



Summer Newsletter 2016

Dyslexia North East

Welcome from Dr Liz Ferguson CEO

We hope you enjoy reading about the latest developments planned for DNE in the coming months.

Jo Linton our Project Co-ordinator has lots of activities to share with you and we look forward to taking part in some exciting events.

We welcome a new volunteer Janet to help with graphic design and artwork, which is a great asset. Thank you to Tracy for all her work in the office and to Jo Linton for all her efforts to make Dyslexia North East a beacon for dyslexics.

New for Wednesday evenings at RGS Junior School

New Handwriting Course with Karen Tait.

Please enroll for this as soon as possible.

**The course will be held on Sept 14, 21, 28,
Oct 5, 12 and 19. £30 for the course.**

**Refreshments at 6pm with the course
starting at 6.30 until 8pm.**

Jo Linton will run an iPad session for Parents at the same time!!

Please apply to Dyslexia North East to book your place NOW!



North Shields Customer First Centre

Hands on Dyslexia

North Tyneside Libraries in association with Dyslexia North East present a fun interactive information day for everyone.

Come along and enjoy crafts, story telling, games and a drama presentation, while learning all about Dyslexia.



First hand experience of living with Dyslexia and the support available for you.

Saturday 1st October

10.00am - 2.00pm

Free Event

For further information call
(0191) 643 5833 or (0191) 500 9778

Dyslexia
NORTH EAST ENGLAND

Barrington Stoke
cracking reading



www.facebook.com/

Library.events@northtyneside.gov.uk



[@NorthTyneLibs](https://twitter.com/NorthTyneLibs)



North Tyneside Council

News from Joanne Linton our Dyslexia North East Co-ordinator

Now is the time to plant your marrows!

We are planning an exciting campaign, thought up by our parents, for October which is when Dyslexia Awareness week falls. The campaign is called:

'Make a Marra Man!'



The task is for people to design and make a person from a marrow, a bit like Mr Potato head. It can be of themselves, of their friends or of a famous celebrity. Once the marrow man is complete, upload a photo to social media with the #MarraMan and nominate your friend aka 'Marra' to make one and then nominate their friend, thus continuing the chain reaction.

The message we are trying to convey is that dyslexics need a good support network and understanding from their friends aka Marra's.

It will be a fundraiser similar to the ice bucket challenge, and people can donate to Dyslexia North East by text or web.



We can have so much fun with this, uploading cartoons of your marrows adventures, marrow recipes and more. We are aiming to make this a high profile campaign by involving TV, Radio and other media channels, so if you have any contacts please let us know.

We would also like to get schools and groups involved. If you are a member of a group or want to pass on some information to a school please let us know and we will put a pack together.

For children in schools who are not old enough to be on social media we will provide them with a business card explaining the process, which they can give to their parents who may want to take a photograph of their Marra for social media and also make a donation to Dyslexia North East.

Do get involved and join in with us!

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Affiliated to the British Dyslexia Association Registered Office: 6 Green Close Stannington, Morpeth,
Northumberland, NE61 6PE. info@dyslexianortheastengland.org.uk T: 0786 826 3696



We had a wonderful visit to Nunnykirk school, a specialist school for dyslexics in Netherwitton, in June. The new Headmaster Mr Frost was kind enough to show us around and give us an insight into how and what they teach. We met some of the students in their classes and they all seemed so confident and happy. Nunnykirk is situated in an old country

house in the idyllic Northumbrian countryside which helps to combat the stresses of an urban environment. We hope to work with Nunnykirk in the future and foster a close relationship to benefit dyslexics in the North East.



Are you keeping up to date with our social media channels? We now have an active Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Youtube channel. If you follow us, let me know what you think about the type of updates I am posting. Could they be better? What would you like to see? If you have any contributions, they are gratefully received. We also have a private members Facebook group which has not received much attention. If you would like to be a member of this group please pass on your e-mail and I will invite you. We post all of our events onto our social media platforms and will be offering payment options in the future.

