

Newsletter no.1

Welcome to the November 2009 issue of our newsletter.

The first week in November is Dyslexia Awareness Week. This year the theme is "Dyslexia Strengths" so it is with great pleasure that we are re-launching our local Northamptonshire Dyslexia Association (NDA) Newsletter.

In Northamptonshire, we have always believed that one of our strengths as a local charity is our networking, enabling people to keep in touch with others who have an interest in dyslexia. One of the ways we do this is via our busy helpline which is managed by experienced volunteer helpline operators. We also have a frequently visited website www.northantsdyslexia.co.uk which we are very proud of.

In addition, the NDA provides tutoring, screening and assessing services. A list of tutors, assessors and details of our Adult Screening Service can be accessed via our website.

As we are affiliated to the British Dyslexia Association (BDA) we have always distributed the official magazine of the BDA "Dyslexia Contact". Our local newsletter is another way of keeping us all updated as well as an opportunity to share information.

By working together we can make a real difference for dyslexics everywhere.

Caroline Bilbie
Chairperson

NDA NEWS

Northamptonshire Dyslexia Association maintains an active group of committee members who meet each month. They regularly focus time to look at all aspects of the activities of the NDA – business plan, grant applications, membership, tutor group, screening, etc. Do remember to look frequently at the recent editions on website www.northantsdyslexia.co.uk - and if you wish to purchase a book you can do that via Amazon – where there is a link there which gives a small donation to NDA.

- We will be including profiles of committee members ahead too!
- The NDA AGM is being held on Monday 30th November 2009 – 7.00 pm – at Sunley Management Centre, University of Northampton, Park Campus – invitations have been despatched. Please do join us at this event where we are delighted to have the opportunity of welcoming Professor Richard Rose, Professor of Special and Inclusive Education at the University here. His presentation is titled "What does Inclusion mean – How will it affect schools?"

NDA wins Grassroots Grant - NDA was recently successful in obtaining a further grant from the Northamptonshire Community Foundation enabling us to continue our work and to retain our resource centre in Moulton Park for at least another 12 months. The grant of just under £5000 will also enable NDA to undertake some very important work ahead 1) to undertake a review of our strategic plan and devise a new business plan for the coming three years 2) to try and increase the number of beneficiaries of our services by raising our profile in the county with a marketing programme and new materials 3) to renew screening tools licence and organise new training/networking for our volunteers. We are extremely grateful to the Foundation's continued support and belief in our work.

Any letters or items for the next issue need to be sent to the Editor,, by 24th January 2010.

Local

1st -7th November 2009 Dyslexia Awareness Week
www.bdadyslexia.org.uk

1st -7th November, 2009 NDA /BDA Dyslexia Awareness Week Event. Information Stall, all week in the Main Library, Abington Street, Northampton.

30th November 2009 7pm.NDA AGM and Talk by Professor Richard Rose "What Does Inclusion Mean? How will it Affect Schools?" Sunley Management Centre, University of Northampton
www.northantsdyslexia.co.uk

26th November, 2009 Northants PATOSS. 5pm for 5.30pm Presentation by Sheena Bell on "Preparing Dyslexia Reports", suitable for assessors, teachers, tutors and TAs

Further Afield

2nd - 6th November Dyfest. Dyslexia Awareness Week Film Festival, University College, London, [Free]
www.dyfest.org

5th November 2009 "Solutions for Monday" BDA Conference, Royal National Hotel, Bedford Way, WC1H 0DG www.bdadyslexia.org.uk

7th November 2009 Dyslexia Road Show, Victoria Hall, High Street, Oakham. 10am - 4pm [Free]
www.dyslexia.uk.net

7th November 2009 Dyslexia Difficulties and Maths Day. Oxforddyslexia@googlemail.com

14th November 2009 Practical Tips for Teaching Maths to those who find it difficult.9.30-12-30 Cambridge. PATOSS East Anglia, Tel 01223 843900

21st November 2009 15th Annual Dyslexia Guild Symposium www.dyslexiaaction.org.uk

13th-16th January 2010 BETT Show 2010 Educational Technology Event, Olympia, London.
www.bettshow.com

2nd February 2010 Dyslexia at Home and School for Parents. Birmingham contact www.bdadyslexia.org.uk

Sincere thanks to the Holiday Inn, Bedford Road, Northampton

The NDA should like to acknowledge with sincere thanks the support and sponsorship it has received throughout 2009 from the Holiday Inn. They have been extremely supportive in providing a meeting room each month for the committee meetings at no charge. The hotel facilities and its location are extremely pleasant and we are delighted to have this facility provided also for us for 2010. Many thanks to Lauren Spiers who co-ordinates all bookings and to Darren Hayward, the General Manager and staff at the hotel.