

The whole of BAA Board are looking forward to welcoming members and non members alike to Harrogate for our annual conference on Thursday 26th November.

If you have any news to share from your department suitable for the Horizon newsletter you are welcome to drop by the BAA stand at 4pm on Friday to meet me and share the news in person.

I'm happy to chat to members and take short news articles at any time so please come and find me during conference or email admin@baaudiology.org and include the line News for Horizons so that your email is forwarded on.

Sue Falkingham - **BAA Board Lead for Publicity and Communications**

News:

- **Study shows Self-reported hearing loss is associated with** accelerated cognitive decline in older adults; hearing aid use attenuates such decline. **Self-Reported Hearing Loss, Hearing Aids, and Cognitive Decline in Elderly Adults: A 25-Year Study.** J Am Geriatr Soc. 2015 Oct;63(10):2099-104. doi: 10.1111/jgs.13649. Paquid is an epidemiological study designed to gather and follow-up a cohort of 3,777 elderly subjects (65 years and older) living at home. **Facts about the study** PAQUID is an extensive French study among 3,670 randomly selected individuals aged 65 and older. The study began in 1989-1990 and the participants have been evaluated regularly for 25 years. The study has been led by Professor H el ene Amieva, Universit e Victor Segalen Bordeaux 2, in France. In the study, the participants made self reported statements about their hearing loss. Cognitive decline was measured by using a so-called Mini-Mental State Examination (MMSE). The strength of the study is the very long period in which people have been followed and measured and the number of participants. The study has been published in Journal of the American Geriatrics Society. The headline conclusion is that Hearing loss accelerates cognitive decline in elderly adults, but the use of hearing aids counters this acceleration. Read the summary: <http://www.hear-it.org/use-hearing-aids-reduces-cognitive-decline>
- **Hearing Aids Cuts Consultation** - Please respond to a Consultation from South Norfolk CCG. The CCG is proposing to revise its criteria towards adults who are eligible for hearing aids, restricting the issue of hearing aids to patients with a hearing loss measured as mild. A briefing document which outlines the CCG's proposed revised policy is available on their website: <http://www.southnorfolkccg.nhs.uk/have-your-say/hearing-aids-people-mild-adult-onset-hearing-loss> Anyone wishing to respond to the consultation on the proposal can do so via an online survey: <http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/PS35D/> Alternatively, comments can also be mailed to SNCCG.communications@nhs.net The consultation runs between Monday 9th November 2015 and Friday 18th December 2015.
- **Hearing Matters – why action is needed on deafness, tinnitus and hearing loss across the UK** Eleven million people have hearing loss – that's around one in six of us. In their new report Hearing Matters, Action on Hearing Loss present the most up to date facts and figures on the growing prevalence and impact of hearing loss across the UK. The report sets out what action needs to be taken to make sure hearing aids remain free of charge on the NHS for all those who could benefit and NHS hearing services meet the growing level of need. For further information, please see the news item on the BAA website <http://www.baaudiology.org/indexphpnews/news-home/hearing-matters-why-action-needed-deafness-tinnitus-and-hearing-loss-across-uk/> - and you can pick up your free copy and talk to them at the Action on Hearing Loss stand at the BAA conference.
- **Abstract Deadline: British Society of Audiology Annual Conference 2016, 25 – 27 April 2016, Ricoh Arena, Coventry.** We are pleased to announce that the British Society of Audiology Annual Conference, entitled Transforming Knowledge to Sound Practice will be taking place on 25th – 27th April 2016 at the Ricoh Arena in Coventry. The BSA Annual Conference continues to be one of the leading UK scientific forums to bring together clinicians and researchers who have an interest in hearing, tinnitus and balance. The Applied and Clinical Research abstract deadline is in three weeks,

on the 1st December. You can apply online at <http://www.thebsa.org.uk/4143-2/> where you will also find full instructions and guidance.

