



**British Aphasiology Society
Biennial International Conference
9th – 11th September 2009
University of Sheffield**

*Invited Speakers
include:*

Matt Lambon Ralph

Jane Marshall

Margaret Naesser

Carole Pound

Ian Robertson

Sophie Scott

Programme includes:

UPDATE TALKS:

Sentence processing in aphasia

Social model and its application to aphasia

KEYNOTE ADDRESSES:

Semantic processing deficits

TMS effects on anomia in non fluent aphasia

Theories of brain recovery

Auditory processing

Full package (registration, conference dinner, three nights b & b accommodation) **£340**

Conference registration **£250**

Day rate **£100**

Student / unwaged **£120**

Conference dinner **£30**

To book a conference place visit www.ncore.org.uk

Venue and Social Programme:

The conference will take place at **The Edge**, the University of Sheffield's new purpose built conference venue.

Bed and Breakfast accommodation is available at The Edge. Alternative accommodation can be found via the BAS website.

Conference guests will enjoy a free **Evening Wine Reception** on Wednesday 9th September. The **Conference Dinner** will take place on Thursday 10th September.



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Conference Programme on Page 2 and on the BAS website!



British Aphasiology Society Biennial International Conference Sheffield 2009

	Wednesday 9 th September		Thursday 10 th September		Friday 11 th September	
9.00-10.00	9.00-9.45 Registration and coffee		9.00-10.00 Professor Anthony Barker <i>Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS) - a beginner's guide</i>		9.00-10.00 Professor Matt Lambon Ralph <i>Semantic processing deficits</i>	
	9.45 Opening Address Professor Pam Enderby					
10.00-11.00	Professor Ian Robertson <i>Theories of brain recovery</i>		Professor Margaret Naeser <i>TMS to improve naming in non-fluent aphasia</i>		Session five: Architecture of the language system	
11.00-11.30	Break		Break		Break	
11.30-1.00 Parallel oral presentation sessions <i>See below for details</i>	Session one: Sentence processing	Session two: Recovery from aphasia	Session three: Social model and aphasia	Session four: Lexical processing	Session six: Conversation and aphasia	Session seven: Language processing and treatment
1.00-2.00	Lunch		Lunch		Lunch	
2.00-3.00	Professor Jane Marshall <i>Update: Sentence processing</i>		Professor Sophie Scott <i>Auditory processing</i>		Professor Carole Pound <i>Update: Social model & aphasia</i>	
3.00	3.00-3.30 BAS AGM		3.00-3.30 Break		3.00 Closing Address Frauke Buerk, BAS Chair	
3.30	3.30-4.00 Break		3.30-5.00 Poster session two			
4.00	4.00-5.30 Poster session one					
	5.30 Wine reception		Conference Dinner			

ORAL PRESENTATION SESSIONS

Session one: Sentence processing

J. Webster & A. Whitworth. *Exploring the relationship between sentence production and comprehension in people with aphasia*

V. Zimmerer, P. Cowell & R. Varley. *Aphasic sequence blindness with and without words*

C. Salis & S. Edwards. *Treating written verb and written sentence production in an individual with aphasia: A clinical study*

Session two: Recovery from aphasia

K. Hilari. *The impact of stroke for people with and without aphasia*

M. de Jong-Hagelstein, W.M.S. van de Sandt-Koenderman, N.D. Prins, D.W.J. Dippel, P.J. Koudstall, & E.G. Visch-Brink.

Cognitive linguistic therapy and communicative therapy equally effective in early aphasia: a randomised controlled trial (RATS-2)

J. Read, K. Sage, S. Welbourne, & M. Lambon-Ralph. *Preliminary results from a longitudinal study of recovery of language and reading function after stroke*

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Session three: Social model and aphasia

M. Bixley & S. Gilpin. *Understanding aphasia*

K. Mitchell, H. Skirton & L.V. Monrouxe. *Amelioration, regeneration, acquiescent and discordant: an exploration of narrative types and metaphor use in people with aphasia*

M. Place, A. Gillespie & J. Murphy. *Adapting to aphasia*

Session four: Lexical processing

M. Soni, M. Lambon Ralph & A. Woolams. *"W" is for BATH: Can associative errors be cued?*

N. Lallini & N. Miller. *Lexical influences on output accuracy in speakers with acquired output impairment after stroke*

K. Sage, S. Snell, M. Lambon-Ralph. *How many words should we provide in anomia therapy? A case series study*

Session five: Architecture of the language system

D. Howard. *Lexical architecture: do spoken word comprehension and spoken word production use the same processing components? No*

L. Harris & G. Humphreys. *Rehabilitation of verb inflection and non-linear sentence production in Broca's aphasia: A case study*

Session six: Conversation and aphasia

T. Frankel, C. Penn, & R. Wilkinson. *Shifting strategies in conversational repair: the role of preserved executive function in bilingual aphasia*

S. Beeke, F. Cooper, W. Best, S. Edwards, & J. Maxim. *Developing a measure of change over time in conversation*

C. Humby & S. Horton. *The interactional management of advice giving: a single case study of a man with aphasia in the course of neuro-rehabilitation*

Session seven: Language processing and treatment

M.J. Tainturier & J. Roberts. *Cross-language treatment generalisation in bilingual aphasia*

S. Franklin, G.J.L.G. McNamara & A. Wright. *Mechanisms of error-generation in conduction aphasia*

R. Herbert, L. Dyson & D. Webster. *Intensive noun syntax therapy for anomia via computer*

For details of poster presentations, please see the full programme at www.bas.org.uk

Please receive the BAS newsletter by e-mail!

