every workplace will be covered by 2017 or sooner.

Under the new legislation, all employers will have to:

- Assess their workforce
- Automatically enrol certain staff into a pension scheme and make employer contributions
- Provide information and keep records

There may be significant cost implications for some employers that currently make no pension contributions. Administrative systems will also need reviewed.

This briefing will give an overview of what employers need to do to get ready for and comply with the new law.

It is recommended that employers prepare at least 12 months in advance.

Don't miss this opportunity to get a head start on understanding what this new law will mean for your organisation.

Friday 6th March 2015 10am–12noon Workplace pensions reform briefing

www.gcv.org.uk/albany

Cost Only £30 + VAT per attendee. GCVS will invoice attendees. There is no set lunch at this event but the Albany Centre cafe will be available

Friday 6th March 2015 10am–12noon

The Albany
Learning and Conference Centre
44AshleyStreet,
Glasgow
G36DS

DeafBlind Scotland's "Field of Dreams" – building a better future for deafblind people



**Deafblind
Scotland**

25th Anniversary Dinner Dance

Join our celebrity guests on Saturday 14th March 2015 at the Radisson Blu Hotel, Glasgow.

Ticket price of £50 includes three course meal.

Music by Second Hand Elastic Band till midnight.

Sparkling wine reception at 6.30pm - meal at 7.15pm

For more information please contact:
Deafblind Scotland

21 Alexandra Avenue,
Lenzie G66 5BG
Tel: 0141 777 6111
Email: drena@deafblindscotland.org.uk
www.deafblindscotland.org.uk



Personal Advocacy Drop-in Sessions

Please note the office will be closed over the festive period and will reopen on the 5th January 2015.

Tuesdays from 11am – 1pm

With Avril Hepner, BDA Community Advocacy and Development Officer

Avril will offer independent, confidential, one-to-one (peer) advocacy services for Deaf BSL users.

Explain what advocacy is and how to use the service

She will find information to help you to make your own decisions and choices, put you in touch with other organisations and sources of support and advice.

Venue: BDA Scotland, Suite 58, 1st Floor, 93 Hope Street, Glasgow, G2 6LD

Email: cado.sthscot@bda.org.uk; SMS: 07814386298; ooVoo: Avril.Hepner.BDA



Hate Crime Drop-in Centre

Please note: the office will be closed over the festive period and reopen on the 5th January 2015.

When: Every Monday from 10 am to 2pm

Where: BDA Scotland, Suite 58, 1st Floor, 93 Hope Street, Glasgow, G2 6LD

- Do you want to know more about Hate Crime?
- Did you experience or witness a Hate Crime?
- Do you want to report a Hate Crime in a comfortable and private place?

For more information and to book an appointment, contact Helen Morgans-Wenhold

Email: hco.scot@bda.org.uk **ooVoo:** helenmorgans-wenhold

For more information, go to <http://www.bda.org.uk/Events/226>

BSL (British Sign Language) and Deaf Awareness Training in Scotland

Bespoke Deaf Awareness Training

Learners will be taught basic sign language that will allow them to communicate with deaf people. In addition, participants will be made aware of the essential 'dos and don'ts' when communicating with deaf people.

Courses can be tailored to meet the requirements of business users.

The 'I've signed up to Donaldson's' deaf awareness course will help your organisation to become compliant with the Equalities Act.



Dates for 2014/2015

Dates and times may be flexible to meet the needs of your organisation. We may also be able to hold the training courses in your work place.