We are planning an empowerment project where you and dyslexics from across the country upload a video or presentation about a hobby or interest. We want to concentrate on the positive aspects of dyslexia and celebrate them. We will have an outline for people to follow to give each video a structure. The plan is that if we reach milestones in the number of videos uploaded, certain people will donate an amount of money. If you know someone who would like to donate some money if we reach a certain number of posts - or if you yourself would like to donate, please let us know. For example if we have 5 submissions I will donate £10.



We have produced some Dyslexia North East branded clothing if anyone is interested in buying a hoodie or Polo shirt in your chosen colour. Hoodies are approx. £22 for adults and £14-16 for children. Polo shirts are £14 for adults. We are not making any profit on these as they are expensive, but they will help to raise awareness as you are out and about. Let us know if you are interested or have a look at Cloud 9 leisure for a catalogue.



If anyone has any fundraising ideas or would like to run a fundraising event for us, please let us know.

Thank you so much. We look forward to hearing from you. Jo



Congratulations!

Despite her dyslexia Iona Mack has just completed her first year at University studying Philosophy and Psychology.

Well done for rising to the challenge!

I would like to tell you of a success story

My daughter Victoria Simmons is 15 and was diagnosed at the age of 7 as having dyslexia.

When she first started school she struggled she couldn't even read basic words, she may have said the correct word on one page of a book but couldn't remember the word on the next page. On telling her teachers of my concerns they informed me that she was "just slow", or was a "plodder".

You know your own child!! Hence the reason why we had her tested. And, as we suspected she had dyslexia and we received a psychologists report to verify this. We gave a copy of the report to her school which then prompted them to put in learning measures to help her.

But this was not enough. She was a quiet child and because she wasn't rowdy or disruptive she was left to her own devices, living in her world.

We then took it upon ourselves to commence tuition for a few years until she was in year 9 secondary school.

We knew that she would succeed. She has always tried her best. She would love to have read a book. I have spent £'s on books that I thought would be suitable and she set herself a target of reading at least one book a year.

We have always encouraged Victoria to speak at church, she has many times addressed the congregation with appeals and informative speeches. I would help her by retyping speeches into easy to read sentences on cream paper. She has never been nervous as I have always told her to do her best and that we will always be proud of her no matter what she does.

The best thing we have done for Victoria is to enroll her into a Youth Theatre Group for which she has been a member now for four years. Her many roles have been in the ensemble/chorus with maybe a few words which she has memorised.

This last year however, she has excelled. In September 2015 we had a variety show and she was part of a six girl singing group along with other roles for which she had a few solo parts.

But the best thing that has happened in March this year our Youth Theatre Group performed the stage musical show "Summer Holiday" at our local theatre.

The auditions for the show were held in September 2015 and Victoria, along with all the other members, auditioned for a principal role. Victoria was given the role of Stella Winters the mother of the runaway girl in the show. I was horrified "Oh no, I thought, how was she ever going to learn the lines let alone perform on stage to a 200+ audience".

By December 2015 Victoria knew all her lines and not only that, she acted them like a true professional. We as her parents, all our family and friends could not believe that the quiet girl that



we know and love could act with attitude and, not only that, remember all her lines. The compliments and comments that we have received have been overwhelming.

By performing in Summer Holiday and in such a principal role has given Victoria a huge amount of confidence. We believed in her, so in return she believed in herself.

She is in year 10 and is now studying for her GCSE's. She has from a very young age wanted to be a nurse.

She still struggles, but, because of her attitude and determination we believe that she will achieve her ambitions.

I wanted to share this with you because dyslexic children/adults are looked upon as being unable to achieve and I wanted to give information with positive results.

Wendy Simmons, Member of Dyslexia North East

Autumn Term Programme For Dyslexia North East 2016

Meetings held at RGS Junior School, Lambton Road, Jesmond, NE2 4RX.

