

Meet Our Speakers / Contributors

'Leave No Deaf Child Behind'

Responding to the Inclusion Needs of Deaf Children in Low Resource Health and Complex Humanitarian Settings



Suheir Al Badernah

Director of Rehabilitation – Palestinian Red Crescent Society

Suheir Al Badarna was born and grew up in Palestine. She acquired a BA in English at Birzeit University, Ramallah, and then attended a one-year diploma as an introduction to Deaf education and sign language. This equipped Suheir with the basic skills required to be a teacher of the Deaf. Suheir then went on to attend many workshops and conferences in the field of rehabilitation.

Shen then started work in 1996 as a teacher for Deaf students in the total communication centre for the Deaf. In 2001, Suheir became the head of the centre and then, in 2010, became Head of the Rehabilitation Department at Palestine Red Crescent Society. This department is responsible for all the rehabilitation services provided for the persons with disabilities. The rehabilitation department runs schools for Deaf, centres for children with learning and special needs, centres and units for physiotherapy and occupational therapy, units for speech and audiology, in addition to community based rehabilitation programmes.



Rt Hon Lord Bruce of Bennachie

DeafKidz International - Special Representative

Sir Malcolm Bruce was the Liberal Democrat MP for Gordon from June 1983 until the election in May 2015 when he stood down from Parliament.

Prior to being an MP, Malcolm worked in marketing, economic development and journalism. He was the economic officer to the North East of Scotland Development Authority when oil was first discovered in the North Sea and went on to establish, with a partner, Aberdeen Petroleum Publishing in 1981.

Throughout this time, he has acquired has a detailed knowledge of the oil and gas industry, and in particular, its relations with Government.

Malcolm was also Chair of the influential International Development Select Committee from 2005 – 2015. He led many inquiries into the work of the Department for International Development and has travelled widely in sub-Saharan Africa and South East Asia.

Malcolm was Deputy Leader of the Liberal Democrats Parliamentary Party from January 2014 – May 2015.

Prior to this he was Party spokesman on Trade and Industry, Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and Treasury. He has also been a member of the Scottish Affairs Select Committee, the Trade and Industry Select Committee, the Committee for Standards and Privileges and Treasury Select Committee.

Malcolm has been Scottish Affairs Spokesman and Leader of the Scottish Liberal Democrats (1988-92) and played a key role in shaping the devolution settlement through the Scottish Constitutional Convention.

As the father of a grown-up deaf daughter Malcolm has long campaigned on deafness issues in Parliament. Malcolm was the founding Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Deafness. He is also President of the Grampian Branch and a National Vice President of the National Deaf Children's Society and a Vice President of Action on Hearing Loss. In November 2014 he was honoured to receive the prestigious Joseph Maitland Robinson Award for Outstanding Contribution as part of the Signature Annual Awards.

He was made a Privy Councillor in 2006, was made a Knight Bachelor in the Queen's Birthday Honours in June 2012 and was made a life peer in the Dissolution Honours list in August 2015.



Joanna Clark
Director – Deaf Child Worldwide

Joanna began her career as a manager in the NHS. From there she moved to Pakistan to manage Save the Children's Primary Health Care Programme for Afghan Refugees following which she worked for five years in Vietnam as Save the Children UK's Country Director. Since then she has continued to work as a senior manager in international development in a wide range of roles and regions. For the last three years she has been the Director of Deaf Child Worldwide, the international arm of the National Deaf Children's Society.

Deaf Child Worldwide supports work with partners in South Asia, East Africa and Latin America that enables deaf children and young people to be fully included in family, education and community life.



John Coster
Founder – Documentary Media Centre

John works to demonstrate how documentary film, photography, audio & new media can be used to reveal our world - real people, real places, real events.

His Documentary Media Centre organises and delivers a range of events, workshops, talks, exhibitions along with a Reportage Club which hosts 'in conversation' sessions with media experts.

As organiser of the Leicester Docfilm Festival, he works to screen documentary film submissions from across the globe. John has worked as International Advisor to Film Goals NGO (Kenya) to establish a film festival and works with DeafKidz International as a media adviser.

His 'Conflict Reportage' - on the subject of conflicting reporting between 1914 and the present day – and his Museum of Citizens Media has met with critical acclaim. His 'In Conversation' sessions have seen John probe journalists, broadcaster and authors at the Frontline Club, the Imperial War Museum and the London Club of the Rifles.



Steve Crump

Founder – DeafKidz International / DeafKidz America

A global health professional, Steve has worked at senior level in a number of international development, relief and health organisations including ICRC, MAG and the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health. He is currently Head of International Affairs at the Royal College of Physicians.

Deafened himself, Steve originated and founded DeafKidz International when he learned of the appalling abuse endured by D/deaf children in Uganda. Resolving to do something, the result was DeafKidz International. Steve has recently returned from the US where he has established the 501 (c) 3, DeafKidz America; an awareness, business development and fundraising platform aimed at supporting the valuable work of DeafKidz International and its partners worldwide. DeafKidz America also leads on representation to USAID and the New York based, UNICEF.



