

European Federation of Hard of Hearing People
Editor: Ulla Konkari Koski

September 2005

EFHOH president letter

Dear friends,

When I write this article for the EFHOH newsletters I've been back from my holiday in Eastern Germany for a short time. It is always nice to be in other countries and to look what is better there for the hard of hearing.

I must say I was very happy when I and my partner went to Berlin on the regional train. In the train we could read the train information on the monitor, so that it was possible to read what the next station was, and all the other stations to the finish and with an actual timetable. When the rain stops the voice speaker first gives a call for attention and then two times the name of the station. The call of attention was very good so that you know there is a new station going up.

I think that all of you also experience good examples on holiday, which make life for hard of hearing people more simple and make Europe more accessible. Accessibility was and is EFHOH motto, not only in public transport, but also in education, work, information and all other parts of our modern society.

When you visit London this year, don't forget to visit the Victoria and Albert museum. A nice exhibition about the future of hearing, called Hearwear, is taking place.

50 years Onder Ons ('Amongst Ourselves')

On a very sunny Saturday in April I went by train to Antwerp, the town of the Flemish hard of hearing organisation Amongst Ourselves. In the beautiful parliament room of the province of Antwerp, their 50th birthday was organised. They had organised a very good and interesting symposium with different speakers. I wish Amongst Ourselves a lot of success for the next 50 years in their work for hard of hearing people in Flanders.

AGM of IFHOHYP

In May the SHJO, the Dutch organisation of hard of hearing young people organised the Annual General Meeting of IFHOHYP. It is good to know that IFHOHYP does a lot of good work for hard of hearing young people in Europe. Especially the training course in Strasbourg, organized in cooperation with the counsel of Europe has a very good program. This summer the IFHOHYP summer camp in and round Prague took place.

ICED

I am very happy that Siegfried Karg, our vice president, was present at the International Congress of Education of deaf children (ICED) held in Maastricht, the Netherlands this year. Siegfried has given a presentation about: "Only quality controlled induction loops are fit for the future".

The day before the ICED congress I visited the Phonak Satellite Events with the title: A sound future for children with hearing loss – how modern technology and a language enabling environment support children in the development of fluent spoken language. It was very nice to listen to the speakers of the Eduplex School in

Pretoria, South Africa. They have a unique inclusive education program, this was opened by Dr. Nelson Mandela in 2002. The inclusion of children with hearing loss in a mainstream school promotes the development of fluent spoken language and the attainment of good academic results.

I wish you all a very good autumn!

Marcel Bobeldijk
President of EFHOH

PS Maybe I meet you in the Landmark Hotel in London at 21 October at the RNID eAccessibility Conference.



Marcel Bobeldijk

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Opportunities EFHOH during the UK presidency

The UK Government is currently holding the Presidency of the European Union until December. During this time there are a lot happening in the EU that will affect deaf and hard of hearing people. There will be many opportunities for EFHOH to influence the important decisions being taken this year. Below are some of the highlights.

e Accessibility Communication and Conference

RNID will be a main partner in a European conference on access to technology for disabled people during the UK Presidency of the EU. The conference is also supported by the UK Government, European Commission and UK organisations for disabled and older people; Royal National Institute of the Blind, Sense (for deaf-blind people), Age Concern and Help the Aged.

The conference is being held on Friday 21st October at the Landmark Hotel in London. It will promote a future European Union report on eAccessibility (i.e. access to information and communication technology for disabled and older people).

The conference will discuss different tools to increase eAccessibility and apply it to particular technologies such as TV, telecommunications, the internet and the equipment used to deliver these services. If you would like more information on the conference please send an e mail to eaccessesvent@rnib.org.uk.

Television Without Frontiers

The Television Without Frontiers directive, which regulates TV broadcasting in the EU, is being reviewed at the moment. RNID, EFHOH and other organisations will be sending a response to the European Commission's consultation on the directive calling for more subtitling and sign language on television. If you would like to send any updates on subtitling and sign language in your country for the submission please e mail mark.hoda@rnid.org.uk before 1st September.

