

# **British Association of Teachers of the Deaf**



**43rd Annual General Meeting**

**Friday 22nd March 2019**

Jurys Inn, Nottingham

2pm

**Annual Report  
and Accounts  
2017-2018**

**[www.batod.org.uk](http://www.batod.org.uk)**

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## AGENDA

- 1 Apologies for absence
- 2 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Linden Lodge School, Wandsworth on 17th March, 2018
- 3 Matters arising from the Minutes
- 4 Members' comments and enquiries
- 5 Presidential address – Steph Halder
- 6 Annual Report
- 7 Statement of accounts
- 8 Acceptance of Treasurer's report
- 9 To agree that we insert the following in the constitution under Section 18 'Finance and Audit: 'the National Executive Council shall appoint a National Treasurer'
- 10 Election results: Steering Group and NEC members
- 11 Presentation of the Peter Preston Audiology Award
- 12 Presentation of the Leading Practice Award
- 13 Presentation of the Eichholz Prize
- 14 Date and place of next meeting

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# Minutes of the 42nd BATOD AGM held at Linden Lodge School, Wandsworth, London, Saturday 17th March 2018

(58 members were present at the AGM).

**Apologies for absence** Naomi Jarrett, Eleanor Pattison, David Couch, Sandy Goler, Jackie Salter and Rebecca Millar

Stuart Whyte welcomed everyone to the AGM. He reminded delegates that the previous year's AGM Minutes from the meeting held in Manchester 11th March 2017 had been sent around to all members by email in the annual report but he had had no comments on these. The minutes were approved as a true record; proposed by Andrea Baker and seconded by Lesley Gallagher.

Hence there were no matters arising, no comments and no enquiries.

**Outgoing President's Address** Stuart expanded on his core message about enjoying networking with each other – as Specialist Teachers with the Mandatory Qualification. He emphasised that QToDs are leaders in education and an inspiration to the children, young people and colleagues. The status of the MQ is very important to BATOD and all the children we work with. We have to prepare them for the future. He thanked the members of the Steering Group for their support during his tenure. He looked forward to the possibility of a GCSE in BSL if Nick Gibb can be convinced (there is an on-going pilot). Teachers have been promised no more education/exam changes for a while and a cut in workload by Damian Hinds, the new Secretary of State. CPD is a huge priority for us and we have influenced this significantly over the last two years.

**Annual Report and Accounts** Paul spoke on this, the work of BATOD this year, briefly. It had been sent out ten days ago to all in an enewsletter and it is also on our new website. He invited questions either then or by email. There were no comments from the delegates present.

**Treasurer's Report** Carol said that the accounts had been issued alongside the Annual Report. The profits she noted were slightly down on last year following a successful conference. Having an NEC meeting in Belfast cost a bit more due to flights; however, it gave NI QToDs a chance to meet the NEC as they pay the same fees as other BATOD members. We have enough of a surplus to keep us safe and secure and to look after our members. We are a 'not for profit' organisation – not here to make money. Carol invited questions from the floor. Joyce Sewell-Rutter asked about the Mary Grace Wilkins Travel Fund. Carol explained that it had been run as a separate charity but very few ever applied for it so the trustees closed it down and gave the money back to BATOD. It is not held separately but people can still apply for grants. Stuart added that support from BATOD via this was still available – and for example it is still there to help with travel. We have also instigated a Leading Practice Award for QToDs who submit articles for the BATOD Magazine. The accounts were then unanimously accepted. Proposed by Sue Lewis and seconded by Andrea Baker. The same accountants will scrutinise the accounts and approve them.

**Election Results** Paul, moving on to the election results, explained that these were on the website. There had been sufficient applications to fill all the posts. He then welcomed Lesley Gallagher, our new President Elect, who is just starting her 2 year period of supporting Steph Halder our new President. Carol has also been elected Treasurer for another two years. The whole NEC was then displayed on the screen in an extract from the Annual Report document. Paul added that we were pleased to have co-opted some people eg Sue Denny, for her expertise in Early Years, and also some ToDs in training – Rebecca Igoe, Heather McClean and Kate Shaw as well as Rhiannon Ritchie by the elected member route. He reminded the audience that they can also join the NEC as a representative for their local BATOD region/nation eg the BATOD Midlands has a vacancy. He asked for any questions regarding the elections but there were none.

