

PRESIDENT BLOG FOR HORIZON

Hello to you from another President's Blog; they do seem to come round very quickly every fortnight. There are a few things to update you on so please do read all the links and visit the website.

The Joint Audiology & Otology Guidance for working during Covid has now been updated and is available to you all on the BAA website. It has been decided that we now move forward, as things are beginning to settle (although we expect a few ups and downs in infection rates). This guidance is a testament to joint working with all our colleagues in Audiology. We must thank our past president Sue Falkingham and the leads for the other professional bodies for all the hard work that has gone into the development of the guidance and subsequent updates. A huge amount of work has gone into this over the last year.

I hope you are signed up to one or more of the [regional meetings](#). I attended the Yorkshire and Humber meeting on Wednesday and had the pleasure of being informed, updated, and enthused by the speakers. I have booked on others coming up where I am able to and am looking forward to joining you.

We have our members' webinar coming up very soon, so I hope some of you will be able to join us on 9th June at 9.30am for an update on what BAA has been working on for you, the profession, and patients. Register [here](#) if you haven't done so already.

I cannot believe that conference booking opens in just one week's time! We have an amazing offer for the first 75 of you, so please do try and get the early bird. I am encouraged by the recent outcomes from the large events that have taken place with virtually no spread of virus. We will be making sure that conference goes ahead with all safety measures in place. Keep an eye on the [conference pages](#) over the next week or so.

BAA are often approached to inform, investigate, and work on projects and serious matters. We are working on several issues at present and will publish these as they are completed. Our focus is to be open and transparent and take a neutral approach when this is needed. Our aim is to encourage development and quality of the services we all provide in the best interest of people who use them and also for our members.

The Chief Scientific Officer has put out a call for nominations for the Shirley Fletcher Apprenticeship award – all of you who have apprentices please nominate them. Nominations to: england.cso@nhs.net.

The WHO are putting together a handbook for advocacy in the field of ear and hearing care. They are collecting experiences of advocacy campaigns/efforts that can be shared worldwide. There is a form to complete for this so if you have anything to share with WHO please do so. Closing date is the 20th June 2021. You can find the form and more information [here](#).

Stay safe and stay well.

Kath