

CELEBRATING



SCoD Bulletin Mid-April 2018

We want the bulletin to be accessible therefore we CANNOT use information in the form of posters, PDFs, or publisher in the bulletin.

***Please note: at the end of this bulletin is a template. If you want information included in future bulletins, please copy and use this template. If information is not sent to us in the template, we will not include it. Thank you.**

Scottish Council on Deafness Bulletin | Bi-Monthly Magazine for SCoD Members



SCoD Re-branding >>>>>> deafscotland emerges.....

We plan to begin the actual changes with a soft launch in Deaf Awareness Week (May). It will take some months to get all the changes in place so please be patient with our transformation. It will not disrupt our activities.

The new image is intended to convey a modern, inclusive approach focussing on “connections” (people, membership and partnership), joined up working with other networks and explain what we do. This reflects our “Connect and Thrive” programme. We thank all of you that sent messages of support and do hope you can **all** get behind the changes. Our power as a group is far greater than as individual people or organisations.

The rebranding process will take several months. We will start soon with information, new email addresses, begin to change the website, alert people through our social media and change our stationery. We are gradually developing our marketing and media campaign with advice and will keep you as informed as we progress.

New email addresses will be sent out soon!

We are very excited about the change.

End of an era – Mandy Reid

Mandy, who was until last June, our Policy and Research Officer and who has been our Business Development Manager since the beginning of July 2017 is leaving SCoD. Her post is being made redundant as the Scottish Government Equality Unit is no longer funding external policy posts. Mandy has worked for SCoD for over 10 years and is leaving a significant impact behind her. Her first piece of research coming into post in 2007 was to look at making the case for specialist mental health services for deaf people in Scotland. The Scottish Mental Health Service for Deaf People has been based in St John's Hospital in Livingston since 2011.

Her work with NHS 24 led to the online interpreting service which helped to make NHS 24 more accessible to Deaf BSL users and which went on to become contactSCOTLAND-BSL.

Her research into the possibility of a BSL (Scotland) Bill and the paper she delivered to the Cross Party Group on Deafness in March 2008 was the starting point for the BSL (Scotland) Act 2015. She was fortunate enough to work on the Bill with Cathie Craigie MSP, Mark Griffin MSP and members of the Scottish Parliament's Education and Culture Committee all the way through the process of the bill becoming an Act. As a member of the Deaf Sector Partnership, she worked with others to recruit members to the Scottish Government's BSL National Advisory Group and drafted the overarching headlines for what became the BSL National Plan.

Mandy was involved in the ILiS Working Group on Inclusive Communication and has continued to promote Inclusive Communication and Accessible Information throughout her work with SCoD. In the last couple of years, she has carried out a number of workshops and training sessions on Inclusive Communication which will continue after she has gone.

She has put in well over 400 consultation responses and briefings to the Scottish Government, Scottish Parliament and other public bodies and was a member of the DWP Implementation Stakeholder Forum for Personal Independence Payment for over 7 years.

"I am sad to be going although I have known it was a possibility since last July. I have worked with some wonderful people over the years and have enjoyed the challenges that I met almost every day in my work. I can honestly say I loved my policy and research work on behalf of deaf people in Scotland. I wish

SCoD and all its members all the best for the future as **deafscotland** and am sure I will bump into many of you again.”

Mental Health and Wellbeing for all people affected by deafness: Past, Present and Future

SCoD started to campaign for inclusive mental health services for people with a hearing loss in Scotland in 1927, the year the organisation was set up. Today it continues to campaign for mental health and wellbeing services and information to be fully inclusive for everyone, including people across the four pillars of deafness.

