



**BAAT Council meeting**  
**12-4 pm, 7 June 2014**  
**24 – 27 White Lion Street, London N1 9PD**  
**Approved minutes**

## **Present**

**Council members.** Tobias Arnup, Elizabeth Aylett, Emer Douglas, Nigel Durkan, Rachael King (Ex-officio Chair), Simon Richardson (Hon. Secretary), Richard Whitaker (Vice-Chair), Tim Wright (Chair), Ami Woods, Mary Rose Brady.

**Representatives.** Dianne Eagles (ATOLL SIG), Marie Goosens (ATE SIG).

**In attendance:** Val Huet (Chief Executive Officer), Joan Woddis (BAAT Vice-President).

## **1. Apologies for absence and approval of minutes**

**1.1. Apologies.** Tony Chenery, Nicki Power, Jayne McConkey.

### **1.2. Corrections to the Minutes for the Council meeting on 8 March 2014.**

The minutes were approved without need for correction.

## **2. Matters arising**

### **Minutes for the Council meeting on 8 March 2014.**

**2.1.** National Audit of Psychological Therapies (NAPT). Richard Whitaker asked if Council is willing to endorse an accreditation scheme proposed as part of NAPT, which will include the various modalities in which psychological therapists work. Council members agreed in principle but wanted to clarify: whether other professionals who may use art in their therapy sessions are including this in their listing, which is acceptable; or whether such professionals are then describing themselves as 'art therapists' or 'art psychotherapists', which is a misuse of a professional title if they are not HCPC-registered.

**2.2.** Matisse study empirical critique. This has been published on Sage Open and will be featured on the Mental Elf in July. It has already been referenced in several publications. Rachael King suggested BAAT should now contact SIGN (Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network) and challenge its current schizophrenia guidelines, which exclude art therapy.

**2.3.** Attachment and the Arts conference. Tickets for this year's event, to be held at the Conway Hall on 26 June, are now almost sold out. The keynote speaker will be Professor Antonio Damasio who will give a talk on the neuroscience of emotion and feeling.

**2.4.** BAAT research. Sue Holttum (BAAT researcher) will be doing a literature review as part of the update of the reference list of relevant books and papers in BAAT's online library.

**2.5. Membership Group and Private Practice.** Tobias Arnup and Simon Richardson had come in an hour before today's Council meeting to review the current applications for the Private Practice register. Val Huet suggested Council look at the length of time (currently five years) before renewal of registration is required and decide if it should be shorter.

### **3. Co-option of Emer Douglas**

**3.1. Digital Media Guidelines working group.** Val explained Emer is interested in helping BAAT to develop a best practice document that will advise art therapists on how they can use the internet and digital media as part of their practice. Members voted unanimously to co-opt Emer on to Council to lead on this work.

**3.2. Digital Media Guidelines draft document.** Emer will work on a draft document for BAAT on using digital technology responsibly, for example, encrypting JPEGs of client's art work before they are sent by e-mail. Val suggested the draft document initially have two main strands: i) the use of applications - 'Apps' - in clinical practice, and ii) the safe storage and transmission of material

### **4. Chair's report**

**4.1. Special Interest Groups (SIGs).** Tim Wright said BAAT will be re-circulating the SIG guidelines to ensure all the groups are task focused and have a research emphasis. Val added that where SIGs develop practice guidelines they should be evidence based and reflect a range of approaches. Rachael King felt SIGs should have input from people working in different countries in the UK because of the differing legislative frameworks. Nigel Durkan suggested BAAT develop a training for SIG co-ordinators so people understand what the role entails. Marie Goosens supported this idea as it had been an problem for the ATE SIG.

**4.2. Curriculum review group.** The group is undertaking a review of all art therapy trainings in the UK and is currently cross referencing them with BAAT and HCPC standards of proficiency. In the autumn, the review will move to a wider consultation with a range of stakeholders. Richard Whitaker (Vice-Chair) will attend an educators meeting. Tony Chenery is to be asked to input views from practitioners in Scotland. The curriculum review group will then check to see that course documents match onto HCPC and BAAT guidelines. A survey of newly qualified BAAT members will also be undertaken. Tim emphasised the importance of courses preparing art therapists for practice in the field and the changing demands of clinical working environments.

**4.3. Special Educational Needs (SENs).** Tim is to meet with art therapist Lizzie Hill to discuss developing a guidelines document about working with children with SENs.

### **5. Vice Chair's report**

**5.1. NICE guidelines processes review.** Richard Whitaker briefed Council on the update of the review processes which are being proposed for the NICE guidelines. The new evidence profiles proposed for NICE, titled 'Grade', are likely to favour more RCT-based studies.

