



CONNECT & THRIVE – CONNECT AND COMMUNICATE



Dear Colleagues,

Our Annual Conference, Connect and Communicate was a great success and the sun was shining! With over 130 delegates and 50 exhibitors and workshop presenters, the Royal Concert Hall was bustling with the many attendees. A selection of photos and information about the day will be posted on our website shortly. A surveymonkey questionnaire has gone out to everyone who attended and we will compile a report based on this feedback to make improvements and take on board suggestions for next year.



SCoD would like to thank everyone who came to the conference for getting involved and especially to the volunteers, who gave up their time to help ensure the day ran smoothly.

We are delighted with the Scottish Government's announcement that the **contactSCOTLAND-BSL** video relay service is being rolled out from its current coverage of NHS 24 to the wider third sector, community groups, charities and public bodies on the service's first anniversary. It encourages the implementation of inclusive total communication and promotes the rights of Deaf people who use British Sign Language as their mother tongue to have equal linguistic access.



SCoD has released a new Parliamentary Manifesto with asks of the political parties for the D/deaf Community in Scotland for the 2016 Parliamentary elections which can be read [here](#). Our Accessible version is also available from our website <http://www.scod.org.uk/scod-parliamentary-manifesto/>

There are still some spaces for our "Voices" sessions, arranged in collaboration with Heart Chest and Stroke Scotland. The theme is "**Voices**" and training will focus on community empowerment. There are two initial taster sessions on **Thursday 31 March**.

Our events team (Adeel) has started work on the 'SCoD Stars' awards, which we hope will become an annual celebration. More information on this event will follow soon, so please keep your eye out for more details to ensure your organisation is included.



Finally, we are planning to work with a number of organisations to raise awareness of "Lip-reading Week" in September. If you would like to join in please contact janis@scod.org.uk

Best wishes,

Janis McDonald

News: General

Hearing Dogs for Deaf People



Hearing Dogs
for Deaf People

Hearing Dogs for Deaf People train hearing dogs to alert deaf adults and children to important sounds and danger signals, providing independence, security and companionship. However deafness is more than just hearing loss, hearing dogs also help to relieve the stress, isolation and loneliness that deafness can often bring.

Hearing dogs not only provide a practical solution to independent living, Hearing Dogs for Deaf People also campaign to raise awareness of the issues surrounding this hidden disability.

A hearing dog is only as effective as the society in which it operates. We seek to educate service providers and the general public about the importance of access and inclusion to our recipients and their assistance dogs.

Hearing Dogs for Deaf People are able to help more deaf people than ever before so if you or someone you know could benefit from a hearing dog, why not get in touch to find out more. To contact us visit our [website](#) or please email applications@hearingdogs.org.uk.



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Scottish Government on Education and Sensory Impairment

A letter from Dr Alasdair Allan MSP covers educational announcements about Sensory Impairment. It stated that related to models of educational provision:

‘The Committee welcomes Education Scotland’s intention to publish a best practice document for education providers of sensory-impaired pupils. The Committee notes what the Scottish Government’s response states regarding Education Scotland’s work:

“Education Scotland has identified the need for schools and authorities to identify and address the barriers to learning identifying and tackling barriers to learning before they become entrenched, finding new ways to meet the needs of the increasingly diverse population of learners and personalising learning and support to take account of individual needs, choices and circumstances while relentlessly reinforcing high expectations.”

The Committee requests more detail showing how Education Scotland works with local authorities (and other providers) to improve support for pupils with a sensory impairment. In particular, the Committee would like to know what, specifically, Education Scotland’s work as referred to in the quote above has involved. Can examples be provided to illustrate how this work has benefited learners?’

To read the full statement released please click [here](#).



Closure of Glasgow Queen Street Tunnel, March 20 – August 8, 2016

Glasgow Queen Street Tunnel will close for 20 weeks on March 20 2016. The closure is necessary to get the tunnel ready to run the faster, longer, greener electric trains that are coming to Scotland from December this year.

The railway is still open for business. We have introduced a new train plan that will keep people moving during the closure of the tunnel.

However, journeys will take longer and trains may leave or depart from a different place than normal.

We have produced a dedicated section of our website where you can access a variety of materials – from the new timetables to posters and flyers.

The site is <http://www.scotrail.co.uk/queenstreettoolkit>

If you have any questions, or need more resources, please contact communications@scotrail.co.uk



Scottish Children's Services Coalition

Our Manifesto for the Scottish Parliament Election aims to Secure a better future for Scotland's vulnerable children and young people and focuses on four key areas, ensuring that the rising numbers of those requiring support are receiving it in a timely manner, through:

- Providing a wide variety of high quality, well-resourced and quickly accessible services to children and young people with mental health needs.
- Providing a wide variety of high quality, well-resourced and quickly accessible services to children and young people who require Additional Support for Learning (ASL).
- Providing training and employment opportunities to young people with Additional Support Needs (ASN) and care experience.
- Providing a statutory right to independent advocacy services for children and young people with care experience.