Telecoms Working group on Text and Visual Communication

A new working group made up of telecommunications industry representatives and disability organisations, such as EFHOH, RNID, EUD and EDF, has been set up to look at the problems deaf and hard of hearing people face in accessing telecoms. Among other things, the group aims to reach agreement on agree common European solutions for text and video telephony.

Battery directive

RNID will be asking MEPs to reverse some of the European Parliament's first reading amendments to the Battery directive which may severely restrict the use of hearing aid batteries.

For further information contact the writer of this article: Mark Hoda, European Campaigns Officer, RNID, mark.hoda@rnid.org.uk

eAccessibility Conference

The Landmark Hotel, London
21 October 2005

A major one-day conference on eAccessibility will be held in London under the auspices of the UK Presidency of the European Union, jointly organized by the DTI, RNIB, and RNID.

The conference will consider items arising from the European Commission's communication on eAccessibility due to be published June 2005.

If you are concerned with eAccessibility, then this conference will be an invaluable opportunity to hear about the emerging issues, and to discuss and comment on proposals for the future. There will be participation from the 25 EU Member States, the EU Commission, disability and age groups, as well as representatives from the telecommunications, Internet, broadcasting and IT industries.

To join the mail list to receive information about this important event:

Email: eaccessesvent@rnib.org.uk / Tel. +44(0)20 7391 2087

Exhibition in the Victoria & Albert Museum in London: Hearwear – The Future of Hearing

Image: Pearson Lloyd
Image: Pearson Lloyd
26 July 2005 - 5 March 2006
Free Admission

The results of an innovative project to radically re-think the future of hearing, Hearwear displays designs and prototypes by some of the UK's best designers, including Ross Lovegrove, Priestman Goode, Industrial Facility and IDEO. The display will show how fashionably designed 'hearwear' can be as desirable and accessible as 'eyewear', and will change the way people think about hearing.

Hearwear suggests revolutionary new possibilities in hearing products for everyone, not just people who are deaf or hard of hearing, and introduces the possibility of new products to allow everyone to control and enhance the sounds around us. Imagine having a remote control you could use to instantly block out the sound of noisy builders or a screaming child; or a product that allows you to hold a clear conversation in a noisy bar. The display includes stylish and attractive hearing products, some almost like jewellery, that people not only need but will really want to wear.

The Hearwear display shows how revolutionary thinking about hearing could be reflected in exciting new product designs and highlights the massive potential for industry to create innovative, stylish and desirable hearing products which, if they were available on the high street, millions of people would want to purchase and use.

Developed by RNID and the magazine Blueprint with brand consultancy Wolff Olins in association with the V&A.

European Disability Forum News

Sources: EDF Pre& EDF Weekly Mailing

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES – European Commission meet on access to electronic communications equipment

On 27 June 2005 the European Commission DG Enterprise organised a special meeting with key stakeholders to develop ideas for a road map on address the access barriers disabled persons face to electronic communications equipment.

The meeting was attended by representatives from EDF, EFHOH, EUD, EBU and RNIB. The meeting was also attended by representatives from the electronic communications industry, the European Standardisation bodies and European Commission DG on Information Society.

Following discussions the key decisions from the meeting was to create two working groups to include all the main stakeholders to advance and finalise the road maps and proposals to the Commission on the two main priority areas.

Working Group 1

Text Communications (Chaired by Mr Helstrom of COST 219), to include representatives from EDF, EFHOH, EUD, European DeafBlind Network.

Working Group 2

Access to equipment (Chaired by Mr Heikkinen of EICTA), to include representatives from EDF, EUD, EFHOH, Inclusion Europe, European DeafBlind Network....

The respective Chairs of the Working Groups would be drafting the Terms of Reference for the two Working Groups to be circulated to the Working Group members.

The main work would be done via the virtual networks – via the iInternet.

Meetings planned:

December 2005 – mid-term review meeting
 8-9 March 2006 – finalised reports and proposals to be presented to TCAM.