It is 10 years since SCoD published the research paper “Making the Case for Specialist Mental Health Services in Scotland”. The current paper shows the developments that have been put in place for people with a hearing loss in Scotland who need support to maintain good mental health and wellbeing. It also shows what still needs to be done. To read the paper, go to www.scod.org.uk/briefings/

SCoD Membership & “Connect & Collaborate” Conference 2018

We have circulated a survey to collect feedback. The survey combines our conference feedback and membership survey. We would appreciate if members and those who attended the conference could give us their feedback as this will help us to plan for next year’s “Connect and Communicate 2019” Conference. Its current operating title is **communication4all**

As a smaller team it is important to be as efficient as possible. This means a slight delay in the evaluation survey being released but it does not stop you putting your new learning into practice.

Annual Feedback Survey: Deadline for the survey is Monday 23 April:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/JWCJDNB>

Health conditions question in the 2021 Census

SCoD has been involved in the consultations on the 2021 Census questions, especially the health questions.

Before the last Census in 2011, SCoD had lobbied for the "harmonised" health question to be changed to include the 4 pillars of deafness and we were told that this could not be done for a number of reasons.

As the See Hear strategy has been in place for five years and one of its "asks" is that more accurate data is collected on the number of people with a hearing loss in Scotland and the level of their deafness, our ask has become a need as the Census is an accurate method of collecting data on people in Scotland and their health conditions.

To read the paper, go to www.scod.org.uk/briefings/

Other

We have now completed the baseline survey for the **Self-Management** initiative and will now be heavily promoting the film clips. Please help us circulate them widely. The follow up survey will commence in October 2018.

We have a baseline survey on **mental health** nearly ready to circulate. We will appreciate support to inform it over May. This work is growing a wider partnership at the moment which will help coordinate development.

Please let us know what you plan for **deaf awareness week**. It helps us to keep the calendar on the website up to date and help avoid clashes of activity.

SCoD Membership

We are starting to engage with our members for 2019. All invoices have been sent out to our members and we hope you will work with us again this year.

We have two categories of membership:

- Full members. These are the organisations that have a major interest in deaf issues, make up the National Council and can put forward nominations to the SCoD Board.
- Associate members
 - organisations. These are organisations who are interested in deaf issues but it is not their main work, cannot be full members or do not want the responsibility of full membership.
 - individuals. These are individuals, people who are deaf or have an interest in deafness and want to support our organisation.

We are revising our membership offer and fees this year. Fees have not increased for more than five years and we want to be clearer on the membership offer.

We also want to recruit **new members** to support our work.

- On BSL language development
- Communication barriers and solutions
- General awareness

For more information, contact us on 0141 248 2474 or email at admin@scod.org.uk

If you are a BSL user, you can use [contactSCOTLAND-BSL](#) to contact us.

Disclosure: Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG)

If you have staff who will be working with children and/or vulnerable adults they will need to be a member of the PVG Scheme.

Need your PVG forms signed off? Come to SCoD to get them done. Or make an appointment and we will come to you if you have several members of staff needing forms completed.

For more information about booking an appointment or general information, please visit our website: <http://www.scod.org.uk/disclosure-for-working-with-protected-groups/>

BSL version of our news

We have translated our news into BSL. Please use [link](#) our YouTube page to find the information.

Best wishes, Janis & the SCoD Team

Sponsored Material

The Signature Annual Awards are back for a 10th anniversary celebration

Signature has announced that this year it will host the 10th anniversary of the Signature Annual Awards.

The Signature Annual Awards are a cornerstone of Signature's work to recognise people who are going above and beyond to improve access for deaf people. For the past nine years, these prestigious awards have been awarded to business leaders, community groups, volunteers, and teachers to name a few.

This year, the awards will be held at the iconic BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art on the stunning Newcastle Gateshead Quayside on Friday 9th November 2018, and nominations are now open.

Signature wants to know who is doing incredible work to inspire a brighter future for their community. For more information, and to nominate somebody, go to www.signatureannualawards.co.uk.

GENERAL NEWS

Ideas for Ears

New survey research by Ideas for Ears suggests that hostile hearing conditions are making meetings and events inaccessible to large numbers of people across the UK who have hearing loss.