## **6. Chief Executive Officer's report**

**6.1.** BAAT financial report. Most outgoings are the same as last year while profits are up. The main anticipated cost this year will be paying for the website and database update. SIG expenditure is up, reflecting their increased activity, but Regional Group expenditure is down, partly reflecting current low morale amongst some co-ordinators.

**6.2.** Website and database. Work on the new database and website is going well, with the aim of bringing website management in-house. The changeover has been labour-intensive as expected but the project is coming in on cost and there will only be one month overlap between the old and new websites. The new IT services provider is a local firm, Challow.

**6.3.** BAAT research. Dr Sue Holttum has produced a report (circulated at Council) on her activities between 3 December 2013 and 28 May 2014. A longer term aim is to submit research bids using a hub and spoke model, with BAAT as the hub and SIGs as the spokes.

**6.4.** Non-psychotic disorders and art therapy review. Val consulted with Sue and they responded to the review, using the Matisse Study empirical critique to support their comments. The lessons learned will be invaluable if and when new RCTs are set up.

**6.5.** Code of Ethics and Memorandum and Articles. The 2014 Code of Ethics and amended Memorandum and Articles, both endorsed at the AGM, are now on the BAAT website.

**6.6.** The Adamson Collection. Housed at the South London & Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust since 1997 the collection has recently moved to the Wellcome Library. Val was asked to speak at an event to mark this transition, as was Edward Adamson's partner John Timlin.

**6.7.** Allied Health Professions. Val attended a meeting with Dan Poulter, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department of Health, to talk about AHPs and mental health. The AHPs are now putting together a briefing document to demonstrate how their input contributes to mental health services.

**6.8.** HCPC, Standards of Education and Training. Val attended a consultation workshop on the review of standards currently taking place. Concerns were shared about the loss of traditional training placements in the NHS and the number of trainees who now have placements where there is little awareness of professional standards and a high use of untrained volunteers.

## **7. AGM feedback**

**7.1.** Council members feedback. Rachael King (Ex-officio Chair) commented on how pressured for time the business meeting had seemed. The time allocated for the vote on the updated Code of Ethics had not anticipated the number of amendments coming from the floor. Tobias Arnup felt members had enjoyed the five presentations in the second part of the session, along with the discussion groups and opportunity for art making. Val said the 'quilt' of art work was now on the website and would be on the cover of Newsbriefing. She asked that there be more involvement by Council members with organising the 2015 AGM, with people taking on specific roles to help spread the workload.

## **8. BAAT research**

**8.1.** BAAT Research Officer. Dr Sue Holttum's report on her activities had been circulated at Council (see also point 6.3 above). She had focused on preparing the empirical critique of the Matisse Study but had also been working on a range of other research-related issues.

**8.2.** Research placements. BAAT is working in partnership with Dr Caoimhe McAnena, a clinical lecturer in psychology, to set up research placements for some of her students. The first placements will be with art therapists working in education.

## **9. Newsbriefing**

**9.1.** June 2014 issue. Val told Council the new issue is being formatted and will include a number of practice-based articles.

## **10. IJAT Inscape**

**10.1.** July 2014 issue. Tim Wright reported that the new issue will include two letters relating to Chris Wood's article about the Matisse Study in the December 2013 issue. Neil Springham will be joining the Inscape editorial board, which is currently reviewing how to make better use of its panel of advisors.

## **11. Service User involvement**

**11.1.** Evidence Based Co-Design (EBCD). Ami Woods met with the Kings Fund in early May, following which a working group was set up to apply for research funding. A jointly published article on EBCD in acute settings appeared in the Health Service Journal in April.

**11.2.** Learning Disabilities and Autistic Spectrum Disorder (LD/ASD). The St George's Researchnet group has completed another film about how Researchnet works. A short clip from this was shown at the AGM. The group is currently making films about lived experience of LD/ASD and mental health issues for South West London and St Georges NHS Trust.

**11.3.** Dual Experience (DE) research group. Val and Ami have begun a thematic analysis of the first round of the Delphi cycle questionnaire sent out to members of the group. This will be followed up with a focus group. DE members may participate in the curriculum review.

## **12. BAAT website and social media**

**12. 1.** Use of social media. Val reported that people are using BAAT's website less and its social media (such as Facebook or Twitter) more. Web traffic has changed, with people going to social media first and then looking on websites if they are interested in a topic.