Everyone who has an e-mail address will now receive the newsletter via e-mail, unless a hard copy is specifically requested.

If you currently receive the newsletter by post but have an e-mail address, please help to reduce costs by contacting Annette Cameron, BAS Membership Secretary with your e-mail address at membership-secretary@bas.org.uk.

Research Round Up

Emma Eaton

SAQOL-39 and people with severe aphasia.

In recent years there have been many studies of health-related quality of life in people with aphasia which have found reduced levels of psychological well-being. However, these have tended to use the ratings of people with mild-moderate aphasia. This study examines this issue in people with severe aphasia by using proxies to complete the rating tool (Stroke and Aphasia Quality of Life, or SAQOL-39, Hilari 2003). Health-rated quality of life as measured by twelve proxies of people with severe aphasia was found to be significantly lower than either the self-rating or rating by proxy of people with mild-moderate aphasia. The implications for service providers and professionals involved in rehabilitation are discussed.

Hilari, K. and Byng, S. (2009). Health-related quality of life in people with severe aphasia. International Journal of Language and Communication Disorders 44 (2) 193-205

Treatment for speech production in non-fluent aphasia

This study examines whether working on visual speech perception can benefit speech production. 10 people with non-fluent aphasia underwent a computerised word to picture matching treatment. In one condition, the word was just presented as an auditory cue. In the second condition, the spoken word was presented alongside a clip of the speaker's mouth as they said the word. When tested on picture naming after each treatment type, there was a significant improvement in naming of both treated and untreated items following the auditory and visual speech cue treatment but not after the treatment with the auditory cue only. The possible reasons for this effect are discussed.

Fridriksson, J., Baker, J. M., Whiteside, J., Eoute, D., Moser, D., Vesselinov., R. and Rorden, C. (2009). Treating visual speech perception to improve speech production in non-fluent aphasia. Stroke 40 (3) 853-858

Possible brain mechanisms in neologistic jargon aphasia and agraphia

This study presents two cases of neologistic jargon aphasia and agraphia in primary progressive aphasia (PPA). It is argued that the phenomenon may be explained by posterior superior temporal and parietal lobe involvement. This may cause a disconnection between stored lexical representations and output routes, which in turn leads to the activation of non-target phonemes or graphemes. The observation that neologistic jargon output has not often been reported in PPA may be explained by the fact that parietal involvement is rare in this type of disease. Finally the authors call for further longitudinal study of language in patients with PPA to track the anatomical correlates more fully.

Rohrer, J. D., Rossor, M. N. and Warren, J. D. (2009). Neologistic jargon and agraphia in primary progressive aphasia. Journal of the Neurological Sciences 277 (1-2) 155-159

BAS Research In Progress day - UCL, 23rd April 2009**Firle Cooper**

The BAS Research in Progress days always leaves me feeling enthused and ready to tackle any aphasia therapy conundrum that crosses my clinical path. The programme on the 23rd of April at UCL was no exception. The theme was 'Measuring Change in Aphasia'

The morning was kicked off by **Wendy Best** (UCL), presenting work with **Jenny Grassly** (UCL, Amersham Hospital) and colleagues to measure change in conversation pre and post anomia therapy. Their quest: to uncover quantifiable changes in conversation where clients and family members report naming therapy to have generalised into everyday conversations. Their weapon of choice: POWERS (Profile Of Word Errors and Retrieval in Speech: Herbert et al 2008). They found a significant positive relationship between change in picture naming and change in nouns per substantive turn. Further discussion included: whether the elements measured had a functional significance to participants, and variability in conversation samples.

Suzanne Beeke (UCL) then presented her team's work to develop a tool to measure change over time in conversation. She discussed the lack of clinical methods to quantify changes brought about by the increasingly popular conversation based therapies, and the challenge of bringing together conversation analysis and quantification. Watch this space!

The morning was rounded off by **Jenny Crinion's** (Institute of Neurology, UCL) clinical fellowship work using neuroimaging to measure recovery from anomia. It was really exciting to hear how she is applying MRI and fMRI techniques to pinpoint critical brain regions necessary for spoken word production, as well as exploring the connectivity of these areas in the normal spoken naming system.