- **British Tinnitus Association Small Research Projects Grants.** A quick note to say the BTA's Small Research Project stream is now live and open for applications up to £5,000. Deadline for applications is 11 December 2015. More information via the link below. Please share amongst all your networks. <http://www.tinnitus.org.uk/small-research-grants>

Surveys / Reminders:

- **British Tinnitus Association Survey win £100** - What do you think of the BTA services? Every couple of years BTA ask you, the tinnitus community, for your opinion on how the BTA is doing, and how (hopefully) they've helped you. They also want to know what they can do to serve you better and they do listen! Please complete this survey by Friday 27 November. You can remain anonymous if you wish, but if you send your details to the email address given at the end of the survey, you will be entered in the Prize Draw to win £100! <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BTA2015>

BAA Board/Committee updates:

- **Conference Update** – The year has flown by and the BAA Annual Conference is almost upon us. The BAA is counting down and we have one week to go! We hope to see you there on the 26th and 27th November. There is still time to register if you visit www.baaudiology.org/conference There is so much happening at this year's conference including keynote sessions, multiple programme streams, hands on workshops, scientific posters, awards, access to the UK's largest audiology exhibition and of course, our not to be missed Winter Wonderland Black Tie Masquerade Ball! Don't forget to visit us on the BAA stand to receive our impressive giveaway and of course, we are happy to answer any questions you may have regarding the work we are doing and membership. If you need any information on travelling to Harrogate or need to book any last minute accommodation, please visit our website or contact events@baaudiology.org. See you next week!

Job Adverts / Advisory Appointments:

- **NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde - Healthcare Scientist Specialist (Paediatric Audiologist).** provides services throughout NHS Greater Glasgow at several community locations, 3 maternity hospitals and support services each week for 5 specialist audiology clinics and up to 14 ENT clinic sessions. It is essential that you have a BSc in Speech and Hearing Sciences or the equivalent (e.g. BAAT part I and II professional and competency examinations), you should have relevant post qualification experience and you should have relevant registration with RCCP (Registration Council for Clinical Physiologists). You should show evidence of maintaining continued professional development while having highly developed knowledge of paediatric audiology. For this post it is essential that you have excellent communication skills and have good keyboard skills while having the ability to work autonomously. This post requires PVG Scheme Membership/Disclosure Scotland Check. For more information and to apply visit: <https://jobs.scot.nhs.uk/Details.aspx?vacNo=420815> **Closing Date 27 November 2015.**
- **REGIONAL SALES MANAGER for Interacoustics (Midlands / South West England).** As one of 3 Regional Sales Managers, you will be responsible for generating sales revenue from a defined geographical territory by identifying and following up sales opportunities and influencing potential customers in their purchasing decisions in favour of Interacoustics products. This is a sales role for a qualified audiologist and requires daily travel throughout the Midlands and South West of England. This is a unique opportunity for a qualified audiologist with at least 2 years' clinical experience in an NHS audiology department. Experience of using balance equipment with good vestibular clinical knowledge would be of benefit. Keen to learn new aspects of audiology. Excellent interpersonal skills – written and spoken. Self-motivated and able to work on own initiative. Please apply in writing by sending your CV, indicating current salary level, to Ben Colman, Sales Director - Interacoustics UK. Email: beco@interacoustics.com / 07717 130396. **Closing date for applications 4 December 2015.**

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

Upcoming Courses / Events:

