

National Register of Public Service Interpreters

Registrants' Newsletter May 2017

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Q 'Fake news'

It is an important part of any professional's life to be able to weigh the information presented to you: is the information from a reliable source? Does the information provider have a conflict of interest? What's their agenda? You assess information all the time, whether you're deciding to accept an assignment or attend a CPD event run by an unfamiliar provider. But now we also must contend with something called **'fake news' – deliberately contrived information usually disseminated**



via the internet. Help with recognising fake news, however, does exist. There is the charity **Full Fact**, for example, which was set up to check facts for their veracity, and there are frequent **public debates**. As the subject of false information itself in the past, NRPSI recommends always going to the source to check facts.

Q Protecting your data

Commercial agencies are playing an ever-increasing role in procuring language professionals for the public services. This has led to a proliferation of agencies competing for the same interpreters. Even so, **agencies must respect your right to privacy**. While organisations can legitimately contact you via the Register, if you



request not to be contacted further, they must respect this. You should therefore keep a record of all such requests that you issue. If you are subsequently contacted by the same organisation, make a complaint in writing to the organisation first and keep a record of all communications. If you continue to be contacted, this can form the basis of a complaint to the **Information Commissioner's Office**. You might also be interested in using the **Telephone Preference Scheme** – the free opt-out service that enables you to block unsolicited sales/marketing calls. Although, please be aware this will prevent any speculative calls to you.

Code of Conduct CPD event with London Metropolitan University

This **one-day continuing professional development (CPD) event** on interpreting ethics and the NRPSI Code of Conduct will take place at London Metropolitan University's Moorgate campus on 15 June 2017. 100% of Registrants who attended the first event said they would recommend attending a future event to colleagues. Find out more and book your place via the **Eventbrite page**. Please don't delay your booking, as we will be sending out discussion materials to delegates ahead of the day.

\mathbf{Q} Home Office interpreter recruitment

The **Home Office** have reported a good initial response to their **recruitment drive**. If you are interested in working in one of the varied departments managed by the Home Office (including UK Visas & Immigration, Border Force, Immigration Enforcement and Her Majesty's Passport Office) and have not yet contacted them, note that recruitment is still open.

Q Research on police interpreters

Mandy Fourcy, an MA in Translation and Interpreting Studies student at the University of Manchester, is conducting research into the interpreter's code of conduct in respect of police interviews and would like input from interpreters who work with the police. To take part, please complete the **anonymous questionnaire** by 31 July.

NRPSI news

Q NRPSI at Language Show London, 13-15 October 2017

If you are considering attending the **Language Show** this year, this is an early alert that it will be at a different venue. The show is moving to the Business Design Centre in Islington. NRPSI will once again have a stand in the exhibition area and participate in the seminar programme. More details of our involvement will be provided closer to the October event.

${f Q}$ Recognising professional memberships and charter status

NRPSI considers relevant professional memberships to be an important indicator of professionalism. We therefore encourage you to **display any appropriate memberships on the online Register** by choosing the 'show more' options in the Interpreter's Room (see **Registrants' Newsletter #21** for further advice on enhancing your record). Some ten years ago, the CloL introduced the possibility of linguists becoming **chartered**. Those interested in this opportunity need to be a member of either the CloL, the ITI or the AIIC (the International Association of Conference Interpreters). We have now amended our database so that those who have achieved chartered status can display this on the Register. Please provide evidence of your achievement to the Registration Team in the usual way.

I hope you find this issue an informative and enjoyable read. If you have a suggestion for inclusion in the newsletter, email **admin@nrpsi.org.uk**.

Stephen Bishop, Executive Director, NRPSI