

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](mailto:admin@baaudiology.org)

### BAA Board & Committee News:

- **A word from the newly appointed BAA President, Michelle Booth** - I am delighted to introduce myself as the new President of BAA. I have been an audiologist for 30 years and am passionate about the profession and look forward to representing you all over the coming year. **Look out for** my regular blog keeping you up to date on the activity that myself and the BAA Board are undertaking on your behalf.
- **As mentioned in the last Horizons newsletter this edition is late to allow some feedback and information from BAA Conference in Glasgow to be brought to you.**

**Conference 2016 Summary - Firstly some thank you messages.**

**The Programme team this year** came from Norwich and Norfolk Hospitals, **John Fitzgerald, Leah Cooper** and **Charlotte Murray-Smith** put together an excellent programme. They have already agreed to continue in their roles for **next years Conference in Bournemouth on 16th and 17th November 2017.**

**The Social Team** - The team are responsible for the gala dinner and this year had a challenge with the venue being so large and diverse but **Louise Jenkinson, Sonam Sehemby, Alex Griffiths-Brown,** and **Kathryn Whitfield** did a fantastic job in getting the Around the World Theme across.

**The speakers** - Every single invited speaker and poster exhibitor did a fantastic job. Keynotes were excellent but so too were all the speakers around the conference and you will see in the take home messages from BAA Board that it wasn't just on the main stage that speakers really challenged the audience.

**The Sponsors** - Five of the leading hearing instrument companies worked together to deliver great content in the Sponsors Track. Without their support both financially and in their commitment to good audiology educational content our conference could not take place. Thank you to **Oticon, Phonak, Resound, Sivantos** and **Starkey.**

**The Exhibitors** - The exhibition at BAA Conference is the biggest audiology exhibition in the U.K. Our thanks goes to all the companies that support our conference by taking a space to exhibit.

**The Delegates** - Thank you to all the delegates that chose to attend conference, the whole conference team hope you found it engaging and useful to your practice. Your feedback is really important to us and **you will receive feedback forms shortly**, please be honest and help make conference better and better each year.

- **Take home messages** - I asked BAA Board to share some of their take home messages from conference with you for this edition of Horizons.

#### **Dr Jagjit Sethi (Immediate Past President BAA)**

In the discussion forum when a young audiologist just got it. "with improved technology why don't we just support patients who can/want to self manage releasing us to support who really need our

expertise?"

Is our post grad profession being deskilled as technologists should we not upskill to truly work at our intended training level – support/council complex cases?

**Michelle Booth (BAA President)**

Curtis Alcock's talk about repulsing patients with our language was Michelle's stand out message. Michelle says, "I will definitely be thinking more carefully how I speak to patients and the language I use - inspirational talk!".

The same talk gets the vote of **Darren Cordon a new BAA Board Director.**

Kevin Munro's audiogram talk was also inspirational to Darren who said it was "something which we will discuss with the team at the next team meeting". **Christine De Placido** (HTS and Registration) said that Professor Munro's talk made her think that we really should "Let go of the audiogram and work with the patient".

**Claire Benton (BAA Conference Lead).**

Says that there are obvious answers to this one but for me it was a very practical talk on paediatric outcome measures by Jim Harrigan from NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, Claire says "I'm going to rethink what we do back at the ranch".

**Lizanne Steenkamp (Accreditation)**

Says her take home message was "Advances in hearing aid technology allow the patient to become the expert in their hearing care and this does not pose a threat to the livelihood of the audiologist. It restores the balance in the relationship between the audiologist and the patient as 2 experts on opposites sides of the experience"

Another one from Lizanne: "Consider the long term impact of hearing loss on patients' mental health"

**Neil Summerfield (Membership)**

Says his conference take home was, "innovation maybe hard work and take a lot of planning but if done correctly can only benefit the patient's care and journey"

I hope this has given you an idea of what some of the conference lectures were about. A number of the slides from Curtis Alcock's talk on using our language are on the BAA Facebook group as this had so many positive responses. A summary of the Social Media posts is available here:

<https://storify.com/BAAudiology/baa-conference-2016-people-in-audiology>

## Other News:

- **BAA Annual General Meeting took place on 10th November during Conference**, minutes will be published but we welcomed Michelle Booth as the new BAA President for 2016/17. Thank you to Dr Jagjit Sethi for leading BAA in 2015/16 a year in which she faced many challenges and led the Board through the appointment of a Consultant CEO as well as the publication of many important pieces of work. Jagjit remains on Board as BAA Immediate Past President.

**We welcomed** Darren Cordon to BAA Board, Rosemary Monk remains on Board after re-election and Co-opted Scotland Rep Gordon McHardy.

- **BAA Publications**

The updated **BAA Scope of Practice** is now online at:

[http://www.baaudiology.org/files/7214/7858/3751/0646\\_BAA\\_Scope\\_Of\\_Practice\\_Brochure.pdf](http://www.baaudiology.org/files/7214/7858/3751/0646_BAA_Scope_Of_Practice_Brochure.pdf)

The new **Direct Referral Guidance** produced by BAA SQC team is available here:

<http://www.baaudiology.org/indexphpnews/news-home/new-direct-referral-guidance-released/>

The **BAA Annual Report** is available here:

[http://www.baaudiology.org/files/6714/7637/1351/WEB\\_BAA\\_Annual\\_Report\\_2016.pdf](http://www.baaudiology.org/files/6714/7637/1351/WEB_BAA_Annual_Report_2016.pdf)

New **Continuing Professional Development Flyer** is here:

[http://www.baaudiology.org/files/4714/7867/1715/BAA\\_CPD\\_and\\_You\\_Flyer\\_2016.pdf](http://www.baaudiology.org/files/4714/7867/1715/BAA_CPD_and_You_Flyer_2016.pdf)

## Job Adverts:

- To advertise a job in future editions of Horizon please contact [advertising@baaudiology.org](mailto:advertising@baaudiology.org)

## Upcoming Courses / Events:

- **Conference Update** – if you joined us in Glasgow we hope you all had a fantastic conference! We will shortly be sending out the conference survey to gather your feedback and ideas for next year! In order to receive your certificate of attendance you must complete this survey so please keep an eye out for it arriving in your inbox! Also, access to the speaker presentations will shortly be available. Finally, don't forget to save the date for next year as we travel to Bournemouth on the 16th – 17th November 2017!
- **BSA Annual Conference 2017, 29th – 30th June 2017, Majestic Hotel, Harrogate**  
A key element in any BSA conference is to hear about the audiology work you are doing. Why not showcase your work and submit an abstract for either a poster or a talk? Both presentation methods are a great way to share good practice and the latest research. There are prizes for the best posters and there is a new award for the best student research project.  
Abstract Submission Deadline is **6th March 2017**.  
**For more information and to view the abstract topics, please visit**  
<https://fitwise.eventsair.com/bsa2017/homepage>
- **Tinnitus Awareness Week is taking place in 2017 from 6-12 February**. We would love people to get involved and are encouraging hospitals to again have displays, information stands or hold events to raise awareness of tinnitus. If you would like full details about the week, **please contact** Emily Broomhead at the BTA on [emily@tinnitus.org.uk](mailto:emily@tinnitus.org.uk) or call 0114 250 9933
- For the above event information together with details of other Audiology events taking place **please visit** [www.baudiology.org/events](http://www.baudiology.org/events)

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