For further information contact Sophie.Beaumont@edf-feph.org

EFHOH Program 2005

Date	Event	Participant(s)
29 th Jan	Visit the FEPEDA board meeting in the Netherlands	Marcel
7 th Apr	EFHOH board meeting in the Hague	All board members
8 th -9 th Apr	EFHOH AGM	All board members
23 rd Apr	50 years Onder Ons Belgium	Marcel
8 th May	IFHOHYP AGM Utrecht the Netherlands	Marcel
12 th -13 th May	EIDD Annual Conference 2005 Culture for all in Berlin	Ritva-Liisa
27 th -29 th May	EDF AGA Barcelona Spain	Marcel
July	ICED congress in Maastricht NL	Siegfried

21 st Oct	RNID congress about subtitling London	Marcel
27 th -30 th Oct	Subtitling workshop Bologna Italy	?
11 th -13 th Nov	Joint board meeting IFHOH and EFHOH	All board members
1 st –2 nd Dec	European Day of Disabled People	

EFHOH Program 2006

Date	Event	Participant(s)
28 th -29 th Apr	EFHOH and IFHOH Bi-annual general meeting in Croatia	All board members
27 th -28 th May	EDF AGA	Marcel

EFHOH Board Task Allocation

Marcel Bobeldijk: Contact person EDF, board member of IFHOH, subtitling, Public transport

Siegfried Karg: Contact person German speaking members and contact person industry/sponsors and is the contact person for the technical subjects

Jan Lamby: Secretary's work contact person all our members, important is make a new up to date member list with the contact persons and Agenda 22.

Ritva-Liisa Schädling: Treasurers work and look to new sponsors/funds

Ulla Konkari Koski: Communication and contacted person of IFHOHYP and the editor of the newsletter and the website.

Adventurous trip in Senegal and the Gambia

27th January-10th February 2006

From 27th January- 10th February 2006, Cultural Center O'Dunbeye Land is organizing a special holiday in Senegal and Gambia for deaf and hard hearing people, in cooperation with the NVVS (Dutch Society of the Hard Hearing).

This year holiday will be an adventurous trip in the Gambia and in the south of Senegal.

We will arrive at the airport in the Gambia, the country in which we will stay for a couple of days. In Gambia we will stay at Marakissa Camp Riverside, a true paradise for bird lovers. You can also hire a small boat to discover the surroundings. After several days we will go to the Basse Casamance in Senegal, where we will visit some of the small villages in the Kalounaye as well as the regional capital city Ziguinchor. We can make some walking tours in the small villages to meet the local population. After our visit to Ziguinchor we will leave for the very beautiful place Oussouye, where we rest some days to make some trips (by boat) in the neighborhood.

We can hire bikes to make trips in the surrounding.

The second week of the holiday we will stay at O'Dunbeye Land, situated at the Atlantic Ocean in a village called Abene. There, everyone will get to choose his or her own activities. There are various music workshops to choose from, such as African percussion, dancing, wood crafting, batik work or African cooking, but also fishing at big fishes (barracuda) belongs to the possibilities!

Of course, there will be time to relax on the beautiful beach as well. The experience has taught us, that clients, when they are back at home, look back at an unforgettable holiday in Senegal.

Information

When you are interested in this trip, you can make contact with Mr. Kees Twilt in Holland. (E-mail: ctwilt@hotmail.com)

Kees Twilt will guide the trip, as it has been in previous years. Additional support from O'Dunbeye Land will be provided by Ibrahim Coly. During our stay at O'Dunbeye Land in the second week of the holiday, Babakar Sow, as usual, will be our guide.

Accommodations

During the trip we will spend the nights at simple but beautifully situated and well-kept accommodations. In Abene we will be staying at O'Dunbeye Land. Most accommodations have joint sanitary supplies.

