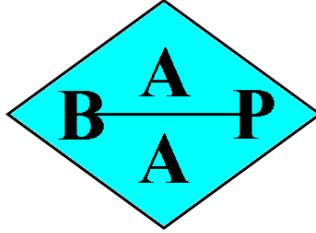


# THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF AUDIOVESTIBULAR PHYSICIANS

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8<sup>th</sup> January, 2017.

Dear Colleagues,

May I take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy New Year.

As a specialty and Association we face some interesting challenges and opportunities in the coming months. One of my duties as President is to attend the Medical Specialties Board at RCP. At the last meeting we were specifically invited by our Neurological colleagues to re-engage with the Joint Clinical Neurosciences Committee at the RCP as our involvement had lapsed over the last couple of years. This is a committee on which I will be very pleased to represent BAAP as members will agree that it is highly desirable that we strengthen our links with the other Neurosciences. The next meeting is at the end of March.

I am pleased to inform you that Sebastian Hendricks has kindly agreed to continue to represent BAAP in the RCP Health Informatics Unit. This is increasingly vital (and complex) work as some Trusts have already introduced electronic patient records and many more are planning to do so in the near future. It is also bound up with the vital work on coding.

Regarding opportunities, we have vacancies for two absolutely vital roles within BAAP:

### 1. Audit Chairman

After six immensely productive years, Glynnis Parker's term of office has ended and we need a volunteer to head our national audit efforts and, together with other audit committee members, organise the annual meeting.

### 2. Hallpike Symposium committee.

Also after six years and some memorable Symposia, Colm Madden and Anne Easson have decided to hand over to someone else. Again, a committee (ideally involving a registrar) is involved. This work does not all have to be done by one person.

Together with the Annual Conference, the Hallpike and Audit meetings constitute the main educational role of BAAP and these post holders are absolutely vital to our

future. The Audit Chairman, additionally, is a member of the BAAP Executive committee. These vacancies also constitute an opportunity for any members who, for whatever reason, do not feel fully engaged with BAAP to become involved in a very positive and vital way. Interested members can (please) contact me, the Honorary Secretary or the Administrative Secretary for further information. It would be nice to receive some expressions of interest (even if not firm commitment) in time for the next Executive committee meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> January.

#### National Vestibular Audit.

On the subject of Audit, those of you who attended the November Audit meeting will know that I am planning to launch a new national adult vestibular audit, looking this time not at process but at outcome, specifically at the distinct difference that we (I hope) make as AVPs. This audit is based on Louisa Murdin's local audit, the results of which I presented (on her behalf) at the meeting. Apart from two people who discussed it with me immediately afterwards (thank you), I have had no feedback. That may mean that everyone was happy with the proposal but I am keen to receive any comments or suggestions for amendment before circulating a final version to the membership. The plan is to start on 1<sup>st</sup> February and run (prospective) data collection for 6 months. That should give enough time for results analysis in time for presentation to the next national audit meeting in November.

I attach the audit proposal and a (very slightly amended, in view of feedback) data collection proforma. In view of my planned starting date, I would really appreciate comments within a week, please. The proforma is (you will be pleased to hear) both short and simple.

Finally, please don't forget to book leave for the next Annual Conference, once again at Latimer Place, on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> March. And, indeed, book your places for what should be an exciting and informative (and fun!) meeting. I will look forward to seeing you all there.

With best wishes,

Peter West