

British Association of Teachers of the Deaf



37th Annual General Meeting

Saturday 9 March 2013

Austin Court, 80 Cambridge Street, Birmingham, B1 2NP

13.30 - 14.10

Annual Report

and accounts

www.batod.org.uk

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AGENDA

- 1 Apologies for absence
- 2 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in Wandsworth on 10 March 2012
- 3 Matters arising from the Minutes
- 4 Members' comments and enquiries
- 5 Presidential Address – Karen Taylor
- 6 Annual Report 2011– 2012
- 7 Statement of accounts
- 8 Acceptance of Treasurer's report
- 9 Appointment of Auditors
- 10 Election results: Steering Group and NEC members
- 11 Presentation of the Peter Preston Audiology Award
- 12 Presentation of the Eichholz Prize
- 13 Date and place of next meeting Saturday 8 March 2014 (venue to be announced)
- 14 Gold Sponsor Update: Advanced Bionics; Lightspeed; Phonak



Minutes of the BATOD AGM held at St Cecilia's, Wandsworth Church of England School, Sutherland Grove, Wandsworth, London SW18 5JR on Saturday 10th March 2012

Apologies for absence

Marie Mullan NI Rep, Elaine Harris Scotland Rep, Trish Cope North Rep and Sharon Pointeer

Minutes of the AGM in Newcastle/Gateshead, Saturday 19th March 2011

The March 2011 AGM Minutes, having been previously published and distributed to all members, were taken as read and approved as a true record; proposed by Jenny Baxter and seconded by Liz Reed-Beadle.

Matters arising from the Minutes: None

Members' comments and enquiries: This item was moved to the four o'clock plenary session when there was discussion about conferences which included a suggestion for a multi-agency conference, especially in London. Generally it was felt that Saturday is a good day for a conference. Presentations were appreciated and it was suggested that videos of these could be made available for 'local' training purposes. Worries were expressed that this would reduce numbers at conferences especially if the presentations were freely available. The value of networking at such events could not be ignored.

Presidential Address by the outgoing president

Gary Anderson, our outgoing President, expressed astonishment at the speed of the last two years. He reflected on the many changes in terms of academies, free schools, teaching schools, the new equality legislation, the eBAC and the SEN pathfinder projects. The current 30 year old Code of Practice is going to be very different very soon. Change is inevitable but it seems at times overwhelming. He was delighted with his chosen strapline - "Stronger Together". Working with our partners NatSIP, SENSE, NDCS, VIEW, and BAEA etc BATOD is a big voice in a low incidence field. The NEC now works in a different way to support existing BATOD members and they continue to respond to his call to recruit new ones. Vigilance about government initiatives and detailed responses to these, often between meetings, remains a crucial and time-consuming role of NEC members, all collated by Paul Simpson.

Gary hoped that he had been a listening President for all eight regions. He noted that his visit to Scotland, had helped (with NDCS Scotland) to secure another year of funding for the Scottish Sensory Centre. He welcomed the newly formed Eastern Region. He mentioned that we had been exploring using Google groups and Facebook and refreshing our website. All these together with our excellent Magazine and the Journal sustain us all as specialist practitioners. He thanked the Steering Group (SG), the UK-wide NEC members, and in particular Paul, praising the team effort of 'Stronger Together'. He then officially handed over the reins (and badge of office) to Karen Taylor, Head of Service in Norfolk, who, he was sure, would carry the idea of stronger together further afield. Karen then became the new President of BATOD (2012-2014).

The Annual Report 2011

Paul drew attention to this (in the AGM booklet). He urged everyone to go to the British Association of Teachers of the Deaf's Facebook page and click on LIKE and share!

Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report

This was presented by the outgoing Treasurer, Bev McCracken, who mentioned the deficit of £7000 which does not happen every year (see the balance sheets in the Annual Report). We collect the subscriptions more efficiently. The conference is more profitable when held in London. Because the Mary Grace Wilkins Travelling Scholarship money is in a charitable trust, it does not have to pay corporation tax but it is hard to vary its terms and conditions. The acceptance of the report was proposed by Carol Thomson and seconded by Sue Lewis.

