



CONNECT & THRIVE – CONNECT AND COMMUNICATE



Dear Colleagues,

We welcomed Eilidh McEwan to the SCoD team a couple of weeks ago. She is the project worker for the Deaf Sector Partnership, concentrating primarily on communications. We also have a 13 week intern start with us this week, Kirsty Convery who will be doing work around membership.

Forthcoming Events

Herald Politician of the Year Awards – SCoD and the BDA sadly didn't win the campaigning award. It was won by MND Scotland so congratulations to them.

AGM – the AGM will take place on **Friday 11th December in Deaf Connections, 1pm – 4pm.** Please let us know if you're coming!



The Cross Party Group on Deafness is taking place on Tuesday 8th December at 5pm – 6.30pm in Committee Room 3. Please ensure attendance and apologies are submitted to Kellas before the deadline.

Sensory Awards – Monday 15th February 2016.

SCoD Conference – Thursday 10th March 2016. – Eventbrite. Early bird tickets on [SALE NOW!](#) The Early bird tickets are available until the end of 2015. From the First of January there will be a general sale so take advantage of the discounted prices while you can. For the BSL version please [click here](#).

To book an exhibitor stall in the marketplace, contact Kellas@scod.org.uk asap to guarantee your spot.



We are working on next year's calendar. Watch this space!

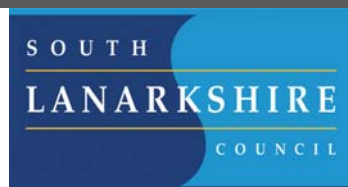
Membership

We have some new Organisational Associate Members to welcome to SCoD: The Culinary Ability Awards, Deaf Perspective, Independent Living in Scotland (ILiS) and Aberdeen Council for Voluntary Organisations. As usual, we look forward to working with both organisations in the coming years to improve services and opportunities for deaf people.

We have introduced a Christmas Special for new Individual Associate Members – 15 months membership for the price of 12 (December 2015 – March 2017). Join before the end of December to receive this offer!



Janis McDonald



Sensory impairment – have your say

Would you like to have your say on services for people with sensory impairment in Lanarkshire?

See Hear is a national strategy aimed at improving and developing access to services and support for people with sensory impairments in Scotland

Launched by the Scottish Government in April 2014, it recognises varying degrees of hearing loss, sight loss and loss of both senses.

It has five clear aims which North and South Lanarkshire Councils along with other partners, including NHS Lanarkshire, want to take forward:

Work across health and social care to assess and support children and adults

Ensure everyone has the same access to education, employment, social care, health care and leisure

Everyone understands the issues surrounding their impairments

Provide information in a range of formats to help people live as independently as possible and can access direct support when needed

Support children and young people from their early years and for as long as required To that end the University of the West of Scotland has been commissioned by both councils to gather the views of people with sensory impairments as well as those of their families and carers.

The University will undertake independent research holding group sessions, a survey and some individual interviews.

The views and opinions gathered will be used to decide how to shape services and support across Lanarkshire in order to best meet people's needs.

Several meeting are being held in the coming weeks at the following venues:

North Lanarkshire (for adults and older people)

Summerlee Industrial Museum, Heritage Way, Coatbridge, Lanarkshire, ML5 1QD – Tuesday 1 December from 10am – 1pm

Chapelside CC, Waddell Street, Airdrie, ML6 6DL – Wednesday 2 December from 6-9pm

Town Hall, Cumbernauld, Bron Way, G67 1DZ – Friday 4 December from 1.30-4.30pm

Newmains Community Trust, 124 Manse Road, Newmains, North Lanarkshire, ML2 9BD (Wishaw) – Monday 7 December from 1.30-4.30pm

Bellshill CC, John Street, Bellshill, North Lanarkshire, ML4 1RJ – Tuesday 8 December from 11.30am – 3pm

South Lanarkshire (for adults and older people)

Lifestyles (Carluke), Carnwath Road, Carluke, ML8 4DF – Wednesday 9 December from 11am – 2pm

Lifestyles, Murray Owen Centre, Liddell Grove, East Kilbride, G75 9AD - Wednesday 9 December from 6-8pm

Lifestyles Rutherglen, Glenside Drive, Rutherglen, G73 3LW - Thursday 10

December from 10am – 1pm
Lifestyles Fairhill, Neilsland Road, Fairhill, Hamilton, ML3 8AJ - Friday 11 December
from 11am – 2pm

Groups for Parents/Young People/People from BME Community

Hamilton Town House, 102 Cadzow Street, Hamilton, ML3 6HH - Tuesday 8
December from 6-9pm

Lifestyles Fairhill, Neilsland Road, Fairhill, Hamilton, ML3 8AJ - Monday 14
December from 11am – 2pm

Committee Room 5, Council Headquarters, Almada Street, Hamilton, ML3 0AA -
Tuesday 15 December from 11am – 2pm

If you would like to take part, please contact Mick Fleming at the University of the West of Scotland to let him know which event you would like to attend. You will be paid for any reasonable travel expenses and refreshments will be provided on the day.