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Stuart then mentioned using survey monkey to get the views/votes of the NEC on the winning articles for the awards.

**Presentation of the Awards** This year it went to two articles on audiology. Prizes were awarded by Andrea Baker, past President. The first was by Stuart Whyte and Sarie Cross (and also by Sam Bealing who could not be here) on radio aids and cochlear implants. The other article was by Bernadette Miller on "How Acoustically Friendly is your Classroom?" (who also did not attend). Then Stuart awarded the new Leading Good Practice award to Ann Bradbury on the language curriculum in Boston Spa School. Lastly, the Eichholz Prize was awarded. The two winners were nominated by the MQ Course providers: Alex Stephens from Edinburgh University and Rory Kiff from the University of Birmingham.

Stuart made the point that we learn from other people and that every day is a school day. He produced the gavel and badge of office and was very happy to hand these over to Steph as new President.

**New President's Address** Steph said that she had been shown the way by Stuart and was pleased that he would stay on Steering Group for another two years. She had written her first presidential address for the Magazine and had touched on past Presidents' concerns too. With regard to education reforms, we need to keep up with the challenges which are always there eg the transfer of all Statements to EHCPs by 31st March etc urging us to "Polish our halo" if keeping up! Steph had looked at past Presidents' straplines – she noted the recurring themes eg education reforms, the ageing profile of QToDs, financial constraints, collaborative working and keeping up to date. Her advice to the new QToDs was to try to work in a place where people are encouraged to learn from each other. BATOD has always worked collaboratively. She thanked Brian Gale who is moving on from NDCS and has always been supportive of BATOD. Touching on QToDs nearing retirement, Steph reminded all present of BATOD's aims which she displayed on a slide. Emphasising CPD, she stated "We are all leaders in deaf education." HI teachers, VI teachers and MSI teachers must all hold a qualification approved by the Secretary of State for Education. She encouraged ideas from the audience and lastly re-emphasised evidence – the theme of the conference. She urged all delegates to register on the new website, ending with the rallying cry, "BATOD is here for you but BATOD needs you!"

One person asked if those who represented regions could make themselves known and the representative of her own region, BATOD South (Emma Parker), stood up and had an opportunity to meet. Paul reminded all that the NEC meeting was next day in Linden Lodge. The next Conference would be in March 2019 in a location to be discussed tomorrow but not in London. He will send a save the date to all as soon as the date is set. He urged all to follow the blog on the website and also to send news/articles and images also for the blog. We need content – children doing different activities etc. In the last 10 days, he noted, far more people had joined than usual as you can now join instantly through the website. Delegates were urged to use the Post-its in their bags to leave comments about the various workshops. Members were thanked sincerely for coming to the AGM and to the conference and urged to return after their workshops to hear Sue Lewis's stimulating keynote speech.

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# **Annual report for BATOD AGM 2019**

## **Past, present and future**

The theme of the 2019 conference is 'Past, present and future' and this year's annual report also reflects on this theme.

As more and more of our documentation and correspondence becomes digital the BATOD archives are changing in their nature. We still have substantial paper archives housed at the University of Birmingham and the BATOD office has a number of filing cabinets full of papers going back for many years and indeed decades. Over the coming weeks and months we will be reviewing all these items and developing an archive plan so that important and key documentation is preserved digitally and unnecessary documentation including that which is already in digital form can be safely and confidentially shredded.

Anyone who is researching deaf education can have access to the archive as indeed can any member of BATOD. Any interested researcher or member needs to contact the National Executive Officer who will liaise with the relevant archivist at the Birmingham University archive.

Future archive material will be predominantly online on our website and elsewhere.

As most of our work today is done online, we are affected by the General Data Protection Regulations. Lesley Gallagher, who is our President Elect, has taken on the role of Data Protection Officer and produced a comprehensive policy which all NEC members, and those who maintain membership data in the regions and nations, have to adhere to and sign that they have read and understood. The document can be seen here on our website:

<https://www.batod.org.uk/about-us/batods-gdpr-policy/>

By the time of the AGM our new website will have been in operation for about a year and has bedded down well. It is now possible to join BATOD easily online and in the future we hope that it will be possible to buy other items such as conference tickets also through the website.

There is a wealth of material and resources on the website (such as all the past editions of BATOD magazines going back to the year 2000) which are available only to members – this is a strong incentive to join.