- **Come and see Phonak at BAA!** We have live demonstrations, new products and a new stand designed to act as workstations to better support your time at the event. We have a full agenda of breakout sessions devised based on your feedback. To view the agenda please visit www.phonaknhs.co.uk/news
- **SoundSuccess™ By Advanced Bionics – Come and Visit Us at the BAA Conference!** Advanced Bionics will be exhibiting at the British Academy of Audiology (BAA) Annual Conference on the 26th and 27th November in Harrogate, where we will be demonstrating the NEW online rehabilitation resource SoundSuccess. SoundSuccess is a unique online program developed for anyone wearing hearing aids, considering a cochlear implant, or who recently received a cochlear implant. The resource has been designed to help improve your patients' confidence in using hearing technology, ease of understanding different speakers and ease of listening in noisy environments. SoundSuccess features a wide range of self-directed exercises for your patients to explore on their computer or tablet, anytime, anywhere. Come see us on the AB exhibition stand and get FREE SoundSuccess vouchers for you and your patients! In the meantime, if you would like further information on this important resource or would like to find out how you and your patients can access SoundSuccess, email Advanced Bionics at spp.uk@advancedbionics.com.
- **Starkey Hearing Technologies are looking forward to being Platinum Sponsors at BAA Conference in Harrogate.** Our talk agenda includes a journalist working with his Starkey Hearing aids to map WiFi networks around him – an interesting and amazing project that integrates his hearing aids into his work. Starkey will also be launching a new Bone Conduction product and our breakout sessions are focussed on this new product. A full talk agenda can be accessed here <http://www.starkeysoundbytes.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Starkey-BAA-Talk-Agenda2.pdf>
- **UCL Masterclass: Rehabilitation for Adults with Acquired Hearing Loss, 2nd - 4th December 2015** Course Director: Lucy Handscomb. This course aims to explore in depth the experience of deafness, and to examine a range of non-technological approaches to adult audiological rehabilitation. As well as hearing from experts in the field, we will take a holistic view and draw on expertise from beyond the boundaries of audiology to consider the wider needs of the patients we work with. Participants will learn about recent evidence from a variety of sources which is clinically relevant and should be of particular interest to those who specialise in aural rehabilitation or those who wish to take on more responsibility in this area. A mixture of lectures, discussions and interactive workshops ensures that all delegates have the opportunity to fully participate and network with others who have similar interests. For more information on what topics are covered and how to book a place, please follow this link: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/ear/courses/shortcourses/index/edit/coursepages/aamc-raahl>
- **UCL Masterclass: Tinnitus and Hyperacusis in Adults and Children, 19th - 21st January 2016.** Course Directors: Roland Schaette, Lucy Handscomb & Rosie Kentish. The 3 day course starts with a research update on the current understanding of the mechanisms of tinnitus and hyperacusis. Then we address the different approaches for the assessment and management of these symptoms in adults, covering counselling, cognitive behavioural therapy, mindfulness meditation and acoustic stimulation strategies in lectures and workshops. The third day has a paediatric focus: the available strategies for management of tinnitus and hyperacusis in children, and how these need to be adapted to the special needs of children, covered in lectures and case studies. The lectures and workshops in the course will be given by experts from the Ear Institute and the Royal National Throat Nose and Ear Hospital, and by specially invited guest speakers. For more information on what topics are covered and how to book a place, please follow this link: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/ear/courses/shortcourses/index/edit/coursepages/aamc-tinnitusandhyperacusis>
- **UCL Masterclass: Auditory Processing and Language Disorders, 9th – 11th February 2016.** Current Science and Clinical Practice. Course Director: Dr Doris-Eva Bamiou This 3-day

multidisciplinary Masterclass will provide an in-depth update and discussion on the current scientific understanding of auditory processing and language disorders as well as the current approaches undertaken by clinical practice in addressing such disorders. The international faculty includes Clinicians and Researchers from several different disciplines.

Objectives include:

To provide a scientific understanding of auditory processing in individuals with an auditory processing or language disorder.

To provide an understanding of diagnostic and management issues and the specific needs of complex patients, both children and adults with auditory processing disorders, with some illustrative case studies.

To provide an update on current research in basic neurosciences and translational clinical application.

For more information on what topics are covered and how to book a place, please follow this link:

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/ear/courses/shortcourses/index/edit/coursepages/aamc-apd>

- **Careers Talks Material** - Health Education England have released a Health Ambassador information leaflet. This aim of Health Ambassadors is to broaden and raise young people's awareness and understanding of NHS careers and other health related organisations. Please visit the website www.inspiringthefuture.org to find out more and register as a volunteer Health Ambassador, OR contact health.ambassadors@yh.hee.nhs.uk for more local information about the Health Ambassador Campaign.

The above course information together with details of other Audiology events taking place please visit www.baaudiology.org/events

Social Media Summary And News Articles:

- **Twitter** - If you are on twitter and want to follow the BAA Conference we will be using [#baa2015](https://twitter.com/hashtag/baa2015)
- **Hearing Link have been tweeting about** their campaign to check hearing loops and raise awareness of Loop Systems in the wider community. They have a video on their website demonstrating how to check a loop is working <http://www.hearinglink.org/hearing-loop-awareness-week>

Contact us

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