To contact Mick please use one of the following:

Email: mick.fleming@uws.ac.uk

Phone: 01292886455

Mobile: 07534816656

Text: 07527676757

via [contactscotland-bsl](#)

This information is available as a video broadcast using [British Sign Language on YouTube](#)



Independent healthcare regulation: Fees consultation 2016–2017

Healthcare Improvement Scotland began regulating independent healthcare services (currently 36 hospitals) in April 2011, taking over this work from the Care Commission. The current fees for independent hospitals have not increased since 2005, when the Care Commission last reviewed the fees. Currently, the income from fees does not cover all the costs, and the shortfall is made up from Healthcare Improvement Scotland's block allocation it receives from the Scottish Government.

From 1 April 2016, Healthcare Improvement Scotland will start regulating independent clinics (approximately 450 clinics from current research). Also, from 1 April 2016, the Scottish Government requires that Healthcare Improvement Scotland must recover all independent healthcare regulation costs from the fees charged to the providers of services.

The consultation paper below sets out:

the changes we propose to make to the existing fees for independent hospitals

the fees we propose to introduce for independent clinics, in the financial year 2016–2017, and

the maximum fees that Scottish Ministers will allow Healthcare Improvement Scotland to charge.

Take part in our consultation

We need your views on our proposals for independent healthcare regulation fees.

Once you have read the consultation document, please complete the short online survey at the link below to share your views:

Survey Monkey – Independent Healthcare fees consultation 2016-2017

Please provide your responses by 5pm on Friday 18 December 2015

We will publish a report on the responses to the consultation on our website in January 2016.

Please read the consultation documents on our website at

http://www.healthcareimprovementscotland.org/our_work/inspecting_and_regulating_care/independent_healthcare/fees_consultation.aspx



The Project

Do you think your digital world could be a better place for you and your friends? Do you want to be part of something which has the potential of ensuring that all children and young people can access the internet creatively, knowledgeably and fearlessly? Are you aged between 14 and 21?

If you've answered yes to these questions, we want to hear from you!

Young Scot, the Scottish Government and #iRights have launched #iRights Youth Commission Scotland, to support a diverse national group of young people to develop informed insights, ideas, recommendations and solutions in relation to “**How Scotland can become a nation which realises children and young people's digital rights**”.
Curious?

We're looking for 15-20 young people from across Scotland to be #iRights Commissioners to participate in this 12-month investigation.

You will have the chance to advise key organisations, leaders and decision-makers on what you think should happen to try to make Scotland a nation which realises children and young people's digital rights. As a Commissioner you will take part in approximately 6-8 meetings and events throughout the year, as well as some investigation work in your own time.

This is an important and exciting piece of work. You don't need to have formal qualifications, just an interest in issues relating to young people, Scotland and your digital world. You should also be a good communicator, be able to understand and listen to other people's views, work within a group and have the flexibility, commitment and willingness to travel across Scotland throughout 2015-2016.

These are not paid positions but any travel expenses will be provided. Training and support throughout the 12 months will also be given, including access to a youth facilitator and support/advisory group.

What will you get from the project?

- A chance to boost your CV as one of Scotland's #iRights Youth Commissioner
- Achieve recognition for your involvement through accreditation such as a Youth Achievement Award
- Receive in-depth training to support you in your role as a Youth Commissioner.

- Receive mentoring and support
- Increase your confidence, be empowered and challenge decision makers
- Challenge yourself to be innovative and create wild ideas
- Make friends for life – our volunteers have the opportunity to meet other young people from across Scotland

Location:

Rosebery House
9 Haymarket Terrace
Edinburgh
EH12 5EZ

The closing date for #iRights applications is Friday 18th December 2015.

We will be holding a selection day on Saturday 9th January 2016. If you have been invited to attend the selection day, but you cannot attend, we will arrange to Skype or call you.

For more information please visit:

<http://young.scot/things-to-do/events/edinburgh/join-scotland-s-irights-youth-commission/>

Office to Share



Are you a small charity looking for an affordable office space in Glasgow? Look no further. We are two small equalities charities who have combined forces to help keep our overheads to a minimum. We each have a dedicated desk space, and there is space for a third. We are looking for a contribution from you of £240 per month for which you get:

- Accommodation in a lovely concierge managed office building
- Based in Glasgow city centre, close to Central Station
- Dedicated deskspace
- 24/7 access
- Fully inclusive of high speed broadband and utilities
- Meeting space shared between all 3 organisations
- Significant storage space
- Shared bathrooms, kitchen and showers
- Access to further meeting spaces
- Coffee shop and meeting area within the building
- Optional landline telephone number (additional charge)
- Our suite also has private doors leading to a fully enclosed courtyard with outdoor seating and meeting space.

Call us on 07835119925 for more information.



Contract for the Provision of a Sign Language Interpreting, Translation and Guide Support Service

NHS Forth Valley seeks to ensure, that language is not a barrier to accessing high quality health care and to enable access to all services effectively. The purpose of this tender is to ensure that people who require Language Service Professionals (LSP) or guide assistance, are provided with the appropriate support throughout their health journey.

The contract will be a "Sole Award" to one supplier.

