

Welcome to this week's edition of BAA Horizon, bringing you updates, opportunities, news, and information from across the field of audiology.

If you have any information that you would like to be included in a future edition of Horizon, please contact admin@baaudiology.org

BAA Board & Committee News:

- **President's Blog - Michelle Booth BAA President** has started a weekly blog that will be live on the website each week. **You can read her first blog here:** <http://www.baaudiology.org/about/president/#.WDaLRzKcbHc>
- **The new BAA Board will meet for the first time on 5th December** to look at the long term Strategy Plans and develop the forthcoming plan for this year. We hoped to be joined by the new Consultant CEO after contract negotiations are finalised and we can formally introduce the post holder to our wider membership.
- **Northern Ireland Regional Group** - The Regional BAA Group for Northern Ireland had 34 audiologists attend a meeting in Belfast on the 18th November. Going forward the group organiser will be running a survey to identify members needs for CPD and updates within the region which BAA will then feed into the training needs identified by the heads of Service in Northern Ireland by providing the regional meetings free to members of BAA.
- **Skills Show - Members of BAA once again attended the Skills Show at the NEC** on 16th, 17th and 18th November. We spoke to many teenagers on a general Health Careers stand to encourage them not to be astronauts but to be audiologists. The Skills Show is a large exhibition and the opportunity to talk to many young people was extraordinary. The passion and diversity the audiologists that attended to staff our stand gave the young people a great impression of the future they could have as audiologists. We even had a young man who knew he wanted to be an audiologist come and find us, how refreshing.

Other News:

- **Commissioning News - Three Clinical Commissioning Groups NHS Redditch and Bromsgrove Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), NHS Wyre Forest CCG and NHS South Worcestershire CCG announced their decision** not to cut hearing aid services for local people following a consultation on 22 November. A survey in 2016, was sent out and BAA along with members of The Hearing Loss Alliance and the key player in fighting cuts from a patient perspective, Action on Hearing Loss provided robust clinical evidence highlighting the flaws in the proposed restrictions and demonstrating the lifeline that hearing aids represent to people with hearing loss.

It is important that BAA members are aware of their local commissioning groups consultations. Rachel McCarthy gave a great talk at BAA Conference on Commissioning Challenges: tips, strategies. Her advice and actions were recorded and you can access that with your conference fee on the talking Slides website if you attended conference. We are looking at ways to make all talks accessible to more members on a pay per view basis.

In the meantime, **Rachel's advice on Commissioners is** to use the evidence available to you for example the Commissioning Framework. Make sure your Trust contracting team are aware of this

document initially and find out who your Commissioners are from your contracting team. **Keep an eye on the Commissioners websites and sign up** for any bulletins they may send out to ensure you are aware of the consultations they are running.

If you get any suggestion that your services may be challenged contact BAA and we have resources to help members to respond to those challenges.

- **Breaking The Silence - Incredibly well done to all the Audiologists involved in Breaking The Silence.** We are sure your hearts were in your mouths during the filming. On Channel 4 last week a groundbreaking programme was screened. Breaking the Silence Live, allowed viewers to witness the moments at Manchester Royal Infirmary live as cochlear implants were switched on for the first time.

The programme is available as a standard and a BSL signed version on Channel 4s on demand service <http://www.channel4.com/programmes/breaking-the-silence-live/on-demand/63119-001>

The tweets about the programme as it aired came in thick and fast and as you can imagine provoked strong emotional reactions and some dissent. We can't hope to capture them all here but for those of you not on Twitter a selection of the reactions are available here: <https://storify.com/BAAudiology/breaking-the-silence-live>

- **Academy of Health Care Science and RCCP Joint Press Release** - Representatives of the Registration Council for Clinical Physiologists (RCCP) Council and its professional body members met with the Board members of the Academy of Healthcare Science (AHCS) on the 16TH November 2016. More details are on the website <http://www.baaudiology.org/index.php/news/news-home/rccp-and-ahcs-registration-boards-meeting/>
- **Hackathon for Care Homes – Collaborating to Improve Care in Care Homes.** The Quality Improvement Champions (QIC) network of healthcare scientists collaborated with six vanguard sites to organise a 'Hackathon for Care Homes' <http://carehomehack.org/> aimed at improving care in care homes. The event, held in July 2016, was supported by the Innovation Agency in the North West, the new models of care team at NHS England and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), in Boston. Congratulations to the winning team, Sense and Sensibility, and their innovative solution for undetected hearing loss in care homes. Their initiative is currently being developed.
- **Advancing Healthcare Awards 2017 – applications now open.** Applications are open for the 2017 Advancing Healthcare Awards. These awards are UK wide and exclusively open to allied health professionals, healthcare scientists and those supporting these workforces, whose achievements so often go unnoticed. Organised by Chamberlain Dunn, the awards recognise and reward projects and professionals that lead innovative health and social care practice and make a real difference to patients' lives. There are 12 categories open for entry. **The closing date for entries is 13 January 2017.** To find out more: <http://www.ahpandhsawards.co.uk/how-to-enter/>