Campus at Donaldson's,
Donaldson's School,
Preston Road,
Linlithgow
EH49 6HZ

Tel: 01506 841900 | **Email:** info@donaldsons.org.uk |
Web: donaldsons.org.uk/training

Lipreading Classes, Sessions & Information

'On everybody's lips': an investigation of aspects of access to lipreading classes for adults with hearing loss in Scotland

Linda Armstrong¹, Angela Bonomy², Alan Dalziel³, Delia Henry³, Janis McDonald⁴, Alison Pendlowski⁵, Linda Sharkey⁶, Dorothy McRobert⁷

¹Action on Hearing Loss for the Scottish Lipreading Strategy Group, ²Scottish Government, ³Action on Hearing Loss Scotland, ⁴Scottish Council on Deafness, ⁵Scottish Course to Train Tutors of Lipreading, ⁶Hearing Link, ⁷ Association of Teachers of Lipreading to Adults



Introduction

The Scottish Government funded the Scottish Lipreading Strategy Group (2012-2015) to improve access to lipreading classes for adults with hearing loss in Scotland in recognition of the role they play in adult hearing rehabilitation and the very limited availability of classes across the country. Of the estimated 867,500 adults in Scotland with hearing loss, there are only approximately 500 places available in lipreading classes across the country. At February 2014, 21 lipreading tutors were known to be running 46 classes. The strategy group funding was used in several ways, including the research project 'On everybody's lips' (December 2013-December 2014).

Lipreading classes

Lipreading classes are mainly about helping people to lipread better. This involves learning the different lip shapes and patterns we make as we speak ('bottom-up' or 'analytic' approach). Lipreading is also about watching the other person's lips, face and gestures while they speak and using knowledge about the language and the topic of the conversation to fill in gaps that cannot be lipread (taught via a 'top-down' or 'synthetic' approach). Successful lipreading involves the integration of these two skills. Sessions however also include information and advice about equipment, ideas about how to make the most of communication skills and the opportunity to meet other people with hearing loss.

'On everybody's lips'

Literature review revealed very little previous, published research evidence on access to lipreading classes but some on related aspects of adult hearing rehabilitation (eg Laplante-Lévesque, 2010). The project had nine inter-related work-strands and employed a mixed methods approach. This report focuses on part of one of the project's work-strands, ie the views and experiences of current lipreading class members in accessing lipreading classes. It outlines some of the findings from a questionnaire.



Current lipreading class member questionnaire

211 written postal questionnaires were distributed to current lipreading class members between February and May 2014 and 147 were returned by the end of July 2014 (70% return rate). Descriptive statistics and thematic analysis (Braun & Clarke, 2006) were applied to the response data. These analyses produced new quantitative and qualitative evidence about aspects of access to lipreading classes, ie age and gender profile, length of wait and length of attendance at classes, information sources, when and what triggered attendance and what the perceived benefits and impact have been.

Sources of information

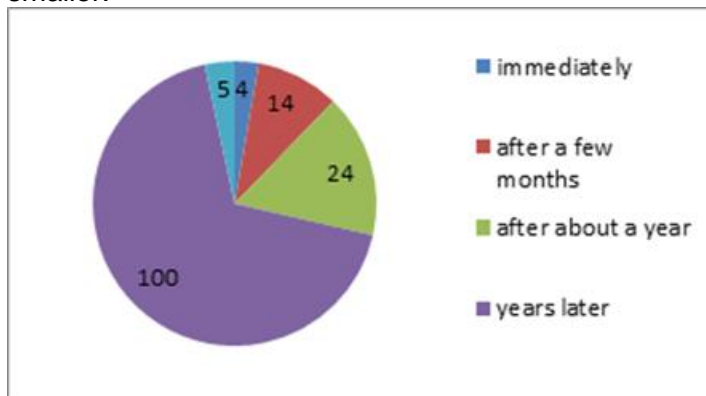
The following diagram shows the respondents' source of information about lipreading classes, ie the first stage required in accessing this intervention.



This shows that the most common source of information for the respondents was 'word of mouth'. The next most frequent sources of information were audiology departments and articles and/or advertisements in local newspapers. A wide range of other sources was also reported by smaller numbers of respondents.

Time post-onset

The diagram below shows how long post-onset of their hearing loss respondents sought information about lipreading classes. For about 70%, this was years post-onset. The number seeking information within a few months of the onset of hearing loss was much smaller.



The benefits of attending lipreading classes – a few quotes

'Should be free to all who would benefit from them. Every bit as important as free medication.'