NHS Forth Valley recognises and welcomes our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010, and as an organisation will ensure our Interpreting and Translation Services comply with these legislative requirements. This tender is therefore a commitment to the provision of effective communication strategies to enable NHS Forth Valley to deliver services that are person centred, safe, effective, timely, responsive and equitable for all patients and carers.

NHS Forth Valley, wish to work with qualified, well established, innovative and progressive companies with the aim of reducing any barriers to accessing services or communicating with staff providing health services for hard of hearing, Deaf , Deafblind and visually impaired people.

By procuring an Interpretation service NHS Forth Valley aims,

- To provide suitably qualified Interpreters and guides, who have sound knowledge of working within healthcare settings. These individuals will work in a professional manner and adhere to an agreed code of conduct.

- To raise awareness of Interpretation and Translation needs, encouraging staff to proactively plan for service users' needs and ensure that all have the knowledge, confidence and ability to access services.

- To demonstrate to staff and service users that working with qualified Interpreters can maximise interaction and widen opportunities for better health and wellbeing.
- To provide a prompt, efficient and suitable service, one which is equitable and accessible to all.

- To be a responsive service based on consultation, involvement and engagement of patients, carers and staff.

- To minimise risk to service users and our organisation, by reducing possibility of misunderstanding or poor service provision due to lack of communication.



Healthier Scotland Engagement Fund

As part of the national conversation about the future of health and care services in Scotland (Creating a Healthier Scotland – What matters to you) VAF is delighted to announce the launch of the Scottish Government's new **Healthier Scotland Engagement Fund**.

From August 2015 to Spring 2016 the Scottish Government is holding a national conversation on improving the health of the Scottish population and the future of health and social care services in Scotland.

With £26,000 to give out in grants the Healthier Scotland Engagement Fund is part of this conversation. It aims to help small voluntary organisations and community groups in Scotland run an event or engagement activity to gather views of people who would not normally participate in a consultation of this nature.

Grants of up to £500 (or exceptionally up to £1,000) are available to support an event or engagement activity with a group of five or more people.

We are particularly keen to fund events or engagement activities that will involve

seldom heard or hard to reach groups or communities. Applications that will gather the views of these groups will be considered a priority as will applications from groups with an income under £100,000.

Applications should be received by VAF by 5pm on Friday 11 December 2015. Applicants will hear the outcome of their application by Thursday 7 January 2016. A short report on the event or activity should be returned to Voluntary Action Fund by Thursday 18 February 2016.

Further information, including the guidance and application form, is available on the VAF website at www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk or click on this link:

<http://www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk/funding-and-support/healthier-scotland-engagement-fund/>



SSC Course 18: Evaluating Listening Skills and Speech Production Skills after Cochlear Implantation: Thursday, 18th February 2016

This course will be of interest to teachers of deaf children, mainstream teachers, speech and language therapists, support staff, early years works and parents/carers.

Course content: In order to support children and families through the process of cochlear implantation (CI) it is necessary to be able to evaluate the level the child has reached in terms of using their listening skills and how this will affect their speech production skills.

Normal expected range of development in children with cochlear implants will be looked at and how to identify any mismatch of skills. It is well documented that the 'hearing brain' needs to be used to allow auditory processing which, in turn, will ensure the child's articulation of speech sounds is as expected given their stage of development. This will be looked at more closely as well as factors that may mean speech production is not as expected. How to evaluate what is normal development after CI will be established and what to do if a child is not following this developmental pattern. There will be practise in analysing atypical development of speech.

Presenters: Agnes Allen, Jane Gallacher, Janette Joyce and Carolyn McMillan, Cochlear Implant Team, Crosshouse

Course fee: £25

Applications are available to download from the following link:

<http://www.ssc.education.ed.ac.uk/courses/deaf/dfeb16.html>



Just Enterprise : Procurement Support - FREE Help and Advice with Competitive Tendering

The growth in volume and range of public sector services has witnessed a similar increase in competitive tendering - a practice replacing those services that were previously grant funded or delivered through SLA arrangements. In this highly competitive environment, third sector organisations need to have a clear understanding of the processes involved if they are to write successful tenders.

If you are an existing third sector organisation planning to tender for public sector work in the near future, or need help to prepare for a specific tender, Just Enterprise

can help guide you through the process. Through the provision of tailored consultancy support our expert procurement advisers are available to work alongside you – helping to demystify the tendering process and providing you with the essential tools and techniques required to write successful tenders.

We are still open to accept new applications for our **procurement** support service from **both new and existing clients** - please feel free to forward this information on to any Scotland based third sector organisation you feel may benefit from accessing this free service.

Interested? Apply [here](#) now – we look forward to hearing from you!



'Orange the World'

The Voluntary Action Fund (VAF) goes “Orange” on the 25th November to promote and support the 16 Days of Activism to End Violence Against Women and Girls.

This international campaign seeks to highlight and challenge gender based violence across the world from the 25th November (International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women) through to 10th December (Human Rights Day).

During the 16 days VAF staff will be wearing orange, giving out white ribbons and asking people to take the White Ribbon Pledge never to **'commit, condone or remain silent about violence against women'**.