One of the features of the website is a document about collaborative working between Speech and Language therapists and Qualified ToDs. We have been in discussions with the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists for some time so that we could update this document. A working party has now been set up led on BATOD's side by Lesley Gallagher and involving a range of Speech and Language Therapists and Qualified Teachers of the Deaf from across the country and from a range of settings. Look out for the new document on our website in due course.

A key feature of the website is our new CPD area. We hope that members will find it a useful resource and support to the development of their CPD. We are currently involved, as are many other partners in the sector, in the review of the mandatory qualification. A theme throughout the consultations is the importance of ensuring that the specification is reflective of the changes in all aspects of research into the development of deaf children and young people.

The mandatory qualification is not the end but the beginning. To this end we are intending to revive a mentoring scheme in which newly qualified Teachers of the Deaf, once they have completed the course, will have access to a mentor to support them through the early years of their work in the profession. The University of Manchester is working with BATOD in providing training for senior colleagues who will then, in turn, be able to train Qualified Teachers of the Deaf from across the UK and in a range of settings to act as mentors. An earlier mentoring scheme was very successful and



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both mentors and mentees found it hugely beneficial to their working life. However, the scheme will not be limited to newly qualified Teachers of the Deaf.

In order to ensure that the profession is given the recognition it deserves and requires, the BATOD NEC took the decision that in future BATOD publications including, for example, the magazine, we will refer to Qualified Teachers of the Deaf (QToD) so that anyone working with deaf children who is not fully qualified cannot give an incorrect impression by saying they are teaching deaf children.

As we look to the future and to further enhancements of the website and support to our members in all the settings in which they work we are aware of the need for succession planning. In May our current National Executive Officer, Paul Simpson, will reduce his hours and we will take on a co-executive officer who will also be the Magazine Editor to work with him and support the association as it moves into the future. We will also be looking for a new Treasurer as our current treasurer retires in 2020. It is a vital element of the work of the Steering Group to look at the future stability of the association and this is a key part of that work.

BATOD is also looking forward to the future though our joint initiative with the National Deaf Children's Society to respond to concerns about the likely reduction in the number of Qualified Teachers of the Deaf in the future. CRIDE reports are showing that not only is the number of Qualified Teachers of the Deaf falling despite the growing number of deaf children, with the inevitable reduction in support and increase in caseload numbers, but also the age profile shows that in coming years large numbers of QToDs will be reaching retirement age. They are not being replaced by sufficient new QToDs. We are currently in discussion with the Department for Education about possible solutions and continue to work with the Ovingdean Hall Foundation to provide Con Powell scholarships for up to five teachers who wish to train but are not currently working with deaf children. More information about this can be found on our website:

<https://www.batod.org.uk/information/training-as-a-teacher-of-the-deaf/>

We look forward to building the profession in the coming years.

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# **BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS OF THE DEAF**

## **ACCOUNTS**

### **YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018**



email: [exec@batod.org.uk](mailto:exec@batod.org.uk)  
website: [www.batod.org.uk](http://www.batod.org.uk)  
answerphone: 01634 202247

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BATOD  
21 Keating Close, Rochester  
Kent ME1 1EQ

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# The British Association of Teachers of the Deaf

## Accounts – year to 31 July 2018

### Independent Examiner's report to the members of British Association of Teachers of the Deaf

On the accounts of the Association for the period 1 August 2017 to 31 July 2018

#### Respective responsibilities of National Treasurer and examiner

The National Treasurer is responsible for the preparation of the accounts.

It is my responsibility to examine the accounts and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with best accounting practice. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Association and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the officers concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

#### Independent examiner's statement

In the course of 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 the accounting records and comply with the Association Constitution have not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

IAN B WILSON C.A.  
4A High Street,  
Bonnyrigg,  
Midlothian  
EH19 2AA

Date:



**BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS OF THE DEAF**  
**INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018**