'Before these classes I think I would have been so embarrassed to wear a hearing aid at 20. But now I know how common these issues are and there is no need to be



embarrassed.'

'Lipreading classes give me the confidence to get on with life.'

'It is a very enjoyable, relaxing way to learn with friendly people who have experienced similar difficulties as you have yourself.'

Discussion

Questionnaire responses were received from about a third of the total number of current lipreading class members in Scotland at the time. This high response rate for a postal, written questionnaire might reflect the level of benefit perceived by those who have accessed lipreading classes. Adults with hearing loss find out about lipreading classes from a wide variety of sources, so information about classes should be widely available. A list of lipreading classes in Scotland is now available at www.scotlipreading.org.uk/index.php/classes/.

While early intervention is often advocated, people who attend lipreading classes generally access them long after the onset of their hearing loss. The reason for this was not explored within the questionnaire but may be related to the long average time it takes for adults with gradual hearing loss to seek diagnosis and rehabilitation/support. Those who attend lipreading classes derive significant benefits, especially in terms of confidence re-building and social re-inclusion. The positive impact of lipreading classes therefore is very clear, if measured in a person-centred way.

A full report from all the work-strands of 'On everybody's lips' will be available at www.scotlireading.org.uk by April 2015.

The results from 'On everybody's lips' have been used in the planning of a strategy for future sustainable development and funding of lipreading classes in Scotland. The Scottish Lipreading Strategy Group's report and recommendations for the development of lipreading class provision will be available at www.scotlireading.org.uk by April 2015.

References

Braun, V. & Clarke, V. (2006) Using thematic analysis in psychology. *Qualitative Research in Psychology*, 3, 77-101.

Laplante-Lévesque, A. (2010) *Intervention Decision Making in Audiological Rehabilitation*. PhD Thesis, The University of Queensland.

Further information

For more information about the work of the Scottish Lipreading Strategy Group, please contact its Chair: delia.henry@hearingloss.org.uk.



BSL (British Sign Language) Sessions for Learners in Scotland

Interpreting in a Medical Setting for Qualified and Trainee Interpreters



The Academy of British Sign Language will be running an in-depth one day training course building on from the October 2014 medical sign workshop for qualified and trainee BSL/English Interpreters, Deaf interpreters and translators. (The course is open to SASLI, ASLI, NRCPD, VLP members and those working in the field with a minimum Level 6 BSL qualification).

We are delighted to announce the training will again be delivered by Jeff Brattan-Wilson

Jeff is one of the first people to become a qualified BSL/English Translator and is able to offer a unique perspective on various scenarios when it comes to using BSL whilst describing medical/body alignments.

Jeff has already successfully delivered part-one in Oct 14 where he took the participant on a journey throughout the human body gaining an insight into how areas can be translated into British Sign Language.

Many of the attending Interpreters found it a challenging workshop, especially when they examined whether the sign should be 'out' in neutral space or whether it should be 'in' (on the body).

Although building in previous teaching, you do not have to have attended part one as this training will be looking at new areas including reference to fluids such as blood and the mechanism of some organs.

It will also specifically focus on various signs for tests, including examinations of private areas. Delegates will have an opportunity to focus on the meaning of the questions and how to cope with translating questions without preparation.

The Glasgow venue is full but there are a couple of spaces available at the Aberdeen venue:

**Training will take place in Locker Room @ Gamola Golf.
Trinity Quay House
47-53 Market Street
Aberdeen
AB11 PZ**

On: Friday 20th March 2015 from 10:30 – 16:00.

The training costs £125, inclusive of all materials. Refreshments, including tea/coffee and lunch will be provided.

Certificates will be provided as evidence of Continuing Professional Development.

For more information or to book your place call on: 0141 204 4096

Email: info@academyofbsl.co.uk

Website: www.academyofbsl.co.uk

Edinburgh BSL Group

This is a welcoming group of signers, both hearing and Deaf. Join us every second Thursday for a cake and some friendly, relaxed chat in BSL. The group is informal and the signers are of different levels of ability. Signing is on and voices are off!

