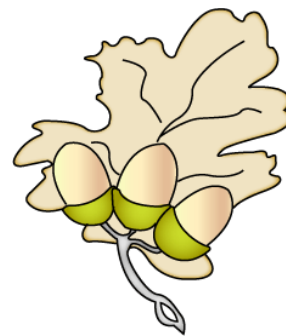


The Dyslexia Association

News Bulletin



Summer 2011

Summer TTRS

We are planning another Summer Intensive course of Touch Type Read and Spell for children and teenagers in August. Helen Worsley, the course tutor, has developed a winning format over the last few years. Each 2½ hour session is broken up with a variety of learning activities and games so that the younger children get a break and a chance to produce colourful posters and pictures to remind them of what they have learned. The older ones can keep firmly focused on the touch typing if they wish, and everyone gets a chance to socialise with other dyslexics.

It's good for younger children to improve basic spelling and reading, for older ones who need to type confidently to produce school course work, and for students who need to notch up their speed of producing assignments.

Monday 15th to Friday 19th August 2011 9:30am to 12 noon **or** 1:00 to 3:30pm

Bassetlaw Support Group

A very friendly, supportive group for dyslexic people of all ages has recently started in Retford and Worksop. They have already run several successful meetings. They are planning a Roadshow at The Well in Retford on Saturday 12th November 2011 from 10.00 am to 3.00 pm.

Call Bev on 01777 816 661 or visit www.dyslexia.uk.net for details and future events.

Rutland Dyslexia Support Group

The fourth Rutland Roadshow will take place on Saturday 24th September 2011 at the Victoria Hall in Oakham. The range of displays and stalls will be bigger than ever, and dyslexia specialists will be there to give expert information and advice. These events get bigger and better every year, attracting people from way beyond Rutland.

Put the dates in your diary. Call the Helpline or check our website for more details nearer the time.

Lincoln Support Group

The Lincoln Support group continues to meet on the 2nd Monday of the month at the Old Vicarage, Croft Street, Lincoln. This is a social discussion group with a core of about 8 members. The next meeting is Monday 12th September 2011.

SEN Support in Schools

Do you get mad when dyslexic children are undervalued at school, when people assume that weak literacy goes with low ability? If so, the title of the Green Paper on the future of SEN provision: 'Support and Aspiration' sounds encouraging. Politicians talk about their passion for improving the lives of children with SEN and disabilities.

But wait. They don't seem to mean children with specific learning difficulties. They mean children with profound and multiple disabilities. We think that these proposals conceal cuts for children with dyslexia and a range of other 'unseen' difficulties. Of course it is important to ensure that the health and learning needs of the most disabled are met, but not at the expense of those whose difficulties are less dramatic, but still potentially devastating if the right help is not offered at the right time.

The Green Paper invites comments. The consultation closed on June 30th. TDA has already sent in a response. See www.dyslexia.uk.net/news for a brief summary of our position.

AGM

The Dyslexia Association Annual General Meeting took place on Wednesday 6th July 2011. Elected Trustees agree to serve for three years and the following members elected in 2010 will continue to serve until the AGM in 2013: Jean Hudson, Ewan Lamont, Jake McMahon, Eric Rutherford, Mike Thomason, Helen Wilson. At this AGM the members elected Claire Draper, who had previously served as a co-opted Trustee and Anna Mimms. TDA is fortunate to have Trustees with a breadth of skills and experience. The chair thanked Becky Emmett and Carla Tudbury who resigned after several years service. The Trustees elected Mike Thomason to serve as Chair of the Board of Trustees.

Helpline

In June we said goodbye to Ruth Allen, one of our Helpline Advisors. Ruth resigned after many years of giving information and advice to our clients. In 1998 Ruth took part in our volunteer training programme, becoming a volunteer Helpliner the following year and joining our staff team as a Helpline Advisor in 2006. During this time Ruth also completed the post graduate certificate in dyslexia, going on to specialise in teaching Maths to our Train to Gain clients. We thank her for her dedication to improving the lives of dyslexic people of all ages and wish her well in her future career.

We are delighted to welcome Mel Cope who will take over the role and work alongside Anne Benson. Mel is dyslexia qualified and has many years experience of assessing, teaching and supporting dyslexics and the families.

Thank you !

We are grateful for a legacy donation of £1000 which at the request of the executors we will use to support adults who cannot find funding for desperately needed dyslexia support services.

If you would like to know more about our current activities, please look at our website,

www.dyslexia.uk.net or call the Helpline on **0115 924 6888** (10.00am to 4.00pm Monday to Friday).