

BAA President Blog – 12th December 2022

Writing a blog every two weeks emphasises how quickly time passes! It is a short space of time, but so much can and does happen in those 14 days.

I am delighted that our Conference Lead, Susannah Goggins, has confirmed the 2023 venue. We will be heading to the Coventry Building Society Arena on 2nd and 3rd November. We are looking forward to it already. Please save the dates in your diary and see if you can join us for two days education, research, and networking. Which reminds me, many of this year's posters are available on the BAA website here, if you didn't manage to get round them all, or were not able to attend the conference. The authors kindly supplied the full pdfs for you to download and view.

We are always looking for interesting new speakers, research and articles. If you would like to recommend someone speak at the 2023 conference or write an article for the BAA magazine, please contact us. Use the admin@baaudiology.org address, and your email will be forwarded to the relevant person to follow up.

Which brings me to the news that the company who takes care of our admin, accounts and conference will be changing in the new year. After ten years with Fitwise, the BAA Board thought it was time for a change. It will work with CJ Association Management from 1st January 2023. The initial contract with CJAM is for three years. We hope you won't be too affected by the change, as we work to make the transition as smooth as possible. There maybe a few glitches along the way, as we must change over databases for the HTS, for example, but we are working to minimise potential issues.

I was delighted to see the Professional Development team release the Preceptorship Framework documents they have been working on. This was a big team effort, and I would like to thank those involved, especially those who supported this project, who are usually not on the Professional Development team.

We continue to push for involvement across different government bodies and departments. This recently involved meetings with the NHS Careers team, who produce printed and digital materials to promote potential careers across the NHS. From a potential 350 careers, Audiology was chosen as one to feature in the latest booklet. We have been engaging to ensure the correct content is included, after one member highlighted the information printed wasn't totally accurate. Thanks to this, amends will be made in the next print run, and we have been asked to comment on further materials and online information.

A recent HTS examiners meeting was well attended. It's super to see so many engaged leaders in audiology supporting this scheme for BAA members. We hope these examiners will be kept busy in the new year, as NHS Education for Scotland has announced funding is available for anyone wanting to do the Paediatric Equivalence module that the HTS team is currently piloting. This offer is open to Audiologists in Scotland until the end of the financial year in March 2023. This is a small but significant thing that has come out from the work ongoing with the National Audiology Review in Scotland.

We continue with our joint working efforts. This week, we have been co-signatories on a submission to the National Screening Committee on cCMV, which you can read more about on our news pages. We have also been on the HCPC Professional Bodies meeting, which looked at some important data analysis they have done on registration. And finally, we met with the Ida Institute to discuss our ongoing memorandum of understanding and how we can work together further in the new year. We look forward to this continuing relationship, as their funding is secure for the awhile yet.

This will be my last blog until the new year. I hope the Board will relax a little over the holiday, and I hope you enjoy some time with family, friends, or perhaps a little peace and quiet on your own.

Take care

Samantha Lear

President