Appointment of Auditors

Mary Fortune explained that the previous auditors had moved on and looked to appoint Mr Nicolas Ryan FCCA (Fellow Chartered Certified Accountants), Chester. Bev McCracken proposed this and Ann Underwood seconded it.



Presentation to Bev McCracken, National Treasurer 1990 - 2011

Thanking Bev for his long service on NEC from 1988 to 2011, and particularly as Treasurer, Ted Moore (former BATOD President and Consultant) made a farewell speech on behalf of the wider BATOD membership. Their first meeting, at the NEC in 1988 (Bev was Head of Service for Avon), involved responding to the Government's National Curriculum documents which BATOD felt were over-demanding and much too detailed! Ted praised Bev's professionalism, kindness and good humour and for encouraging BATOD to be a proactive, rather than simply a responsive, organisation. He now continues to work on modifying the language of examination questions with Jenny. Ted thanked Bev for his outstanding 25 year service to BATOD and wished them all the best for the future. Gary added that Bev will be greatly missed.

Election Results: Steering Group and NEC members

Paul explained that we had eight vacancies (usually there are 6 each year).

Since we had lost two the year before the two co-opted people needed to stand to be ratified also. He mentioned our new Treasurer, Mary Fortune and President Elect, Andrea Baker and made his annual plea to encourage delegates to stand for election to the NEC.

Changes to the constitution (see additional sheet and website)

These had been published in the January 2012 Magazine. Having consulted Bev, our Constitution expert, Paul moved that these slight changes to the constitution be put to the membership. These were passed unanimously.

Thanks to long serving BATOD members

Gary drew members' attention to other long-serving members: Sharon Pointeer (unable to be here) who has produced our ICT Newpage for the Magazine for the last ten years and Robert Miller, who has been sole treasurer of the Midland Region for about 30 years.

Presentation of the Peter Preston Audiology Award

The Peter Preston Award, set up by his family, in honour of our colleague who died two years ago, and awarded for the best Audiology article in the Magazine each year by a serving ToD, has this year been won by Stuart Whyte. Stuart came up to accept the prize and publicly thanked Ann Duffy (HMI), our afternoon keynote speaker, who had supported Stuart in a really helpful way when he had trained as a ToD.

The Eichholz Prize

The winner of the Eichholz Prize (for an outstanding student from any ToD training course), Kirsty McNaughton, could not be so the new President will present this.

New President's Address

Karen's invited Andrea Baker (President-elect) to stand for a round of applause as Gary had done to her, two years previously. She thanked and praised Gary in the fulfilment of his role congratulating him on his realisation of his strapline 'Stronger Together'. Eleanor Hutchinson, NEC member, then made the presentation to Gary for his services as President. Karen recounted her reason for becoming a ToD. Her cousin was deaf and Karen noted that the peri ToD was a lifeline for her aunt, inspiring Karen to train. We should all think, she suggested, of what inspired each of us. She invited thoughts on BATOD and the conferences, regional meetings and how it will all move forward. Our links with NatSIP, VIEW and NDCS help us to achieve the potential through BATOD of ToDs and the deaf children and young people. Stronger Together will be an important part of our vision for the future improving communication with you in order to represent your views. BATOD's new ways of working include Google groups, Facebook etc.

Through research we can learn from other countries and from their good practice. Flexibility is key!

Finally, Liz Reed-Beadle presented Karen with a gift from her team in Norfolk.



The challenge of change continues...

The 37th AGM saw the end of Gary Anderson's presidential term of office and the installation of Karen Taylor as the new President. Tributes were paid to Gary and also to Bev McCracken who was stepping down as Treasurer after 21 years. Mary Fortune was welcomed as the new Treasurer and Andrea Baker was elected to the role of President-elect.

