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Welcome to the latest edition of Horizon your regular update of news, opportunities 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). The next deadline for submissions is the **7th December 2017**.

Please send any information you would like included in this newsletter to [admin@baaudiology.org](mailto:admin@baaudiology.org)

### News:

- **Towards a Connected Future – first joint event from BAA, BSA and BSHAA**



The first ever joint event to be co-hosted by the BAA, BSA and BSHAA in February 2018 in Leeds will be called 'Towards a Connected Future'.

The programme committee have been working hard to deliver a balanced and thought-provoking day. Towards a Connected Future means looking to a future of connective technology, connected cross-sector collaboration and keeping people connected to living happier, engaged and independent lives. The programme for the day will include exhibition time and hearing from key suppliers on how they are responding to the rapidly emerging connective technology, as well as the legislation passed in the US to sell hearing technology over the counter.

Well-known speakers will bring you a series of insights which will take you on a journey to better understand the impact and opportunities of technology and healthcare pressures on our everyday procedures, tools, service models – and audiology professionals.

The day will culminate in a not-to-be missed expert panel representing a mix of sectors and opinions from within audiology who will be answering your questions. The programme will provide opportunities to vote and have your say as we look at the challenges and opportunities confronting our profession. Questions and observations can be written anonymously if desired on the day. We hope the programme will ignite your passions and views and help inform us all, and in particular your professional bodies to ensure they stay aligned to their members' views and needs.

**Registration details and the full programme will be released soon.**

This ground-breaking event is co-hosted by BAA, BSA and BSHAA and offers a membership rate to all delegates irrespective of which body or bodies you are a member of. Remember, this is a trial event and if successful is a format that could go around the country bringing a set of localised events once a year to a venue closer to your home. To get to that place, though, we need as much support as

possible for this first pioneering meeting.

The event will be held at the Hilton Leeds City, easily accessible from the M1 and M62, just a three-minute walk from Leeds City train station and just 10 miles from Bradford Airport. With a newly refurbished meeting and exhibition space, it promises to be a great venue.

- **New NIHR M-level research training scheme launched** - Health Education England (HEE) and the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) are pleased to announce a new pre-doctoral level training scheme to support aspiring non-medical clinical academics.

The HEE/NIHR Pre-doctoral Clinical Academic Fellowship (PCAF) Scheme, which will replace the ICA Masters Studentships, will support award holders to split their time equally between clinical service and academic training over a 2 year period. During this period, Fellows will undertake formal and informal Master's level clinical research training designed around their unique training needs and develop an application for PhD funding, with support from a named supervisor and mentor.

It is anticipated that the Round 1 ICA PCAF Scheme competition **will launch in February 2018**.

**Further information is available from our website:** <https://www.nihr.ac.uk/funding-and-support/funding-for-training-and-career-development/training-programmes/nihr-hee-ica-programme/nihr-hee-ica-programme-pcaf.htm>

**For more information,** please contact **Dr Mel Ferguson:** [melanie.ferguson@nottingham](mailto:melanie.ferguson@nottingham)

- **Credit Card Fees** - Dear BAA members you may have heard, the UK government is bringing in legislation next year with regards to the fees that can be charged on by retailers when taking debit or credit card payments for goods or services. From January 13th 2018 the practice will be outlawed, and any company found adding a "processing fee" will be forced to pay it back. At the moment, BAA charges 3% on any credit card transactions to cover the additional costs of those transactions. BAA Board have decided not to increase the cost of membership again this year and this includes those paying by credit card, BAA will absorb the 3% costs when credit cards are used to pay membership fees or conference fees. We would like to ask all our members to consider using other forms of payment to BAA in future to reduce those costs as much as possible going forwards.
- **World Hearing Day 2018** - The theme for the 2018 World Hearing Day is:

**Hear the future**  
**Слышать будущее**  
**Soyons à l'écoute de l'avenir**  
**اسمعوا صوت المستقبل**  
**听见未来**  
**Escuchemos el futuro**

**This theme will focus on the**  
rising prevalence of hearing loss globally;  
importance of appropriate preventative actions to stem the rise;  
need to ensure access to rehabilitation services and communication for people with hearing loss;

**More information on the campaign will be available** on the WHO webpage: [www.who.int/world-hearing-day](http://www.who.int/world-hearing-day) Information materials including a brochure on the theme, posters, banners etc, will be made available on this website in early February.

## **BAA Board/Committee updates:**

- **Calling all BAA members!** - Do you represent BAA and/or the Audiology profession at a meeting on a regular basis? If so, BAA would like to know as the newly formed BAA Board are trying to ensure that we have a seat at all the relevant tables.

Please let us know via our BAA administration team at [baa@fitwise.co.uk](mailto:baa@fitwise.co.uk)

- **Feedback needed by Service Quality Committee** - The Service Quality Committee would like to invite members' comments on a new draft document: Guidance on Reasonable Adjustments for Disabled Audiology Professionals.

The purpose of this document is to help provide guidance to employers and educators relating to the support of clinicians and students / trainees with disabilities within audiology. It covers definitions of disability and the area of 'reasonable adjustments' that the educator / employer are legally required to consider in order to allow the disabled person to complete their studies / job roles as effectively as possible.

Comments should be entered into the feedback form provided and sent to the SQC via [BAA@fitwise.co.uk](mailto:BAA@fitwise.co.uk) by **Monday 4th December 2017**. The draft and feedback form may be found on our web page: <http://www.baaudiology.org/teams/service-quality/>

### Job Adverts:

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

### Upcoming Courses:

- **'Hearing Aids: The Inside Track'** - Tue 17 July - Thu 19 July 2018  
**Booking deadline: Tue 19 June 2018**

**NEW VENUE: The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Alfreton, Derbyshire DE55 1AU**  
Residential course: Accommodation is available at £70 per night (en-suite).

The course is open for booking, and the course information is on 'Anne Davies Audiology Courses' website: [www.audiology-courses.co.uk](http://www.audiology-courses.co.uk)

For details of other Audiology events taking place, visit [www.baaudiology.org/events](http://www.baaudiology.org/events)

#### Contact us

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