Maggie Gardiner, Programme Manager for the Violence against Women and Girls team at VAF states, “This year in Scotland there were 59,882 incidents of domestic abuse reported to the police. 79% of those were situations where women were the victims and men the perpetrators of the abuse.

During many of these incidents, mostly home based, children were present. We support over 100 projects and organisations across Scotland to tackle all forms of violence against women, grant funding them with more than £9 million via the Scottish Government. These organisations work on the front line directly with vulnerable women, children and young people, helping them recover and rebuild their lives after experiencing violence and abuse.

Police Scotland has also seen an increase in sexual crime reporting, including rape and sexual assault, to the highest level since 1971. We ask you to join with us and show solidarity by wearing orange and taking the White Ribbon Pledge”.

VAF will be organising events in their Inverkeithing and Glasgow offices on 25th November to launch the 16 Days of Activism, and the Violence Against Women and Girls team will be tweeting throughout the 16 days campaign @VAF_VAW and will be regularly updating the website www.vaf.org.uk

All over Scotland people will be holding events, staging protests and taking action to end gender based violence. You can find out more about 16 Days here: <http://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women/take-action/16-days-of-activism>

Support Hearing Link this Christmas

As we approach Christmas, it's time for Hearing Link to offer a little inspiration for presents for your family and friends.



Take a moment to browse our [online Christmas catalogue](#), which is packed full of original and affordable gift ideas. Not only will they make your shopping easier this year, but all proceeds raised from sales in our online shop go towards our charity, supporting people with hearing loss, their families and friends across the UK.

New in stock are our Hearing Link [Christmas Cards](#) – just £3.50 for a pack of 5. We also offer fabulous [stocking fillers](#), Hearing Link branded gifts and [LCD Boogie Boards](#) – an original, paperless alternative to memo pads, sketchbooks and post-it notes.

If you place an order worth £10 or more (excluding postage charge) via our [online shop](#) from now until Christmas Eve, we will send you a Hearing Link pen for FREE!*

To browse even more gifts and Hearing Link products, please visit shop.hearinglink.org

Other ways to support us

Search, save & raise with Savoo Online shopping is a popular way to buy Christmas gifts and this year, with the help of search engine Savoo.co.uk, you can raise money for Hearing Link at no extra cost to you – Savoo donates on your behalf. Every search raises a penny for our charity, donated on your behalf by Savoo, and you can save money too by using its voucher codes and deals. So, whether you're at work, at home or on the go, Savoo is an easy way to show your support. Find out how to sign up at: <http://www.savoo.co.uk/charities/Hearing-Link.html>.

Become a Hearing Link member

Did you know we offer a membership to individuals, their families and groups & clubs for as little as £10.00 each year? As a member of Hearing Link you instantly join the heart of our dynamic and diverse organisation. You will be adding your voice to thousands of like-minded supporters and through our collective national voice influence policy and services for people with hearing loss at local and national levels. Support us today - find out more at: <https://hearinglink.org/membership>.

Give a little extra this Christmas

A regular monthly gift enables us to help people with hearing loss connect with others, develop their skills, and offer compassion, guidance and advice. For as little as £3 a month, or just 75p a week, you could help us to empower people to reconnect and embrace life again. It's so simple to set up a regular donation and means the world to us. Find out how to start at: <http://hearinglink.org/donate-online>.



See you again very soon...

Keep an eye out for our Christmas Appeal, which we launch in the next few weeks. As one of the toughest times of year for people with hearing loss, we'll highlight how you can spread a little happiness this Christmas.

* Terms and conditions apply – see brochure for details.

- If you do not want to receive email updates, please [unsubscribe](#)
- If you want to be removed from our database entirely, please email us at enquiries@hearinglink.org



Commencement of the regulation of independent clinics - 1 April 2016 Regulation of Independent Clinics from April 2016

In April 2016, Healthcare Improvement Scotland will start regulating independent clinics in Scotland.

Who is being regulated?

Independent clinics are defined in the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978 as clinics that are not part of a hospital and from which a medical practitioner or dental practitioner provides a service, which is not part of the National Health Service.

The term 'service' includes consultations, investigations and treatments.

If you are the provider of an independent clinic (as defined above), you will need to, register your service with us from April 2016.

If you are a provider of an independent clinic and a registered nurse, midwife or dental care professional (clinical dental technician, dental hygienist, dental nurse, dental technician, dental therapist, orthodontic therapist), you will also have to register from April 2016, following the proposed amendment to the definition of independent clinics.

What happens next? To receive regular information about next steps, please complete the contact form on our website:

http://www.healthcareimprovementscotland.org/our_work/inspecting_and_regulating_care/independent_healthcare/regulation_of_clinics.aspx

You can also find Frequently Asked Questions on our website to guide you through the key points. The Frequently Asked Questions are available at:

http://www.healthcareimprovementscotland.org/our_work/inspecting_and_regulating_care/independent_healthcare/regulation_of_clinics/regulation_of_clinics_faqs.aspx

Health drop-in service every Tuesday afternoon in Glasgow 2pm to 4pm

Health drop-in service

- We will explain what access and inclusion (health) means and how you can use the service.
- We want improve access to health information for you.
- We want to know about your experience in Health.
- We will put you in touch with other organisations that can offer extra support.