The research also suggests that the difficulties that people are experiencing are typically ordinary in their nature and can, in many instances, be fixed at little or no cost.

The research, carried out in November 2017, reveals that people are feeling frustrated, excluded, stressed and embarrassed by the difficulties they experience. They are missing important information, are not able to contribute as effectively as they could do, and consequently are being put off attending future meetings and events.

The survey was completed by 362 people who have varying degrees of hearing loss and are aged from 18 to 80 plus. The findings have implications for businesses and organisations of all sizes that run meetings and events for staff, customers and other stakeholders.

Read more: <https://www.ideasforears.org.uk/blog/meetings-miss-the-mark-due-to-hostile-hearing-conditions/>

See the data tables: <https://www.ideasforears.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Full-report-meetings-and-events.pdf>

Personal Independence Payments Update

Following the UK Government's Secretary of State for Work and Pensions' decision not to appeal the recent High Court judgment in PIP, the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) is now working to implement the MH Upper Tribunal judgment in relation to how overwhelming psychological distress is considered when assessing claimants' ability to plan and follow a journey.

For more information, go to www.scod.org.uk/uk-government/

Scotrail - Communications about travel between Aberdeen and Inverness.

The ScotRail Alliance has published details of the latest upgrade works to be carried out between Aberdeen and Inverness. I am therefore sending you details of these works so you can let stakeholders know as we are keen to keep customers informed of the impending works. During the period of these works, we encourage any customers requiring assistance to pre book their travel using our Assisted Travel booking service to enable us to ensure that expectations are met.

Full details of the Assisted Travel service are on our website <https://www.scotrail.co.uk/plan-your-journey/accessible-travel>

As part of the multi-million-pound upgrade, a 14-week line closure between Aberdeen and Dyce will be in place from 12 May 2018, to allow major improvement works to take place. Bus replacement services will be in operation to keep customers moving between Aberdeen and Dyce during the upgrade work. Further details will be published closer to the time and will be available on the ScotRail website.

Preparation work will take place over the Easter weekend on Sunday 1 April 2018, and May bank holiday weekend from Friday 4 May until Monday 7 May 2018. This will include de-vegetation and ground investigations along the route. The line will be closed during these preparation works and replacement buses will be used over both weekends to get customers where they need to be.

The Aberdeen-Inverness Improvement Project is a Scottish Government-funded upgrade of the railway between the two cities.

By the end of 2019 the project will deliver:

- Hourly service between Inverness-Elgin, providing 1,300 additional seats each day
- Introduction of half hourly all-day service between Aberdeen and Inverurie, providing 3,000 additional seats each day
- Majority of Aberdeen to Inverness services formed of high speed trains, providing 1,400 additional seats each day
- Additional Elgin – Aberdeen early morning and late evening services
- New through services between Inverurie – Montrose, reducing the need to interchange at Aberdeen
- More through services between Inverness and the central belt via Aberdeen
- Extended platforms at Inverurie to accommodate longer high-speed trains

The upgrade work beginning in spring 2018 will double the track between Aberdeen and Dyce. There is currently only a single track between Aberdeen and Dyce, which causes delays as only one train at a time can pass through. Further upgrade work will be carried out between Dyce and Inverurie in 2019.

ScotRail Alliance Infrastructure Director David Dickson said:

“The investment we are making to upgrade the line between Aberdeen and Inverness is all part of our plan to build the best railway Scotland has ever had. This is a massive project, which will ultimately transform services in the north of Scotland.

“The work between Aberdeen and Dyce will double the track, so that we can improve the reliability of service our customers receive.

“We know lengthy line closures are a real inconvenience for customers, and we will do everything we can to keep people moving during the upgrade work. We will publish further information for customers closer to the time.”

