



Dear all,

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Thank you very much for the response to our consultation on Change of Name. We had a large number of replies and I was very impressed with how much trouble you took to think of alternative names that would describe what we do in a succinct way. The Trustees will be considering your suggestions and putting proposals to the AGM. You will find an invitation to the AGM in this newsletter. Please make a note of the date and come to the meeting. It will be your decision.

We are rapidly approaching the end of our financial year so please send in your return forms and travel claims up to the end of March as soon as possible. It is very important that we are able to show funders the work that is done with their money so please don't skimp this and leave anything out. Our Treasurer will not look kindly at delayed expenses claims made long after the end of the financial year. Andrea will be chasing you for these.

I had the very enjoyable experience of talking to children at

the Little Paxton Primary School who have been doing a project on sound. I had to learn how to use the white board that is linked to their computer to draw diagrams of the ear - a long way from the scratch of chalk on blackboard that I remember from my school days. The children were well informed about the risks of loud noise and they know that music at pop concerts can damage ears. When I asked the question about where and when people should wear ear defenders one child replied "When building civilisation", an interesting thought but I didn't quite know how to reply! On the strength of the work in Little Paxton I've been asked to talk to the Brampton Beavers. I like the contrast between talking to young and older people.

One of our volunteers is struggling to get a loop system available and functioning in her local village post office. The attitude of the postmaster seems to be that our volunteer is a troublemaker and he has suggested that she goes to another post

office. I'd like to congratulate her on her calm response to this totally unacceptable behaviour and willingness to take this further with the post office complaints service. Unless this type of prejudice is challenged changes will not be made. We will always be concerned to hear about issues such as this, but generally the complaint needs to be made by the individual person who has been disadvantaged.

We welcomed our new volunteers to a training course in Cambridge, and a couple of old hands who hadn't practised for some time decided to join in to update their skills. Anyone who feels they would like in-depth retraining, rather than the refresher training on offer annually, can always come and join the new volunteers for all or some of the course. This year we ran it over 3 weeks rather than 6 weeks, which was felt to be an advantage as it kept the momentum going.

The Equipment Demonstration at Scotsdales garden centre near Cambridge was a runaway success and the volunteers were almost overwhelmed by 50 or so interested visitors. This was in spite of the very cold day and gloomy March weather. This is very good news as it shows we are able to raise interest in what is available and get more people taking action to hear better.

We are saying goodbye to Sue Magee who is getting married

and leaving the area. Sue will be very much missed as she has been a part of CAMTAD as administrator and volunteer for many years and she guided me as a beginner nearly 5 years ago when I joined. Best wishes for the future to Sue and her fiancé Richard. I hope the move goes well and that their new life together is everything they wish for.

As some of you may know I've now got a dog called Charlie, a retired greyhound. He's very sweet and in spite of his size quite a timid dog who is having to get used to Cambridge

bicycles. But something strange is happening to my hearing - I think I can hear better. Maybe I am just listening out for more noises as I am conscious of sounds that could alarm him, but it is definitely impacting on my sensitivity to sound. He would make a hopeless hearing dog because he relies on sight not sound but we are getting along fine.

I hope by the time you receive this newsletter the weather will have improved and we can look forward to some sunnier skies.

Frances

Volunteer news

We also say goodbye to Sheila Barnes de Schvetz, who is leaving CAMTAD this month after 6 years as a volunteer visiting people in their homes and residential homes. We thank her for her contribution to CAMTAD and wish her well for the future.

We are pleased to welcome Polly Macartney, who is helping out as a volunteer in the office. Some of you may already know Polly from the St. Andrews Street Hearing Help Sessions,

and she is now helping us with data entry and answering the phone on Mondays.

As you may remember, Barabara Seekings used to collect used postage stamps on behalf of CAMTAD to send to the charity Hearing Dogs for the Deaf. Now that Barbara has left CAMTAD, we will carry on collecting these at the office and will send them off to the charity. So if you have any used postage stamps do please send or drop them in to us to help

this very good cause.

Did you know we can now pay your expenses electronically? This saves CAMTAD money and is hopefully a quicker and more convenient way for you to receive it. If you would like us to pay your expenses this way, please give your sort code and account number to Melanie. And of course as Frances mentioned above, we do need to receive any outstanding claims for this year as soon as possible.

