



Researchers at the Centre for Appearance Research (CAR) at UWE, Bristol are being supported by the VTCT Foundation to work with the charities involved in the Appearance Collective (AC) to provide evidence-based psychosocial support for people affected by visible differences.

Dear all,

As we've heard many times recently, it's been a challenging year for everyone. But we know it's been particularly difficult for charitable organisations, so we'd like to take this opportunity to send a very big THANK YOU for your continued support which is enabling us to carry out this exciting programme of research and associated activities.

As 2020 draws to a close, we've spent some time reflecting on our progress to date. Since our funding from the VTCT Foundation began in July 2017, we've conducted **23 different research projects** related to visible difference. So far, these have involved more than **3,400 participants**. We could have not done this without the support of the Appearance Collective charities, particularly your help in promoting our studies to potential participants. We've also delivered **8 workshops** related to this work, and we've been delighted to hear how they are helping you and your organisation. The next workshop is detailed below, and we would welcome any suggestions of topics for future workshops that you would find useful.

Lastly, we wish you all a very happy, relaxing and safe Christmas, and look forward to continuing to work with you in 2021.

With best wishes,

Di Harcourt & the VTCT Foundation research team at CAR

Since our last newsletter, we've all been touched by the sad news of the death of James Partridge, OBE. In addition to establishing two organisations (Changing Faces and Face Equality International) to support people with disfigurements of any kind and campaign for face equality, James played a key role in the creation of what was to become the Centre for Appearance Research (CAR). We can't overstate the significance of the impact he made to the field of visible difference. He was an inspiration to all of us at CAR, and will be sadly missed.



Save the Date:

The next Appearance Collective virtual workshop delivered by CAR **"Understanding men's experiences of visible difference: Learning from an alopecia study"** will be held on **Tuesday 13 April 10:00-12:30**.

More information and link to register to follow shortly.

ACT It Out: All participants recruited!

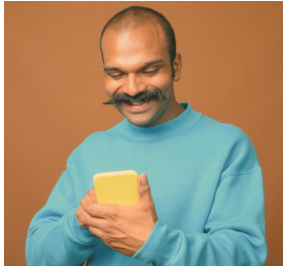
Thank you to everyone from the Appearance Collective for helping to share ACT It Out, the prototype mobile App for adults with any visible difference. Thanks to your efforts we have now completed recruitment, with 36 participants having picked up ACT It Out. We will have the full results from the study in January, so keep posted for an update on the findings!



CAR is now on Instagram! Follow us at CAR_UWE.



Men with alopecia / hair loss wanted for a new survey study!



Nick and Fabio from CAR and our friends at Alopecia UK are currently running a study funded by a VTCTF small grant to explore men's experience of hair loss. This gives us a great opportunity to understand more about what it's like to be a man with hair loss (of any kind, such as alopecia areata and male pattern baldness). And crucially, how Alopecia UK can best offer help and information for men with hair loss.



Any **UK-based man** aged **16+** who's experienced **any form of hair loss** can take the online survey, which takes around 20 minutes: go.uwe.ac.uk/MensHairLossSurvey

If you know anyone who might be interested in taking part, please do let them know!

Thank you!

New CAR member

We're very pleased to welcome a new member to the VTCT Foundation research team at CAR.

Christia Huntington joined us on 1st November, to carry out a PhD funded by the VTCT Foundation in partnership with UWE, Bristol. She will be exploring online support for people who have been affected by burn injuries, and her PhD will include the development of a burns-specific module with the Healthtalk website (www.healthtalk.org).

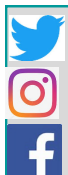
We're looking forward to sharing the progress of her PhD with you, and hope we can introduce you to her in person in the near future!



Our 8th Virtual VTCT Foundation research team meeting of 2020!

Lastly, we would like to wish you all a **Merry Christmas** and a **Happy New Year**.

We look forward to working with you in 2021



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