## **13. Regional Groups and Countries**

**13.1.** Regional Group Network Co-ordinator. Nigel Durkan was confirmed in post.

**13.2.** Scotland. Rachael King updated Council on the main developments in Scotland.

**13.2.1.** Independence referendum. The vote will be on 18 September and the result could currently go either way. If there is a 'Yes' vote, the ramifications for BAAT will need to be discussed at the next Council meeting on 27 September.

**13.2.2.** BAAT Scotland. Simon Marshall had told the last BAAT Scotland meeting a new 8a grade art therapy post was to be created. Previously, senior posts had been left vacant when people retired or left. BAAT Scotland is also currently reviewing its structure and wants members to lead on areas of special interest; it is also looking for a service user representative to attend meetings.

**13.2.3.** AHPF Scotland Convenor. Rachael had attended her first meeting as convenor of AHPF Scotland. She had already found the post involves more work than stated. There is an assumption the postholder would work in the NHS, while Rachael works in social services/private practice. However, the role gives her more access to Scottish government with biannual meetings with the Minister of Health.

**13.2.4.** Policy Officer. Art therapists would benefit from a policy officer post in Scotland. This will be vital for working with the Scottish government if there is a vote for independence.

**13.3.** Wales. Elizabeth Aylett reported on the work and remit of the reconstituted Wales Arts Therapies Advisory Forum (WATAF), formerly the All Wales Network Committee for Arts Therapies Professions. WATAF's work will include regular audits of the arts therapies in Wales, showcasing the arts therapies at events like the National Eisteddfod, contributing to AHP responses to consultation documents from the Welsh government, and holding regular CPD events for arts therapists in Wales.

**13.4.** Northern Ireland. Jayne McConkey had sent apologies prior to the meeting.

## **14. Special Interest Groups**

**14.1.** Art Therapists in Education (ATE). Marie Goosens asked how SIGs can identify if people who attend meetings are BAAT members? People are getting on the Google lists and then have access to all the SIG's information. Val advised SIGs only put information like book reviews on social media but restrict things like training events or job adverts for members-only areas. Non-BAAT members can attend SIGs if they have a relevant specialism or are contributing to the meeting in some way but otherwise should be asked to pay.

**14.2.** Art Therapy Outlooks on Later Life (ATOLL). Dianne Eagles reported on the progress of the sub-group preparing best practice guidelines for working with early onset dementia. They are doing a thematic analysis of clinical practice with the aim of having a document to send to service user groups for feedback by the end of October. Once this is completed the draft document will be brought back to Council, probably in early 2015.

**14.3.** Art Therapists in Education North (NATE). Nigel Durkan said he will be standing down as co-ordinator of group in December. NATE will be able to continue to make use of the space he has negotiated at a gallery in Manchester. The gallery supports the aim of NATE being Manchester-based and is happy for members from outside the region to use it.

**14.4.** Forensic SIG. Tobias Arnup said this SIG presently has no co-ordinator as no-one has offered to take over since Lisa Banks stood down. The Google group has proved unreliable and the SIG is hoping to close it once BAAT's new database/website is in operation.

**14.5.** Art Therapy in Private Practice (PP SIG). Joan Woddis updated Council on the PP SIG's last meeting. The BAAT form for registration of private practitioners needs to be updated.

## **15. Dates of the next Council meetings**

27 September 2014

13 December 2014

7 March 2015

9 May 2015 (AGM)

## **16. Any Other Business**

**16.1.** Funding for people on art therapy trainings. Val will report back about the current situation at the next Council meeting.

**16.2.** Structure of the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC). Tim and Val will find out if arts therapists can be linked in with other HCPC-registered psychological therapists.

## **17. Elected Council members**

**17.1.** AGM complaint. Council discussed how to respond to the complaint from a BAAT member about an aspect of the AGM.

**17.2.** BAAT office and future planning. Val Huet updated Council members on office issues since the last meeting. This led into a discussion on how BAAT office can adapt to make best use of the new database and the opportunities presented by social media. Consideration was also given to a potential Professional Officer post, to take on some of the CEO's current role for England and Wales, and a Policy Officer post for Scotland.

**17.3.** Tasks for Council members. Mary Rose Brady said she will contribute to matters relating to children's issues. More members were sought for the curriculum review group.

**17.4.** AHPF research network. Val has made contact with this network which works to develop strategic direction around areas of research for the various AHPF professions. It also offers the chance for researchers from different AHPF professions to work on joint bids.

**17.5.** Update on BAAT CEO PhD and request for study leave. Val requested a week's study leave for the period 21 - 28 July to complete the submission process for her PhD thesis. Council members agreed to her request.