For more information or to book an appointment, contact Katie Mowat:

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

Email: health.scot@bda.org.uk

ooVoo: Katie.Mowat.BDA

SMS: 07795822102

Vacancies

Scottish Council on Deafness Board of Directors

The Scottish Council on Deafness (SCoD) invites nominations from the



membership (only full members can nominate) to the Board of Trustees. If you have an interest in governance and the strategic work of SCoD, you may like to consider becoming a Trustee/Director.

The Board is responsible for the leadership and governance of SCoD, support to the staff team and monitoring and evaluation of SCoD's work, in conjunction with the Chief Officer. It meets a minimum of 4 times a year: generally an average of 6 x 2 hour meetings plus a development day. This booklet covers the key parts of the recruitment process and includes the role description and code of conduct information applicable to all Board Members. SCoD is committed to a culture of continuous improvement and the survey at the end illustrates the areas the Board will focus on to improve its effectiveness.

Process

In accordance with our governing documents Trustee/Directors must be nominated by an organisation, which is a full member of SCoD. The nomination form must be signed by a very senior person within that organisation. The form must also be ratified by a current active SCoD Board member in order to support and validate the nomination. Each SCoD Board member can only validate one nomination. (Nomination form pages 4-8 inc). A completed skills audit form should be attached.

We openly advertise across our network. Full member organisations can nominate ANYONE they feel is suitable for the role.

You will then be asked to come along for an informal meeting to discuss the expectations, from both ourselves and you, of being a Trustee/Director; examine what skills and/or experience and interests you could bring to this position; note any barriers, preparation or training needs; discuss the potential for conflict of interests; and ensure you are aware of the role and relationship with the nominating body. The other paperwork can be completed at this stage.

If there are more nominations than places on the Board then SCoD will hold an election across the full membership: one member, one vote.

These are unpaid positions, but any travel costs will be reimbursed upon submission of an appropriate claim form. Still Interested??.....then please complete the nomination form and skills audit form and return them to SCoD.

You can obtain a nomination form from our Office Manager
By email: admin@scod.org.uk or via our website: www.scod.org.uk

[Click here](#) **BSL Version**

If you want more information please contact janis@scod.org.uk for in informal chat.



Title – Partnership Manager – Health and Social Care

Salary: £30,000

Salary Info: 35 hrs per week (requests for flexible working welcomed)

Job Type: Full time

Closing Date: 9am, Monday 7th December 2015

Location: Greenock

Role:

The post-holder will lead the strategic development of the third sector's relationships with Inverclyde Health and Social Care Partnership & other relevant public sector partners. There is a clear need for health and social care provision to

become more community focused and asset based in order to better meet the growing needs of our population. The post-holder has a key role in supporting the changes that are required across both the third and public sector and the relationship between them.

Accordingly the post holder has a strong leadership role both within the third sector and with our partners; driving improved collaboration and the redesign of services to meet the changing needs of Inverclyde's people.

The role is also part of the organisation's management team, responsible for the overall delivery of CVS Inverclyde's business plan and line management of staff.

Organisation profile:

CVS Inverclyde is a partner in Inverclyde's Third Sector Interface. CVS aims to support the third sector to deliver the best outcomes for Inverclyde by providing practical support and improving the strategic environment for the sector.

CVS Inverclyde is a company limited by guarantee, registered in Scotland, No; SC255005 and a Scottish Charity No; SC024376

To view the full job description [click here.](#)

To find out more about CVS Inverclyde [click here.](#)

To find out more about CVS Inverclyde competency framework [click here.](#)

To download a copy of the letter to candidates [click here.](#)

To download a copy of the Application Form [click here.](#)

Events



**Scottish Council on Deafness
Annual General Meeting**

Deaf Connections
100 Norfolk St, Glasgow G5 9EJ

Friday 11th December 2015
1pm – 4pm

To confirm your attendance please contact: admin@scod.org.uk

Get the 'Hear & Now' of hearing loss at FREE information events

People with hearing loss in Scotland have a unique opportunity to find out the 'Hear & Now' of hearing loss at **FREE** social and information events being run by the UK charity Hearing Link.

'Hear & Now' offers individuals and professionals access to a one-stop-shop of valuable resources, equipment demonstrations, and advice and information from a range of expert speakers and organisations. They are also a chance to gain a personal insight to managing hearing loss through inspiring first-hand stories.

There will be three events taking place from 10-4pm on the following dates:

- **The Lighthouse, Glasgow – Thursday 3rd December**



'Hear & Now' events are **FREE** to attend and lunch will also be provided for guests.

The events, supported by The Alliance Scotland, will include presentations by expert speakers and demonstrations of assistive equipment for hearing loss to help increase understanding of what's available. Throughout the day, delegates will also have the chance to browse the range of exhibition stands from local organisations. It will conclude with a volunteer networking event for Hearing Link volunteers and any individuals or professionals considering volunteering and supporting the charity's work.