Last year the annual report discussed many of the changes being experienced in the educational landscape. This year the pace of change continues unabated and BATOD, working often in collaboration with a range of other bodies, has been responding on behalf of the profession, BATOD members and the deaf children and young people with whom we work.

In England the key development has been the wide-ranging proposed changes to the whole SEN and Disability framework. It had started in March 2011 with a consultation on a Green Paper entitled "Support and Aspiration".

Although the Association has limited resources BATOD prioritises those consultations where it is felt that its influence needs to be most felt. This was certainly one of those. As always in these cases Paul Simpson, BATOD's National Executive Officer, asked for contributions to the Association's response from NEC members (and some working sessions within the termly NEC meetings were devoted to looking at aspects of the response) but he also seeks wider responses from members through asking for comments via the members' area of the BATOD website, the HOSS and ToD forums and, more recently, via our Facebook page. Once submitted, the response is uploaded to the website so that members can know what the Association's viewpoint is on these key matters.

After a lengthy consultation (the government took over a year to formulate its response) a 'Next Steps' document was produced which led in due course to draft provisions for SEN reform to form part of the proposed new Children and Families Bill.

Part of the pre-legislative scrutiny required organisations to respond to specific questions from the Select Committee on Education. BATOD submitted a reply, again forged at a National Executive Council meeting, but also contributed to or supported submissions from the Special Education Consortium and Every Disabled Child Matters, NatSIP and the Communication Trust. It is very important for BATOD to combine with other organisations pursuing similar aims and this too has been a strong theme of this year and not just where this new legislation is concerned.

Across the sector there were very positive responses to a number of the key provisions including the introduction of the Education, Health and Care Plan bringing together those three key agencies and covering children and young people aged 0 - 25 and the local offer in which LAs have to lay out clearly what is offered to children and young people with SEN and disability in their area.

Other aspects of the provisions gave rise to some concerns and these were broadly shared across the sector and will be the subject of submissions and lobbying during the passage of the bill. Paramount amongst them was, contrary to what many had expected and despite a strong emphasis on joint commissioning and multi-agency working, that there would be no legal obligations on health and social care to provide that which is laid out in the plan where in



the case of educational provision there is such an obligation. Also the fact that changes to the SEN Code of Practice would be subject only to the wishes of the Secretary of State and not to parliamentary scrutiny as is currently the case.

Personal budgets were also a cause of concern as there was a worry that if the funding was given to parents it could affect the efficiency of the service from which the funding would be taken.

One positive thing which seemed to have developed as a result of collaborative working and careful lobbying, especially through the determined involvement of the NDCS, was the change to SEN funding - the lobbying seemed to have borne fruit. Contrary to expectations, LAs will be allowed to retain funding for high need low incidence disability - it will not be given to academies; thus, services will be able to continue to provide support on the same basis as for maintained schools - usually this means not charging them for support at the point of delivery. It had been feared that it would be up to academies to decide whether they wanted to support their deaf children with ToDs (or at all) but this will not be the case.

As BATOD's Executive Officer, Paul Simpson, represents BATOD on a number of bodies and this underlines our commitment to working with other organisations in the sector in the pursuit of more effective and powerful influence in support of the interests of Teachers of the Deaf and the children and young people with whom they work. In July we met with the DfE along with NatSIP, NDCS and Signature and we also, through membership of the Federation of Leaders in Special Education, have regular meetings with key SEN advisers from the Department such as Andre Imich. This provides up to date information about the Department's thinking and allows BATOD to make its points, ask questions and seek clarification about government policy.