Fundraising

We are very grateful for the following donations which were received between January and March this year:

- £814.63 was raised by Alan Jones' church, St. Mark's in Newnham, which named CAMTAD its charity of the

month

- A legacy of £400 was left to us by Mrs Knight of Burwell
- Mr and Mrs Clift and their family organised a quiz, which raised £295, and this was matched by Trinity College

who donated £250.

- Barbara Atkins' husband Stuart plays in a band, which raised £70 for CAMTAD though a concert in Denson Close sheltered housing scheme, Waterbeach.

Events

Private view of 'Cambridge Corners' Art exhibition in aid of CAMTAD, 26 Apr



American artist Andy Newman, who has a long association with Cambridge, is holding a private viewing of his exhibition 'Cambridge Corners' at Williams Art gallery in Gwydir St. on Fri 26th April. All are welcome to come along and 10% of all sales on the night will

go to CAMTAD. The exhibition continues until 15th May 2013. For more information please see www.williamsart.co.uk

Great Staughton social day, 8th June

CAMTAD volunteer Norman Hardy and Andrew Hay from the Great Staughton village post office and shop are organising a social day on 8th June from 12pm to 4pm, taking place in The Highway. The monies raised will be split between the CAMTAD and the village friendship club.

There will be old vintage cars from 1912 and classic cars to view, plus trips to the old vicar-

age garden (National garden Scheme) open day. They hope to have coconut shies and other amusements, children's entertainment, stalls selling cakes and plants, and a CAMTAD display stand. There is also a good local pub with food. Entry will be a raffle ticket for food hampers and various prizes, to be drawn at the end of the day.

If you are able to help with this event, as a steward or on one of the stalls, or if you have any games/equipment (eg table skittles) that could be used on the stalls please email Norman Hardy:

norman@normanaldridge.plus.com

35 years since the founding of CAMTAD

In 2013 we are celebrating 35 years of CAMTAD work. We are lucky to have volunteers and active CAMTAD supporters who still remember Dorothy Parry with her founding vision of a world where hearing loss was no longer a barrier to enjoying and

participating in life, and we are still inspired by her spirit and energy. CAMTAD's work has helped thousand of people in Cambridgeshire over the years through the support of our many volunteers. The fund raising group will be using this

as a focus for activities throughout the year. We will be celebrating this with an event for volunteers in October instead of our usual annual lunch, so look out for further information in the next issue of newsletter.

Open Fit Protocol

A number of you have pointed out the difficulty we have replacing Open Fits when there is either no brown book or there is a discrepancy between the brown book and the current fitting on the aid. We have discussed this with audiology and agreed that you can replace like for like if it is clear exactly what fitting you should use. If there

is any doubt then you must refer the service user back to the audiology provider.

It is frustrating when we can't satisfy the service users because of the limitations on our Open Fit service because either we don't have an Open Fit kit available or every possible fitting in the kit. You can

always recommend that a service user rings the office beforehand to check whether their fitting will be available at a particular session.

We will be putting a copy of the Open Fit Protocol in every session so if in doubt you can refer back to this.

In the news

A bright idea for hearing aid users

Cambridge based international disability charity CBM has teamed up with South Africa's National Institute for the Deaf, to launch newly designed solar battery chargers for hearing aids. In developing countries the cost of hearing aid batteries is unaffordable - often being equal to half the daily wage, or more. It is also extremely diffi-

cult for people living in rural areas to purchase them as they are only sold in major cities.

The rechargeable batteries and solar charger, which are being launched in South Africa, can be used with about 90% of behind-the-ear hearing aids. It takes about six to eight hours

to charge the batteries fully and they hold their power for a week. The batteries can be charged up to 300 times.

Information abridged from CBM's website:

www.cbmuk.org.uk/news/international-day-ear-hearing

Fears that music volume limits 'could be ignored'

A safety limit on volume levels which comes into force on all new personal music players this month could be ignored by 40% of young people, says Action on Hearing Loss.

All personal music players and mobile phones sold in the EU must now have a sound limit of 85 decibels (dB), but users can increase it to 100dB.