Total trip price is 635 €

The price includes:

- All inland transportation
- Accommodations and breakfast during the trip
- Accommodations and half-board at O'Dunbeye Land
- Accompaniment during the tour and activities

The price excludes:

- Transport by plane : England - Banjul (The Gambia)
- Travel to and from home to your airport
- Other meals and tips
- Workshops in Abene (€ 7.50 for half a day, djembe rental is € 2,50)
- Insurances
- Airport tax in the Gambia

travel and cancellation insurance requirements

In the unfortunate case of an accident, we have to be able to provide optimal assistance to our visitors, often through emergency centres. For this reason, travel insurance is an obligated requirement for all our trips. Cancellation insurance is not obligated, but we strongly recommend them.

Cancellation insurances cover the costs when a holiday is cancelled or prematurely ended, in case of illness for example. Please note that cancellation insurances have to be effected within the first 7 days after the booking. Cancellation insurances for other cost (such as stays and activities) can be affected as well.

O'Dunbeye Land cancellation terms

Because of necessary preparations by the organization (accommodation bookings, excursion reservations, etc.), we have some cancellation terms.

Application form and more information available from the leader of the trip Mr. Kees Twilt: ctwilt@hotmail.com

International holiday's meeting for hard of hearing and late deafened in Wehlen / Germany

Dear friends in Europe,
as already during the last years in England, Austria, Finland, Switzerland and Slovenia, we also want to invite to the international holiday's meeting for hard of hearing and late deafened to Germany in nice "Saxon Switzerland" on the Elbe.

Place: the meeting takes place in town Wehlen on the shore of the Elbe, approx. 25 km from the Saxon capital Dresden.

Appointment: Thursday 03.08. till Sunday 13.08.2006 (10 days)

Lodging: Hotel Wehlener Hof and at towards recumbent Strand Hotel. (please look www.strandhotel-wehlen.de)

Charges (without the excursions):

- 10 overnight accommodations with breakfast sideboard
- 10 x three-course dinner
- 1x packed lunch for a big wandering,
- 1x using of bicycles
- and guest's card with a lot of privileges

Every room has modern furnishings with a shower, WC, TV and phone, and the price is 448 € per person in the double room in the Wehlener Hof OR 498 € per person in the single room in the Stand Hotel.

Possible holiday's offers:

- 2-3 controlled wanderings in the national park Saxon Switzerland
- bicycle tour along the Elbe River
- town guidance in Dresden and Meissen (porcelain manufacture)
- steam navigation on the Elbe
- one day bus journey to Prague
- further offers: www.saechsische-schweiz.de

Registration:

Rooms have been ordered for approx. 50 persons. Deadline for applications is 30th November, 2005. At the same moment is with the registration a deposit of 150 EUR to pay under the following bank connection:

Receiver's name: Strand Hotel

Account No.: 3 000 038 034, IBAN : DE75 8505 0300 3000 0380 34
Name of the Bank: Ostsächsische Sparkasse, BIC-Code: OSD DD E81

Remarks: International meeting of hard of hearing 2006

Contact: Registration and correspondence, please, to
(in German) Dirk Bracher, Dürerstr. 83a, D-47447 Moers, Germany
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Heartly welcome in "Saxon Switzerland"!

EUROPEAN COMPARISON OF SUBTITLING:

Dear all, this is the EFHOH comparison about subtitling in the different European countries. When the information about your country is not correct please inform me what are the correct amounts etc. We like to have the up to date information about 2005 and the next years. When you miss your country on this list please send also information about your country to me. My email address is marbob32@hotmail.com lot of thanks of your support.

In the next EFHOH newsletter we will publish also this comparison of Subtitling in Europe with up to date information. I think it will be nice to follow the growing of the % amount in the European countries.

	COUNTRY	Subtitling at this moment	100% in Year?
	AUSTRIA	ORF = in 2003 2,751 hours	?
	BELGIUM	Flanders: 2003 2004 2005 2006 VRT = 35% 40% 45% 50% Commercial channel: VTM = 1 program VT4 = 0% KA2 = 0% Some regional Channels have subtitling as WTV and AVS.	2010
	BULGARIA	No subtitling only one the national tv gives summaries on the news program at 19.30	
	DENMARK	2003 2004 DR1 = 1930 1912 hours Commercial channel DR2 = 1223 1245 The total hours of subtitling of Danish spoken tv programs are 6459 hours this give a % of 49%	? ? ?
	FINLAND	2005 YLE 1 = 20% YLE 2 = 20% MTV 3 = 0% Nelonen = 0 % SEBTV = 0%	? ? ? ? ?
	FRANCE	2003 2004 France 2 23% 30% France 3 14% 18% France 5 8% 10% TF1 21% 28% M6 7% 9% Canal + 3,5% 4,5% TOTAL 8.700 h 11.700 h	
	GERMANY	2005 ARD = 16% ZDF = 18% BR = 8% WDR = 7%	? ?