	<u>2018</u> £	<u>2018</u> £	<u>2017</u> £
<b>INCOME</b>			
Membership subscriptions	89,855	89,523	
Publications & Journal	65,057	76,862	
Conference & exhibitions	17,664	53,921	
Sundry income	1,063	558	
Interest received	414	458	
	<u>174,053</u>	<u>221,322</u>	
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Salary	38,946	38,214	
Employer's NI	1,220	1,137	
Pension contributions	3,527	2,995	
	<u>43,693</u>	<u>42,346</u>	
Peter Preston Award	100	100	
Nicaragua project	-	1,000	
Journal	12,990	23,000	
Project management	7,685	5,520	
Magazine	14,623	15,034	
Conference costs	12,017	52,120	
NEC meetings	14,022	20,808	
Representation meetings	4,636	5,548	
Steering group meetings	4,167	4,539	
Payments to Regions	7,942	1,536	
Website	7,288	6,343	
Special payments	-	601	
Membership refunds	1,703	2,336	
	<u>130,866</u>	<u>180,831</u>	
<b>ADMIN EXPENDITURE</b>			
Office costs	10,195	10,353	
Direct debit management charges	1,886	1,233	
Independent examination fee	1,400	1,560	
	<u>13,481</u>	<u>13,146</u>	
<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>		<u>144,347</u>	<u>193,977</u>
<b>NET SURPLUS FOR YEAR</b>		29,706	27,345
<b>TAXATION</b>		63	73
<b>SURPLUS FOR YEAR</b>		<u>29,643</u>	<u>27,272</u>



**BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS OF THE DEAF**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
**31 JULY 2018**

	<u>2018</u> £	<u>2018</u> £	<u>2017</u> £
<b>INVESTMENTS</b>			
Deposit Bond		8,000	<u>8,000</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	6,932		36,889
Cash at bank and in hand	248,314		212,652
	<u>255,246</u>		<u>249,541</u>
<b>CREDITORS - AMOUNTS DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR</b>			
Due to HMRC	507		472
Income received in advance	75		11,029
Accruals	19,520		35,477
	<u>20,102</u>		<u>46,978</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		235,144	202,563
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>243,144</u>	<u>210,563</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>			
General Fund		222,243	192,600
Eichholz Memorial Fund		780	1,079
Con Powell Memorial Scholarship		19,802	16,052
Language Modification		319	832
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<u>243,144</u>	<u>210,563</u>

The accounts were approved by AGM of the association  
on 2019 and signed on its behalf by

**BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS OF THE DEAF**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018**  
**MOVEMENTS ON FUNDS**

	Balance at 1/8/17 £	Income	Expenditure	Balance at 31/7/18 £
General Fund	192,600	174,053	144,410	222,243
Eichholz Memorial Fund	1,079	1	300	780
ConPowell	16,052	29,750	26,000	19,802
Language Modification	832	-	513	319
	<b>210,563</b>	<b>203,804</b>	<b>171,223</b>	<b>243,144</b>

# **Elections to the National Executive Council 2019-2021**

**Nominations** – all elected unopposed

## **Minuting Secretary**

Teresa Quail

## **Elected members**

Sue Denny, Jane North, Emma Parker, Elizabeth Reed-Beadle, Jackie Salter, Marie Wilkinson

## **Think about standing for NEC 2020-2022**

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 National Executive Officer, Paul Simpson, so that you may be included in appropriate on-going work.

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

## **Membership of NEC 2019-2021**

### **Steering Group**

Halder, Stephanie (President)  
Gallagher, Lesley-Ann (President Elect)  
Thomson, Carol (Treasurer)  
Quail, Teresa (Minuting Secretary)  
Couch, David (Consultant)  
Simpson, Paul (National Executive Officer)  
Whyte, Stuart (Past President, ex officio)

### **Regional/national representatives**

Angove, Sarah (Wales)  
Goler, Sandy (North)  
Maiden, Helen (South West)  
McAllister, Jean (Scotland)  
Millar, Rebecca (N Ireland)  
Murray, Helen Devereux (South)  
Gamon, Claire (East)  
vacancy (Midlands)

### **Elected members**

Bussien, Jill  
Denny, Sue  
Monksfield, Martine  
Parker, Emma  
Pattison, Eleanor  
Reed-Beadle, Elizabeth  
Ritchie, Rhiannon  
Salter, Jackie  
Weightman, Nicky  
Wilkinson, Marie

### **Co-opted**

Igoe, Rebecca  
McLean, Heather  
Mervyn, Conor  
Shaw, Kate  
Wakefield, Tina

### **Ex officio**

Gordon, Mary



# Election addresses by nominees to the BATOD National Executive Council 2019-2021

## Teresa Quail

I feel I have been a pro-active member of BATOD, particularly in recent years in the roles of BATOD East committee member and BATOD East NEC rep, contributing to the sustainability of the group in the Eastern region. I am very proud of my input as BATOD East Chair in 2017/2018 and the teamwork that led to a very successful regional BATOD conference. Regardless of a relocation to Northern Ireland, changing my career focus from Head of Specialist Teaching Services for a Local Authority, I have been committed to BATOD and have already joined the BATOD NI committee and accepted their NEC rep role on an interim basis.