Job Adverts:

- **AUDIOLOGIST London Hearing** - Exciting job opportunity within an expanding and vibrant Harley Street practice. London Hearing is a prestigious, independent hearing aid practice situated in Harley Street. We share our practice with leading and well renowned ENT surgeons. To be successful for this role, HCPC registration is essential and all applicants must be BSc / MSc qualified. Newly qualified Audiologists will be considered. Salary will be based on experience. **For more information please call 020 3075 3190 or email: d.savvas@150harleyst.com** If you wish to be considered, **please send your CV to** : Dee Savvas, Practice Manager, London Hearing, 150 Harley Street, London W1G 7LQ.

For more information visit: <http://www.baaudiology.org/careers/recruitment>

- **Audiology Specialist Action on Hearing Loss** - We help people confronting deafness, tinnitus and

hearing loss to live the life they choose. We enable them to take control of their lives and remove the barriers in their way. **Location:** London. **Salary:** £30,000- £33,000 (pro rata). **Contract and hours:** Permanent, 21 hours (3 days) per week. **Closing Date:** 5th December 2016. **Interview date:** 12/13th December 2016 (TBC). **More information** about the breadth of work we are involved in as an organisation can be found on our web-site <https://www.actiononhearingloss.org.uk> If you think you have the skills and experience and would love the challenge of this job I'd like to hear from you. **To apply for the role please** submit an application form to jobs@hearingloss.org.uk

For more information visit: <http://www.baaudiology.org/careers/recruitment>

- **Band 5 Audiologist Brighton** - There will be work across a number of sites supported by BSUH. The role will support ENT Out Patient clinics and provide adult auditory rehabilitation to patients outside of the AQP criteria, the successful candidate will also be supporting senior clinicians in complex work. **The closing date** may be brought forward once sufficient applications have been submitted. **Vacancy reference:** 379-NOV113-16. **Closing date:** 5th December 2016. **Interview date:** 19th December 2016. **Please visit** NHS jobs to apply for this vacancy. https://www.jobs.nhs.uk/xi/vacancy/f2d8663eb341b5d37117ff7c198c8d01/?vac_ref=914418507

For more information visit: <http://www.baaudiology.org/careers/recruitment>

- **To advertise a job in future editions of Horizon please contact** advertising@baaudiology.org

Upcoming Courses / Events:

- **FINAL REMINDER - 'Steering a True Course'**
Tue 7 - Thu 9 February 2017. Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh
<http://www.qmu.ac.uk/leadership2017/>

Looking for time out, to reflect and re-focus? This excellent course gives opportunity to discuss and consider service development and leadership, with input from great speakers. The course has consistently excellent feedback, and has been of immense value to those attending. Everyone who has attended says they would recommend the course to others.

The course faculty includes John Day, Dr John Fitzgerald, Ruth Thomsen, Jonathan Parsons, Will Brassington, Adam Beckman, Tony Corcoran, Christine DePlacido PhD and Professor Adrian Davis.

Booking closes on Tuesday 10 January. For More information please visit:

<http://www.baaudiology.org/events/calendar/steering-true-course-2/?eID=712>

- For the above event information together with details of other Audiology events taking place **please visit** www.baaudiology.org/events

Social Media:

- Already mentioned above is the social media reaction to **Breaking The Silence** which can be carefully searched on twitter using [#breakingthesilence](https://twitter.com/breakingthesilence) Reaction on Facebook can be found at Channel 4s page on 22nd November <https://www.facebook.com/Channel4/?fref=ts>
- **The Facebook Group has also discussed:**
Appointment lengths in audiology.
A Sign Language using Santa
Working in New Zealand and Australia – that must be because of the weather
- **Over on twitter searching** [#DementiaNWales](https://twitter.com/DementiaNWales) will give you great tweets from an event run in Wales last week. Lively social media and interactivity from the event.

Contact us

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