Further information on the Aberdeen-Inverness upgrade work can be found here:

<http://bit.ly/2iSHMDT>

URGENT Scotland's Census 2021 - British Sign Language Question Testing

National Records of Scotland (NRS) is responsible for carrying out the census in Scotland, every ten years. The information collected is vital for the planning and funding of services in your community. NRS are preparing for the next census which will be in 2021 and are testing some questions which may be included in the 2021 questionnaire, including a question on use of BSL (British Sign Language).

Who are we looking for?

We are looking for a variety of people who use BSL to take part in face-to-face interviews.

What is involved?

Taking part would involve coming to a face-to-face interview in **Edinburgh** city centre. In the interview you will be shown some potential census questions and asked for your thoughts on the questions.

Interviews will be taking place between **11 April and 25 April** and will last about 1 hour.

An audio recording of the interview will be taken, with consent. BSL/English interpreters will be available as necessary.

Will the interview be confidential?

Yes, completely. The answers you give are protected by law. We won't share your answers with anyone outside of NRS.

No one outside of the NRS team will have access to the recorded interviews, or the names or contact details of those taking part in the study.

All responses will be combined to provide information which will help NRS make decisions on the questions to be included in the 2021 Census.

No names or any other information that may identify the people who take part will be included in the report.

Interested in taking part?

If you are interested in taking part, please [complete this survey](#).

Interested in finding out more?

If you are interested in finding out more about this research & what is involved, please contact Heather Bardsley at

heather.bardsley@nrscotland.gov.uk | 0131 314 4697 | [contactSCOTLAND-BSL](#)

EVENTS

BSL Roadshows for public bodies / authorities - BOOK YOUR PLACE!

We have organised eight **BSL Roadshows for colleagues from public bodies / authorities only** who are involved with or responsible for the **BSL National Plan** (BSL (Scotland) Act 2015) within their organisation. This includes their own **BSL Local / Authority Plan**.

Three events will be aimed at **Public Bodies / Services**, the other three for **NHS Boards / Local Authorities** and finally the last two for **FE / HE establishments**. However, although the events are themed, we are flexible on who is attending as we want to encourage participation. If you are not able to attend a local / themed event, you can attend another. **Please note MAXIMUM 2 persons per organisation.**

Please note some of these events have already taken place. The events left are:

Dates / venues below:

1. **6.) WEDNESDAY 18 APRIL 2018 – BELLSHILL FOR LOCAL AUTHORITIES / NHS BOARDS**

<https://goo.gl/qgEuBB>

2. **7.) FRIDAY 20 APRIL 2018 – EDINBURGH FOR PUBLIC BODIES / SERVICES**

<https://goo.gl/4oy1No>

3. **8.) TUESDAY 24 APRIL 2018 – DUNDEE FOR PUBLIC BODIES / SERVICES**

<https://goo.gl/PLchHb>

Registration and tea / coffee with pastries from 10.30am before the event starts at 10.45am.

We will cover the process of the Act and National Plan, basic awareness and examples of life experience. Content includes:- **BSL (Scotland) Act 2015; BSL National Plan**; and coordinating the **access & quality of communication, engagement and involvement of BSL users** (Deaf / Deafblind) and the public services. We will have a couple of BSL users attending to give their **life experience**. Will also cover **contactSCOTLAND-BSL** briefly.

Limited 30 places available per BSL Roadshow – please book your place using the Eventbrite link to avoid disappointment.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you are not the correct contact person responsible or involved in the BSL National / Authority Plans, please do forward the email on to the correct contact person.

Should you have any questions or would like further information, please contact Derek Todd, BSL Consultant: derek@scod.org.uk.

West of Scotland Deaf Children's Society

PLEASE SUPPORT WSDCS!!!

We are delighted to announce that West Scotland Deaf Children's Society has been chosen for the next round of the Co-op Local Community Fund. The funding round began on 12 November and will run for 11 months until the 27 October 2018.

Every time a Co-op member shops and chooses selected Co-op branded products both the member and the community benefit!