The roles with BATOD, my previous career profiles (throughout which I retained an active Teacher of the Deaf role with children/young people, families and professional partners) alongside previous volunteer roles for an NDCS local group committee and on-going academic studies have supported me in understanding a wider aspect of deafness. These varied roles have also assisted me in developing my précising skills for minute taking to capture and retain the essence of the discussions in a concise manner. I would like to undertake the role of Honorary Minuting Secretary to contribute to the work and smooth running of the BATOD Steering group whilst extending my learning of the functions of a steering group.

## Sue Denny

I wish to be considered for election to the NEC, having previously served as a member and having been actively involved in the work of the NEC for several years. I have represented BATOD on many occasions including at NFER, Ofqual and at The Communication Trust Consortium meetings and have reported back to the NEC on the proceedings, as well as presented information to students about BATOD and the benefits of becoming a member.



At a local level I am Chair of BATOD North and continue to work with the committee to run events and promote the work of BATOD in the North Region. I have also been involved in the supervision of students on Teaching Practice in the area.

My particular professional interests in Early Years and in language development have been reflected in the work I have undertaken for BATOD and I hope to be able to continue to represent members by my continuing involvement on NEC.

## Jane North

I enjoy being part of the NEC and look forward to meeting up with all the representatives at the meetings. As I am a number of years post-qualification, I feel that the experiences I have gained, in my role and the people I have met along this journey have helped develop my knowledge and understanding of the QToD role, how it is changing and the difficulties we are all facing. Also as I have now taken on the role of Chair of BAEA, it will be good to continue working together and supporting each other as our aim in supporting deaf children and their Teachers of the Deaf remains our joint focus.



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## **Emma Parker**

I qualified as a Teacher of the Deaf in 2006 and have worked in a variety of roles including Teacher in Charge, Peripatetic Teacher of the Deaf and Teacher of the Deaf at the National Deaf CAMHS inpatient service in London. I am currently working as a freelance Teacher of the Deaf/SSP, supporting Deaf students in HE alongside undertaking a Masters qualification in Inclusive Practice with the Open University.



I am currently the BATOD South secretary and have the privilege of being the South's representative on the NEC. As a member of the NEC, I have sought to represent and promote the needs of regional members at a national level. I have been part of several subgroups over my time including the redevelopment of the BATOD website and current membership of the group organising the national conference.

As my time as regional representative comes to an end I am keen to continue my involvement on the NEC and seek members' support in this.

## **Elizabeth Reed-Beadle**

After experience as a mainstream and special needs teacher in a secondary school then in primary and nursery education, Liz qualified as a Teacher of the Deaf in the early 1990s. She has been a member of BATOD since the early 90s with involvement in the South region and the Midland region and currently in the East. In her role as assistant commissioning editor for the BATOD Magazine she works on alternate Magazines collecting articles on the focus topic, enabling contact across a wide range of experienced QToDs. Liz is also the exhibitions co-ordinator for the annual BATOD Conference.



As a Teacher of the Deaf she has worked in a special school, a unit and as a peripatetic teacher in two different counties. The scope of her experience has been further enhanced by her work for two cochlear implant programmes and included research and conference presentations both in the UK and Internationally. She is currently employed as an Educational Audiologist and Assistant Team Leader for the Virtual School Sensory Support in Norfolk.

A firm advocate of the specialist role of the Teacher of the Deaf within the education system because of her varied experiences, Liz is also aware that this specialism has to be versatile to work within and alongside other organisations for the benefit of the children we serve. She sees liaison and representation, together with positive action, as important aspects of the role of the NEC to carry forward the profile of our specialism and to serve the children with whom we work in order to fulfil the new ways of working as the education map changes.