Not everything BATOD has been doing has been focused on the major changes to the educational landscape in England - it has embraced the whole of the UK. One major piece of collaboration is the CRIDE group and its survey. 2012 saw the completion of the second annual full CRIDE survey and the reports from the survey are all to be found on the BATOD website. For the second year there was an excellent result ensuring that the data collected are robust and reliable. They can thus be used to support much needed research and by LAs and services to support their internal discussions about staffing and general trends, and to help BATOD and other bodies in their wider discussions with Government about staffing and related issues. BATOD acts as Secretary to CRIDE which brings together the voluntary sector, in particular NDCS which contributes a huge amount of resources and time, and the Ewing Foundation as well as University researchers from University College, London and Bedfordshire and schools and services for deaf children in both maintained and non-maintained sectors. CRIDE collects data from across the whole of the United Kingdom and publishes separate reports for each country reflecting the differences in educational systems.

The Deaf Education Support Forum, which BATOD chairs, has also continued its termly meetings bringing together a wide range of organisations to consider issues related to the support of deaf young people in the classroom and in FE and HE. This has led to articles in the Magazine, a book and several surveys.

During the year various BATOD representatives have also met and worked with the UK FM working group, Professionals in Hearing and Balance UK, the Association of Examination Officers, Deafax, nasen and VIEW amongst many others and BATOD also plays a strong role



in FEAPDA, the European Federation of Associations of Teachers of the Deaf. Each edition of the Magazine and the Representing You section of the BATOD website illustrate the range of activity and the Association's collaborative working with other bodies across the year.

Examination issues also play an important role in BATOD's work across the UK. The Association has strong links with Ofqual and JCQ and is able to support the assessment and access needs of deaf students across the examination system. Paul Simpson represents BATOD and deaf students on the Access to Assessment and Qualifications Advisory Group as well as on Ofqual's External Advisory Group for Equality and Diversity and its Access Consultation Forum. Members' concerns are often raised - and sometimes answered - at these meetings. Ofqual itself has had a torrid time this year in relation to GCSEs and BATOD has been there at the heart of the discussions - contributing from the perspective of deaf candidates and also ensuring that, through contributing to the range of consultations, Ofqual takes into account their specific needs - not to give an unfair advantage to deaf candidates but to remove those possible strong disadvantages caused by a failure to make reasonable adjustments.

There is an ongoing concern that Equality Impact Assessments in relation to assessment and examination policy - the introduction of marks for Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar, removing course work assessments, removing resit opportunities, the EBac, A levels - although formulated are not then taken into account by the Department in developing policy. Representing BATOD at meetings of these various bodies our Executive Officer has been trying to ensure that these EIAs are taken more seriously so that deaf candidates for examinations have the best chance of being able to demonstrate in public assessments what they know and can do.

This work covers the whole of the United Kingdom and we have a strong BATOD presence in all four countries through our regional and national groups. Last year there was a significant issue related to the introduction of computerised assessment of literacy and numeracy skills at primary level in Northern Ireland which saw BATOD Northern Ireland working with national BATOD and heads of service.

BATOD plays an influential role on the national stage and hugely benefits from the richness of input from the great range of our members and the profession at large. A small group of NEC members has spent much of this year redeveloping the BATOD website (www.batod.org.uk) making it more focused on members' needs including for continuing professional development and developing a new and vibrant interactive resources section. Through this and the increasing use of Facebook BATOD is responding to the changes of the current times.

The Steering Group warmly thanks all colleagues from both within and without the National Executive Council of BATOD for their much appreciated contributions without which the Association could not operate at the level it does. BATOD is always keen to encourage its members to participate at regional and national level and to strengthen the Association by ensuring that Teachers of the Deaf see taking a strong part in the activities of the sole professional body of Teachers of the Deaf in the United Kingdom as an essential part of their professional role.