Click [here](#) for full copy of the manifesto.



FLASHING LIGHTS

Flashing Lights Media

Ashley Kendall, Assistant Producer at Flashing Lights Media, is looking into the subject of Deaf Travellers for a potential documentary for the BSL Zone – an online channel showing programmes in British Sign Language (You can see their website here: www.bslzone.co.uk).

Members of the team working on this have a reputation for making sensitive documentaries about Deaf people from different communities in the UK, including elderly people, the Muslim community and the Scottish Highlands.

Many Deaf people develop an identity and sense of community around being deaf, similar to that members of Roma and Travelling communities have so that's why we are interested in what their experiences are and whether they feel part of both communities.

Very little is known about the experiences of Deaf people in Roma and Travelling communities and we would like to close this gap with our documentary.

We are seeking assistance. Does anyone from your organisation or member of your organisation that are Deaf and from a Roma/Travelling community please encourage them to contact us at Ashley@flashinglights.co.uk

Vacancies



Deaf Action – Sessional Youth Workers x2

Over the past year, Deaf Action has set up a new youth project for young people aged 10-18 and affected by deafness, thanks to funding from BBC Children in Need. We have been able to provide regular youth clubs and activities for young people who are deaf British Sign Language users, deafened, hard of hearing, deafblind and children of deaf adults.

We have a youth club on Saturdays from 1:30pm-4:30pm (fortnightly term time, weekly during summer break) and a Friday Club on the second Friday every month, from 6:30pm – 8:30pm

2x Sessional Youth Workers

Payment: £8.92 per hour

We are looking for candidates with the following qualities:

- Minimum BSL Level 2 communication skills
- At least 1-year previous experience of working with children and young people
- Possess current PVG registration to work with children, or be eligible for PVG registration to work with children
- Able to work as part of a team
- Available to work during anti-social hours



As a sessional youth worker, you will be assisting with the planning and facilitation of any activities, outings and events for young people affected by deafness. You will have to support any volunteers with the delivery of the service. You will be required to support young people to participate in such activities, while providing information and advice, such as to services, which may be of benefit. Personal records of all young people will need to be maintained and updated to monitor progress and development. All youth workers will have to participate with Deaf Action's Youth Council – ensuring a person-centred approach is used.

Closing date: Friday 22nd April 2016

For an informal discussion, please contact alexfurneaux@deafaction.org

Application packs are available from:

Lisa Roy, Deaf Action Head Office

49 Albany Street, Edinburgh EH1 3QY - Tel: 0131 556 3128 - Fax: 0131 557 8283

Text: 0131 557 0419 - SMS: 07775 620757

Email: admin@deafaction.org - Website: www.deafaction.org

PVG checks will be requested.

Applications welcome from all sections of the community.

We expect you will share our commitment to the core values of Deaf Action.

British Sign Language training will be provided if necessary.

Deaf Action is a Company Limited by Guarantee and registered in Scotland SC 396876. Scottish Charity Number SCO09898.

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, 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. A very senior person within that organisation must sign the nomination form. 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.



Events



Deaf Awareness Training

Deaf Awareness training provided through See Hear Highland Education & Learning Services (SHHELS) NHS Highland, their approach to Deaf Awareness training changes the marketplace. The highly informative resource, which is free, gives the learner tools to gain knowledge at their own pace.

The training provided by means of an interactive DVD, which is perfectly simple to use and easy to navigate your way through. The learner will gain essential skills and knowledge that will allow you to communicate and interact effectively and efficiently with Deaf, Deafened, Deafblind and Hard of Hearing individuals.

The DVD is half an hour in total, which can be broken down in to manageable bite-sized chunks; it begins with a simple overview of the types of deafness and statistical information, leading on to 'Do`s and "Don'ts' in a given situation. Finally, there are some exercises to get you thinking about appropriate and non-appropriate conditions in relation to environment surroundings and body language.

Once the learner has completed the DVD, they will feel equipped to liaise with Deaf, Deafened, Deafblind and Hard of Hearing individuals in a professional and confident manner.

If you would like more information on how to access the Deaf awareness training for your organisation, please contact Jenny Liddell at jenny.liddell@nhs.net

[Click here](#) for more information.



Training

SCoD in collaboration with Chest Heart Stroke Scotland (CHSS) are offering a “Voices” taster session that will commence on **31st of March** and will run **twice**, as this will give flexibility and allow you to attend a session best suited to fit your schedule. The times are **15:30 to 17:00** and the later time of **18:30 to 20:00**. You can book **one** session on the Eventbrite page [here](#).