		<p>MDR = 6% 3sat = 6% NDR = 6% SWR BW 5% RBB = 3% BR-alpha 3% Phoenix 2% Kabel 1 2% Pro 7 = 1% All the other German tv Channels 0%</p>	
	Hungary	<p>Public channel less than 1% MTV: on every days the daily news 19.30-20.00 and on Saturday evening a film in prime time. M2 = Duna TV: sometimes a program by digital text (subtitling). Commercial channel: RTL, Klub, TV2 and others: sometimes a program by digital text subtitling. Broadcasting via cable network: HIR TV (news television): running news flow. BBC prime time 40% (rough estimate).</p>	
	Ireland	<p>2004 2005 2006 2007</p> <p>RTE 60% 70% 80% 90% TV3 60% 70% 80% 90% TG4 60% 70% 80% 90% Since 2004 80% at peak time</p>	<p>100% would not be a final target this leaves scopes for news flashes etc.</p>
	Italy	<p>The national public t.v. channels have an average time of subtitle programs about 2 hours 15 min./day. Some commercial channels has subtitle program about 2 hours 30 min./day.</p>	
	Latvia	<p>Lot of films on television in Latvian language have Russian subtitling. Some films are in Russian with subtitles in Latvian. In the cinema are the most films in English with two languages subtitles Latvian and Russian.</p>	
	Lithuania	<p>1 Public channel 3 Commercial channels but 0% subtitling. Maybe after 2-3 years some channels introduce teletext.</p>	
	Netherlands	<p>2005 2006</p> <p>Netherlands 1 = 53% 65% Netherlands 2 = 53% 65% Netherlands 3 = 53% 65%</p> <p>Commercial Channels</p> <p>RTL 4 = 2% RTL 5 = 0% SBS6 = 0,5%</p>	<p>2008 2008 2008 2010 2010 2010 2010</p>

		Net 5 = 0% Yorin = 0% Veronica = 0%	2010 2010
	Norway	NRK 1 = 21% NRK 2 = 14% Commercial Channels no such demands Channel TV 2 0%	50% in the end of 2005
	Slovak Republic	2005 Public channel 1 = 25% TV Markiza = 10%	
	Slovenia	Slovenia 1 = 37% 24 hours Slovenia 1 = 55% 6 pm to 11 pm Slovenia 2 = 25% Slovenia 2 = 34% 6 pm to 11 pm	Since 25-04-2001 Slovenia has a Media law.
	Spain	Public Channels (state) TV1-TV2 3.300 hours Regional Channels: TeleMadrid; 1.358 hours Television Catalana (TV3): 4.721 hours Canal Sur Andalucia: 1.324 hours Television Valenciana (Canal 9): 1.185 hours Euskal Televista: 405 hours Commercial Channels: Telecinco: 2.347 hours Antena 3: 2.691 hours Digital Channels: Cartoon Network y Disney Channels: 40%	
	Sweden	Public Channels SVT 1 and SVT2 = 43% Commercial Channels TV3 = 0% TV4 = 2% Channel 5 = 100% (but there are only a few Swedish produced programs in this channel)	? ? ?
	Switzerland	All together = 7500 hours	Since 2005 media law
	United Kingdom	BBC channels = 80% ITV1 = 90% Channel 4 = 90% Channel 5 = 80% Cable and satellite channels = Channels without exemptions must subtitle 60%, 5 years after 2003 Communications Act (or for future new channels when they start broadcasting) and 80% after 10 years.	2008 2010 2010 2008