The British Association of Teachers of the Deaf

Accounts - year to 31 July 2012

Independent Examiner's report
Treasurer's comments
Income and Expenditure Accounts
Balance Sheet
Notes to the financial statements

Independent Examiner's report

Report on the accounts of the British Association of Teachers of the Deaf for the year ended 31 July 2012

Respective responsibilities of Treasurer and Examiner:

- the Treasurer is responsible for the preparation of the accounts.
- the Examiner is responsible for examining the accounts based on the information supplied by the Treasurer.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1 which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting recordshave not been met; or
- 2 there are any items which attention should be drawn to in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Nicholas Ryan, FCCA
October 25, 2012

Comments from the Treasurer

- 1) These accounts have been prepared in a different way from before, according to current accounting procedures.
- 2) The accountant did recommended that the accounts for the Mary Grace Wilkins Travelling Scholarship fund should be reported separately from our BATOD accounts as it is a separate charity from us, which is why you will not see their accounts in the BATOD accounts any more.
- 3) The costs of the Steering Group meetings in 2011 were higher than in 2012 as one meeting was cancelled due to snow and we had to rearrange at a later date at much greater cost.



Income & Expenditure Account for year ended 31st July 2012

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>
	£	£
<u>Income</u>		
Membership Subscriptions	99,893	105,368
Publications and Journal	39,716	32,832
Conference and Exhibitions	12,166	13,113
Sundry Income	1,198	-
Interest on investments	65	70
	<u>153,039</u>	<u>151,383</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Bank Charges	1,138	-
Conference	8,405	12,161
Depreciation	545	363
Employee Cost	44,226	41,463
Exhibition	-	1,205
FEAPDA	1,524	1,719
Journal	24,116	21,046
Magazine	32,632	43,768
Memberships	1,544	-
NEC Meetings	16,027	13,452
Office	3,288	-
Payments to Regions	4,528	4,358
Peter Preston Award	100	100
Professional Fees - Audit	2,460	1,290
Representation Meetings	2,553	3,466
Steering Group Meetings	4,860	9,432
Sundries	-	3,925
Survey	-	(150)
Taxation	27	13
Web	8,815	-
Workstreams	469	997
	<u>157,257</u>	<u>158,608</u>
Deficit	(4,218)	(7,225)
General Fund balance brought forward	28,646	35,871
2010 - 2011 adjustments	249	-
Balance transferred from Contingency Fund	4,220	-
Fund Balance Carried Forward	<u>28,897</u>	<u>28,646</u>



Income & Expenditure Account 2 for year ended 31st July 2012

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>
	£	£
<u>EICHHOLZ MEMORIAL FUND</u>		
INCOME		
Bank deposit interest	1	
Sundry Income	<u>40</u>	
	42	-
EXPENDITURE		
Prizes given	-	155
	<u>42</u>	<u>(155)</u>
SURPLUS/DEFICIT		
Fund balance brought forward	<u>1,481</u>	<u>1,636</u>
Fund balance carried forward	<u><u>1,523</u></u>	<u><u>1,481</u></u>
 <u>CONTINGENCY FUND</u>		
INCOME		
	-	-
EXPENDITURE		
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
SURPLUS		
	-	-
Transferred to Accumulated Fund	(4,220)	
Fund balance brought forward	<u>4,220</u>	<u>4,220</u>
Fund balance carried forward	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>4,220</u></u>

Balance Sheet at 31st July 2011

	<u>2012</u> £	<u>2011</u> £
ASSETS		
<u>Cash at Bank</u>		
Deposit accounts	29,528	33,955
Current accounts	563	263
Eichholz Memorial Fund	<u>1,563</u>	<u>1,481</u>
	31,654	35,699
<u>National Savings</u>		
Investment Account	-	17,609
Income Bond	<u>-</u>	<u>8,000</u>
	-	25,609
<u>Equipment</u>		
At written down value	545	908
Additions at cost this year	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	545	908
Depreciation this year	<u>545</u>	<u>363</u>
	-	545
<u>Debtors</u>		
	<u>1,684</u>	-
	33,338	<u>61,853</u>
<u>Creditors</u>		
	2,918	-
	<u>30,420</u>	<u>61,853</u>
ACCUMULATED FUNDS		
General Fund	28,897	28,646
Eichholz Memorial Fund	1,523	1,481
Mary Grace Wilkins Travelling Scholarship Fund	-	27,506
Contingency Fund	<u>-</u>	<u>4,220</u>
	<u>30,420</u>	<u>61,853</u>
	-	-



INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Receipts

Web Adverts		21,425
Adverts	14,405	
Monies due	<u>515</u>	
Magazine		14,920
Journal		3,024
Books		348
	<u>Publications and Journal</u>	<u>39,716</u>

Conference		4,106
Exhibition		6,950
Exhibitors - monies due		<u>1,110</u>
	<u>Conference and Exhibitions</u>	<u>12,166</u>

Highland CNCL		55
Loan Repayment Scotland		1,000
Maney Publications		80
S.A.N. Oxley bequest		<u>63</u>
	<u>Sundry Income</u>	<u>1,198</u>

Expenses

Communications		(628)
Computing		(135)
Course Fees		(116)
Employee/Public Liability Insurance		(318)
Payroll		(600)
Stationery		<u>(1,492)</u>
	<u>Office</u>	<u>(3,288)</u>

Scotland		(1,265)
Midlands		(695)
North		(98)
N.Ireland		(1,438)
South		<u>(1,033)</u>
	<u>Payments to Regions</u>	<u>(4,528)</u>

2010 -2011		1,460
2011 -2012		<u>1,000</u>
	<u>Professional Fees - Audit</u>	<u>2,460</u>

Adjustments re 2010 - 2011 Balance Sheet

Deposit Bank Statement Sundry Income		(1,819.57)
Current Bank Statement Sundry Income		248.56
Mary Grace Willkins Travelling Scholarship Fund		<u>1,819.84</u>
	<u>Transferred to Accumulated Fund</u>	<u>249</u>

BALANCE SHEET

Prepayments		59
Magazine Income		515
Exhibition Income		<u>1,110</u>
		1,625
	<u>Debtors</u>	<u>1,684</u>

Mary Grace Willkins Travelling Scholarship Fund		116
Subscriptions		375
Accruals		<u>2,427</u>
	<u>Creditors</u>	<u>2,918</u>

Transferred to Accumulated Fund		(4,220.00)
Transferred from Contingency Fund		<u>4,220.00</u>
	<u>Contingency Fund</u>	<u>-</u>



Elections to the National Executive Council 2011-2013

Nominations

Minuting Secretary elected unopposed
Mary Gordon

Elected members all elected unopposed
Carol Thomson David Canning Penny Rowbottom
Lesley Gallagher Stuart Whyte

Think about standing for NEC 2014-16

BATOD members are urged to consider sharing their expertise, skills and enthusiasm with colleagues by serving on National Executive Council within workstreams and working parties. Please contact the Executive Officer, Paul Simpson, so that you may be included in appropriate on-going work.

Eight regions serve BATOD members locally providing contacts, workshops and meetings. Local networking is important to ensure that information and good practice are shared. Please offer your help to regional committees as the involvement of local ToDs is essential to ensure that support within the areas can be provided and to use the strengths of colleagues.

Membership of NEC 2013-2015

Officers of the Association

Taylor Karen (President)
Baker Andrea (President-Elect)
Thomson Carol (Treasurer)
Gordon Mary (Minuting Secretary)
Couch David (Consultant)
Simpson Paul (National Executive Officer)

Regional/national representatives

Djema Sibel (East)
Goler Sandy (North)
Harris Elaine (Scotland)
Hunt Meryl (South)
Millar Rebecca (N Ireland)
Phillips Lucy (Wales)
Stringer Lyndsey (Wales)
Vacancy (South West)
Vacancy (Midlands)

Co-opted member

Reed-Beadle Elizabeth (co-opted; Commissioning editor)

Elected members

Bussien Jill (elected)
Canning David (elected)
Denny Sue (elected)
Gallagher Lesley (elected)
Garside Alison (Elected)
Hutchinson Eleanor (elected)
Jefferson Maureen (elected)
Owston Kathy (elected)
Reader Gill (elected)
Rowbottom Penny (elected)
Ryan Seonaid (elected)
Whyte Stuart (elected)