After lunch **Leela Koran** (UCL) provided an insight into her current PhD work. Through a

series of fascinating video clips we were shown how a Malay-English aphasic man's conversation with his wife differed from that with a friend. She postulated this was a result of differences in shared knowledge between the participants.

This was swiftly followed by **Kath Mumby's** (Newcastle University) presentation addressing the classification of apraxia of speech (AOS) errors in conversations of people with AOS and aphasia. Kath reported substantial intra-rater reliability using a method called 'Text Units' to classify AOS errors in connected speech. She went on to address how this method could assist with further research into AOS.

Anne Edmundson and **Carolyn Bruce** (UCL) discussed the challenges of measuring text comprehension in a client they had been providing with text level reading therapy. They discussed the complex factors affecting text comprehension, and highlighted the current lack of appropriate assessments.

Finally, **Shani Ackford** and **Carol Sacchett** (UCL) presented the result of their pilot study exploring (a) whether information about stroke given to people with acute aphasia was retained (b) if more knowledge was retained when aphasia friendly information was supplemented by verbal explanation. They raised interesting questions about how to measure knowledge and knowledge gain, and reported a trend towards written and verbal information giving being most effective for this client group.

Thanks to everyone who organised, spoke and attended the day for an excellent event.

Firle Cooper

University College London/Whipps Cross
University Hospital NHS Trust

Aphasia Study Groups

Are you involved in a local aphasia study group? In future newsletters we are keen to include details of local groups to facilitate discussion and collaboration with likeminded individuals. If you are a clinician or academic and would like your group to be included, please e-mail details (contact name, e-mail/phone and location) to newsletter@bas.org.uk.

To start things off, Heather Waldron tells us about the North East Aphasia Study Group:

The North East Aphasia Study Group consists of specialist clinicians from around the north east region with an interest in aphasia and members of staff from the Aphasia Centre at Newcastle University. The group meets every 2 months at Newcastle University and provides an excellent forum for sharing information between the University and local nhs clinicians about the development of new assessment and therapy materials, evaluating research papers and presenting cases for discussion on all aspects of aphasia management. One of the group's projects has been to contribute to the production of the book "A cognitive neuropsychological approach to assessment and intervention in aphasia." The current chair is Heather Waldron, email heather.waldron@ncl.ac.uk.

We look forward to hearing from you.

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Events Diary

**September 9th-11th
2009**
**BAS Biennial International
Conference**
University of Sheffield, UK
Book now via www.ncore.org.uk

**April 9th
2010**
Research in Progress day
Queen Margaret University,
Edinburgh

**September 9th & 10th
2010**
BAS Therapy Symposium
University of Newcastle

Research Spotlight: University of Reading

In this edition, we find out about the current aphasia research at the School of Psychology & Clinical Language Sciences, University of Reading:

Christos Salis, Susan Edwards, Alison Cox, Tom Johnstone and Doug Saddy are undertaking a MRI study in people with fluent and non-fluent aphasia. The purpose of the study is to investigate the neural networks involved in the understanding and production of verbs and sentence in people with aphasia. Traditionally, difficulties with syntactic aspects of language, sentences in particular, have been attributed to Broca's aphasia associated with lesions in Broca's area. However, more recent research suggests that other brain areas, posterior in particular, may also be responsible for sentence processing. We aim to recruit 8-10 people with aphasia who will be given a verb and sentence test (comprehension and production) and will undergo a structural MRI scan. The objective of this project is to refine our understanding of verb and sentence processing (comprehension and production) in people with aphasia.

The MRI scanning facility is housed at the new Centre for Integrative Neuroscience and Neurodynamics (CINN) which provides both state of the art brain imaging technology and a physical hub for Neuroscience research on campus. The University of Reading provided a budget of £3.6 million for building the Centre and Scanning Facility. It is equipped with a research-dedicated 3T Siemens Trio whole body MR scanner and a complete range of other imaging technologies. Research in the Neurosciences being conducted

at the University of Reading illustrates the breadth of interests and expertise available on campus. Ongoing projects include the modulation of neuronal behaviour, the influence of diet on cognition, and the psychological and neural underpinnings of vision, cognition and emotion. New projects which will use the MRI facilities include the study of the aging brain, and how age-related neural changes are associated with cognitive and emotional functioning.

Malathy Venkatesh is studying verbs in bilingual aphasia. This is a doctoral study under the supervision of Professors Susan Edwards and Doug Saddy. Verb retrieval has been shown to be particularly difficult for people with aphasia and has been the area of research in a number of studies. However, little is known about how verbs are produced in bi/multilingual speakers with aphasia particularly those speaking Hindi/Urdu - English. This research uses various verb and sentence production tasks to compare the performance across the two languages. Preliminary findings suggest that verb retrieval can be affected differently across the various tasks and across languages. The objective of the research is to identify linguistic factors that contribute to the different performances on verb retrieval across the languages.

Christos Salis
University of Reading