Chris Milne, Scotland Manager at Hearing Link, said: "At Hearing Link we understand the challenges individuals, their families and friends face when trying to access information and support about managing hearing loss. It can be a daunting task trying to access the right knowledge that is particular to their needs – that's why we are bringing our 'Hear & Now' event to Edinburgh, Ayr and Glasgow over the coming months.

"This is a unique opportunity for local residents to access valuable resources, information and expert speakers; and be inspired by first-hand stories from those in their local community who successfully live with and manage their hearing loss.

"I would encourage anyone living in these places to come along and benefit from our worthwhile events. Entry is free and includes lunch for all our guests."

If you are interested in attending any of these 'Hear & Now' events, places should be booked in advance. Visit www.hearinglink.org/hear-and-now to book online or contact Hearing Link Scotland by emailing scotland@hearinglink.org; tel: 0131 447 9420 or text: 07564 916798.

NDCS Scotland - Christmas Market and Cake Bake



Christmas Market and Cake bake
10th December (Thursday)
11am -2.30pm.

Where:
The National Deaf Children's Society
Second Floor, Empire House,
131 West Nile Street Glasgow
G1 2RX

Come along for:
Home Baking, Teas & Coffee
Stalls by Nana Momo – Children's clothing
Mini Facial stocking fillers by Aloe Alaninn – Forever Living Products

[Click here for Poster](#)



Deaf Action Christmas Party

So it is closing in on that time of year where Santa comes to pay us all a visit. One of his first stops will be here at Deaf Action on **Saturday 19th December**, between **11am – 2pm**. This will be the last youth group of 2015 and will be open for all young people, siblings and their families.

If you would like to join in, please get in touch before **Monday 14th December** – so I have an idea of who is coming. The **£2** per head can just be paid on arrival. There will be food provided and any child attending will get to take home a present from Santa!

I will also be looking for some helpers; for decorations, cake baking, volunteering on the day, etc. so if anyone is free and would like to help out, please let me know!

To sign your kids up today, contact Alex Furneaux, alexfurneaux@deafaction.org



Invitation to Carers Trust Scotland's Young Adult Carer - Showcase and Learning Exchange

We would be delighted if you would join us for the first Young Adult Carer - Showcase and Learning Exchange in Scotland taking place at the **Glasgow Science Centre, 50 Pacific Quay, Glasgow, G51 1EA from 10.00 - 16.00 on Tuesday 26th January 2016.**

This event will exhibit and share practice and learning from current local and national young adult carer work in Scotland. It will examine the impact that dedicated services have had from the young adult carers who have benefited. There are an estimated 30,000 young adult carers in Scotland who care, unpaid, for a family member or friend who could not cope without their support.

It is also one year on from the launch of Time to be Heard for Young Adult Carers, the national campaign initiative in Scotland. This event will also showcase the journey of the campaign so far and will provide an opportunity to explore this.

Additionally at the event, there will be opportunities to consider research and consultation data, which provide an insight into the experiences for young adult carers in Scotland. This event will aid in informing national and local government, health and education providers on how to better support young adult carers.

Young adult carers will be presenting at the event and will be in attendance to discuss their experiences of services.

Please **RSVP by Wednesday 13 January 2016** to Please **RSVP by Wednesday 13 January 2016** to scotland@carers.org or call us on [0300 123 2008](tel:03001232008).

Burns Supper

To celebrating the supper and the historic BSL (Scotland) Act.

Venue: The Carlton Hotel, North Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1SD.

Date: Saturday 23rd January 2016

Time: 7pm till late.

Price: £30



Art and Creativity for Children and Young People with Complex Needs

Date: Friday, 5th February 2016

Time: 10 am - 4 pm

Venue: SSC, Edinburgh

Cost: £110

NOTE - closing date for course is 15th January 2016

This course will look at how Art can open up opportunities for children and young people with complex needs. The course will consist of workshops and presentations by Visual Artists who work with Artlink Edinburgh. Artlink is an arts and disability organisation established in 1984 that believes participation in the arts has an important role to play in realising personal and social change. Their aim is to increase opportunities to take part in the arts for those who experience disadvantage or disability.

The day will include:

- An Immersive Sound and Perception Workshop
- How to use the everyday as a material for interaction
- A making workshop using the strategies of Lygia Clark
- A talk on the ambitious Artlink Ideas Team using experimental ideas by learning from individuals with complex needs.

Target Audience

This course will be of interest to all who work with children and young people with complex needs, including teachers, additional support needs assistants, occupational therapists, early years practitioners, voluntary organisations, therapists, social services staff, parents/carers.

Restrictions: Maximum of 25 participants.

For application form please visit:

<http://www.ssc.education.ed.ac.uk/courses/vi&multi/vfeb16.html>

Scottish Sensory Awards



To highlight the good practice and promote the rights of people living with sensory impairment a small group of interested people decided to develop an awards programme which would showcase some of the good work across the sectors.

Love Sensory Impairment is the branding we have chosen as our glitzy awards ceremony is on February 15th close to Valentine's Day and it aims to celebrate the good work and good news we know is happening in relation to world of Sensory Impairment.