Ex-officio members

Anderson Gary (ex officio)
Fortune Mary (ex officio)
McCracken Bev (ex officio)
Underwood Ann (ex officio)

32 members



Election addresses

Minuting Secretary - Mary Gordon

Following four years of serving on the NEC, two as Minuting Secretary, I would really like the chance to serve again. Being part of the bigger picture and having an opportunity to influence, sometimes, other bodies which consult BATOD, for example the NDCS and the JQC (Joint Council for Qualifications), has given me an awareness of the influence exerted by BATOD behind the scenes. I want to continue to be part of the work which goes into centring the jobs of ToDs on the education and welfare of the children and young people, working with the families, influencing other teaching colleagues and cooperating with other professionals, especially with the imminent arrival of the Green Paper's sweeping changes. I want to share the excitement of our new website launch.

Completing the Minutes and serving on the Steering Group (albeit from a distance via the vagaries of Skype) gives me a wider knowledge of what is going on in England and Wales, before it transfers in some form to Northern Ireland. Service on the SG has greatly enhanced my membership of the Northern Ireland BATOD Committee, and has helped us in responding to local Dept Education documents on Special Needs etc. As a life long learner, my fairly up-to-date knowledge of recent research and practice, has helped me to make evidence-based contributions to the SG, to formulate (with very competent colleagues' help, in particular the Executive Officer) the detailed Minutes of the NEC meetings, to contribute to the work of BATOD and to grow as a person and as an educator after 34 years in a ToD role, and as a BATOD member all that time. I admire the important work the NEC does both at each meeting and behind the scenes particularly fighting to ensure that the non-statutory but crucial parts of our role, working with newly diagnosed babies and their families, are totally ring-fenced and non-negotiable. I hope now that I am a much better listener, and indeed better Peripatetic ToD in terms of influencing, respecting and working with others, both within and outside our profession. My personal two year goal would be to influence and convince younger colleagues that BATOD is a rock they can trust to guard the MQ and that serving on the NEC is an extremely worthwhile experience, and an important way of influencing Government policy in this turbulent time of change.

National Executive Council Member - David Canning

I am seeking to work alongside colleagues within BATOD National Exec for the coming cycle only. I will bring to the National Executive Council experience and knowledge gained as a manager of a large sensory service and particular expertise in the areas of audiology, acoustics and linguistics. I will seek to use my active membership in national PAIG, and as a member of the IOA of acoustics Speech and Hearing group, in the service of BATOD members nationwide.

National Executive Council Member - Lesley Gallagher

I am currently Head of Middlesbrough Hearing Impaired Service. Middlesbrough is the lead authority in the provision of peripatetic educational support to children with a hearing loss to the LAs of Middlesbrough, Hartlepool, Stockton & Billingham and Redcar & Cleveland. I have held this post since 2004. Prior to this I worked in several different LAs in Tyneside as a Peripatetic Teacher of the Deaf, specializing in early years and also worked in primary and secondary resource bases. I originally trained and worked within the NHS as a Speech and Language Therapist. After qualifying as a teacher I worked as a Teacher Therapist in special schools before training as a Teacher of the Deaf whilst working in a non-maintained School for the Deaf as a Secondary English teacher.

My main professional interest at the present time is to ensure that services for deaf children survive and thrive in these changing times. The challenge within a joint arrangement of service delivery is to ensure that this meets the needs of each of our partners. I am passionate in aspiring to deliver a highly effective, efficient and valued service. I regularly attend the NatSIP national outcomes working group and I am very interested in multiagency working. I believe it is important that workforce



development is not overlooked in attempts to save money and have developed a local mentor programme for newly qualified ToDs and ToDs in training. Whilst I have experience teaching 0-19 years my main interest is early years.

National Executive Council Member - Penny Rowbottom

I have worked as a Teacher of the Deaf in Primary and Secondary Resourced Provision and as a peripatetic teacher since my qualification as an 'End-Onner'- now quite some time ago!