Professor Rashid Gatrad OBE DL

Founder – Midland International Aid Trust

Professor Gatrad OBE is a consultant Paediatrician at the Manor Hospital in Walsall and also Professor of Paediatrics and Child Health at the Universities of Kentucky (USA) and Wolverhampton. He is Doctor of Medicine, and holds a PhD and a DSc. For services to children in the West Midlands he was awarded an OBE. For halving death rate in new born babies, and much more, he was awarded the Freedom of the Borough of Walsall. He has provided humanitarian aid to over 20 countries and has built a hospital in Gujarat where Cleft, breast, limb and cataract operations are carried out. The Queen recognised all this and his global charity work, as CEO of Midland International Aid Trust, by making him a Deputy Lieutenant to Her Lord Lieutenant in 2014.



Emma Gilbert

Leicestershire Police

Emma Gilbert is a Detective Sergeant, currently serving with Leicestershire Police, with extensive experience of response, community and criminal investigation policing. She is a specialist in child protection and the safeguarding of children and young people. In addition to these duties, Emma manages the UK's innovative Police Link Officers for Deaf people (PLOD) scheme. An integral member of the DeafKidz International team and a vigorous champion for the rights of D/deaf children, Emma is working to introduce the concept of PLOD to all UK Police forces and, in partnership with DeafKidz International, policing agencies in South Africa, Kenya, Zimbabwe and Jamaica.



Sanjiv Kumar

Consultant Otologist / ENT Surgeon - University Hospital of North Midlands

Sanjiv was appointed Consultant ENT Surgeon at UHNM in January 2014. He undertook fellowships in Otology and Cochlear implantation from Addenbrooke's' Hospital, Cambridge and a Neurotology and Lateral Skull base fellowship from University of British Columbia, Vancouver before taking up his current post. Sanjiv's subspecialty interests are middle ear surgeries, Bone Anchored Hearing Aid, balance disorders and inner ear pathologies. He also continues to have a general ENT practice, including paediatric ENT. Sanjiv's research interests are Middle Ear Mechanics, Meniere's disease and Eustachian tube dysfunction.



Mariska Leighton

Cochlear Europe

Mariska Leighton is a Marketing Consultant working with Cochlear Europe. Originally from South Africa, Mariska has focused her last 10 years of her career on healthcare in the UK. Mariska will be presenting on the burden and risk of Chronic Suppurative Otitis Media (CSOM), more commonly known as discharging or runny ears. She has launched a health promotion strategy for the Western world with colleagues from the Netherlands and Scandinavia. Although the Western world has the infrastructure to care for these patients, research is showing that they aren't correctly treated which will be the case in developing countries. Through this work she will share some care management that can benefit those children in developing countries.

Cochlear Europe Ltd has contributed towards today's programme to help raise awareness of implantable hearing solutions that can benefit children.



Stuart Harrison

Adviser – DeafKidz International

Stuart is a qualified teacher of the Deaf and a former deputy head teacher. With extensive and proven experience in child rights, child protection and safeguarding, Stuart worked globally to develop DeafKidz International's early stage programmatic activities with a range of partners including Jamaica Association for the Deaf, Childline South Africa and IPSCAN. He was instrumental in establishing our programmatic approach, Stuart authored our critically acclaimed research report; 'Behind the Green Door. The Abuse and Exploitation of Deaf Children and Young People in South Africa'. A prolific commentator and writer, his book 'Same Spirit Different Team - The Politicisation of the Deaflympics' was published in 2014.



Dr. Kelvin Hawker

Clinical Business Manager – Cochlear Europe

Kelvin is a Clinical Business Manager working for a global hearing implant company Cochlear who manufacture a range of devices to help with many different types of hearing losses. Before joining Cochlear Europe in 2014, he worked for the NHS at the Nottingham Auditory Implant Programme for 10 years in the Paediatric department as a Clinical Scientist. Kelvin's work there involved assessing and programming profoundly Deaf children with cochlear implants. Prior to this, he was involved in research identifying novel genes linked to hearing loss. Kelvin's career has provided him with a good understanding of what it required to run a successful and patient focussed programme in the UK and what will be required to establish new implant programmes in developing nations across the globe.



Jaz Mann

Head of Global Programmes – DeafKidz International

Jaz works to manage the design, implementation, monitoring & evaluation of DeafKidz International's existing and developing programmatic work. With a background in service design and project management in a variety of community and low resource settings, Jaz oversees our work in West, East and Southern Africa, the Middle East and Asia. As the organisational lead for our partnerships with Comic Relief, Child Helpline International, Marie Stopes International and more, he will drive the development of a D/deaf and Hearing staff team, skilled at working in low resource health and complex humanitarian settings. A fluent BSL user, Jaz is profoundly Deaf, the parent of a Deaf child and a Governor of the Royal School for the Deaf in Derby.