In order to meet the needs of the future Teachers of the Deaf, BATOD continues to need strong and committed professionals in all areas of the profession. Liz served a number of years on NEC as a member of the Audiology Committee where she worked hard to represent her colleagues. Liz believes understanding technology is a skill QToDs need to embrace as assistive listening devices become more complex and as we educate our Deaf children for a future dependent upon technology.

She hopes to continue to represent the interests of colleagues both within NEC and on the national committees where she represents BATOD.

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## **Jackie Salter**

Deaf children are very dear to my heart professionally and personally. I qualified as a ToD following the birth of my twin daughters, both of whom have a hearing loss, one profound bilateral, the other profound unilateral. I care deeply about our profession and the specialist role of the QToD in ensuring babies to adults are able to thrive in the most appropriate educational setting, whatever their level of hearing loss and the challenges life throws their way.



In my current role as Programme Leader on the MA Deaf Education (ToD) course, Leeds University, and previously as Education Coordinator, The Ear Foundation, I am involved in training ToDs, other professionals working with our young deaf population and a range of national strategic initiatives. As a profession we need to be clear about and articulate what we bring to the classroom and why our work is essential for the young people with whom we work. We need to ensure our practice remains current and work closely and effectively with a range of different professionals, including researchers, to ensure our perspectives and understanding are represented locally, nationally and internationally. I believe I have experience, skills and the drive to support this work.

During my time on the NEC I have been involved in reflecting on and developing an infrastructure to support the development of a strong and evidence-based CPD culture within our profession. We have developed a web-based tool to record personal CPD connected with our specialist qualification. This is available to all BATOD members along with a growing body of information to support this process. I am now working with colleagues from across the sensory impairment sector to develop this tool with VI and MSI colleagues through the National Sensory Impairment Partnership and supported by the DfE.

There is still much work to do in raising awareness of the need for specialist CPD both within our own profession and importantly within the wider educational community so that the knowledge and skills we bring to the classroom can inform practice. With a robust CPD and recording system in place we are now positioned to raise the profile of the ToD and ensure that we are able to collaboratively and effectively work in conjunction with mainstream colleagues to improve practice and outcomes for deaf children.

I hope you will support me in my endeavour to continue this work with the NEC.

## **Marie Wilkinson**

I wish to be considered for re-election to the NEC after serving as a member for two years. In that time I have been actively involved in the work of the NEC and have participated in discussions and consultations around the ever changing world of Deaf Education. I have been privileged to be an elected member of BATOD for five years and this has given me a great insight into the organisation and see the influence and breadth of support it offers to members, the profession and to the outcomes and life chances of deaf children.



I originally trained as a ToD at The University of Manchester in 2008. This followed fifteen years working as a mainstream teacher in secondary schools: teaching English and PSHE and also taking on the role of Senco.

I currently work as a Teacher of the Deaf. My main role is working in the field of Early Years (0-2) but the children and young people on my case list range from a few weeks old to over 16 years.

My interests include fostering music for babies, which is a wonderful way to help the development of speech and listening skills. I am also developing coaching and learning skills with the families I work with.

At a local level I am a committee member of BATOD North and continue to work to run events and promote the work of BATOD in the North Region.

It has been a privilege to serve as an elected member of BATOD for the last 2 years. It has given me an insight into the organisation and see the wealth of support it offers members.

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## Officers of Nations and Regions

**Northern Ireland** batodnireland@batod.org.uk

Chairperson: Clare Bateson

Secretary: Lesley Greehy

Treasurer: Margaret-Anne Christie

**Scotland** batodscotland@batod.org.uk

Chairperson: Jean McAllister

Secretary: Hazel Kellachan

Treasurer: Elaine Harris

**Wales** batodwales@batod.org.uk

Chairperson: Jayne Taylor

Secretary: Lisa Whitney

Treasurer: Rhian Gibbins

**East** batodeast@batod.org.uk

Chairperson: Claire Gamon

Secretary: Benjamin Hotchkin

Treasurer: Helen Gibb

**Midland**

Chairperson: Angie Wootten

Secretary: *post vacant*

Treasurer: Helen Cooper

**North**

Chairperson: Sue Denny

Secretary: Trish Cope

Treasurer: Sandy Goler

**South**

Chairperson: Majella Williams

Secretary: Lisa Durrant

Treasurer: Heather Latter

**South West**

Chairperson: Helen Maiden

Secretary: Jo Saunders

Treasurer: Sarah Wardle