

BAS

British Aphasiology Society

Welcome to the BAS Summer Newsletter 2018.

The newsletter aims to bring you updates about what is happening within BAS and in the wider aphasia community. We welcome news and information from around the UK and the world.



We hope you are having a wonderful summer and have a chance to properly enjoy the sunny weather, and even the much-needed rain!

[Do you need funding to attend conferences or other events?](#)

----The next deadline for applications is 15th August----

The BAS Conference Support Fund offers two types of support:

BAS Events Grants : Applicants to this fund do not have to be BAS members at the time of application, but **will be required to join** as part of the process of registering for the event.

Non-BAS Events Grants : Applicants to this fund **must have been BAS members for at least 1 year** at the time of application.

Student members of BAS are eligible to apply. Overseas members may only apply to attend UK conferences.

Click [here](#) to find out more information.

(Please note that if you are successful in gaining funding from BAS to attend an event, the funds need to be claimed within one month of attending the event and a short report on the event will be requested for inclusion in the BAS newsletter).

[Upcoming Conferences](#)

[The BAS Biennial conference 14th-16th November](#)

University of Sheffield- The Edge, 34 Endcliffe Crescent, Sheffield.
S10 3ED

Click [here](#) for further information and for booking

[UKSF 4th-6th December](#)

The International Centre, Telford

Save on delegate fees until 31 August 2018

- Fees for all three days start at just £182 for students
- Reduced rate for staff on lower bands, starting at £221
- Refreshments and lunches included
- Enjoy exclusive discounts at leading hotels at www.reservation-highway.co.uk/stroke18
- Contact us at ukstrokeforum@stroke.org.uk

Further details are available [here](#)

International Aphasia Rehabilitation Conference- IARC 2018 5th-7th September

University of Aveiro, Portugal

Website: <http://slh-events.web.ua.pt/IARC2018/>

IARC brings together researchers and clinical specialists in Speech-Language Pathology, Linguistics, Neuropsychology, Neurology and Rehabilitation Medicine dedicated to Aphasia rehabilitation.

Science of Aphasia conference 2018 18th-22nd September

Venice, Italy

Website: <http://www.unige.ch/fapse/SoA2018/>

Academy of Aphasia conference 20th-23rd October

Hotel Place D'Armes, Montreal, Canada

Complete [conference information](#) is now available on the academy of aphasia website, and [conference registration](#) is now open! .

Early Registration for the conference and hotel rooms at the conference hotel by **September 15th**.

Information is also now available on the expanded, NIDCD-supported mentoring programme. You can read more about it [here](#)

The deadline for applying for travel funds and activities for the mentoring program: **September 1st**.

[Research Round-up](#)

Please follow the link to the BAS website for the latest summary of **abstracts of recently-published aphasia research**. These are usually updated every few months.

[click here](#)

[BAS Initiatives in Aphasia Seed Fund \(IASF\)](#)

One of the aims of The British Aphasiology Society is to promote the development of clinical services for people with aphasia, and one of the ways in which we do that is through our Seed Fund for Initiatives in Aphasia. The fund, which is an award is of up to £1000 per application, aims to support UK-based activities that involve and benefit people with aphasia and their family members and/or carers.

Previous awards have been given to support new initiatives in aphasia, focus groups, or to pilot research. For example, "Drawing my World" was a project funded by the IASF in 2013 that involved classes in drawing and gallery visits, with teaching techniques adapted for people with aphasia. Its participants reported benefits

such as an increase in confidence and quality of life, as well as a significant improvement in concentration.

The activities may be led by or organised with the involvement of people with aphasia, but this scheme does **not** fund the purchase of resources for individual people with aphasia. The activity proposed needs to meet one or more of the following aims:

1. To promote knowledge of aphasia
2. To promote knowledge of aphasia treatment, and make its evidence base accessible
3. To promote and draw upon the expertise of people with aphasia
4. To share, discuss and collaborate on research with people with aphasia and their family members/carers

If you have a suitable project that would benefit from a Seed Fund, have a look on the BAS website for more examples of previous awards <http://www.bas.org.uk/iasf-previously-funded/>. You will also find guidance notes about how to apply and an application form on the website. Your application will be decided on by the BAS Committee, who will keep in touch with you about how your project is going, and as part of the award, will ask you to report on the work you have done. The next deadline is **October 26th 2018, at 5pm.**

Tessa Ackerman, Seed Fund Officer for BAS
(email:seedfund@bas.org.uk)

[Update from City University](#)



The LUNA personal storytelling project

(<https://www.stroke.org.uk/research/can-we-develop-new-language-treatment-improve-everyday-talking-people-aphasia> and <https://www.city.ac.uk/news/2018/july/novel-personal-narrative-therapy-to-help-people-with-aphasia-tell-their-story>) has started at City, University of London. LUNA has 5 phases. Phase 1 is in progress and involves a synthesis of language and discourse models and theories, and a review of discourse treatment literature, to develop a single underlying framework to underpin LUNA. Phase 2 starts in August and is an online survey for UK-practising HCPC-registered SLTs working in aphasia rehabilitation; our website will be up and running in August, but in the meantime, please watch out for survey release via our twitter handle @LUNA_Aphasia and twitter handles of the team @MadelineCruice @LucyDipper @pritchardmr.