The creation of sensory impairment awards for Scotland was to recognise the extent of the range of work with deaf, deafblind and visually impaired people and to raise awareness of the work of statutory, third and independent sector services with people with sensory impairment.

The awards provide a focus for all organisations and individuals involved in the dynamic world of sensory impairment and to build on the impetus of the recently published See Hear Strategy.

There are a range of categories which have been linked loosely to the Recommendations from the national See Hear Strategy.

The categories we have developed for the Awards Event look to recognise the breadth and depth of the work we are involved in and welcome nominations from groups or individuals who would like to recognise the work of a; colleague, friend or group for any of the following categories:

The application process is simple and we welcome applications from a range of organisations and individuals; each category has a list of criteria to help the judges to agree the winner and runners up.

[Please check our website](#) and **Click here for Nomination Form**
Nominations to be submitted by 15th December 2015.

Please submit to;

By email: scottishsensoryawards@gmail.com

By post: **Sensory Impairment Awards, c/o SCoD, Central Chambers Suite 62, 93 Hope Street, Glasgow, G2 6LD**

We look forward to your application



North East Sensory Services calls for support at carnival fund-raising ball

An Aberdeen-based charity is calling on the public and local businesses to support its forthcoming carnival themed fundraising ball.

North East Sensory Services (NESS), which provides vital sensory services for blind and deaf people in the North-east is hosting its fifth annual ball, at the Marcliffe Hotel & Spa on Saturday 5 March 2016 to raise vital funds to support the work of the charity in the North-east.

The Guarana Street Drummers will be performing their feet stomping sounds at the RIO carnival themed event, with accompanying whistles and horns. The Aberdeen-based band, which was founded in 2003, is a popular and regular performer at events across the UK, with its unique sound.

In 2015, the NESS ball was a phenomenal success, raising more than £20,000. This year's black-tie event, sponsored by Stronachs, will include music and dancing with popular party band Slinky, as well as the heart-thumping carnival music with the Guarana Street Drummers band and a live auction. Furthermore, a sumptuous three-course dinner will be served by the Marcliffe's renowned chefs.

NESS is the leading provider of sensory services for visually and hearing impaired, blind and deaf people in Scotland. With 50 staff and over 100 volunteers, it supports over 4800 people to overcome the practical and emotional effects of serious sight and/or hearing loss. The charity, which was formerly known as the Grampian Society for the Blind, provides social work, assistive technology, employment advice and a variety of support groups for people of all ages from babies to the elderly.

Neil Skene, fundraising co-ordinator at NESS said: "We are excited by the carnival theme this year – the drummers and band are sure to create a fabulous party atmosphere. We rely largely on the generosity of the general public and local businesses and we are incredibly grateful to those who take tables at the ball and contribute so much on the night itself. We hope that this event goes from strength to strength and that it continues to be a highlight in the local social calendar."

A limited number of tables are still available priced at £1000 for a table of 10.

The charity relies largely on the support of the public and local businesses, and sponsorship opportunities are available for businesses and individuals, who wish to support NESS.

NESS is also looking for prize donations to help with fundraising on the night.

BSL (British Sign Language) Sessions for Learners in Scotland

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 9P

BSL Level 3 Courses

Deaf Links are delighted to announce they plan to run a BSL Level 3 course starting on Thursday 7th January 2016 at 6.30pm in Tayside Deaf Hub, The Old Mill, Brown Street, Dundee.

Deaf Links need a minimum of eight students signed up, but as many people have been requesting this course they expect to exceed this number. Please get in touch quickly to secure your place.

The cost per student is £850 and ILA can be used toward the costs if students are eligible for this.

[Click here for application form](#)

[Assessment Guidelines Level 3](#)

[Qualification Specification for L3 Certificate](#)



Conferences

'Digital Health' Conference on 9 December in Glasgow

The ALLIANCE is inviting patients and people with long term conditions to attend a free Digital Health and Care conference on Wednesday, 9 December in Glasgow city centre.

The ALLIANCE and the Scottish Government will run two afternoon workshops with people at the conference, which will discuss:

- The digital services that GP practices might offer to people in the future; and
- The 'Personal Health Record' (a record every Scottish person will be given to record their own health and wellbeing information)



By attending the conference, people will be able to give their views (directly to policy makers) on the digital healthcare options offered in Scotland.

To register for the free conference, people should email me at Zahid.Deen@alliance-scotland.org.uk (if possible) by 2 December. I will confirm their place and send them more details about the event.

Note that the ALLIANCE will **reimburse people's travel costs** if they register with us to attend the conference. **Refreshments and a buffet lunch will also be provided** during the event.

The conference venue is [Strathclyde University's Technology & Innovation Centre, Glasgow](#) at 99 George St, Glasgow G1 1RD (0141 444 7000).

A map view of the venue is available at this link - https://www.strath.ac.uk/maps/tic/large_map_551339_en.html



Carnegie Conference Centre, Dunfermline Saturday, 5 December

How can I get my voice heard at Holyrood?