5% for the Co-op member: paid into membership account which can be spent next time you shop; or saved to spend whenever you want.

AND

1% for your community - 1% of what members spend goes to the Co-op Local Community Fund and you can choose where this money goes from a number of local causes. Members will be able to choose and give their 1% as of **now until the 27th October 2018**. The more you shop, the more raised for the charity. We will also receive, along with the other causes in our community, an equal share of the money raised from sales of carrier bags.

Holyrood Abbey and Palace Gardens

BSL VERSION: <https://vimeo.com/260231240/0861070106>

<https://www.facebook.com/BritishDeafAssociation/videos/1945021485560163/>

Hello. I'm here in Edinburgh at the very place where the Royal Family comes to stay each year, in this building behind me – the Palace of Holyroodhouse. BDA Scotland have arranged a BSL interpreted tour of Holyrood Abbey here, a church which is over 900 years old, as well as the State Apartments where the Royal Family stay during their visits, and the surrounding Palace Gardens.

Why not join us on the tour and learn more about this place and about what the Royal Family do here. If you'd like to come, the tour will be on Wednesday 25th April, starting at 11:30am, here in Edinburgh at the Palace of Holyroodhouse. If you have purchased a ticket for this attraction within the last year, you can get in free using your 1-year pass; otherwise the entry fee is £8.10 per person.

Please take a look at our poster for more information. I hope you will join us for what promises to be an enjoyable tour.

For more information & to book your space please contact Helen at: hco.scot@bda.org.uk

Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity - Gerry Hughes hosting event for children's charity Saturday 26th May 2018 Doubletree by Hilton Glasgow Central

An inspirational Scot – the first deaf man to solo circumnavigate the globe – will tell his story at a special event being held in Glasgow next month.

Gerry Hughes, an ambassador for Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity, is hosting the Quest III Ball in an effort to raise vital funds for the charity.

Being held on 26 May at the DoubleTree Hilton in Glasgow, the event will be accessible for both deaf and hearing communities. A number of British Sign Language (BSL) interpreters will be at the event, while accessible screens will also be in operation.

Gerry Hughes said: "I have very vivid memories of being in hospital as a young child and understand how frightening this can be at times. As an ambassador for the charity, I'm committed to doing whatever I can to raise funds to help the young people being treated at the Royal Hospital for Children.

“I hope that by sharing my story, I can perhaps inspire other people facing similar difficulties to follow their dreams and realise that being deaf does not need to be a barrier to success if you have belief and put in hard work.”

The Quest III Ball takes its name from the boat Gerry used to solo circumnavigate the globe in 2013. His epic journey lasted eight months and saw him cover more than 32,000 miles.

Other speakers include Peter and Gillian Aitchison, whose son David is profoundly deaf and has Goldenhar Syndrome. David, who is now 25, was taught by Gerry and was recently named Student of the Year at James Watt College.

They will also be joined by Lisa Davidson, a bilingual co-worker at the NHS. She will talk about her own experience as a deaf person and how she supports families in the deaf community.

Tickets for the Quest III Ball include a glass of fizz on arrival and a three course meal. In addition to the speakers, a ceilidh band will be performing.

Sara.spiers@glasgowchildrenshospitalcharity.org

0141 212 8750

Cope Scotland - Thursday 26th April 9.30-3.30 Workshop: helping create kinder safer places in informal and peer led groups 20 Drumchapel Rd G15 6QE FREE (please share in networks)

FREE workshop

Helping Create Kinder, Safer places in Informal and Peer led groups

Workshops aims

- To explore the concepts of safety, hierarchy and power within informal and peer led groups and the impacts this can have on the dynamic of the group
- To understand why sometimes tensions emerge in groups of people
- To begin to consider what can be done to help create safer places to help mitigate tensions which can hinder kindness
- To consider 15 potential tips to support informal and peer led groups be kinder and safer places for all

This workshop is aimed at volunteers and others who directly support informal or peer led groups and are keen to explore some ideas for enabling the groups have new insights to support the groups be all they can be