Novel personal narrative therapy to help people with aphasia tell their story

www.city.ac.uk

LUNA therapy focuses on helping those with language difficulties following a stroke

Can we develop a new language treatment to improve ...

www.stroke.org.uk

Although speech and language therapists (SLTs) may help aphasia patients with their rehabilitation, there remains a clear lack of evidence-based treatments available for them to help their patients with problems of everyday talking, known as 'discourse'.

Solution Focused brief therapy In Aphasia: SOFIA Trial Research Project Update

The SOFIA project is exploring Solution Focused Brief Therapy for people living with aphasia, funded by the Stroke Association and led by Dr Sarah Northcott at City, University of London. The therapy approach explores a person's hopes for the future, encourages them

to notice their own successful strategies and what they have already achieved, as well as providing a safe space for them to talk about their stroke. People with aphasia are at risk of becoming depressed and isolated: we hope that this intervention will enable participants to build meaningful change in their lives and enhance emotional well-being.

SOFIA is a three-year project (November 2016 to December 2019). We have so far completed a pilot study to explore how best to adapt the approach for people with severe aphasia. We are now recruiting people with mild and severe aphasia into a feasibility trial. Our target is to recruit 32 participants. All participants will receive up to 6 therapy sessions over a 3-month period, delivered by Speech and Language Therapists with specialist support and training. We are using a wait-list design: everyone receives the therapy, but some receive it after a delay.

We recently created a project website and blog (click here <https://blogs.city.ac.uk/sofia/>): please do check it out to find out more about the project! The blog also includes information about the therapy approach. To read more about our initial proof-of-concept study, click here <http://openaccess.city.ac.uk/12474/>. To find out more, please email Sarah (sarah.northcott@city.ac.uk).

Promoting Aphasia Awareness Amongst the Digital Design Community

Researchers from City, University of London have compiled a list of "Dos and Don'ts" when designing digital experiences for people with aphasia. You can download the poster here: <http://blogs.city.ac.uk/inca/outputs>

Based on an accessibility poster set created by the UK government digital service, and widely used across government and companies such as the BBC (<https://hodigital.blog.gov.uk/2016/12/28/designing-for-accessibility-an-update-on-our-accessibility-posters/>), the Aphasia Dos and Don'ts poster is intended to raise awareness of how developers can make their digital content more user friendly for people with aphasia.

The guidelines have been developed following lessons learnt through a series of collaborative research projects at City between the Division of Language and Communication Science and the Centre for Human Computer Interaction Design over the past eight years. Findings from one of the related research studies were presented at the BAS Research Update Meeting in Birmingham earlier this year.

On Monday 18th of June 2018, Abi Roper and Timothy Neate presented the "Dos and Don'ts" poster to over 100 members of the UK digital design community at an accessible computing event in London. The guidelines were well received and, as a result of the talk, have now been added to the accessibility guidance used by developers working on the BBC iPlayer.

Abi Roper, Tim Neate, Stephanie Wilson & Jane Marshall – INCA project at City, University of London (Inclusive Digital Content for People with Aphasia)

Ongoing reminder to BAS Members

A reminder for members who have not yet updated their subscription payments. **Please note the new rates as shown below!** Many members have updated their subscriptions. This is a plea to those who have not done so to **act now!** We also now have a new bank account with online facilities. The change in payment therefore also entails changing the account into which the money is paid. We have been making efforts to contact members to request new standing orders for membership, and cancellation of existing ones, but this is often not easy as people's details frequently change. **This is another call to members to update their subscription payments to the new rates:**

Standard Rate for UK members:

- Standing order - £18
- Cheque or other one-off payment - £24

Concessionary rate for people with aphasia, students and non-UK based members:

- Standing order - £12
- Cheque or other one-off payment - £15

To access the membership form, and the new standing order form please click [here](#)

Please also ensure that you cancel your existing standing order to avoid further payments at the old rate into our old bank account and to ensure that existing standing orders do not prevent us from setting up new ones.

Read previous newsletters and find out more about the British Aphasiology Society at www.bas.org.uk

If you have any items for future newsletters please contact us on newsletter@bas.org.uk

Follow on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) to get updates on research and events