



The Association
for Child and Adolescent
Mental Health



Conference
prices start
from just
£52.50

Hearing Voices

Tuesday 16 January 2018 / 09.00 - 16.15 / Birmingham

De Vere Colmore Gate, Birmingham: 5th & 7th Floor Colmore Gate, Bull Street Entrance, Birmingham, B3 2QD

People use the term 'Hearing Voices' when describing a type of auditory hallucination that is often associated with mental health problems. In particular, this form of auditory hallucination is often linked to those who have a psychotic disorder, such as schizophrenia. However, a significant number of otherwise healthy people have detailed their experience of Hearing Voices; indeed, experiencing auditory hallucinations is in no way a direct indication of a mental health disorder.

This conference brings together experts from the fields of early intervention, support services, and research, to give delegates the opportunity to come together to discuss recent research and practical take-aways relating to Hearing Voices.

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The day is an excellent opportunity for those who have an interest in child and adolescent mental health. It would be particularly useful for clinicians, counsellors, social workers, and school counsellors. Those who have an interest in social science and humanities will also benefit from attending.

Speakers

Eve Mundy

Voice Collective

Eve will join us to speak about Voice Collective and what support they can provide young people who hear voices, and also what training they can offer professionals who work with such young people. She will also - with the support of some young people - run a practical workshop in the afternoon all around how professionals can implement a support service in their Trust/employer for CYP who hear voices.

Voice Collective is a UK-wide support service for children and young people who hear voices, see visions or have other 'unusual' sensory experiences or beliefs. The Voice Collective team provide support to children and young people aged 6-25, in the community, within adolescent inpatient units and in detention, and their parents/carers and families. The team provide training and consultancy to community and inpatient CAMHS, EIP teams, youth organisations, schools and Young Offender Institutions, amongst others. Voice Collective is a Mind in Camden project funded by BBC Children in Need and the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation.

See www.voicecollective.co.uk,
or email info@voicecollective.co.uk



Paul Patterson

Forward Thinking Birmingham

Paul works as the Public Health Lead of the Early Intervention Team at Forward Thinking Birmingham. He will talk about his expertise in voices from a trauma and developmental/prevention perspective.

Professor Lisa Bortolotti

University of Birmingham

Lisa Bortolotti was born in Italy and studied philosophy in Bologna, London, Oxford, and Canberra before starting her academic career as Honorary Lecturer in Bioethics in the Centre for Social Ethics and Policy at the [University of Manchester](#) and Research Associate on the EC-funded [EU-RECA](#) (on the concept of research and the ethical regulation of research activities). Lisa is now Professor of Philosophy at the [University of Birmingham](#) specialising in philosophy of psychology and psychiatry. She is particularly interested in the strengths and limitations of the human mind, and has written extensively about delusions, inconsistent beliefs, memory distortions, confabulation, and failures of self-knowledge; including *Introduction to the Philosophy of Science* (Polity Press, 2008), *Delusions and Other Irrational Beliefs* (OUP, 2009), and her latest book, *Irrationality* (Polity, 2014).



Her current 5-year research project on Pragmatic and Epistemic Role of Factually Erroneous Cognitions and Thoughts ([PERFECT](#)), is funded by the [European Research Council](#) and aims to establish whether irrational beliefs can make an unexpectedly positive contribution to our well being, success, or knowledge.

About the Talks

Project PERFECT and the Stigma Associated with Mental Health Issues - Lisa Bortolotti

In her talk Lisa Bortolotti asks how researchers in the humanities and the social sciences can contribute to fight the stigma associated with mental health issues, and suggest that it is important to argue for the continuity of human cognition across clinical and non-clinical populations. Mental health comes in degrees and we all experience distress in one form or another, at one time or another. When irrationality and impaired decision-making is tied to mental health issues, as it happens routinely in crime reports by the popular press, what is overlooked is that all human agents are imperfectly rational and ineffective decision makers.

Project PERFECT focuses on the potentially beneficial and adaptive features of those patterns of behaviour which are regarded as irrational and as symptomatic of mental health issues, such as delusions and confabulations; and (2) on the continuity between such behaviours and everyday, non-pathological, beliefs and memory reports on which people base their decisions. The emerging view is one of complexity, where there is no theoretical or empirical justification for an “us and them” attitude. Not only do the most obvious “marks of madness” have a role to play in context and can contribute to a person’s wellbeing or knowledge, but their features are shared by more common and less stigmatised beliefs, such as positive illusions.

Eve Mundy

Voice Collective

Hearing voices is a common human experience. 75% of us have heard a voice or voices at some point or another, whilst almost 1 in 10 children and young people hear voices on a regular basis. Whilst 2/3 of children and young people who hear voices find their experiences positive or neutral, 1/3 find them distressing and difficult to cope with. It is possible to cope with, and to live alongside, voices, visions and other unusual sensory experiences, and there are lots of practical and creative ways to support children and young people to do so (some of which will be discussed during the presentation).

Programme

- 09.00 Registration
- 09.30 **Welcome by Madan Mall**
Chair of the West Midlands
Branch of ACAMH
- 09.45 **Eve Mundy**
Voice Collective
- 10.30 **Questions for Eve Mundy**
- 10.45 Break
- 11.00 **Paul Patterson**
Public Health Lead at Forward
Thinking Birmingham
- 11.45 **Questions for Paul Patterson**
- 12.00 Lunch and Networking
- 13.30 **Professor Lisa Bortolotti**
University of Birmingham
- 14.15 **Questions for Lisa Bortolotti**
- 14.30 Break
- 14.45 **Workshops with Voice
Collective and young people**
- 16.00 **Closing words and thanks
by Madan Mall**
- 16.15 West Midlands Branch AGM

Networking

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recording the speakers at this event.

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Booking form

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<input type="checkbox"/> £110 PLATINUM MEMBER <i>(formerly known as ACAMH Member)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> £126 GOLD MEMBER	<input type="checkbox"/> £142 SILVER/BRONZE MEMBER £158 NON-MEMBER	<input type="checkbox"/> £52.50 PUBLICATIONS/DIGITAL MEMBER <i>(formerly known as Student/65+ Member)</i>			
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Closing date: 15 January 2018. Early application is advised. Confirmation will be mailed out to all delegates who enclose their fee/invoice order. If you have not received confirmation at least one week before the event please contact the Conference Department. Do not turn up on the day without having received confirmation.

Cancellation policy: cancellations received a month in advance of the event will be refunded in full less a £10 administration charge; cancellations received after this date will receive no refund. Data Protection Act: by signing this application, I agree to ACAMH keeping data about me for the administration of training courses and conferences. All data held by ACAMH is not revealed to any individual or organisation other than that required by statute.