Overexposure to loud music can trigger tinnitus, sometimes accompanied by hearing loss.

Paul Breckell, chief executive of Action on Hearing Loss, said the new EU standard is important because increasing numbers of young people listen to music through a personal music player.

However, a survey of more than 1,500 16 to 34-year-olds by Action on Hearing Loss suggests that 79% of young people are unaware of new standards

coming into force this month.

Although 70% of survey respondents said they would take steps to protect themselves against tinnitus, nearly 40% said they would override the new default setting on their music devices.

In October 2008, a European Commission assessment said: "Listening to music at 80dB or less is considered safe, no matter for how long or how often personal music players are used. This sound level is roughly equivalent to someone shouting or traffic noise from a nearby road. But turning the volume control to 120dB, which is equivalent to an aeroplane taking off nearby, is exceeding safe limits."

The commission said an estimated 20% of young people are exposed to loud sounds during their leisure time - a figure

which has tripled since the 1980s.

Dr Michael Akeroyd, from the MRC Institute of Hearing Research in Glasgow, said of the new EU standard: "This is good news for the volumes of personal music players. The volumes they can give has been of concern for many years, going back to at least the advent of portable cassette players."

He added that headphones can vary in quality and design.

"Few designs of headphones remove background sounds, and indeed some designs remove none. But ear-defenders or ear-plugs can remove a substantial amount of noise. Earplug design has advanced greatly in recent years."

Abridged from BBC News Online, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-21294537>

Music listening survey

The Dept of Experimental Psychology at Cambridge University are conducting a survey on people's experiences when listening to music using hearing aids, with the goal of

improving the perception of music for hearing aid users. If you use hearing aids when listening to music and would like to take part, please could you take a few moments to

complete the survey at

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/musicandhearingaids>

Dates for your diary

Friday 26th April 2013	5-8pm Art Exhibition private view at Williams Art, 5 Dales Brewery, Gwydir St, CB1 2LJ (Exhibition runs until 15th May)
Tuesday 28th May 2013	2-4pm Equipment Information Session at Ely Methodist Church Hearing Help Session
Tuesday 4th June 2013	CAMTAD AGM Abbey Meadows Community Wing, Galdfrid Road, Cambridge, CB5 8ND Refreshments available from 6.00pm. Formal meeting at 7.00pm
Sat 8th June 2013	2-4pm Great Staughton Social Day, The Highway, Great Staughton
26th September 2013	10am-12.30pm Equipment Demonstration at The Priory Centre, St Neots
Tuesday 1st October 2013	10am-12pm Equipment Information Session at Buchan Street Hearing Help Session
29th November 2013	10am-12.30 Equipment demonstration Huntingdon Community Church, Huntingdon

Lip reading classes—updated information

We have received an updated version of the information about lip-reading classes run by Jenny Holding. The details below replace those given in the previous newsletter for the classes concerned.

If you are interested in attending these classes, please contact Mrs Jenny Holding on 01354 740894 or email hldjen@outlook.com

Location	Day	Time	Address
March	Monday	10 - 12 noon	St. Peter's Church, High Street, March, Cambs, PE15 9JR
Ely	Monday	2.15 - 4.15 pm	St Peter's Church Broad Street Ely CB7 4AH
Peterborough	Wednesday	10.30 - 12.30 pm	Sweetbriar Lane, Werring- ton, Peterborough, Cam- bridgeshire PE4 5EA
Huntingdon	Wednesday	2.15 - 4 .15 pm	3 Market Hill Huntingdon PE29 3NJ
Chatteris	Friday	10 - 12 noon	Quaker Way, Chatteris, Cambridgeshire, PE16 6PB



THE CAMBRIDGE CAMTAD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

will take place on
Tuesday 4th June 2013

at

Abbey Meadows Community Wing
Abbey Meadows School
Galfrid Road
Cambridge CB5 8ND

Refreshments available from 6.00pm

Formal meeting starts 7.00pm

Please contact the office for more details

Cambridge CAMTAD (Campaign for Tackling Acquired Deafness)
8a Romsey Terrace, Cambridge CB1 3NH
Telephone 01223 416141 Fax 01223 245800 www.camtadcamb.org.uk
email admin@camtadcamb.org.uk

Registered charity No 278155