The Scottish Government is encouraging people to be active in planning and has developed the course. In order to do this they need to involve you and to learn from your experience. The “Voices” Course will explain policy, community development and working with others in a professional manner.



Family BSL Classes

Free classes for parents / carers of children aged 0 – 8 years. Come and learn BSL in a supportive environment for you and your child. With separate and joint tuition for adults and children and a family-friendly fun package to complete at home.

The 10 week course takes place from on **Saturdays from 10.30am – 12.30pm from 2 April** onwards.

Youth BSL Classes

Free classes for young people aged 10 – 18 years who are Deaf, hard of hearing, deafblind, deafened to learn and practice British Sign Language. Spaces are limited to 20 people. Classes will take place from **3 April 2016 – 3 June 2016**.

To book places on either of the above courses please email Lauren McAnna, Training and Development Coordinator at learn@deafaction.org

Classes will take place in the Deaf Action Offices, 49 Albany Street, Edinburgh, EH1 3QI.



Deaf Action Event

Spectacular Performance with Annie Bee
Wed 6th April 10am - 3pm

Come join Annie Bee the Clown for a fun-filled day of spectacular performance! Learn new skills and meet new people! Expect an exciting day of clowning, song and dance, drama games, puppetry and much more! Sign up for a new workshop!

Contact Alex Furneaux to book your place!
SMS: 07816938176
Tel: 0131 652 3208
Email: alexfurneaux@deafaction.org

Glasgow TSI Survey

Please find a link to the Glasgow Third Sector Interface (TSI) stakeholder survey.

Glasgow TSI Survey can be accessed [here](#).

This short survey monkey is intended to inform the Glasgow Third Sector Interface about your views on the priorities for the TSI over the next twelve months; the deadline to complete the survey is Monday 21st March at 4.00pm.

Glasgow's Third Sector Interface (TSI) is a partnership between Glasgow Council for the Voluntary Sector (GCVS), Volunteer Glasgow, Community Enterprise in Scotland (CEIS), Glasgow Social Enterprise Network (GSEN) and Glasgow Third Sector Forum. Our purpose and respective roles within the Glasgow Third Sector Interface are to:

- develop and support voluntary organisations (GCVS);
- promote and support volunteering (Volunteer Glasgow);
- develop and support social enterprises (CEIS/ GSEN) and
- represent the Third Sector on the Community Planning Partnership in Glasgow (Third Sector Forum)

We would very much appreciate you taking the time to complete the survey and thank you in advance for your support. We apologise in advance if you have received the survey from other sources - you of course only have to complete the survey once.

North East Sensory Services (NESS) prepare to host annual Spring ball

Local residents are being encouraged to put their best foot forward and snap up the last tickets to the annual North East Sensory Services (NESS) Spring Ball.

The glitzy event takes place at the Cullen Bay Hotel, which boasts magnificent views stretching across the Moray Firth, on Saturday 19th March 2016.

The ball promises to be a fantastic evening, with all profits going to NESS, which exists for people who were born deaf or blind, for those who have lost all their sight and/or hearing or have developed serious vision and/or hearing problems. Providing information, equipment and support, both practical and emotional, to deaf and blind people, NESS is the first fully integrated joint sensory service in Scotland.

NESS provides a combination of publicly funded statutory joint sensory social work services in Moray, Aberdeen city and Tayside and 'added value services' across Grampian, including a Young Person's Sensory Service, PEEP, a group for mothers and babies and Connect, Inform, Support, providing activities and assistance to people aged 65 or older.

Guests can expect to dance into the early hours, as local well-known band Traffik will be providing the musical entertainment for the evening.

There will be a raffle on the night, with an array of fantastic prizes up for grabs thanks to the generosity of individuals and businesses in the local area.

Tickets are priced at £35 per person or £300 for a table of ten.

NESS Fundraising assistant Bruce Cruickshank, who lost his sight in 2010 due to having type 1 diabetes, is encouraging individuals or local businesses to buy tickets.

He said: "The Spring Ball looks set to be a night of fantastic food and entertainment, and is being hosted by the Cullen Bay hotel which is famed for its fantastic location, overlooking the shores of Moray Firth.

"The Spring Ball is a really important fundraiser to NESS, which provides a lifeline service for visually and/or hearing impaired people across Moray and Aberdeen.

"We would encourage people to snap up a ticket for the ball now, it's guaranteed to be a great night and all the proceeds go to NESS. I know first hand that the services provided by the staff at NESS are second to none, and it would be great to see the local community participate in this fundraiser, which is set to be great fun too!"

Guests are asked to arrive at 6.30pm prompt for a drinks reception followed by a three-course dinner at 7pm.

Tickets can be purchased by contacting Bruce on 03452 712 345 or email bruce.cruickshank@nesensoryservices.org or by direct on 01542 840432.

Are you deaf or hard of hearing?

Aged 16 – 25?