To register please phone 0141 944 5490 or email kathleen@cope-scotland.org places are limited to 24 so please book up fast

We are offering this workshop for free, we will also provide a light lunch of bread, hummus, cucumber, carrots and peppers to dip in hummus, cheeses including vegan, fruit and crisps, and we will include gluten free pitta bread. There will also be tea, coffee, herbal tea and filtered tap water. The training room has a portable loop system, we also have low swivel chairs and higher chairs with back rests. If you have any access requirements please let Kathleen know when you book your place

British Deaf Association - BSL Local Authority Plan 2018 Version 2

1. Kilmarnock - Wednesday 21 March, at 7pm
2. Deaf Connections - Thursday 22 March, at 12pm
3. Falkirk Deaf Club - Friday 23 March, at 7.30pm
4. Falkirk OAP - Wednesday 4 April, at 2.30pm
5. Aberdeen Deaf Club - Saturday 7 April at 6pm
6. Hamilton Deaf Club - Tuesday 17 April at 12pm
7. Edinburgh Deaf Club - Thursday 19 April at 5.30pm
8. Inverness Deaf Club - Saturday 21 April at 2pm
9. Motherwell Deaf Club - Saturday 28 April at 5pm

Please note that time for Aberdeen Deaf Club is 6pm.

Vacancies

Deaf Action - Employability Programme of Workshops

Deaf Action's Employability Service will be delivering four Employability workshops in May at Deaf Action, Albany Street, Edinburgh. The four workshops will cover Interview Skills, Hearing Awareness, Deaf Wellbeing and Access to Work. They are all fully accessible in BSL, and are for Deaf BSL users only.

We would be grateful if you could please share the following information and poster to anyone that may benefit from attending the workshops.

BSL video here on Deaf Action's Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/DeafActionFBpage/videos/2031469433534461/>

Any queries please contact Carol McKay at: employability@deafaction.org

National Museums Scotland

National Museums Scotland are looking for a confident, enthusiastic Volunteer Guide who is either Deaf and/or uses fluent British Sign Language, to develop and deliver tours to adults who are Deaf, Deaf Blind and/or British Sign Language users.

Location: National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh

Opportunity: Our team of volunteer guides provide a vital contribution to the National Museums Scotland's public events programme for adults, by providing a high standard of tours about our permanent galleries and special exhibitions to museum visitors.

We require a confident, enthusiastic Volunteer Guide who is either Deaf and/or uses fluent British Sign Language, to develop and deliver tours to adults who are Deaf, Deaf Blind and/or British Sign Language users.

Closing date for applications: 5pm Friday 27 April 2018.

For more information, contact Christine McLean at: c.mclean@mns.ac.uk

Training

AWARENESSbites



AWARENESSbites on-line Deaf Awareness course

<http://www.scod.org.uk/scod-training/awarenessbites/>

SCoD has teamed up with **AWARENESSbites** to provide quality online learning and development to front-line and public facing staff who may not be able to attend face-to-face training courses

We are offering two packages:

Learn at your own speed – login and logout when suits and restart where you left off

The Package Contents:

Green package – £15 per user

– aimed at those who require to know the basics and may come across a deaf or deafblind person occasionally. This package can easily be completed in under 2 hours.

Purple package – £28 per user

– aimed at those who would require a little more detail and understanding and meet deaf or deafblind people more frequently within their day to day service provision. This package can take between 2.5 – 3.5 hours depending on activities taken.

If you would like to purchase packages, please contact us directly at admin@scod.org.uk

We would consider an organisational discount that offers value for money for large numbers of users.

Deafness, spoken language acquisition and learning English as an additional language (EAL): Tuesday, 1st May, 2018

This course is for all professionals working with deaf young people either in mainstream or specialist provision, and parents and carers.