Fred Marinus

Project Manager – Royal Dutch Kentalis

Fred Marinus is a project manager for international projects at Royal Dutch Kentalis in the Netherlands. Royal Dutch Kentalis is a national provider of education and care for people with hearing and/or communication difficulties. He has been active in the field of Audiology and Deaf Education for 35 years. Fred started his career as an electronics engineer at the Institute for the Deaf in Sint Michielsgestel. Through his work at the Audiological Centre he got interested in the field of Audiology and was involved in several research projects, often related to Cochlear Implants and hearing tests. During this period he did the hearing aid dispensers course and he completed his Bachelor degree on Audiology at Fontys University. He also studied Educational Audiology at Mary Hare in Newbury. For the last 7 years he is coordinating training projects for Kentalis International, mainly in developing countries. Fred was also involved for over 10 years as a volunteer at Eardrop Foundation Netherlands where he chaired the Audiological Rehabilitation committee. Through a holistic approach and by stimulating early support and education Kentalis aims at improving the quality of lives for Deaf people worldwide.



Dumi Nala

Director - Childline South Africa

After graduating from the University of KwaZulu Natal, she worked for Childline KwaZulu Natal for a period of 4 years. She started as a Social Worker and in 2001 left the organisation as its Assistant Director, moving to the UK where she worked and lived for a period of 8 years. In 2008, Dumi returned to South Africa and joined Childline National Office as its Assistant National Director. In May 2009 she became the National Executive Officer of Childline South Africa. Dumi is the Africa Region's Representative for Child Helpline International and serves on the advisory board of Child Helpline International. Dumi is passionate to see in her lifetime an Africa that joins forces in the protection of the Deaf African Child and the upholding of the Deaf African Child's rights. Dumi is a member of the International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN).



Barbra Nyangairi

Director – Deaf Zimbabwe Trust

Barbra Nyangairi is a human rights activist in Zimbabwe. She holds a Masters in Forced Migration, a BSc Honors in Public Administration and a Diploma in Education. She has extensive experience in research in areas of human rights, democracy, governance, gender and education. She has a keen interest in the rights of people with disabilities particularly people who are Deaf and hard of hearing. She has published papers on education, democracy, elections, the police and corruption, gender, women and politics among others. Barbra is a co-founder of Deaf Zimbabwe Trust, Development Research Centre of Southern Africa and a Director of The Witness Media Company (Private) Limited.



Joy Rosenberg

Audiological Scientist Mary Hare Training Services

Joy F. Rosenberg, M.Ed., MSc., is a Clinical Scientist in Audiology and a Teacher of the Deaf. She has spent three decades in a variety of positions in America, Asia, and Europe. Joy now works in Higher Education at Mary Hare Training services affiliated to Oxford Brookes University and University of Hertfordshire, where her interests revolve around working in partnership with families and clients.



Sarah Shaw

Policy Adviser – Marie Stopes International

Sarah is a policy advisor for MSI, supporting 10 country programmes to undertake a range of advocacy around abortion law reform, task sharing for FP and abortion and financing. She also undertakes a range of advocacy at the global level including advocacy for improved funding and systems for the delivery of RH supplies. Sarah has worked in the SRHR field since 2002. Initially at IPPF where she has managed a range of programmes ranging from country level advocacy capacity building to improve the operational environment for RH supplies, to civil society participation in the London summit on Family Planning. More recently she coordinated civil society participation in the

ICPD Beyond 2014 review process and facilitated the participation of civil society from the south in the Intergovernmental negotiations for the SDGs. She is also the outgoing chair of the AAWG.



Professor Andrew Smith
International Centre for Evidence in Disability

From 1996 to 2008, Andrew was responsible for the program for Prevention of Deafness and Hearing Impairment at the World Health Organization (WHO). Prior to working at the WHO, he was head of the Hearing Impairment Research Group at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine. He has also worked for the UK Medical Research Council in the Gambia, and for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Pakistan. Originally trained as a pediatrician in the United Kingdom and Canada, Andrew later developed an interest in international public health issues. He has been principal investigator and has provided technical advice in surveys and intervention studies on hearing impairment in developing countries around the globe. Today, he is an Honorary Professor at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. His principal interest continues to be the epidemiology and prevention of deafness and hearing impairment in underdeveloped parts of the world.



Mark Waddington
Chief Executive – Hope & Homes for Children

Mark Waddington has over twenty years' experience in the humanitarian and international development sectors. He joined Hope and Homes for Children in October 2011. Since then he has led the development of our strategy and has secured the investment to commence delivery of that strategy and successfully position what we do as the catalyst for the global eradication of institutional care.

Prior to joining Hope and Homes for Children Mark served as CEO at War Child for seven years, during which time the charity achieved 400% growth in income, increased direct beneficiary reach by a factor of 12 and won a host of awards including the UN's Grand Award. Mark is also Chair of the Board of MICAIA, a development charity that is delivering new solutions to the long standing injustice of poverty.



Dr Bhanu Williams
International Officer – RCPCH

Bhanu is a consultant in paediatric infectious diseases and acute general paediatrics at London North West Healthcare NHS Trust. Her interests are in global child health, paediatric TB and HIV and medical education and training. Bhanu has worked in low resource settings in Africa for over a decade, most recently with the RCPCH on emergency triage, assessment and treatment of critically ill

children in Uganda. She is the course director of the RCPCH Child Health in Low Resource Settings Course and has published on paediatric TB and HIV in peer reviewed journals.