Thinking about going to College?

College Preparation Course: Spend a week in City of Glasgow College and find out what being a college student is really like.

When: **6-10 June 2016**

Time: 10am – 4pm each day

Where: City of Glasgow College

For more information contact:

Margaret Sharvin, Employment Adviser

Tel: 0141 341 5346

Mobile: 07436 267402

Email: Margaret.sharvin@hearingloss.org.uk

SIGNATURE AWARDS – NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

Nominations are open for the Signature Annual Awards. This year the awards event focuses on recognising and celebrating pioneers and unsung heroes, who through education and training are striving to break down the social and communication barriers between deaf, deafblind and hearing people.

Awards

The awards are free to enter and nominations are open across all eight new award categories.

The award categories are:

- Leadership in Education
- Emerging Teacher Award
- Enriching the Student Experience Award
- The Community Champion Award
- Educational Support Award



- Transforming Lives Through Education Award
- Training Initiative Award
- Signature Lifetime Achievement Award

To honour this year's shortlisted nominees and announce the Winners, we will host **Signature Recognises... The educators**, at a prestigious awards evening in January 2017.

To view the award categories, click [here](#).

Start Your Nomination

The deadline for all nominations is 4.00pm on 15 July 2016.

Lipreading Sessions & 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

Lipreading classes

Address:

The Lower Hall, St Mungo Museum,
 2 Castle Street,
 Glasgow,
 G4 0RH

Day & Time: Tuesday 10:30 – 12:30

Level: Mixed

Contact/Tutor: Margaret Sainte Claire

Mobile: 07786 725183 voice or text

Email: msclipreading@gmail.com

Cost: Free

Conferences



British Society of Audiology Annual Conference 2016 25 – 27 April 2016 Ricoh Arena, Coventry

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.

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



Opening Doors

The Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance – SIAA- have made a film that explains what Independent Advocacy is and how it can help.

The film is available in English; in English with subtitles; in BSL; and in Punjabi, Urdu, Arabic and Polish.

To watch the film, Opening Doors, go to <http://www.siaa.org.uk/publications-category/openingdoors/>



UPCOMING CAPTIONED SCREENINGS

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. For more information, please [click here](#) for website.



Subtitled/Captioned Accessible Cinema!

Subtitled/Captioned Accessible Cinema! More than 1,500 shows nationwide!

Batman V Superman, Hail Caesar, Kung Fu Panda 3, London Has Fallen, Spotlight, Deadpool, Grimsby, Divergent Allegiant, The Choice, The Other Side Of the Door, Truth, Secret In Their Eyes, Zoolander 2, How To Be Single, Triple 9, The Finest Hours, The Forest, Dad's Army, Goosebumps, The Big Short, The Revenant, Room, Star Wars, Alvin & the Chipmunks, Power In Our Hands, cheap kids shows & more.

<http://www.yourlocalcinema.com/now.showing.html>

All cinemas can show all the films listed above with English-language subtitles. Please ask your nearest cinemas to provide accessible shows for people with hearing loss!

Complaints? Praise? Let us know! Just email: subtitles@yourlocalcinema.com



BSL Sign Zone

Our new programmes can be viewed here <http://www.bslzone.co.uk/watch/>

Week starting 17th March Fairytale of London Town

Drama: In this modern fairytale, three Deaf women's lives are thrown together just in time for Christmas.

Week starting 24th March

Zoom: Two films from the BSL Short Film scene

If I Don't Lose I'll Lose Comedy about an actress losing weight for a role.

Week starting 30th March

Small World: New episode

Admit None: Zoom 2011 Comedy about two Deaf Cinema-goers going on a surreal journey to find the film's subtitles.

If you haven't already 'liked' our Facebook page for regular updates, you can view the page here at <https://www.facebook.com/BSLZone?ref=ts>.

Enjoy watching our programmes!

TRON THEATRE

Tron Theatre - Mayfest 2016

Tron Theatre Company presents

Shall Roger Casement Hang?

by Peter Arnott

Preview: Fri 20 May 2016, 7.45pm £8

Sat 21 – Sat 28 May, 7.45pm £10-£16

BSL & Audio Description Wed 25 May

Captioned Thu 26 May

BOX OFFICE: 0141 552 4267

TRON.CO.UK

Tron Theatre, 63 Trongate, Glasgow G1 5HB

A WORLD PREMIERE

Directed by Andy Arnold

Lindsay Mitchell

Press & Marketing Manager

Direct dial: 0141 559 5314

lindsay.mitchell@tron.co.uk

[DOWNLOAD THE SPRING/SUMMER 2016 BROCHURE](#)



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

Where appropriate, information sources for the bulletin are noted at the foot of each article. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of SCoD. We cannot accept responsibility for the accuracy of information. No endorsement of services, events or products is intended or implied.