If you have any questions, please contact Rachel Walker on 07814198715 or edinburghbslgroup@hotmail.co.uk

Meeting day: Every second Thursday

Time: 7.00 - 8.30pm

Venue: 'Edinburgh Coffee Cake', 18 South Clerk St, Edinburgh, EH8 9PR



SCoD set to host first national conference for Scotland's deaf sector

12th March 2014
The Concert Hall
Glasgow

SCoD is set to play host a landmark national conference that is intended to place Scotland's deaf community at the fore of the public debate.

The event, which we intend to be the first in an annual series, will help us to champion the deaf community in finding a national voice.

Some 850,000 people in Scotland – around 1 in 6 - have some level of hearing loss and this has huge implications for us as a society, and as an economy. And yet we still make very little provision for deaf and hard of hearing people.

This conference will not only help us to get equality and access issues into the mainstream conversation.

We intend it to be an environment where people can come together to discuss where we have been and where we are going - and to find ways for the deaf sector to work better together.

Chief Officer of SCoD Janis McDonald, explains:

“This national event is a beginning. We intend our conference to grow and evolve over a period of years, helping to raise our own profile and to publicise the needs and concerns of Scotland's deaf community”

The event is expected to attract around 200 attendees, drawn from deaf and deafblind agencies, national and local government, the private sector, and public agencies

It will feature high-level keynote speakers as well as a series of seminars, workshops and information briefings. There will also be information stalls from agencies and private sector companies.

For more information contact:

Kellas McRobert
SCoD Office Manager
Kellas@scod.org.uk



A DeafHealth Champions Conference -

Covering Issues with Accessibility to the Health Service for Deaf People

Wednesday, 11th March 2015 at the Manchester Conference Centre

Delegate Fee £95 (includes lunch and refreshments)
(£35 for students, unwaged & others)



BSL Interpreters and Speech to Text transcript will be provided



To Register - complete the [Booking Form](#)
or email events@signhealth.org.uk

In Summer 2015 all health and social care organisations will be required to adhere to the Accessible Information Standard.

What does this mean for your organisation?

The Standard is a new guidebook for health and social care organisations across England which is a set of rules which organisations must follow to ensure deaf people get appropriate communication support and information in the right format for them.

The Deaf Health Champions (DHC) project will be holding a full day conference at Manchester Conference Centre on Wednesday 11th March 2015 to highlight the health needs of Deaf people. The conference will focus on the ground-breaking work of the Deaf Health Champions in the North West, the results of SignHealth's "Sick Of It" report and developments on the upcoming Accessible Information Standard.

DHC is a partnership of the UK Council on Deafness, SignHealth, Manchester Deaf Centre, Merseyside Society for Deaf People and Deaf Vision Cumbria. The project is to empowering deaf communities to take control of their own health, improve access to services and increase positive patient experiences.

**THE DEAF HEALTH
CHARITY
SIGNHEALTH**

Cumbria-DeafVision
Promoting independence, choice and ac

This event is aimed at Commissioners, Community Engagement and Equality Leads working in Health and Social Care and health professionals with an interest in deafness. The event is also open to Deaf people and deaf organisations. The day will provide an opportunity to find out more about the impact continual inequality of access has on deaf health and the benefits of engaging deaf people meaningfully with health services. There will be presentations from keynote speakers, an opportunity for you to put forward questions to our panel and real life case studies of deaf volunteer experiences.

To book your place or an exhibition stand at the conference, please contact events@signhealth.org.uk or complete the booking form below. Please circulate to colleagues and other parties that you feel may be interested.

[Booking Form](#) (word doc)
[Conference Briefing](#) (pdf)
[Programme](#) (pdf)

Manchester
Deaf Centre



This spring, we're touring a new version of Lorca's Blood Wedding across Scotland, directed by Jenny Sealey MBE.