Learn how to engage effectively with MSPs and the Parliament at a half day conference. It's free to attend and workshops/presentations will be held both in the morning (9.30am to 12.30pm) and the afternoon (12.30pm to 4.30pm). Lunch and refreshments will be provided.

What kind of workshops and presentations will there be?

The conference will consist of a number of short workshops and presentations aimed at 'skilling up' community groups, covering topics such as:

- How the Scottish Parliament works
- How laws are made
- How to submit a petition
- How to engage through social media
- How to work with local media
- How to engage with Parliamentary Committees

There will also be a range of stalls providing details of how to get involved, covering other engagement methods such as Cross-Party Groups, etc.

Who's it for?

The Conference is aimed specifically at grass-roots, community-based organisations and is ideally suited for people who have little or no experience of engaging with their MSPs and the Parliament. The conference might be of particular interest to:

- Community groups
- Local charities, voluntary organisations, social enterprises
- Civic organisations
- Tenants and residents groups
- Community Councils
- Campaign Groups
- Anyone, in fact, who wants to know more about the Scottish Parliament and how they can become more involved.

Find out more at: Your_SP@Scottish.Parliament.uk or telephone 0131 348 5414.
http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/gettinginvolved/93762.aspx?utm_source=sp-website&utm_medium=homepage-banner&utm_campaign=your-scot-parl-2015



SCoD's 2nd Annual Conference – 'CONNECT & COMMUNICATE'

TICKETS NOW ON SALE!

Thursday 10th March 2016
Royal Concert Hall
Glasgow

Early Bird tickets are now available to buy on [Eventbrite](#)

Members £69 and Non-Members £99 – this includes full day delegate, lunch, refreshments, workshops and entertainment.

These prices are only available until **31st December 2015**.

For the BSL version please [click here](#).

There will be a much bigger marketplace this time – to book your stall contact Kellas@scod.org.uk The cost is £99 for members, £179 for non-members. If you want a stall and are not a member of SCoD, please contact Kellas to find out about joining and receiving the excellent member rates!

More information on speakers, workshops, entertainment to be announced soon.

British Society of Audiology Annual Conference 2016

25 – 27 April 2016
Ricoh Arena, Coventry

Event website: www.eventsforce.net/bsa2016

We are pleased to announce that the British Society of Audiology Annual Conference, entitled **Transforming Knowledge to Sound Practice** will be taking place on 25th – 27th April 2016 at the Ricoh Arena in Coventry.

The British Society of Audiology Annual Conference continues to be one of the leading UK scientific forums to bring together clinicians and researchers who have an interest in hearing, tinnitus and balance.

The 2016 programme has undergone a revamp. **Day 1** will focus on basic science, with a morning of dedicated poster time. **Days 2 and 3** cover translational and clinical science.

Important Dates

- Registration is now open!
- Applied and Clinical Research Abstract Submission Deadline (Day 2-3): **1st December 2015**
- Basic Science Abstract Submission Deadline (Day 1): **13th February 2016**

To view the full programme, submit an abstract and register for conference visit:
www.eventsforce.net/bsa2016

Contact Us:

BSA Conference, Blackburn House, Redhouse Road, Seafield, West Lothian, EH47 7AQ

Email: events@Fitwise.co.uk Tel: +44 (0) 1506 292042

Accessible Theatre, Cinema & Television

UPCOMING CAPTIONED SCREENINGS

GLASGOW
FILM / THEATRE

Sunset Song (CTBC)

Mon 7 Dec (17.10)

Thu 10 Dec (14.20)

(see GFT website listing [Sunset Song](#) for details)

VISIBLE CINEMA

Visible Cinema is a new programme of film screenings for Deaf and Hard of Hearing audiences. Films shown throughout the year will be captioned, subtitled or British Sign Language Interpreted (BSL), followed by a BSL signed post film discussion.

GLASGOW
FILM / THEATRE

Visible Cinema: The Lady in the Van- Captioned Screening.

Monday 23 Nov (18.10)

Starring Maggie Smith and Alex Jennings, award-winning dramatist and screenwriter, Alan Bennett shares his true story of Mary Shepherd, an elderly eccentric whom Bennett befriended in the 1970s. Forging a strained relationship he allows her to temporarily park her Bedford van in the driveway of his Camden home, where she stayed for 15 years.

All tickets £5 (see GFT website [The Lady in the Van](#) for details)

Visible Cinema: Sunset Song

Tuesday 15 Dec (17.40)

Voted 'best Scottish book of all time' in a 2005 poll, *Sunset Song* is a testament to Scotland's agricultural past, the world of crofters and a tradition that was destroyed in the First World War. Starring Peter Mullan and Agyness Deyn, it is this winter's essential new release.

All tickets £5 (see GFT website [Sunset Song](#) for details)

GLASGOW
FILM / THEATRE

The post film discussions will be BSL interpreted. The cinema has a hearing loop system and infrared sound facility. Contact the Duty Manager on dutymanager@glasgowfilm.org to reserve a headset. Subject to availability.

This project is supported by Creative Scotland, Solar Bear and Film Hub Scotland, part of BFI's Film Audience Network.



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.

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