Currently, I am Teacher in Charge of a 20-place Resource Provision within an 11-16 High school in Lancashire, where I have also been SENCO for the last two years. I understand that we are among only two provisions in the UK sited in a new BSF school - so I am particularly interested in issues surrounding 'new build' and moving premises. As a Teacher of the Deaf in school I am very much involved in special examination arrangements and outcomes for our deaf learners including promoting their emotional well-being and positive self-esteem.

I have been a member of BATOD throughout my teaching career & joined the North Region Committee on its 're-launch' several years ago, since when I have represented the North Region on the NEC.

I was motivated to become more involved following a re-organisation at work when I received tremendous support from the Association throughout an unpleasant & extremely protracted appeals process. I believe that BATOD has a significant role to play in supporting Teachers of the Deaf in all aspects of professional life including conditions of service and erosion of our job role.

The NEC meetings are enjoyable, lively and busy with important & topical work-streams where Teachers of the Deaf 'at the chalk-face' have real input. It is great to see the high profile BATOD has nationally and how we as Teachers of the Deaf are represented and supported through it as well of course as the interests of the deaf children we teach.

BATOD is our association and it is more important to us as a group of highly skilled and committed professionals than ever before to maintain such a powerful voice. As a Teacher of the Deaf working in school and with additional SEN experience I believe I am well-placed to represent the interests of ToDs on the NEC.

National Executive Council Member - Carol Thomson

I am a Teacher of the Deaf/Business Education teacher at Donaldson's School, Linlithgow, Scotland. I teach 11-19 year olds Business Education and Information and Communication Technology. Prior to joining Donaldson's I was a Business Education teacher in several mainstream secondary schools. Before training as a teacher I worked as a Finance Officer for a Charity in Edinburgh being responsible for the accounts and finances for the organisation.

Since joining Donaldson's thirteen years ago I have been a BATOD member. I gained a Post-Graduate Diploma in Deaf Education in 2004 and have been a BATOD Scotland committee member for several years and am at present Chairperson/Treasurer. Six years ago I became Scotland's representative on the National Executive Committee and was co-opted as Assistant Secretary during 2008. I continued in this position until March 2011. I have continued as a member of NEC over the last year and a half.

Involvement in BATOD has proved extremely interesting and the work of NEC extremely informative. I have thoroughly enjoyed the challenge of learning the differences in the educational systems in England, Northern Ireland and Wales. I have recently been involved in the work stream considering changes in membership and updating our website. If re-elected I would like to continue my work in these areas along with taking an active part in the work of the NEC in general.

National Executive Council Member - Stuart Whyte

I have been teaching for over 20 years, always with a regard for children with special educational needs. My first-born daughter had a fluctuating conductive loss that greatly affected her speech and



language skills and impacted her school life. It was with this in mind, along with my first experiences of teaching students with a sensori-neural hearing loss in mainstream, that I trained as a Teacher of the Deaf (ToD).

Since gaining the Mandatory Qualification in 1998 I have worked as a head of department at a special school for deaf children and later as teacher-in-charge of a special support centre for children with sensory impairments. In 2008 I qualified as an Educational Audiologist and currently work for West Sussex County Council as an Advisory Teacher for Hearing Impairment.

It is disappointing that the current economic climate is affecting services for deaf children. I believe it is essential to continue to provide initial training for the ToD Mandatory Qualification. All staff working with deaf children should have opportunities for high quality continuing professional development.

I have had the privilege of serving BATOD for a number of years and have developed work on audiology, technology for learning and classroom acoustics. I am keen to support colleagues again through the activities of the National Executive Council.

BATOD has a vital part to play in informing and shaping policy and practice across the national regions. In this time of resource challenge and technological change it is important that BATOD continues to support the evidence-based and reflective practice of its valued members.

Officers of nations and regions

Northern Ireland

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