The show will be visiting **Dundee Rep** (4 – 14 March), **Beacon Arts Centre Greenock** (1 – 3 April) and **Traverse Theatre Edinburgh** (8 – 11 April).

As with all Graeae shows, all performances will use **a creative combination of BSL interpretation, captioning and audio description**, and **a cast made up of Deaf and disabled actors** as well as non-disabled actors.

We therefore want to spread the word as widely as possible across the Deaf and disabled community in Scotland.

Blood Wedding - on tour this spring

**A Graeae co-production with Dundee Rep Ensemble and Derby Theatre
By Federico Garcia Lorca in a new version by David Ireland
Directed by Jenny Sealey**

We are delighted to announce that all UK dates for our spring tour with Dundee Rep and Derby Theatre are now on sale.

David Ireland's radical new take on Lorca's play re-fuels this classic story with a contemporary twist. Jenny Sealey and David Ireland push this tale of searing lust, love and rebellion to its limits. When young lovers are overrun with passion, infatuation and defiance - the consequences are explosive.

Blood Wedding includes a creative combination of BSL interpretation, captioning and audio description. The play contains scenes of an adult and sexual nature and strong language.

Tour dates (click on name of venue to visit their website and book tickets):

[Dundee Rep](#)

Wed 4 March - Sat 14 March

[Derby Theatre](#)

Tue 17 March - Sat 28 March

[Beacon Arts Centre, Greenock](#)

Wed 1 April - Fri 3 April

[Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh](#)

Wed 8 April - Sat 11 April

[New Wolsey Theatre, Ipswich](#)

Tue 14 April - Thu 16 April

[Liverpool Everyman](#)

Tue 21 April - Sat 25 April

For more information about Blood Wedding, [click here](#).





Aberdeen | Signed

Jersey Boys, Thurs 12th March 2015 at 7.30pm
His Majesty's Theatre, Rosemount Viaduct, Aberdeen, AB25 1GL
Box office tel: 01224 641122, fax: 01224 337632; www.boxofficeaberdeen.com

The Full Monty, Thurs 2nd April 2015 at 7.30pm
His Majesty's Theatre, Rosemount Viaduct, Aberdeen, AB25 1GL
Box office tel: 01224 641122, fax: 01224 337632; www.boxofficeaberdeen.com



Glasgow | Signed

Shrek the Musical, Sun 10th May 2015 at 5.30pm
King's Theatre, 297 Bath Street, Glasgow G2 4JN. Tickets from theatre Box Office on Bath Street (open 10am-6pm, Mon-Sat) or tel (v0844 871 7648 Option 4; text relay calls 18001 0844 871 7677 or email specialistsales@theambassadors.com;
www.atgtickets.com/glasgow (bkg fee)

Accessible Theatre – Captioned

The Federation of Scottish Theatre www.scottishtheatre.org/ 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

Jersey Boys, Sat 14th March 2015 at 2.30pm
His Majesty's Theatre, Rosemount Viaduct, Aberdeen, AB25 1GL
Box office tel: 01224 641122, fax: 01224 337632; www.boxofficeaberdeen.com

Wicked, Sat 23rd May 2015 at 2.30pm
His Majesty's Theatre, Rosemount Viaduct, Aberdeen, AB25 1GL
Box office tel: 01224 641122, fax: 01224 337632; www.boxofficeaberdeen.com

The Full Monty, Sat 4th April 2015 at 2.30pm
His Majesty's Theatre, Rosemount Viaduct, Aberdeen, AB25 1GL
Box office tel: 01224 641122, fax: 01224 337632; www.boxofficeaberdeen.com

next
issue



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: admin@scod.org.uk.

We are happy to publish details about your news, information, events, training courses and conferences. Please send us the **text** you want to be included in the bulletin.

If you are not a member of SCoD and would like to advertise an event, training courses or conferences, please contact our Office Manager, Kellas, at admin@scod.org.uk before you send us the text as there may be an admin charge.

SCoD Disclaimer

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