This one-day course will offer a mixture of lectures and interactive workshops on the following topics:

- Bi/multilingualism and EAL: Sequential bilingual development; Bilingualism and language difficulties.
- EAL and deaf children: Exposure to spoken languages; Hearing speech sounds; First language? Non-verbal communication; Communication and interaction.
- Practical issues for teachers: Supporting families; Supporting EAL pupils; Assessments.
- Resources and references.

There will be time for individual Q&A in a surgery-type format; participants are encouraged to bring some particular questions, or case data, that they may want to discuss.

Presenter: Dr Merle Mahon^[SEP], Language and Cognition Research, Psychology and Language Science, UCL, London

Course fee: £110

Applications are available to download from the following link:

<http://www.ssc.education.ed.ac.uk/courses/deaf/dmay18.html>

The Accidental Counsellor: Supporting Others in Additional Support Needs Work: Monday, 23rd April, 2018

This course will be of interest to all those who work with and support the parents and school staff of children with additional support needs including visual impairment and deafness.

Staff often find themselves cast in the role of the 'accidental counsellor' to colleagues and parents. This can leave staff feeling unsure how best to respond. Course participants will have opportunities to explore and better understand:

- issues underlying parent and staff anxieties and challenges
- options for helpful responding: theory and practice
- how to address the expectations of others.

The course will have a practical focus, including opportunities both to explore typical situations and to practice different approaches. Participants may have had no previous CPD in interpersonal or counselling skills, whilst those who have such experience will have opportunities to share and deepen their skill set.

Participants are expected to undertake some brief pre-course reading which will be available in advance of the course.

Presenter: Richard Hendry, ASN Consultant Trainer - see below for brief biography.

Course fee: £110

Closing date: 2nd April 2018

Applications are available to download from the following link:

<http://www.ssc.education.ed.ac.uk/courses/general/gapr18.html>

Acoustics and Assistive Listening Devices Information Day: Thursday, 7th June 2018

This day will be of interest to all professionals working with deaf children and young people either in mainstream or specialist provision.

This information day will provide you with the opportunity to hear up-to-date information on equipment and resources to support deaf pupils. The day will include presentations from the following organisations and speakers.

Presenters will have an individual presentation time and exhibition stands set up to provide examples.

Richard Vaughan, Connevans

Richard will present and demonstrate a new product called “Babble Guard” and the Aurical HIT hearing aid test box.

Gareth Challis, Frontrow

Gareth will present and demonstrate the Juno Classroom Soundfield System.

Tim Simmons, The Woolly Shepherd - natural acoustic solutions: these products enhance classroom environments by reducing background noise and improving speech intelligibility.

Tony Murphy, Phonak

Tony will provide an update from Phonak and demonstrate the Roger Touchscreen.

Refreshments will be provided; please bring own packed lunch.

Course fee: Free

Closing date: 17th May 2018

Applications are available to download from the following link:

CINEMA/THEATRE



This spring: Visible Cinema screens Oscar-winning short [The Silent Child](#), part of London Short Film Festival touring shorts programme [Lives in Sign Languages](#), hosted by deaf programmer, Zoe McWhinney; GFT celebrates [World Autism Awareness Week](#) with Access Film Club, screening the Oscar-winning chilean film starring trans actress Daniela Vega, [A Fantastic Woman](#) and GFT's dementia friendly programme presents a second chance to see the Oscar-winning short [The Silent Child](#) as part of Movie Memories. Major new releases [Isle of Dogs](#), [Wonderstruck](#) and [Early Man](#) screen with Audio Description, and with Captions on selected screenings.

Movie Memories: Deaf Shorts Showcase (recommended 8+)

Thursday 17 May

(Doors Open: 10.45 | Event Starts: 11.00)

This event will be BSL interpreted.

Featuring Oscar-winning live action short film *The Silent Child*, this film collection was made by filmmakers from both Deaf and hearing backgrounds, presenting a unique representation of the Deaf community in the 21st Century.