Thursday Sept 8th	RGS Junior School	6pm – 8pm	Ross Linnett from Recite Me “My Dyslexia Story” Talk for everyone Don't forget to Renew your Dyslexia North East Membership
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Wednesdays Sept 14, 21, 28 Oct 5, 12, 19	RGS Junior School	6pm – 8pm	Handwriting Course for Children and iPad Training for Parents Booking Essential - £30 for the Course
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Thursday Sept 22nd	RGS Junior School	6pm – 8pm	Parents Meeting with Judith Lane about Accessing support for dyslexic children at School. What the process involves. Children's Activity by Janet or Fiona
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Dyslexia Awareness Week October 3rd – 9th Special events Planned

Thursday Oct 13th	RGS Junior School	6pm – 8pm	Learning Labs Demonstration of Assistive Technology with Louise Karwowski Children's activity with Janet or Fiona
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Thursday Oct 20th	RGS Junior School	6pm – 8pm	Dragon Naturally Speaking demonstration with David Falcus for Parents and children
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Half Term Treat to be arranged

Thursday Nov 10th	RGS Junior School	6pm – 8pm	How to cope with Dyscalculia with Rachel Ingham. Children's Activity with Fiona or Janet
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Thursday Nov 24th	RGS Junior School	6pm – 8pm	Parents Talking Circle with Children's Activities by Fiona or Janet
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All meetings are open to Dyslexia North East members and non-members.

***Car parking on Lambton Road is free after 6.30pm.
Nearest Metro, Jesmond Station (2 minute walk away).**

Recite Me

Have you seen the text-speech button on our Website?

Ross Lynnett has kindly donated the application for us to use to help anyone with visual, auditory and other difficulties to enable them to access text.



Do try it out and see if it helps you. You can activate as well as de-activate the tab.

Dyslexia Awareness Week

October 3rd to October 9th

See Joanne's comments about the Marrows. Making a Marra Man and if you are planting marrow seeds you need to do it now!

However, there are marrow plants being grown by some of our members. We will make sure you can have one if you cannot grow your own.

Lots of other activities and events planned for this week and so do watch out for information on the Website. We will email you with more details.

Facebook and Twitter will have information too.



Great North Run

Peter Ferguson is training in readiness for the Great North Run on Sunday September 11th 2016.

He is dyslexic and works at Top Shop in Preston. His goal is to be a Fitness and Health Trainer concentrating on Exercises, Healthy Food and Life Styles.

Will you sponsor him for Dyslexia North East? Check www.virginmoneygiving.com/DNE20



Dyslexia Scotland

Last month Liz visited Berwick to join in with **Dyslexia Scotland Borders Group** to share in an Information display about dyslexia and what is on offer at Dyslexia North East.

Lots of people came to enquire about dyslexia and share stories. It is amazing how many people know someone with dyslexia or need help and support in some way.

Dyslexia Scotland has some wonderful resources – so if you check out their website – you can access them too!

www.dyslexiascotland.org.uk

check out 'Resources' for information leaflets and Addressing Dyslexia Toolkit Website.

Android and iPad apps wheels can be downloaded from

www.callscotland.org.uk/downloads/posters-and-leaflets/posters and leaflets

Helpful for Reading difficulties, creativity, complex communication support needs etc

Try it out! For Parents and Teachers. Rosemary Bowe and Liz pictured here.



Helpful books to read over the Summer holidays

Is that my Child? By Dr Robin Pauc

Exploding the myths of Dyspraxia, Dyslexia, Tourette's Syndrome, ADHD, ADD and OCD.



The Gift of Dyslexia by Ronald Davis

Why some of the brightest people can't read, and how they can learn.

Creative Successful Dyslexic by Margaret Rooke

A wonderful book to inspire young people, parents and teachers, and to give hope for dyslexics to discover their talents and achieve their potential.

A Revolutionary Way of Thinking by Dr Charles Krebs

A story about a diving accident that led to the development of a revolutionary and successful kinesiology-based approach to re-integration of brain function.

Enjoy your holidays!..... In the meantime if you need any information or support please contact us at Dyslexia North East:



Facebook, Twitter,

Email info@dyslexianortheastengland.org.uk

or phone 0786 826 3696

Hope you've enjoyed our Newsletter.

Please send us your stories!

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