All of these films are perfect for D/deaf and Hearing audiences alike.

Everyone is welcome.

This event will last 2 hours and incorporates an interval.

All tickets £3.

If you have are a wheelchair user please book over the phone (0141 332 6535) or in person at box office as we need to know your access requirements.

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS, MOTIONS AND DEBATES



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

UK Government Scottish Affairs Committee

The future of working practices in Scotland Inquiry

Technological developments, new business models and changes in consumer behaviour are bringing about huge changes to the ways in which people work, and their relationships with their employers. Many businesses now meet their labour needs in different ways—such as through flexible contracts and digital platforms which rely on self-employed workers. This has created new opportunities in Scotland and across the UK, but there are concerns that it has also led to an increase in low paid and insecure employment and has shifted the relationship between many businesses and their labour force.

In recognition of the challenges arising from changes to business models and the ways in which people work, the Government commissioned Matthew Taylor, Chief Executive of the Royal Society of Arts, to consider how employment practices needed to adapt to keep pace with modern business models. Following publication of the Taylor review's report, *Good work: the Taylor review of modern working practices*, the Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and Work and Pensions Committees considered its findings and produced a joint Report, *A framework for modern employment*, which looked in detail at the issues considered, and recommendations put forward, by the review. The Government has since published its own response to the Taylor review, which committed to implementing several of Matthew Taylor's recommendations, and launched consultations looking at how other recommendations could most effectively be taken forward.

This Report seeks to build on that work, and examines the particular needs of Scotland and how the devolution settlement affects the way in which the UK and Scottish Governments respond to these challenges; recognising that—while employment law is reserved to the UK Government—both the UK and Scottish Governments have powers which affect the availability and quality of employment opportunities in Scotland, as shown below.

To read the report, go to

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmsscotaf/449/44902.htm>

Universal Credit: Disabled People

903738 Thelma Walker (Colne Valley) (Lab):

What assessment she has made of the effect of the roll-out of universal credit on the number of disabled people living in poverty.

The Minister for Disabled People, Health and Work (Sarah Newton)

I do not want to see anyone living in poverty, and no Conservative Member of Parliament wants people living in poverty. Disabled people are some of the biggest beneficiaries of

universal credit, with around 1 million disabled households having on average around £110 a month more on universal credit than they would have had on the legacy benefits.

Thelma Walker

As disability charity Leonard Cheshire has pointed out, many disabled people do not have internet access, assistive technology or the necessary support to fill in the online form to apply for universal credit. Does the Minister agree that the application process needs to be more accessible, so that disabled people can easily apply for these benefits?

Sarah Newton

The hon. Lady raises a very important point about accessibility of the benefits system for everyone, which is something we all take very seriously. I am grateful for the support that the Leonard Cheshire foundation and a whole range of stakeholders give us in designing the process, to make sure that it is as accessible as possible.

Mr Simon Clarke (Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland) (Con)

Does the Minister agree that it is important that we are absolutely scrupulous in our presentation of the facts about universal credit? As the Secretary of State referred to earlier, I wrote to the UK Statistics Authority to query the shadow Secretary of State's claim that

“40,000 children will wake up in poverty on Christmas Day because the Tories refuse to pause”

the roll-out of universal credit. On Friday, Sir David Norgrove told me:

“It is clearly important that statements by a political party should be fully supported by the statistics and sources on which they rely. We do not believe”

To read the rest of the debate, go to <https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-02-05/debates/53D4B605-789B-42A0-B7AE-A45CD61EC01D/UniversalCreditDisabledPeople>

[Question S5W-15102: Alex Cole-Hamilton, Edinburgh Western, Scottish Liberal Democrats, Date Lodged: 06/03/2018](#)

To ask the Scottish Government what guidance the NHS issues on the font size and typeface that should be used in communications with people with sight issues.

The link to the question and the response on the Scottish Parliament website is here:

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-15102&ResultsPerPage=10>





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